

WHAT'S ON AT MERICI #fidelitas #merici60

Term 1 Weeks 6 and 7 (Monday 11 March -24 March)



WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

New School Bus Transport Network to commence Monday 29 April

The ACT Government is introducing a new integrated public transport network for Canberra for the beginning of Term 2, 2019. This network will include bus and light rail services operating together to give Canberrans more options to use public transport, every day of the week. As part of this change, the way students will get to school by public transport will change from the beginning of Term 2, 2019 – Monday 29 April. Some students will use different routes, make connections between services or use light rail for the first time. Every student who will use public transport needs to be aware of the changes.

- The change to services will include dedicated school services for the commencement of Term 2 on 29 April 2019.
- The new timetable information will be available on line from early March, including an improved online journey planner.
- Information about services for each school is available online at www.transport.act.gov.au/getting-around/new-network/schools .
- Light rail services are being tested now, and you can find out more about safety for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers around light rail online at www.canberra-metro.com.au/safety.

We encourage parents to check out the new services at www.transport.act.gov.au/getting-around/new-network/schools to ensure their daughter/s is aware of the bus/es she will need to catch to and from the College.

For more information about the changes or assistance in explaining the changes, please contact Kylie Smith, Transport Canberra School and Community Liaison Manager, at kyliea.smith@act.gov.au.

Bridge Restaurant (Wednesday 13 March 12.30pm)

The Bridge Restaurant will be open for lunch on Wednesday 13 March from 12.30pm – 1.30pm. Online bookings available at www.merici.college or telephone 6243 4110.

House Working Bee (Friday 15 March 3.30pm)

In preparation of the Athletics Carnival on Tuesday 19 March, a working bee will be in the OYC on Friday 15 March from after school until 5.30pm.

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Talk and Tour (Monday 18 March 9.30am)

As part of our Enrolling Now campaign for 2019, a Talk and Tour will be held on Monday 18 March commencing at 9.30am for prospective families. For all information on Open Day, Be a Merici Girl days, Talk and Tours, Information sessions and enrolment, please visit www.merici.college.

Community BBQ (Thursday 21 March 5.30pm)

An invitation is extended to all our community to come along to our Community BBQ on Thursday 21 March, 5.30pm-8.00pm). Please rsvp your attendance to ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au by Friday 15 March. Please indicate special dietary requirements.

Parent Online Advice March Newsletter

The *Perimeter Guardian Parent Advice Online Safety* information newsletter focuses on technology issues that concern parents. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/parent-online-march> to find the latest special advice regarding Wishbone and Tellonym.

Canberra Metro Update

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/update-canb-metro> to find the latest news on road closures and diversions.

YEARS 10, 11 AND 12 NEWS

Years 9-12 Leading Students to Successful Futures (Thursday 14 March 6.00pm-7.00pm)

Claim the date! Year 9 to 12 students and parents are invited to attend the 'Leading Students to Successful Futures' presentation to be held on Thursday 14 March. More information to follow.

MISSION AND COMMUNITY

Current Years 9-11 2020 Immersion to Cambodia (Parent Information Night – Wednesday 27 March 6.00pm)

This term Merici College will be offering students the chance to sign up to a life-changing experience to travel to Cambodia with Camps International in April 2020. This will be an amazing experience for all students currently in Years 9, 10 and 11 to combine travel with service learning and a meaningful impact in a place that is rich in history and culture... Cambodia. A parent information night will be held on Wednesday 27 March, 6.00pm-7.00pm in the CRLC.



From Camps International:

“Cambodia is a spectacular natural beauty, filled with cultural sites and captivating people. Visit ancient historic sites such as the iconic Angkor Wat temple – the largest religious monument in the world, and the spectacular jungle temple of Ta Prohm. During your life-enhancing school expedition you’ll experience the energetic hustle and bustle of the Siem Reap Night Markets and gain a new perspective on life as you explore the recent history of Cambodia at the Killing Fields and S21 Prison. It’s not just about exploring – it’s about making an impact which is achieved through community development initiatives; from building schools facilities, to helping individual families building a house or a pumping water well. You will become a local tradesman - cement mixing, brick laying, form work or even finishing off the structure with some colourful and bright paint!



We also get involved with environmental and conservation projects, you could find yourselves gardening in the community jungle garden, to planting flowers at a local school! We wouldn't want you to miss out on playing with the children, so we help out with afterschool initiatives from reading books, helping complete homework or playing games and sports. This will certainly be an experience you will never forget and a chance for students to develop their own skills and confidence, whilst helping others.”

We are excited to be welcoming our Queensland representative, Sheriece from Camps International to present this amazing opportunity to the students at assembly and at the Parent's Presentation Evening on Wednesday 27 March.

Social Justice - Project Compassion - supporting Caritas

“Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity”. (Caritas Australia, 2019).

Merici College is once again supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Starting on Ash Wednesday, students have been asked to donate their spare change to their Pastoral class Project Compassion collection box. Each Friday afternoon for four weeks, and the final Thursday of Term 1, House tallies are being recorded. College Cup points will be awarded after the final collection on Thursday 11 April.



Inter-House fundraising challenge - PC donations collected every Friday throughout Lent.



The overall aim is for Merici College to support Caritas Australia's initiatives (see posters attached). Students are also viewing the weekly Project Compassion feature stories in RE lessons which raise awareness about the issues faced and highlight how Caritas Australia is supporting vulnerable people to develop their strengths and create change in their own communities.

Athletics Carnival - 'Bake Sale for Project Compassion

A bake sale will be held at the Merici Athletics Carnival on Tuesday 19 March. Students in Angela's Angels and Social Justice groups will be asked to contribute baked goods to the stall. Any other students willing to donate baked goods are more than welcome to do so. All funds raised will be donated to Project Compassion. Social Justice group members will also be asked to volunteer to assist with running the stall on the day when they are not competing, further information will be provided by Kaitlin McClory, 2019 Social Justice Captain.

Further information regarding Project Compassion can be found at: <https://www.caritas.org.au/>

Social Justice Group Meetings

Merici College's Social Justice group will meet every Wednesday Week B Lunch in Rm 208. If your daughter is passionate about social justice, awareness raising and fundraising, please encourage her to attend.

If you have any questions regarding Social Justice please contact Ms Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community at Amy.Connellan@merici.act.edu.au

Christian Service Learning Program

Christian Service Learning Program (CSLP) - Year 7 Lenten Program

Year 7 students are currently participating in their Christian Service Program called the Lenten Project during the period of Lent. They are expected to commit to volunteering for 10 hours serving people in need and learn from the experience about the gift of caring for others. Students are reminded to gradually complete the journal over the period of Lent; registering the hours in service and reflecting on the experience through responding to various questions. The hardcopy journal needs to be submitted to their relevant RE Teachers by Monday 29 April. If students have misplaced their journal they need to contact their Religious Education teacher. Please contact Ms Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au if you have any questions.

Service opportunity – Years 7 to 12

St Vincent's Primary School community is seeking volunteers for an event. The St Vincent's Country Carnival is on Sunday 24 March and the committee is seeking Yr 7-12 volunteers to assist. If your daughter is interested, please contact Ms Amanda Phillips, Fundraising community coordinator and Deputy Chair St Vincent's Primary School Community Council at amandagailphillips@gmail.com and complete the sign-up sheet <https://volunteersignup.org/XQX9W>.

Please note that this event is not a Merici College organised or supervised and parent/guardian attendance is recommended.

Service Opportunity – Year 11 and 12 Students

Please find below a Service opportunity from Menslink. Please note that direct contact with Menslink (details below) is required if your daughter is interested. This is not a Merici College organised activity or supervised by Merici College staff.

Menslink is looking for up to twenty seniors to assist from 5:30pm to 11:00pm on Friday 29 March for the Menslink Big Night Out at the Realm Hotel in Barton.

Menslink provide totally free counselling, mentoring and education sessions to young men aged 10-25 and their families right across the Canberra region. We deal with family violence, bullying and even suicide and get young guys through tough times with the least amount of harm to themselves or those around them. This is our major fundraiser for the year - money raised at the Big Night Out will help over a hundred families who otherwise would not be able to get support.

Here is a link to our event page with pictures from last year's event (including our wonderful Merici volunteers!) <https://menslink.org.au/event/menslink-big-night-out/>

We'd love Senior students to help with:

- *Briefing on duties and how the evening will run 5:30pm*
- *Room setup from 5:30-6:30pm (maybe have a meal too?)*
- *Greeting guests (500 of them) and showing them where they're sitting 6:30-7:00pm*
- *Walking around tables promoting raffle ticket sales and collecting tickets and money (6:30pm - 10pm approx.)*
- *We will have meals for volunteers in a separate room (time TBA - maybe not all at once)*
- *Spotting bids for the live auction from 10-10:30pm*
- *Collecting final raffle tickets and money from 10:30pm (if girls need to go early they can after the auction is closed, as long as we know, or they can stay and have a dance if they want)*
- *Helping all our guests (and themselves!) have a great time in the name of a great cause*

We'll give each volunteer a Menslink tee shirt to wear on the evening (will need sizes in advance please). We won't be able to transport the Senior student volunteers to and from the event so transport will have to be the responsibility of the girls and their parents. We'll be happy to reimburse taxi/Uber fares if a receipt can be provided.

*Please contact Jacinta at Menslink **by Friday 22 March** if interested at jacinta@menslink.org.au or 0437 375 689.*

Dickson Vinnies – Helpers Desperately Needed

Vinnies Dickson is really in need of volunteers. The store is also now open Friday evenings. Please read below from the Manager, Isla Smith at Vinnies Dickson:

“Are you interested in retail experience, meeting new people and assisting your local community at the same time? Do you have a warm smile and a big heart? Dickson Vinnies is in urgent need of volunteers every day of the week including Friday evening and Saturday until 4pm. Shifts can be tailored to suit students’ needs and after school slots are available. Volunteer roles include register work, customer service and other varied and interesting retail related tasks. Training will be provided. Please contact Dickson Centre manager Isla Smith on (02) 6234 7495 or 0407 959 359 for further information.”

Please contact Isla as soon as possible if you are able to help out.

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

Ride to School Day (Friday 22 March)

Ride2School raises environmental awareness and fosters positive environmental behaviours

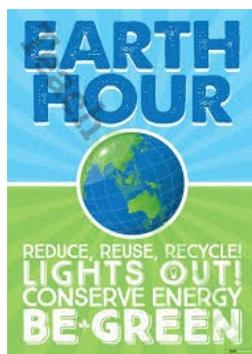
among students and the community by encouraging walking and riding to school or work.



To reward those who participate, bring your Ride2School selfie to the canteen from 8-840am for a free breakfast! 😊 🚲

Please RSVP to Felicity to get your free breakfast on arrival at school, felicity.maher@merici.act.edu.au

Earth Hour (Friday 29 March)



Earth Hour is the largest global movement for the environment. Intended to highlight the threats associated with global warming, Merici College will be observing Earth Hour on **Friday 29 March**. ACTsmart schools will be coming to Merici beforehand to speak about Earth Hour with the sustainability students on Tuesday 12 March at 1.00pm.

Further information can be found at <https://www.earthhour.org.au/>

MATHEMATICS

Pi Day – Thursday 14 March (Years 8-10 students)

The Maths Department will be celebrating Pi Day on Thursday 14 March (celebrating everything good about Mathematics) with students participating in hands-on activities. Activities will cover a number of mathematical areas including Geometry, Measurement, Numbers and Algebra. They will have an opportunity to further both reasoning and problem solving skills by formulating and solving authentic problems.

Maths Poster Competition

The Mathematics Department is running a poster competition which is open to all students in Years 7-1.2 The theme of your poster needs to be 'Maths in My World'. We would like you to take a snapshot of your life and show where Mathematics is evident. The design is up to you. However, we would like it to be innovative. Maybe come up with a catchy phrase or anything to set your poster apart. For more information, please follow the link <https://merici.news/news/stem-merici-semester-1>.

CO-CURRICULAR

Dance Troupe

Our Dance Troupe have two upcoming events:

- St. Michael's Primary School Fete on Saturday 16 March at 12.00pm;
- St. Vincent's Primary School Fete on Sunday 24 March at 11.30am.

We look forward to seeing you at the performances to cheer the girls on!

Snow Sports – Information Evening Thursday 21 March

An information evening will be held for parents and their daughter(s) at the College for those interested in attending the Snow-Sports excursion in 2019. Merici College ski team is made up of around 25 students – both skiers and boarders. Together with staff members, Ms Davis and Mr Heim, the students compete in ACT and southern NSW Interschools Snow-Sports competition held at Perisher Valley 24, 25 and 26 July. The team departs on the Merici College Bus on Tuesday 23 July and stays 3 nights at the Station Resort in Jindabyne and participates in four days of competition as well as free-skiing and snow-boarding.

Merici girls have the reputation of punching well above their weight in Snow Sports – always having a competitive team, but mostly as group of girls that enjoy the comradery, both with each other and with students from literally dozens of other schools in our region. There is also the opportunity to qualify at national level with Interschools in both team and individual events. With super-strong team spirit and bucket loads of support for each other – the team is always on the go and it lots of fun!

If you would like to learn more what this wonderful opportunity looks like for your daughter, including itinerary, competition, accommodation, costs etc, you are warmly invited to attend our information session – we'd love to see you there:

When: Thursday 21 March
Time: 4:45pm
Where: Catherine Rey Learning Centre
How long: 15-30mins

Note: Minimum standard of skiing ability is beginner to intermediate (as a guide - usually about 5 days of skiing). This event is not suitable for first time skiers.

CAREERS NEWS

To find the latest Careers Newsletter, please visit <https://www.mericicareers.com/>.

SPORT

To stay updated on all sporting activities, please ensure your daughter checks our Sports Moodle page and/or Twitter @MericiSport.

Athletes Carnival (Tuesday 19 March)

Our annual Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday 19 March at the AIS. A permission note was sent out to families previously and parents do not need to resubmit the permission note. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/athletics-carnival> to find more details on the carnival.

iC NEWS

Week 6 will see the introduction of the lunchtime co-curricular activities. Book Club for Years 7 and 8 on Tuesday even weeks and Senior Book Club on Tuesday odd weeks. We will be starting a Chess Club on Wednesdays, Thursday will be digital detox day where students play board games, cards, puzzles, and colouring in. Just a reminder that Cosy Café won't start until Term 2 which will be held on a Monday.

Friday of Week 7 we have 3 teams competing at The Kids' Lit Quiz Canberra Heat, held at Canberra Girls Grammar. This is a fun competition for students who love reading. Students must be 13 years old at 1 June, so only open to Years 7 and 8. They work in a team of four to answer quiz questions about authors, books and all things literature. We wish them luck.

Yours in all things library,
iC Staff

OTHER NEWS

Celebration Day for Girls (Sunday 7 April)

Celebration Day for Girls is a one-day mother-daughter workshop that prepares your daughter for puberty and menarche. The Day supports girls to have a positive outlook towards how they look, think and feel at this stage of their lives. Empowering them to be happier, more resilient and confident young women. The Workshop will be held on Sunday 7 April 10am-4pm. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/celebration-day> to find booking details and information on a Mother's session.

Excellent Canberra Tutor

Having tutored students for over 5 years, Clare McBride-Kelly is a highly experienced tutor in English, essay writing, English as a second language, history and philosophy. Alongside her academic tutoring Clare has extensive experience in developing students time management and organisational skills, which leads to the development of a strong work ethic. She tailors tutoring sessions to the specific level, pace and interests of each student and is an approachable, passionate and focussed tutor.

Qualifications

- ATAR: 99.30
- Tuckwell Scholarship recipient
- New Colombo Plan Scholarship recipient
- Student at ANU: Bachelor of Laws (honours) and Bachelor of Asian Studies
 - GPA: 6.5

Meeting place: Clare meets students in a library room at ANU– professional and productive environment

Rate: \$50/ hour - Rate reduced fee for primary school students

Contact: U6386294@anu.edu.au

UPCOMING EVENTS (Term 1 Weeks 8 and 9)

College Assembly (Monday 25 March)

CSYMA LEAD Student Conference (Friday 29 March)

Valanga Khoza – Out of Africa Apartheid Talk (Year 8/9) (Monday 1 April)

Bridge Restaurant (Wednesday 3 April 12.30pm)