



WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Weeks 5 and 6 (Monday 18 May – Sunday 31 May)

IMPORTANT NEWS

Student Safety Issue

Students are discouraged from walking through Haig Park in Braddon. Students should stay on footpaths near the road, not enter the park as a short-cut as visibility and safety is compromised.

Open Day Thank You!

We would like to acknowledge the contribution made by students which, in no small part, contributed to the success of our Open Day, Be Merici Girl Days and Talk and Tours. Over 300 students participated in these activities. The students were all wonderful



ambassadors for our school and we have received excellent feedback from all of our visitors on their exceptional skills in

conducting school tours, participating in Science, Mathematics, Hospitality, Art and Textiles classroom activities, presenting dance, music, vocal and drama information. In particular our visitors commented on how our students spoke about Merici life with such pride and enthusiasm.



We would like to extend our special thanks and appreciation to our Advancement Team, Maintenance, Canteen and Hospitality staff who

worked tirelessly to prepare for our Open Day, and our teachers who coordinated and supervised activities in order to present a small snapshot of the exceptional work they do every day. Their enthusiasm for teaching and learning and their dedication to the school is greatly appreciated.

2027 Enrolment Process

Please note that Mrs Masters has commenced enrolment interviews for 2027. If you are interested in submitting an enrolment application, please follow the link <https://www.merici.act.edu.au/enrolment>. Please ensure that all supporting documentation is uploaded as required. Documentation includes:

- Birth certificate (not commemorative) or passport.
- Certificate of Baptism (if applicable).
- NAPLAN results
- **Last report from previous school (This documentation is required for all applications at Merici College.)**
- Family Law, Personal Protection Order or Other Relevant Court Orders (if applicable)
- Visa grant notice for permanent and temporary visa-holders (if applicable) – for both student and parent(s) / legal guardian(s)
- Australian Citizenship Certificate (if applicable) for parent(s)/legal guardian(s)
- Any medical reports and/or other assessment reports for students with additional learning needs (if applicable).

If your daughter is currently attending Year 6 at one of our Catholic Education (CE) primary schools, please ensure that the information entered on the College enrolment application is the same as the information you have previously provided when enrolling your daughter at their primary school. (For example, residential address, email, telephone number).

After your application is submitted, please contact Narelle Patrick, Enrolments Officer, on telephone 02-62434150 or email narelle.patrick@merici.act.edu.au . Narelle will then schedule an interview for your family to meet with Mrs Masters at a mutually convenient time.

Year 11 2027 - Senior College at Merici

Year 10 parents and students, please note that it is **not** necessary to re-enrol your daughter Year 11 at Merici. Your daughter's enrolment will automatically continue. We will hold our Information Evening in Term 2 on Tuesday 12 May 5:30pm-7:30pm where we will go through different packages and pathways for your daughter in Year 11 and 12.

Staff News

We are pleased to announce the following staff movements:

- Jessica Buchanan – Acting Religious Education Coordinator Term 2
- Andrew Diessel – Acting Mathematics Coordinator Term 2, 3 and 4
- Sarah Blades – Acting Design and Technology Coordinator mid-Term 2 2026 to Term 2 2027
- Craig Brinker – Music Teacher commencement Term 2
- Angela Ryan – Inclusive Education Assistant commencement Term 2

We wish these staff members well in their new roles.

Transport Canberra ACTION Bus network Improvements from July

Rapid bus services to west Belconnen will return as part of a package of network improvements aimed at improving reliability and efficiency across the Transport Canberra bus network.

From Monday 20 July 2026, coinciding with the start of school term 3, Rapid 2 and Rapid 3 services will be reinstated to their pre 'construction timetable' routes, restoring direct travel between Fraser and Fyshwick, and Spence and Canberra Airport.

The changes follow a period of extensive monitoring and analysis of the road network during the Commonwealth Avenue Bridge Renewal project, and the operation of the 'construction bus network' and timetable from February.

Additional improvements to the bus network include an increase in frequency for Rapid 4 and Rapid 5 services to and from Canberra's south, Rapid 6 services to and from Woden, and refinements to selected local and school services to better reflect actual travel conditions.

Summary of impacted services

- Rapids: 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Regular services: 19, 26, 56, 63, 66 and 81
- School services: 1019, 1022, 1023, 1031, 1041, 1054, 2030, 2032, 2046, 2048, 2049, 2054, 2090 and 2093
- Schools impacted: Alfred Deakin High School, Campbell Primary School, Campbell High School, Canberra Grammer, Canberra High School, Daramalan College, Emmaus Christian School, Marist College, Melrose High, Merici College, Mount Stromlo High School, St Francis Xavier College, St John the Apostle Primary School, St Thomas More's Primary School.

Updated timetables and school information packs will be released before the end of Term 2 in June.

Students and families are encouraged to check details before returning for school term 3.

More information, including a detailed summary of the improvements for each service, can be found on the [Transport Canberra website](#).

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

St Angela Merici Day Tokens for Cashless Stalls and Entertainment – Friday 29 May 2026

Friday 29 May will be our annual celebration of our College, St Angela Merici Day. This day allows for the community to come together as one. More information will be communicated about our Mass and Christian Service Learning Program Awards in coming days.

With regards to afternoon activities, this year St Angela Merici Day will operate as a token only event. What does this mean and what do you have to do?

1. What does this mean?

This means that tokens will take the place of cash on the day. Tokens for all activities and stalls will be pre-sold. Each token is worth \$1:00 and we will only accept tokens – not cash for stalls and entertainment.

Please find below a list of food items and activities that will be offered on the day and how many tokens are required.

Entertainment and Activities:

- Bracelet Making – 2 tokens
- Chocolate Bar toss – 1 token = 3 tosses
- Photobooth – 2 tokens for strip of three photos
- Spin It to Win it – 1 token
- Disco Just Dance – 1 token for entry, 1 token for glowstick
- Temporary Tattoos – 1-2 tokens per tattoo
- Target Throw – 1 token = 2 attempts, 2 tokens = 5 attempts
- Henna – 1-3 tokens depending on design
- Karaoke – entry 2 tokens
- Seiwa Salon – 2-5 tokens
- Table pong – 1 token = 3 tosses
- Soft Javelin throw – 1 token
- Mechanical Bull – 3 tokens
- Inflatable Bull Rider – 3 tokens

- Dual Lane Gigantic Adventure Slide – 3 tokens
- Bungee Run – 3 tokens
- Inflatable Wrecking Ball – 3 tokens
- Inflatable Dart Board – 3 tokens
- Gladiator Sumo Wrestling – 3 tokens
- Inflatable Velcro Wall – 3 tokens
- Inflatable Basketball – 3 tokens
- Chill Out Space – Free entry

Food Stalls:

- Balgo Nachos – 3 tokens
- Brescia Drinks Stall – 2 tokens per drink
- Ningil Hot dogs – 3 tokens
- Penola Hot chips – 3 tokens
- Seiwa Goodberrys – 5 tokens
- Tullow BBQ Sausage Sandwich – 3 tokens
- Narragunnawali Popcorn – 2 tokens
- Fruit Cup – 2 tokens

Please note that the canteen will not be open on the day.

2. What do you have to do?

Tokens can be purchased in the following ways:

- a) Online via Humanitix at <https://merici.college/go/mericidaytokens>

b) Pre-purchase at recess and lunch times a week before the event or purchase on the day. Students will only be able to pay for these tokens using cash or EFTPOS, not their student cards. All pre-purchased tokens will be distributed to students during PC on the morning of St Angela Merici Day itself.

Further points to note:

- All token purchases should be viewed as a donation to the House charities. There will be no refunds for unused tokens;
- At the end of the activities, students can write their name on any unused tokens and we will conduct a raffle the following week for some great prizes.
- If you have any queries, please feel free to contact Rohan Langford, Head of Student Wellbeing on rohan.langford@merici.act.edu.au.

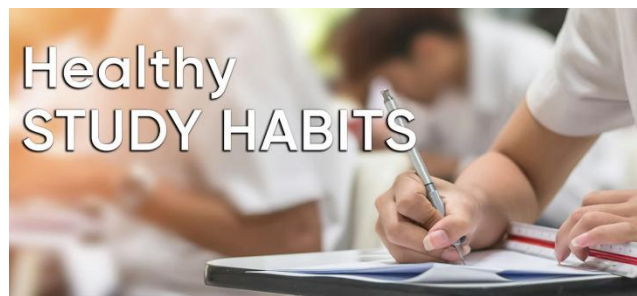
PARENT IN PARTNERSHIPS SchoolTV NEWS

Special Report: Healthy Study Habits

Although we all want our children to succeed academically, the foundation for that success lies not just in intelligence or motivation, but in the study habits they develop. Healthy study habits are essential for children to learn effectively, manage stress, and ultimately achieve their academic potential. Yet, in an age where distractions are plentiful and the pressure to perform is immense,

it's more important than ever for us, as parents and caregivers, to guide our children in cultivating these habits.

Read more: https://merici.act.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-healthy-study-habits-au



A reminder to parents to access SchoolTV, please click here, <https://merici.act.schooltv.me/>.

e-Safety AI Webinar for Parents

The Council of Catholic School Parents NSW is hosting a free webinar for families about how AI is influencing new online risks for young people.

Date: Wednesday 24 June 2026

Time: 7.00pm – 7.45pm

[Click here to download an information flyer](#) and register by scanning the QR code.



How AI is influencing new online risks for children and young people



Join the eSafety Commissioner's expert education and training team for a FREE live webinar for parents

**Wednesday
24 June 2026
7.00pm – 7.45pm**

YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

Year 9 Reflection Day – Wednesday 21 May

On Wednesday 21 May, our Year 9 students will participate in their annual Reflection Day, centred on the themes of *Integritas* and *Fidelitas* — integrity and faithfulness. Throughout the day, students will engage in a range of reflective and interactive activities.

All Year 9 students are to attend in full College sports uniform. Please see Compass for additional details.

YEAR 10, 11 AND 12 NEWS

Year 11 2027 Information Evening

Thank you to all our families who attended the Year 11 2027 Information Evening on Tuesday 12 May. Please click on the link <https://youtu.be/DANluda8hwg> to access the recorded presentation.

Year 10 Exams 10 - 11 June

Semester 1 exams for Year 10 will be held on Wednesday, 10 June and Thursday, 11 June. The exams will be held in the College Auditorium, with some students in alternate spaces based on the assessment provisions in their Personal Plans.

Please see below for the exam schedule, noting that students will need to **attend PC briefly each morning** to have their attendance recorded.

Wednesday 10 June:

Periods 1 and 2	English Exam
Recess	
Periods 3 and 4	Classes as per the normal timetable
Lunch	
Periods 5 and 6	Maths Exam

Thursday 11 June:

Periods 1 and 2	Science Exam
Recess	
Periods 3 and 4	Classes as per the normal timetable
Lunch	
Periods 5 and 6	Classes as per the normal timetable

Importantly, as a formal assessment period, **please email Stephanie Spiller, Senior Studies Coordinator (stephanie.spiller@merici.act.edu.au) if your daughter is unwell on either day.** They will need a **medical certificate** to cover the absence and have the exam rescheduled. Select pharmacies can provide these, as it is often difficult to get a GP appointment on short notice. A [Statutory Declaration](#) can be used if it is not possible to secure a medical certificate.

Year 11 2027 Subject Selection Interviews

All Year 10 students, along with their parents and/ or caregivers, will be invited to book a subject selection interview during Transitions week. More information to come.

BSSS Exams Friday 12 - 19 June

Semester 1 exams for BSSS Students will be held between Friday, 12 June and Friday, 19 June. The exams will be held in the College Auditorium, except for students with alternate assessment provisions in their Personal Plans.

Students will be emailed individual exam timetables, which will list the date, time, and location of each exam. Students are expected to attend all exams. They are not required to be at school outside of their exams, and no BSSS classes will run during this week. **BSSS students are not required to wear uniform** during exam week.

Importantly, as a formal assessment period, your daughter will need to **email Stephanie Spiller, Senior Studies Coordinator** (stephanie.spiller@merici.act.edu.au) on the day of any scheduled exam. They will need a **medical certificate** to cover the absence and have the exam rescheduled, if possible. Select pharmacies can provide these, as it is often difficult to get a GP appointment on short notice. A [Statutory Declaration](#) can be used if it is not possible to secure a medical certificate.

IB Diploma classes will continue as normal throughout the week.

The last official day of term for BSSS students is Checking Day, Monday, 22 June. Attendance is compulsory, and the day will run on an adjusted timetable to ensure students can confirm individual assessment results with all teachers.

IB NEWS



Personal Project Update

Year 10 students should have now submitted their draft Part A of their PP report and have hopefully met with their supervisor to receive feedback on their draft. The next key deadline is:

3	Product Deadline	Wednesday Semester 1 Week 14 20.05.2026
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Students will also continue to participate in workshops throughout the term to help them with writing the report.

Interdisciplinary Units (IDUs)

In the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP), learning goes beyond individual subjects. Interdisciplinary Units (IDUs) give students the opportunity to connect **knowledge, skills and understanding** from different subject areas, helping them see how learning works in the real world.

Through IDUs, students combine **ideas, methods and ways of communicating** from two or more disciplines to deepen their understanding. This approach allows them to **explore complex issues, solve authentic problems, create meaningful products and ask insightful new questions**, often in ways that wouldn't be possible within a single subject.

MYP schools design at least one collaboratively planned interdisciplinary unit for each year of the programme, bringing teachers and subjects together to create richer, more connected learning experiences for students ([IBO, 2026](#)).

IDU Week (Term 2, Week 10)

To bring this interdisciplinary learning to life, Merici College will be running a dedicated IDU Week in Week 10 of Term 2 (22-26 June).

During this time, students in Years 7-10 will have the opportunity to participate in a range of engaging learning experiences that blend disciplinary knowledge with interdisciplinary thinking, encouraging collaboration, curiosity and innovation.

The subject areas involved in each year group's IDU week are:

- **Year 7:** Arts, Design, Humanities
- **Year 8:** Health & Physical Education, Science

- **Year 9:** English, Religion
- **Year 10:** Languages, Mathematics

The IDU week will operate on an adjusted timetable, with further details to be shared with students and parents/carers in the coming weeks.

We are excited to see students make meaningful connections across subjects and develop the skills needed to think critically and creatively in an increasingly interconnected world!

HEAD OF MISSION AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Vinnies Winter Sleepout – Thursday 25 June

Students in Years 10–12 are reminded that registrations are now open for the annual Vinnies Winter Sleepout, to be held at Merici College on Thursday, 25 June.

The Winter Sleepout is an important opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of homelessness and social disadvantage, while standing in solidarity with those in our community experiencing hardship.

Students wishing to participate must ensure that all permission information and consent forms are completed via Compass by the required deadline.

We also warmly encourage families and members of our community to support the initiative by donating to Mrs Masters' fundraising page. Funds raised will support the ongoing work of St Vincent de Paul in assisting vulnerable members of our community during the winter months.

Please scan the QR code on the attached flyer to make a donation.

Thank you for your continued support of this important initiative.

VINNIES Can Line 2026 – Help Us Support Vinnies!

We're excited to announce that the **Annual Vinnies Can Line** is back for 2026!

Donate Food – Support Vinnies Night Patrol

Over the next few weeks, students are encouraged to bring in as many canned goods as possible to support the most vulnerable in our local community. On Wednesday, 10 June, all donated cans will be lined up in the College Gym with the aim of spelling the word: Fidelitas to reflect our current 2026 theme.

All donations will go directly to St Vincent de Paul (Vinnies), who work tirelessly to support people in need across Canberra and the surrounding region.

About Vinnies Night Patrol

Vinnies' Night Patrol service operates seven nights a week, 364 days a year, offering practical support and compassionate care to people experiencing homelessness. With just two vans and a dedicated team of volunteers, they provide hot drinks, snacks, blankets, and friendship to those sleeping rough across Canberra and Queanbeyan.

Learn more: [Vinnies Night Patrol](#)



How You Can Help

Donations will directly support Vinnies' vital outreach work. Last year's Can Line was an incredible success, and with our growing student body, we hope to collect even more this time.

Please ensure the cans you donate are foods you'd enjoy eating yourself, as we aim to give with dignity and care.

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Act Up 2026

Over 45 Merici Drama students from Years 9 and 10 will take to the Playhouse stage at the Canberra Theatre on Friday 22 May as part of *Act Up 2026*.

Now in its 12th year, ACT UP! is the Canberra Theatre Centre's annual performing arts showcase, bringing together students from Years 7–12 across the ACT and regional NSW. The program invites participants to devise and perform original ten-minute works inspired by a shared theme and stimulus. Developed in class and supported by industry teaching artists, ACT UP! provides an inclusive platform for students of all abilities to explore their creativity, build confidence, and collaborate meaningfully, while aligning with curriculum outcomes.

In 2026, the program will feature almost 350 students from 19 schools across two evenings of performance, all responding to the theme *Renewal | Decay*. The program continues to balance high expectations for artistic excellence with a supportive and nurturing environment for young performers.

Merici College is proud to present two self-devised performances that examine the global impact of fast fashion. The Year 9 Drama students will perform *A Tsunami of Clothes: The Tide is Rising and It's Made of Us*, while a combined Year 9 and 10 Drama group will present *Threads of Renewal: A Future We Can Mend*.

Further highlighting Merici's strong presence in the event, Senior Drama student Chloe Harper has been selected as the host for the Friday evening performance. In addition, senior students Stella Gresham and Eleanor Anderson will take on the important role of stage managers for the Merici productions.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to showcase their talent, creativity, and commitment to the performing arts on a professional stage.

Tickets Now on Sale

Tickets are now available to buy through the [ACT UP! 2026 webpage](#).



TLC NEWS

News from the TLC

The MASTERS Program (Merici After School Tutoring Enrichment Review and Study) has taken off! We are in the process of employing some new tutors to attend after school to assist students with their academic needs. Mrs Logan is also available to assist all students who attend.

Students have been encouraged to register their interest each week so we are able to assist them in providing support. The link for them to register is available in SEQTA in the daily notices as well as: [2026 MASTERS Booking Form – Fill out form](#)

A reminder that the TLC is a welcoming and student centred space where all students can access reading materials, research opportunities and resources to assist them with their studies. All students are encouraged to seek assistance from the staff in the TLC before school, at lunchtime and after school.

Did you know we are open from 8-5pm Monday-Thursday (8-4pm Friday)?

OTHER NEWS

ACT ChildSafe Feelings of Safety Survey

The ACT Children and Young People Commissioner (CYPC) is seeking your participation on a Feelings of Safety Survey. This survey forms an important part to helping organisations to implement the ACT Child Safe Standards, and to improve their processes and practices to reduce the likelihood of harm to children and young people.

The survey will again be conducted in accordance with the CYPC's [Statement of Ethical Practice](#). Children and young people will be asked to choose if they want to complete the survey, and those under 12 years will be asked to confirm that a parent/carer agrees to their participation. The survey is universal and designed for any child or young person aged 8 to 18 years old to have their say. Children and young people can end the survey at any time. The results will be collated, and a summary of the findings will be made publicly available on the [ACT Child Safe](#) website.

The survey will take around 15 minutes to complete and can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7CH8LG3>. A QR code is also embedded in the displayed flyer.

Opportunity for Young People to take to the skies!

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>

Winter 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 Winter 2026 Flying Training Camp

To learn more and sign up visit winter-ftc.royalaero.com.au

Touch Football ACT Expressions of Interest for National Youth Championships

Touch Football ACT wishes to advise that we are now taking Expressions of Interest for players who wish to represent the ACT at the National Youth Championships for 2026 in Coffs Harbour.

The event will be held from Monday 28 September - Thursday 1 October.

Teams in the following age groups will be represented as the 'ACT Raiders':

- 12s Boys & Girls
- 14s Boys & Girls
- 16s Boys & Girls
- 18s Boys & Girls

Expression of Interest: [2026 ACT Raiders NYC Trial Dates & Player EOI - Touch Football Australia](#)