



WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term Weeks 4 and 5 (Monday 12 August – Sunday 25 August)

IMPORTANT NEWS

Staff News

Welcome to the following staff members who have joined our community:

- Josh Pargeter – Relief Officer
- Dylan Craven – Lab Assistant
- Lisa Clarkson – Inclusive Education Coordinator
- Byron Luck – Music
- Conrad Saad – iC Tutor
- Charlotte Gallagher – Learning Support Assistant

2024 Semester 2 Assessment Calendars

Please see the links below to find your daughter's assessment calendar for Semester 2. Students should use these calendars for planning due dates for all of their tasks. Tasks are identified by subject, task type and teacher. It is important to identify which subjects your daughter is studying as not all scheduled tasks will apply to her.

These tasks should be reflected in your daughters Unit Outlines for each subject, which are available on their course SEQTA page.

If you have any questions, please contact your daughter's teacher or the Studies Coordinator of the subject. Year group calendars can be found using the links below:

[Year 7 Assessment Calendar Semester 2 2024](#)

[Year 8 Assessment Calendar Semester 2 2024](#)

[Year 9 Assessment Calendar Semester 2 2024](#)

[Year 10 Assessment Calendar Semester 2 2024](#)

[Year 11 BSSS Assessment Calendar Semester 2 2024](#)

[Year 12 BSSS Assessment Calendar Semester 2 2024](#)

Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning Survey

In the coming weeks we will be inviting students, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our College using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

We would like to invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning* survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at *Merici College*

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device by using the URL below:

<http://tellthemfromme.com/b9jyw>

During Long PC next Monday 12 August all students will be given the opportunity and time to participate in this survey during regular school hours. Students who agree to complete the survey will be given a random username and password to access and complete the survey online. Students' names cannot be linked to their responses which allows it to be completely anonymous. Results will show all student scores combined together – it is not possible to single out individual students in the results.

The survey takes approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. The survey measures include such topics as emotional and social well-being, physical health, and behaviours and attitudes linked to student success. The survey also allows students to give their thoughts and feedback in open-ended question responses.

Participation in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you **do not want your child to take part** in the survey, please email Nicola.mclennan@merici.act.edu.au.

Periods, Pain and Endometriosis Program (PPEP) Whole School Presentation (Monday 19 August)

On 19 August, the College will hold an all-school assembly. At this assembly, we have invited a guest speaker, Ms. Liz Lush from the Pelvic Pain Foundation of Australia, to address the students. Ms. Lush heads up an Australia-wide program titled *The Periods, Pain and Endometriosis Program* (PPEP). Presenters from this organisation have spoken to young people in over 1200 schools in relation to period pain and endometriosis since the program's inception.

The intention behind inviting Ms. Lush to Merici College is to engage with a medically relevant and evidenced-based program that relates to all students. In addition, the PPEP is linked to the Health and Physical Education Australian Curriculum; promotes healthy strategies for pain management; and the information provided often leads to earlier diagnosis and treatment.

Given the nature of our college, we thought it prudent in the first instance if the presentation was made to all students. It is our intention to work with Ms. Lush to arrange a time later in the year for a Year 10 specific presentation. From then on, this presentation will be directed primarily at the Year 10 cohort. Please be assured that the content in the initial presentation will be age appropriate for all the year groups in attendance.

The beauty of using our assembly timeslot is that it leads straight into the lunch break. This will provide any students who wish to speak to Ms. Lush more directly an opportunity to do so. Ms. Lush will have some information that she will be able to distribute to students who seek it, and we will promote an email and web address through the College newsletter after the presentation.

If you have any concerns in relation to your child attending this presentation, please contact me as the Head of Student Wellbeing on: rohan.langford@merici.act.edu.au. Please note that unless specific requests are made for your child **not** to attend this presentation, all students will be in attendance as per our usual assembly protocols.

WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Academic Awards Semester 1 (Monday 12 August)

The Academic Awards Ceremony will take place on Monday 12 August, 10:00am – 10:40am (Session 1), 11:00am-12:00pm (Session 2). This event will also be livestreamed via <https://merici.college/go/livestream>.

Please note that students receiving awards or scholarships will be notified through Pastoral Care groups and correspondence will be emailed home to parents. We are unable to indicate the award your daughter is receiving until the time of the ceremony.

Car parking for the event is available in the car park next to the oval and the student car park off Henty Street. Parents need to follow parking signage on Wise Street, Henty Street and Helemon Street.

Parents are urged NOT to park on nature strips, school crossing zones or in a dangerous position (i.e. too close to intersections) as parking inspectors may be out and about and parking infringements will be issued for any vehicle that does not comply with the above. Parking may be difficult for the second ceremony at 11:00am, as parents attending the first session will still be at school on your arrival.

Visitors will be directed to enter the Auditorium via the two doors accessible from Wise Street and be seated for the commencement of the ceremony.

Please RSVP your attendance by Friday 9 August to Ros Parisi on email ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au. RSVP's are compulsory for us to have enough seats for the whole community and guests.

Feast of the Assumption of Mary Mass (Thursday 15 August 8:00am)

A special Mass will be celebrated for the Feast of the Assumption of Mary in the chapel on Thursday 15 August commencing at 8am. All welcome to attend.

Moderation Day #2 (Thursday 22 August)

Please note that Year 7-10 students will have a Pupil Free Day on Thursday 22 August. Year 11 and Year 12 students are required to attend an AST Practice (Tertiary students only). Year 11 and 12 Accredited students do not need to attend. Year 11 Diploma students are required to attend school from 9:00am-11:00am to work on their Extended Essays. Year 12 IB Diploma students are to required to attend school from 8:45am to 3:05pm for make up Maths and Science classes. All Diploma students may wear non-uniform.

P&F Committee Trivia Night Tickets on Sale Now –Thursday 5 September



Come along to a night of intellectual fun and friendly competition on Thursday 5 September! Embark on a journey through five rounds of mind-boggling questions, engaging bonus point games, and the chance to win fantastic raffle prizes, lucky door prizes, and much more!

Prizes include a framed University of Canberra WNBL Season 2023/2024 Official Jade Melbourne #5 jersey and shorts, iPlay vouchers, Paintball tickets, Questacon vouchers, National Museum vouchers, dinner and gift vouchers, hampers, and lots more. We would like to thank all our families and businesses who have generously made a donation.

Tickets on sale now for Trivia Night at <https://events.humanitix.com/p-and-f-committee-trivia-night-la94fxby>.

Date: Thursday 5 September

Venue: Merici College Auditorium

Time: 6:30pm-10:00pm (arrival and seating 6:00pm)

Cost: \$15 per person, \$100 table of 8 people

BYO Drinks and Food



YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

Year 7 Reflection Day (Friday 16 August)

Our Year 7 cohort will be participating in their reflection day on Friday 16 August. The day will take place in the College Auditorium. The reflection day is designed to encourage students to be open to developing their own personal relationships with each other and with Jesus and to further explore their faith in a fun and friendly environment.

Through a variety of talks, reflections and practical workshops, students will explore ideas around connection and community and will have the opportunity to ask questions and find out more about their faith development. The day is the perfect opportunity for our students to learn from each other as well as further build relationships within our school community.

Lunch (Sausage sizzle) will be provided on the day. Students will provide their own morning tea.

Students will be asked to go to the PC class in the morning to have their names marked off and then they will proceed to the Auditorium for the remainder of the school day.

Year 9 Urban Challenge Parent Information Meeting (Wednesday 11 September 5.30pm)

On Wednesday 11 September there will be an opportunity to hear Paul Colagiuri talk in detail about the Year 9 Urban Challenge. 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 the link will be emailed closer to the date.

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 30 October to Friday 1 November 2024 and is a compulsory activity. Fees for the camp will appear in Term 4 fee statements.

All meals and snacks are supplied during the trip including a variety of options and team meal challenges that cater for any dietary needs. Students will travel by coach to Sydney where on arrival they will be issued with an Opal Card enabling them access to public transport – ferry, bus, train and light rail for the duration of the trip. Accommodation will be provided in YHA youth hostels and other city group accommodation with room sizes varying from 4 to 6 occupants. Students will be required to carry all their own equipment for the duration of the camp and their accommodation will be in a different location on each of the two evenings.

Urban Challenge has created a private page for our College on their website where information can be found about the program. Registering your daughter's personal and medical details for the Urban Challenge is also a section. Please use the information below to log in and fill out the required details. To confirm your daughter's attendance, this online document must be completed by **Friday 30 August 2024**.

To access the Merici College – private page on the Urban Challenge website and complete the personal and medical details:

Go to www.theurbanchallenge.com.au. Click on 'Log in' and log in with:

· Username: meriurban

· Password: meri2024

Information about the program will appear here. Please then complete the compulsory personal and medical fields.

Once the online program form has been completed you will receive a summary of these details. Please save these summaries for your records.

If you have any queries regarding your daughter's participation in the Urban Challenge, please don't hesitate to contact your daughter's House Coordinator or Rohan Langford Head of Student Wellbeing (rohan.langford@merici.act.edu.au).

YEARS 10, 11 and 12 NEWS

Senior Study and Driving to School

To encourage responsibility and safeguarding of all members of the Merici community, the College has several protocols that apply to senior students around leaving the College during study periods and driving to and from school. The responsibilities of students and procedures are outlined in correspondence [here](#).

Exciting career opportunities for 2023/24 Year 12 School Leavers

Applications for the 2025 Australian Government School Leaver Program will open 7 August and close 28 August 2024. This is an incredible opportunity for 2023/24 Year 12 school leavers to build skills on the job, in one of many participating Australian Government agencies. Successful applicants will work in human resources, customer service, projects and policy, or a technical area.

The 12-month full-time career development program offers:

- A permanent position in one of our participating agencies/departments
- a competitive salary
- practical, hands-on work experience
- formal training, including a Certificate IV in Human Resources or in Government
- professional development and networking opportunities.

Positions are based in Brisbane, Cairns, Canberra, Darwin, Geelong, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. For more information:

- visit: [Australian Government School Leaver Program](#).
- attend one of our [online information sessions](#) held via Microsoft Teams

Thursday 15 August	4.00-4.30pm	Microsoft Teams Link
Thursday 22 August	4.00-4.30pm	Microsoft Teams Link

LANGUAGES NEWS

French Study Tour for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 in 2025

Please click on the below links to find information on our upcoming 2025 French Study Tour:

1. An Information letter outlining costs and the student application form that is required to be returned by Monday 19 August with deposit payment. Click [here](#).
2. Parent Information Meeting Presentation - An information meeting will be held on Wednesday 7 August at 6:00pm in the CRLC. Click [here](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact Giuseppe Battaglia on email giuseppe.battaglia@merici.act.edu.au for any further enquiries.

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Merici College Shines at Wakakirri

On Monday, 29 July, Merici College students took the stage at Canberra Theatre for their captivating performance titled "Shout Out to the Girls." The piece celebrated the lives and achievements of four inspirational Australian women, earning high praise and multiple awards.

Awards & Recognition - Merici College received the following accolades:

- Storytelling Award for Story Theme and Concept
- Ensemble Award for Dancing and Acting
- Ensemble Award for Dance Performance
- Production Award for Sets, Props, and Costumes
- Creative Production Award for Set Design
- Spirit of Wakakirri Award

Ambassador Praise

Wakakirri Ambassador Danielle White commended the performance, stating, "Well done Merici on presenting such a powerful and dynamic piece portraying four inspirational Australian women. From your soundtrack, to your set, costumes, choreography and execution of your dance, you absolutely nailed it!"

We are yet to find out if students will be performing at the State Awards Show, but keep your eye out on our social media for announcements. Congratulations to all the students and staff involved in creating this extraordinary performance!

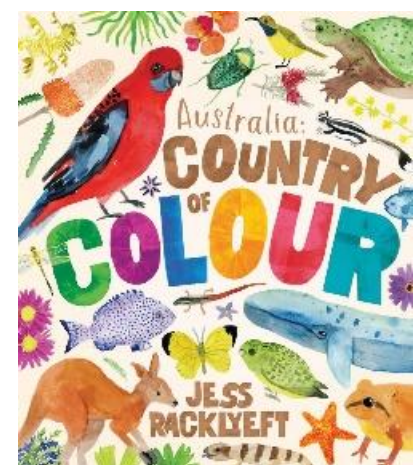
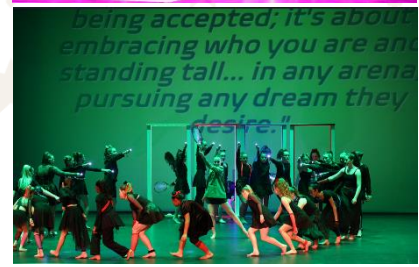
iC NEWS

The Book Week Committee have been involved in the CBCA Shadow Judging project. We have reviewed the Eve Pownall category of picture books and submitted our vote on our favourite, which was *Australia Country of Colour* by Jess Racklyeft.

Book Week is Week 5, the theme: *Reading is Magic*.

- Monday 19 August we will have a cake decorating competition. A completed cake can be brought in from home to be judged by voting with the school community
- Tuesday 20 August – Lunch time quiz in the iC
- Wednesday 21 August - PC quiz
- Friday 23 August will be our Dress up Parade at lunch time held in the Auditorium

There is also a short story or poetry competition that is due to Mrs Blakey by Monday of Week 5.



The iC is offering academic assistance/homework help after school, between the hours of 3:30pm-5:30pm. Monday and Tuesday is General Academic help and Wednesday and Thursday is Science and Maths assistance. Your daughters are encouraged to drop into the iC after school and seek out the iC Tutor. The poster shown here is located around the school for students to scan the QR code. This takes them to a form to submit specific questions or requests for help and to book in for a session. Another option is to follow [this link](#) to the form.

iC Staff



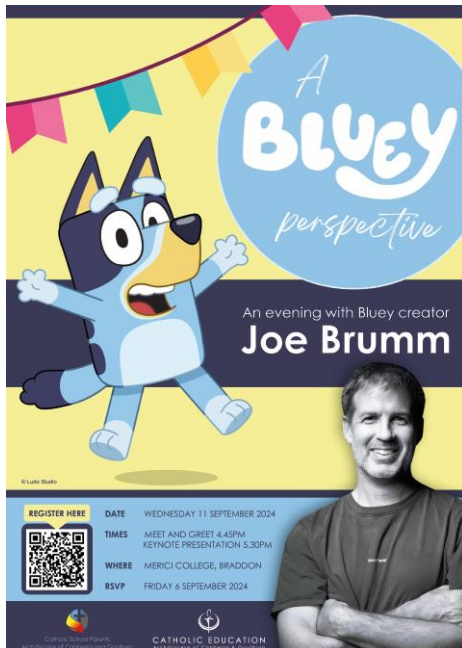
DEFENCE NEWS

The Defence School Mentor is now located in the new front office area, behind student services. Kate Friend is available at every recess and lunch in Room 109 in Brescia. Students are welcome to drop in. If students need to speak with their DSM during other times, please come to Student Services and ask for Ms Friend. Kate will continue to be at Merici College every day except Wednesdays.

Defence families are always welcome to contact your Defence School Mentor (DSM) with any information regarding a new posting or absences impacting your family. kate.friend@merici.act.edu.au or telephone: 02 6243 4190.

OTHER NEWS

A Bluey Perspective (Wednesday 11 September)



Merici College is very happy to be hosting A Bluey Perspective, an Evening with Bluey creator Joe Brumm to be held in the Auditorium on Wednesday 11 September. Please scan the QR code in the flyer for more information and registration.

Join families from schools across the Archdiocese to hear Joe Brumm, the creator of Bluey, discuss his success with the children's show Bluey and his perspective on developing and maintaining positive relationships with our children (and their school) and the important role parents play in their child's learning and development.

Date: Monday 11 September 2024

Time: Meet and Greet 4:45pm, Keynote Presentation 5:30pm

Venue: Merici College Auditorium

RSVP: Friday 6 September 2024

Registration: <https://events.humanitix.com/a-bluey-perspective>

Opportunity for Young People to take to the skies

October Try and Fly Weekend

Curious about a career in aviation? The Royal Aero Club's Try and Fly Weekend offers you a chance to experience flying firsthand. Picture yourself in the cockpit, learn from experienced instructors, and take the first step to becoming a student pilot while exploring the exciting world of aviation.

To learn more and sign up visit <https://royalaero.com.au/try-and-fly-weekend/>

2025 Flying Training Camp



Are you ready to put wings on your dreams? Don't just imagine soaring through the skies, seize the opportunity to kickstart your future career and let's go flying!

Become a student pilot, learn new skills, and make lasting friendships at the 2025 Flying Training Camp

To learn more and sign up visit camp.royalaero.com.au



ROYAL AERO CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES

