



WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Weeks 4 and 5 (Monday 8 August-Sunday 21 August)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

College Registration

Last week, a panel of eight representatives from Catholic Education undertook a Registration and a School Improvement Review. The purpose of this review was to monitor compliance with ACT and Commonwealth Education Acts and CECG requirements to ensure that the College meets agreed standards, as well as the provision of support from Catholic Education for our continued performance improvement journey.

We would like to extend our thanks to members of our parent community who attended interviews with panel members, as well as our staff and students.

We are very proud to advise that the College has illustrated excellent performance across all compliance standards. A report from the panel will be distributed to our community upon completion

Catholic Education School Board and Community Council Review

School Boards and Community Councils have an important role in the life of our schools. We value the knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm that parents and carers bring to these forums.

School governance is generating much discussion in Catholic school systems across Australia. This discussion stems in part from the changing expectations of parents, regulators, and governments about the role that parents, carers and members of school communities can and should play in the context of our schools, and the increasingly complex regulatory environment in which schools operate.

The Catholic Education Commission endorsed the creation of a Working Group to review the role of school boards and community councils in systemic schools within the Archdiocese, and to make recommendations about potential opportunities for further development and/or refinement of the school board and community council model.

The Working Group has undertaken some preliminary consultation and has identified some of the issues to consider in framing its recommendations to the Catholic Education Commission. These issues are set out in the [Issues Paper](#). The Working Group is seeking to draw on the experiences, expertise, and perspectives of key stakeholders in formulating their recommendations, and would greatly appreciate any comments that members of school boards and community councils, parents and carers, clergy, school staff and other members of school communities may provide about the topics raised, and the questions posed in this Issues Paper.

I invite you to send your thoughts, comments and perspectives to the Working Group via governance@cg.catholic.edu.au prior to 2 September 2022. You can also submit answers to the Discussion Questions in the Issues Paper through the Review webpage: <https://cg.catholic.edu.au/school-board-and-community-council-review/>. The webpage also links to resources that may be referred to in the Final Report, including documents that reflect models in place in other Catholic Dioceses.

The Working Group is very much looking forward to working with you in the weeks ahead on this important issue and appreciates your assistance with this important piece of work.

Staff News

- Martin Wilkinson joined the Science Department on August 1. He is recently back in Australia having taught most recently in Japan.
- Dora Chen will be teaching Chinese from Week 5. She replaces Jen Baines who will be on a year Leave without pay teaching in Shanghai.
- Jaime McDevitt will be teaching English from Week 4.
- We congratulate PE and Food Teacher Jenna Fisher on her recent engagement. Jenna and her finance, Will McLeod, are planning for their wedding next year. We wish you an abundance of happiness Jenna!



Recruitment of Staff

Merici College is currently seeking to fill the following staff positions for 2023:

[PE Studies Coordinator \(Term 4, 2022 or 2023\)](#)

[House Coordinators \(2023\) - Merici College - Braddon, ACT](#)

[European Languages \(French/Italian\) Teachers \(2023\)](#)

[Religious Education Teachers \(2023\)](#)

[Mathematics Teacher \(2023\)](#)

[Hospitality Teacher \(2023\)](#)

SchoolTV

In this edition of SchoolTV - TRAUMA

Children and teens will experience events during their lives that will affect them emotionally and physically. How they react to these events depends on their age, personality and past experiences. Children can experience strong feelings of fear, sadness, guilt, anger or grief, making it difficult for them to cope with everyday life.

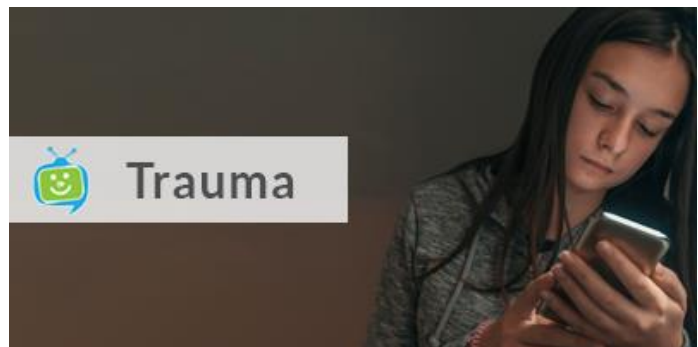
There are a number of ways that parents and care givers can support children after a traumatic event. Your reaction to an event, will impact your child's ability to cope and recover. Children will look to the adults in their lives to help them better understand a traumatic event so it is important to 'tune in' to their fears and provide them with the comfort and support they need.

In this edition of SchoolTV, parents will learn how to gain a better understanding of trauma and how it affects children of all ages.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this edition of SchoolTV and we always welcome your feedback. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to the Trauma edition of SchoolTV:

<https://merici.act.schooltv.me/newsletter/trauma>



Semester 2 2022 Assessment Calendars

Please see the links below to find your daughter's assessment calendar for Semester 2. Students should use these calendars for planning out the 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:

[Semester 2 Assessment Calendar Year 7 2022](#)

[Semester 2 Assessment Calendar Year 8 2022](#)

[Semester 2 Assessment Calendar Year 9 2022](#)

[Semester 2 Assessment Calendar Year 10 2022](#)

[Semester 2 Assessment Calendar Year 11 2022](#)

[Semester 2 Assessment Calendar Year 12 2022](#)

Assessment calendars can also be found on our website [here](#).

WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Angela's Angels Games Night (Thursday 11 August 3.30pm-5.30pm)

Our Angela's Angels Afternoon will be held on Thursday 11 August 2022, 3.30pm – 6.00pm. The Merici College Youth Ministry group, Angela's Angels, has developed this afternoon under the leadership of Elizabeth Ween, our Spirituality Captain and Elle Blackamore, our Youth Minister. During the afternoon, students will participate in a variety of games, challenges and small group discussion within a faith context.

Students will also be provided with a pizza afternoon tea at the cost of \$5 per student, please advise via email if your daughter has any dietary requirements. Students are asked to bring the \$5 to the afternoon. Students can dress in neat, casual clothing. Please click [here](#) to find the permission note.



If you have any questions regarding the afternoon, please contact Maria Tolfree, Head of Mission and Community at email maria.tolfree@merici.act.edu.au or via phone: 6243 4157.

Penola House Day (Monday 15 August)

Penola House will celebrate their 'House Day' on Monday 8 August 2022. This is an opportunity for the House to gather together in prayer and in fun, reflecting on the work of our patron, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Students will be required to attend normal classes during the day and we shall gather together as a House for prayer during morning PC.

The Penola Captains will be running games for us during the long PC lesson and we'll share in the Penola cake too.

Penola students are encouraged to wear black, white and pink accessories on the day.

Our special guests for the occasion will be Sr. Noelene Quinane and Sr. Colleen Howe from the Order of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Bridge Restaurant (Wednesday 17 August, Wednesday 24 August 12.30pm)

The Bridge Restaurant will be open Wednesdays 17 August and 24 August at 12.30pm. Please email bridge@merici.act.edu.au for all bookings. Visit www.bridge.restaurant for more information and sitting times.

Moderation Day (Thursday 18 August)

Please note that Thursday 18 August, is **Moderation Day**. Year 7-10 students will have a Pupil Free Day. 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 IB Diploma students attend school as normal.

Father/Daughter Mass and Dinner (Friday 2 September 6:00pm)

Further to an invitation emailed to families during the week, we have been overwhelmed with bookings for this special event and we are fully booked. If you would like to be included on a wait-list, please email Ros Parisi, ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au with your name, number of tickets, email address and any special dietary requirements.

Mass will be held in the Chapel commencing at 5:00 pm. A dinner will follow Mass with guest keynote speaker Glen Gerreyn in the Merici College Bridge Restaurant. Glen is the Director and co-founder of The HopeFull Institute and will be presenting his seminar 'Face Time with Dad' which addresses the challenges that fathers and their children face in the home throughout the adolescent years and helps participants to begin to appreciate that such challenges provide unique opportunities for personal and familial growth. This seminar provides a shared experience for fathers and their teens, <https://www.thehopefullinstitute.com/about/>. The cost for the event is \$60 per adult, \$45 per student, includes a 3-course meal and drinks.

NO WALK-INS please.

YEARS 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

Year 8 Catch the Wave Retreat (Postponed to Term 4)

Please note that the Year 8 Catch the Wave retreat has been posted until Term 4.

Year 9 Retreat (Wednesday 24 August)

Please note that the Year 9 Retreat will be held on Wednesday 24 August. More information will be sent to students and their families.

MISSION AND COMMUNITY

2022 Vinnies and OzHarvest Can Line (Monday 15 August)

The annual OzHarvest and Vinnies Can Line will take place during lunch time on 15 August. Students across all Year levels have been encouraged to collect canned food in their Pastoral Care Classes. The Can Line will take place on at lunchtime. Half the donations will be distributed to Vinnies and the other half to OzHarvest to support those in need of food in the Canberra region. College Cup points will be on offer!

IB NEWS



Event	Date	Information
Pupil Free Day	5 Aug	DP students will attend lessons as usual in full school uniform on this day.
TOK IA draft exhibitions	16 Aug	Official IB Assessment Draft Due TOK
Moderation Day	18 Aug	All DP students are required to attend this day. Non-school uniform may be worn. Theory of Knowledge content will be set for students to work on and a change to the English Test 1 worth 40% has been scheduled to allow students more time to complete the task without missing recess/lunch time. Original date: Friday 12 August
Pupil Free Day	9 Sept	DP students will attend lessons as usual in full school uniform on this day.



Approaches to Learning (ATLs) in Global Studies - HASS




MYP unit: *Tomorrows Global Citizen*, Year10 Civics and Citizenship

Skill cluster: Thinking skills

Specific Skill: Gather and organise relevant information to formulate an argument

This semester in Civics and Citizenship, we have been using graphic organisers and templates to help students make their critical thinking skills visible. Our particular focus in critical thinking skills is how to gather and organise relevant information to formulate arguments. A critical component of this is the ability to identify authoritative sources and recognise bias. This template is closely related to the OPVL we use in History as another way of developing these skills.

1. THE ISSUE: PROTESTERS IN CANBERRA	
WHAT IS YOUR QUESTION ABOUT THE ISSUE?	Why have people been protesting and what have politicians said about the protests?
WHO IS INVOLVED?	It's unclear who is behind the protests, but some people are anti-vaccine, some are conspiracy theorists and some people want all politicians in the world to be sacked.
WHERE IS IT HAPPENING?	Canberra – but the 'convoy to Canberra' copied protests in Canada, France and elsewhere.
2. THE ARTICLE: ORIGIN AND PURPOSE	
ORIGIN (a small screenshot and website name)	 'The Guardian'
WHEN (in relation to the issue)	Saturday 12 February: on the day that protesters gathered at Parliament House, after arriving in Canberra in the previous week.
PURPOSE / MOTIVE (to persuade / inform / criticise?)	The article is informative about the protest and reports what the Prime Minister said, but it also seems to criticise Scott Morrison for siding with the protesters even though they broke laws, and to criticise the way that he seemed to agree with the protesters that COVID restrictions should be reduced, and blamed other governments for mandates and other COVID rules.
3. USEFULNESS AND RELIABILITY	
FACTS OR OPINION?	This is a factual report without any 'commentary' section.
BALANCED OR BIASED?	The article is somewhat biased against Scott Morrison and the protesters, because it follows the report on the anti-vaccine protest with the day's statistics of hospitalisations and deaths from the disease.
ANYTHING MISSING?	The reporter does not quote any protesters, or members of the Opposition. It does not describe what the conspiracy theories are, or how people have been influenced to believe them.
FURTHER QUESTIONS?	Will these protesters just go away, or will they have an impact on this year's federal elections? Some of them want to sack all politicians and get rid of all parliaments. What do they want instead?



Students examine the focus issue in the media article- who was involved, what and where it occurred, and the impact of these occurrences.



Students then look at the intended audience, the author and publication, and how these may have impacted the communication of the focus issue.



Finally, students make a judgement on the relevance and reliability of the source.

LANGUAGES NEWS

Language Buddies Program (2022 Semester 2)

The aim of the Language Buddies Programme is to provide extra assistance for students who are finding learning French, Italian, Spanish or Chinese challenging. The program is available for any junior students who wish to receive tutoring.

Students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 may apply to be language tutors.

Language Buddies sessions take place on the following days:

- Mondays: Italian
- Tuesdays/Thursdays TBC: Spanish
- Wednesdays: French
- Fridays: Chinese

Students may meet at lunch time (12:54pm-1:24pm) in the Penola Flex on the above days. If the above time does not work, students can work out an alternative meeting time. Tutoring takes place ONCE a week.

The program will recommence from Term 3, Week 4 for any continuing buddies. If you are already in the program from Semester 1, no further action is required.

The program is available to join in Semester 2, so if you would like your daughter to receive tutoring, please complete the following form together with your daughter:

[Receive Language Tutoring Form](#)

If your daughter would like to become a tutor, she can complete the form below:

[Application to be a Language Tutor](#)

Please email Miss Clare Freeman (clare.freeman@merici.act.edu.au) should you need more information or clarification.

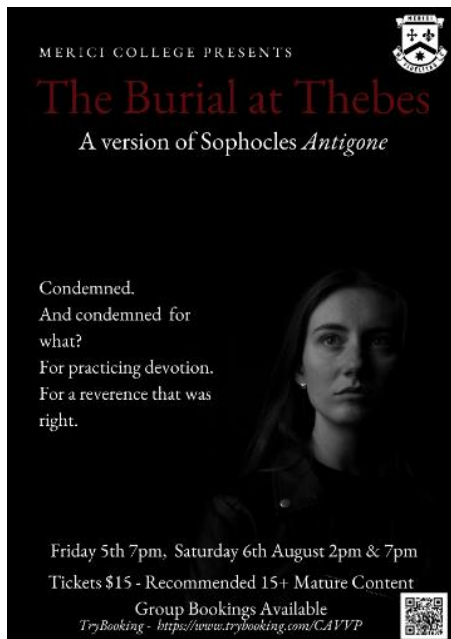
CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Reminder: Get your tickets to The Burial at Thebes: A version of Sophocles' Antigone (Friday 5 August, Saturday 6 August)

Merici College proudly presents *The Burial at Thebes: A version of Sophocles' Antigone* which is a play by Irish Nobel laureate Seamus Heaney, based on the fifth century BC tragedy Antigone by Sophocles.

The play tells how Antigone, the daughter of Oedipus, gives her brother, the traitor Polyneices, a form of ritual burial (she scatters his corpse with dust) against the explicit instructions of her uncle, King Creon, and the advice of her sister, Ismene, even though she knows that the consequence will be her death.

Recommended 15+ Mature Content, limited seating due to COVID requirements.



Performances: Friday 5 August 7pm, Saturday 6 August 7pm

Venue: Merici College Auditorium, Wise Street, Braddon, ACT, 2612

Tickets: \$15 per person, Groups of 8: \$12.50 per person

Tickets on sale now at <https://www.trybooking.com/CAVVP>.



iC NEWS

The Book Week Committee are busy planning activities for Book Week in Week 6, *Dreaming with eyes open*. Monday we will have a cake decorating competition. A completed cake can be brought in from home to be judged by lunchtime, Thursday 25th August will be our Dress up Parade, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, we will have quizzes, trivia, scavenger hunts and a *Wrap Up* surprise. There will be more details in the next newsletter.

During Year 8 Flex, we looked at critical literacy. In the world of digital information, we assume that young people understand how to be responsible digital citizens and can decipher the truths. We have access to all manner of information, some fact, some biased or opinion, and others just plain untruths. Does your daughter know the difference, or how-to fact check?

There are a number of Fact Checking websites that help dispel the growing number of ambiguous facts out there. Some include: FactCheck.org, ABC News – Fact Check, or use of Google Fact Check.

It is certainly a conversation worth having with your daughters; to encourage them to not believe everything they read through social media, to be critical thinkers in the information they read, and ensure the information they find is from a credible source.

iC Staff



DEFENCE NEWS

Week 4 Catch Up

Thursday 11 August, all year groups. Lunch time drop into Room 222 for a warm and dry spot to eat your own lunch and grab a snack.

Week 5 Catch Up with a warm lunchtime treat.

Look out for the student email to vote on your preferred warm lunchtime treat. Solid or Liquid? Sweet or savoury? You choose for Wednesday 17 August, OYC lunchtime.

Families are always welcome to contact Kate with any questions or to update family deployment information. Kate.friend@merici.act.edu.au or phone 02 6243 4190

OTHER NEWS

Open School of Music Young Performers Concert

Date: Friday 12 August

Time: 5:30 pm, 6:30 pm and 7:30 pm

Concerts for performers of all ages 6+ (including adults). Limit of three students per studio/tutor

Various venues at the ANU School of Music

For all interested students, please apply by filling out the following form: <https://music.cass.anu.edu.au/form/young-performers-concert-august-12>. Applications must be received by 5:00 pm Friday 5 August.

UPCOMING NEWS (Weeks 6 and 7)

Upcoming events will be advised.