



WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 10 Term 4 Week 1 (Monday 19 September – Sunday 16 October)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Communication and Use of Mobile Phones

Mobile Phones

As communicated to families previously, we made the important decision to reduce student access and use of mobile phones during the school day.

Year 7-10 students:

During the school day, during lesson time, students must not, under any circumstances, use mobile phones to make calls, send text messages, access the internet, access social media sites, take photos or use other applications.

Students can access their phones to check messages and respond briefly via text message during morning tea and lunch while at their locker. Students are not to use their phones in any other part of the school grounds during morning tea and lunch.

During class time, they must store their Mobile phones in a secure locker (Years 7-10) or switched off (Years 11-12) unless given specific permission from their teacher, or if approval has been given by the College, e.g. to manage medical conditions.

Any student in Year 7-10 seen using their mobile phone during school hours, including break and lunchtimes, will have their phone confiscated from Week 4, to allow students to become familiar with the new changes.

We would like to take the opportunity to remind parents to contact Student Services if there is a need to get a message to your daughter during the school day.

All students will be unable to access their phones during the school day because we ask that phones be in their lockers at this time. Please do not message or call your daughters directly during the school day. Conversely, please do not respond to phone or text messages that might be sent to you from your daughter's phone during class. We will remind students that, if they are unwell at school, to ask for support from their teacher, House Coordinator or Student Services who will contact you to advise that your daughter needs to be collected from school.

If you have an urgent matter and/or an emergency, we ask that you call reception on 6243 4100, they will find a trusted adult that will deliver the message to your daughter and support her.

If your daughter has an appointment during the school day, please contact Student Services as per our Attendance processes.

Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews - Online Bookings open Tuesday 13 September

Parent-Teacher-Student interviews will be held online in Term 3 on Monday 19 September (4:00pm-6:00pm) and Wednesday 21 September (4:00pm-6:30pm) via Microsoft Teams. Each interview has an allocated 6 minute timeslot. If you need to speak to a teacher on a more in- depth basis, please contact the teacher directly.

This is a mutually beneficial opportunity for parents to discuss their daughter's progress with the class room teacher. Including your daughter in the interview helps promote independent learning.

If your daughter's teacher is requesting an interview with you, in regard to either Achievement or Application, you will receive an email indicating this. Please note: a teacher may request an interview both to commend a student's performance as well as discuss any concerns about progress. If teachers do not request an interview with you, you are still encouraged to make appointments with any teacher to discuss your daughter's progress.

Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO) Booking Instructions

You will be using the "Parent Teacher On-Line" (PTO) web-based software for these interviews. This will allow you to book the interview times that suit you from any internet-connected computer or from your smartphone. If you wish to book appointments from your mobile you will need to download the free PTO app from either the apple app store or the google play store. Instructions on how to use this app and the relevant school code are available from the PTO login screen.

You will have access to the Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO) system from Tuesday 13 September. If you currently have an email address lodged with the College you will be able to:



- Go to the school's website page, <https://www.merici.act.edu.au/my-merici/resources/pto>
- Click on MY MERICI, left hand corner
- Click on PTO icon as displayed on bottom right corner
- You will then be directed to the Merici PTO web site
- Enter your surname and either obtain your PIN/enter your PIN

(NB - First time access will be to obtain your pin. Pins are generated and do not remain the same from the previous semester).

Once you have requested your pin an email will be sent to the nominated family email address. This email contains a secure link that when clicked will log you straight into PTO for you to make your bookings. If you do not receive an email, please contact the College as we may have an incorrect email address recorded for you.

For those families where the College has no current family email address on file, we would appreciate it if you could contact the College and provide a family email contact if at all possible.

Full instructions are provided to you after log in. Please note the following points:

- When you log on, the system displays only your daughter's teachers.
- Every parent/guardian receives a login and pin on request – you can make a booking using one as a family booking or both if you want individual bookings.
- You will only see timeslots that are available at the time you are using the system. As timeslots are booked for your allocated teachers, those timeslots are no longer displayed as available.
- Please leave 6 minutes between appointments to allow for time to move between online rooms.
- When you have made your booking please print a record of it. You can also log in and change your booking at a later date.
- Please note that bookings cannot be made after 8:00am on the day of the interview.
- If there are no timeslots available for an interview, please use the option requesting the teacher to contact you or contact them directly.
- If you encounter any problems using PTO, please notify the College on
- 6243 4100.

"Because we are using an online service for the booking of these interviews we will disclose the student's name, parent's name and teacher's name to the service provider. The information will be provided to the service provider in an encrypted and secure manner and will only be used to arrange the booking of these student/parent/teacher interviews. If you have any queries about this matter, please feel free to contact the Principal."

Staff News

We look forward to welcoming the following new staff members to our community in 2023:

- Alyssa Markmann (RE)
- Tina Rodriguez (Languages/Textiles)
- Giuseppe Battaglia (Languages/SOSE)
- Kylie Olsthoorn (HPE Coordinator)
- Michael Leuthwaite (Maths)

Congratulations to the following staff members who have been appointed in permanent positions at the College:

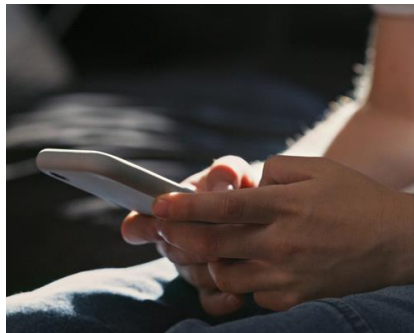
- Jess Tillack (Brescia House)
- Damian Borgia (Penola House)

Congratulations to Jackie Males and Carlia Zedde who will be Acting HPE Coordinators for Term 4.

SchoolTV

Special Report - Sextortion: What You Need to Know

You may not be familiar with the term, but 'sextortion' is a form of blackmail where someone threatens to share intimate images of you unless you give in to their demands. It has been an issue for more than a decade, with many adults falling victim to this type of online crime. More recently though, it has been reported that there has been a higher rate of adolescent males falling victim, but that is not to say that young females are not also targeted.



SPECIAL REPORT

Sextortion: what you need to know



Across the globe, organised criminal gangs are using social media, chat apps, instant messaging platforms and online games to target and connect with their victims. Recently, there has been a 400% increase in this type of crime being reported to police in Australia alone with these figures being replicated in most western countries. Any child that uses an online account to connect on social media, chat apps, instant messaging platforms or online games needs to understand the dangers associated with engaging with random people that they don't know personally. Therefore, it is vitally important for adult carers to be aware of this serious issue and to start having an age appropriate conversation with their young person as early as possible to help protect them from online offenders making demands.

Even though your young person's online account may be set to private, random people can still message your child. Managing devices can be difficult especially with older teens, but it is important to weigh up the risks and dangers. Sadly, even good kids who never make a poor decision elsewhere in their life, can and do make poor choices online.

This Special Report explains how your young person can fall victim to such a crime and what action to take to support them. We hope you take a moment to reflect on the information offered, and as always, we welcome your feedback. If this raises any concerns for you, a loved one or the wellbeing of your child, please seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report https://merici.act.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-sexortion

WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Balgo House Day (Monday 19 September)

Balgo House will celebrate their annual House Day on Monday 19 September. Students and staff of Balgo House will gather in the Long Pastoral Care lesson to participate in some whole group activities and learn more about the history and traditions of Balgo House. Students in Balgo House are encouraged to accessorise in yellow for the day. Please note that full school uniform is required on this day. Mrs Firman, our Balgo Pastoral Care Teachers and our Sisters of Mercy are looking forward to celebrating all things Balgo on this day.

Bridge Restaurant (Wednesday 21 September 12.30pm)

The Bridge Restaurant will be open Wednesday 21 September at 12.30pm. Please email bridge@merici.act.edu.au for all bookings. Visit www.bridge.restaurant for more information and sitting times.

National Day of Mourning Public Holiday (Thursday 22 September)

As per the announcement made by Prime Minister Albanese, Thursday 22 September has been gazetted as a one-off public holiday a National Day of Mourning for the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. May she rest in peace.

All CECG schools and the Catholic Education Office will be closed on this day. Business will return to normal for all CECG schools and the Catholic Education office Friday 23 September.

Term 3 ends (Friday 23 September)

We wish our students a very safe and restful holiday break.

Term 4 begins (Monday 10 October)

Summer Uniform - Please note that summer uniform is required to be worn from the start of Term 4 to the end of Term 1 2023. Please ensure that dresses and skirts are the appropriate length and shoes are in good condition. To view the full school uniform policy, please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/uniform>.

Claim the Date: P&F Twilight Christmas Family Picnic (Friday 18 November 5pm)

Our P&F Committee is very excited to extend an invitation to all our Merici family and friends to attend the Merici College Twilight Christmas Family Picnic to be held on Friday 18 November from 5pm-8pm. The picnic will be held in the indigenous garden and oval.

We are reaching out to community members for assistance in any donations that you may be able to provide for our Christmas Hampers. We would welcome gift vouchers, goods, services, any items that can be added to hampers (such as products, jams, kitchen items, picnic, BBQ items, wine, chocolates etc.). In appreciation of your support, you and/or your business will be acknowledged and your logo displayed on our school website and social media platforms. All funds raised from the raffles will be donated to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. We would like to acknowledge and thank families who donated items last year which were not raffled due to the cancellation of the picnic. These items have been stored and will be used this year.

TWILIGHT CHRISTMAS FAMILY PICNIC

FRIDAY 18 NOVEMBER 5PM-8PM

MERICI COLLEGE OVAL AND INDIGENOUS GARDEN

FOOD AND DRINKS
BYO or purchase from the Canteen

ENTERTAINMENT
Dance, Music, Vocal Performances and lots more

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLES
All proceeds to Vinnies Christmas Appeal

RSVP: ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au




Please do not hesitate to contact Ros Parisi, ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au for any further information. Donations can be dropped off at the Front Office.

YEARS 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

Year 7 Camp – Term 4

The 2022 Merici College Year 7 Camp will be held at Tallong Outdoor Education Centre, New South Wales. The camp will take place from:

- Monday 24 - Wednesday 26 October for Students in Tullow, Ningil and Penola House
- Wednesday 26 - Friday 28 October for Students in Balgo, Brescia and Seiwa House

Detailed Information and the permission note for the camp will be emailed to families next week.



Year 9 Urban Challenge (Wednesday 19-Friday 21 October)

Before the pandemic, a highly successful Urban Challenge program was organised for our Year 9 students. The feedback from Year 9 students who participated in the program was overwhelmingly positive. We are delighted to announce that this event will be held in Term 4 this year.

The Year 9 Urban Challenge consists of an innovative and adventurous program designed to engage students in the urban landscape of Sydney and its surroundings. Students will operate in small teams of approximately 15, each taking on the responsibility of a specific role within the group. Teams are required to complete a series of challenges and activities, embarking on an unfolding adventure that takes them through Sydney.

Students are given the freedom to make their own decisions. This includes being responsible for navigating their way around, buying and cooking food, solving clues and managing a team budget.

The Year 9 Urban Challenge will take place over three days in Term Four – Wednesday 19th to Friday 21st October 2022 and is a compulsory activity.

Please find important information about this camp and documentation [here](#) which is required to be completed by Monday 19 September.

A parent information session will be held on Tuesday 20 September to hear Paul Colagiuri from Urban Challenge talk in detail about the camp. The meeting will be via MICROSOFT TEAMS from the comfort of your own home commencing at 5.30pm. This information session is for parents and carers only and can be accessed here: [Click here to join the meeting](#).

YEARS 10, 11 AND 12 NEWS

Year 12 Graduation Day (Tuesday 29 November)

We are excited to announce that, for the first time at Merici, we have organised Year 12 Graduation events to be held on one day, **Tuesday 29 November**. Please find below the program of events.

- Year 12 House Farewells – 10am (students only, to be held at the College)
- Year 12 Graduation Mass – 1:30pm arrivals, 2:00pm Mass (students and family members, St Christopher's Cathedral, Cnr Canberra Avenue/Furneaux St, Forrest)
- Year 12 Graduation Dinner and Awards Ceremony – 6pm to be held at Ainslie Football Club, Majura Room, 52 Wakefield Ave, Ainslie (students and parents only, unfortunately due to seating capacity at the venue, we are unable to invite other family members). Students are required to wear full school uniform.

The Year 12 Formal will be held on Friday 2 December at the National Museum of Australia and students and parents are encouraged to attend this event as well. More information regarding bookings will be advised.

Please note that no bookings are required for your attendance at the Graduation Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral.

Tickets for the Year 12 Graduation Dinner will be required to be purchased.

Cost: \$60 per person for students and parents (3 course meal, includes non-alcoholic beverages only)

Tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/CCOYC> (bookings close 18 November)

We look forward to celebrating the achievements of your daughter at the Dinner and Awards Ceremony.



IB NEWS



Key date for IB Year 11 students:

Event	Date	Information
Final Official IB Internal Assessment Oral English	21 Oct	This is the first official Internal Assessment due for IB students.



Personal Project Exhibition

The Year 10 Personal Project Exhibition Committee is gathering responses from Year 10 students to assist in advertising and organisation for the Personal Project Exhibition.

Year 10 students can fill in their project details [HERE](#)

Approaches to Learning (ATLs) in Languages



Students in Year 10 French classes are developing a deeper knowledge of different speaking techniques that help them interact authentically in both rehearsed and spontaneous interactions.

Language students have started with developing their vocabulary of speaking skills. This will give students the language to unpack teacher feedback, set goals for improvement and reflect on different aspects of their speaking skills.

They will prepare for rehearsed interactions with their peers, aiming to implement and practice these skills in the classroom.

LANGUAGES NEWS

Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project (KSCPP) Essay Contest Years 5-12

To foster greater understanding of Korean history and culture, KSCPP is hosting its 2nd National Essay contest in Australia. The Essay Contest is open to students in two groups: Group A (Years 5-8) and Group B (Years 9-12).

The entrants are required to read *King Sejong the Great: The Everlasting Light of Korea*, available for free download at www.kscpp.net. For supplementary material, please read *The Practice of Hongik Ingan* (King Sejong "The Everlasting Light of Korea" pages 31-70) available to download on the website.

For more information, please click [here](#).

MYP unit: Year 10 French

Skill Cluster: Communication – Interactive Skills

Specific Skill: Use a variety of speaking techniques to communicate with a variety of audiences

Vocabulary of our ATL

Knowledge	Key Term
1 2 3 4	Accent
1 2 3 4	Audience
1 2 3 4	Complex sentence
1 2 3 4	Compound sentence
1 2 3 4	Filler
1 2 3 4	Fluency
1 2 3 4	Intonation
1 2 3 4	Pronunciation
1 2 3 4	Register
1 2 3 4	Stress

Levels of knowledge of a word*

- **Level 1:** Never heard it before
- **Level 2:** Have a general sense of a word, e.g., knowing that *mendacious* has a negative connotation
- **Level 3:** Narrow, context-bound knowledge, e.g., "I know it's something to do with plants"
- **Level 4:** Knows the word well. Can define it; knows when it is mis-used

Filler

Fil-ler

A sound or word used in spoken conversation to signal a pause, hesitation or unfinished contribution.

Ben, Euh, Alors, En fait, Bref, Genre

Est-ce que j'ai travaillé dur ? Ben....non. En fait...j'étais paresseuse.

iC NEWS

Usually, this week we hold the Australian Reading Hour, there is no scheduled reading hour for 2022, as it is moving to March in 2023. Do we really need an excuse to spend an hour to read for enjoyment? Give yourself permission to pick up a book and read for pleasure. It can be anything you like, wherever you are. The most important thing is to read.

A reminder to return any textbooks that have been finished for the term. Encourage your daughters to come and borrow a collection of books for the holidays.

The iC will close at 3:30pm on Friday 23 September, the last day of term.

Yours in reading,

iC Staff



DANCE NEWS

Dance Troupe Performance at Floriade (Wednesday 21 September, 1.45pm)

Our Dance Troupe will be performing at Floriade on Wednesday 21 September at 1.45pm. Please join us at Stage 88 to support our students.

Claim the Date - Upcoming Dance Troupe Performances

Our Dance Troupe will be performing at two community events and we hope to see you there!

- Murrumbateman Field Days - Sunday 16 October, time to be advised
- St Joseph's Primary School Fete – Sunday 6 November at 2.00pm

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

Sw(op) Shop

If you have been thinking of clearing out your wardrobe and adding a few extra pieces, the Sw(op) Shop is coming up in Term 4, Week 7.

Donations of clean, re-usable clothing and accessories will be called for in Term 4, Week 6.

Lettuce Sale

Get ready! Following the first lettuce sale last year and due to popular demand, the lettuces will be back.

Orders will be called for soon so get in early.

200 punnets will be available at \$6 each, or \$42 for a tray of 8 punnets.



OTHER NEWS

Marker2Market Business Taster Experience

An intensive three-day business taster program for creative teens (10-17 years old) that sees them create a micro-business, logo, hand-made products and test their products at a real-world market.

Please visit <https://www.edii.com.au/m2m-business-taster/> for more information. Please click [here](#) for bookings.

Explosion Catholic Youth Conference 4-7 October, St Edmund's College, Canberra

Explosion is a Catholic Youth Conference for students in Years 7 to 12. It is run each year by the Disciples of Jesus Catholic lay community in Canberra along with the Missionaries of God's Love Sisters & the Missionaries of God's Love Priests & Brothers.

Explosion 2022 will be held at St Edmund's College, Canberra from the 4th-7th of October. It is a live-out conference so you go home at night but spend the whole day and evening at Eddie's from 9am-9pm (the first day starts at 5pm with registration).

If travelling from outside Canberra participants will need to make private arrangements for accommodation and to be transported to and from St Edmund's each day.

Explosion is a conference where young people can seek to answer the big questions about life and faith. It is an opportunity for youth to be formed intellectually in their faith and to deepen their relationship with God.

The Explosion theme question for 2022 is "What's Missing?"

Participants can expect quality speakers, interactive games, powerful prayer, music and food. They'll also get the opportunity to connect with around 100 like-minded students from around Canberra and beyond.

The registration cost is \$120 inclusive of all meals throughout the conference and \$100 for any siblings!

Enquiries: contact Michael 0478 937 657 explosionyouthconference@outlook.com.au.

ACT Spring Holiday Cricket Camps

The team at AAS Cricket Coaching are excited to announce our upcoming ACT Spring Holiday Cricket Camps from 3-5 October 2022.

Catering to ages 6-16, our school holiday cricket programs include access to:

- A structured & enjoyable program delivered in a fun, team-based learning environment
- Coaching covering all aspects of the game including batting, fast & slow bowling, fielding, running between wickets and wicket-keeping
- Technical, tactical & game sense tuition
- Qualified & experienced coaches

Please note that clinic size is limited to ensure an appropriate player to coach ratio. Players will be grouped according to age and skill level.



MAKER BUSINESS TASTER EXPERIENCE

Canberra's creative teen entrepreneurship program.

Are you a creative teen aged 10-17?
Want to learn entrepreneurial skills + make your own cash?

Join us + flex your entrepreneurial skills + try your hand at creating a business, hand-made products and experience selling to real customers at a real-world market day @ Old Bus Depot Markets

PROGRAM 1:

2-day workshop:

Thur, Sep 29 + Fri, Sep 30

Marketday: Sun, Oct 2 @

Old Bus Depot Markets

PROGRAM 2:

2-day workshop:

Wed, Oct 5 + Thur, Oct 6

Marketday: Sun, Oct 9 @

Old Bus Depot Markets

3-DAY BUSINESS TASTER EXPERIENCE FOR CREATIVE TEENS

BOOK NOW : www.edii.com.au

SPRING HOLIDAY CRICKET CAMP

3 - 5 OCTOBER 2022

9:00am - 3:00pm
Reid Oval
Suitable for ages 6-16

What's included?

- A structured & enjoyable program with a wide variety of cricket drills, activities and games!
- A fun, team-based learning environment
- Coaching that covers all aspects of the game including batting, fast and slow bowling, fielding, running between wickets, and wicket-keeping
- Technical, tactical & game sense tuition
- Qualified & experienced coaches

For more info, please contact Holly Halford-Smith on 040025242 or actvolunteers@outlook.com

CapitalClinic
SCAN ME

All programs will be held at Reid Oval (corner of Euree Street & Limestone Avenue) from 9:00am to 3:00pm each day. After hours care may be available for an additional charge on request.

Register before September 15 to receive 10% off. Just use the code SPRING10 at the checkout! Book online today at <https://linktr.ee/activeallsports>.

For any enquiries, please contact Holly Halford-Smith on 0400 125 342 or activeallsports@outlook.com.

Young Engineers - Holiday Camp

Young Engineers offers unique STEM programs where children learn critical skills for the digital age while having fun. Register now for the Young Engineers – Engineering and Robotics Spring Holiday Camp. Ages from Year 1 to Year 8 students. More information at www.young-engineers.com.au.

UPCOMING NEWS (Term 4 Weeks 2 and 3)

Upcoming events will be advised.