



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

# Melrose High School Message Stick



Date: 5 February 2021

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## Important dates

[http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our\\_community/calendar](http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our_community/calendar)

8-22 Feb: School Board Nominations  
12 Feb: School Photos  
15 Feb: Year 7 Immunisations - Round 1  
17 Feb: Meet the teacher

18 Feb: School Photo catch up  
23 Feb: Swimming carnival  
1-3 Mar: Year 7 Camp  
16 Mar: White Card training  
17 Mar: Asbestos Awareness training

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## School Photos

Order envelopes were distributed to students today. Orders are best placed online but if paying cash the envelope should be returned **ON THE DAY OF THE PHOTOS** (12 February) and handed directly to the photographer.

Sibling photos: please collect a special order form from the Student window.

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## The School Board

The Education Act 2004 (the Act) requires that a school board be established for each public school. The Act describes the functions of school boards, including the composition of school boards, proceedings of board meetings, responsibilities associated with financial and reporting requirements, and the board's role in principal selection.

From 1 January 2021, the Education Amendment Act 2020 (the Amendment Act) came into effect and changed the composition of the parents and citizens members on school boards. The changes created sub-categories of parents and citizens members within the Act.

For schools without parents and citizens associations, these sub-categories are:

1. parent members (including carers and guardians); and
2. local community members (people who live nearby or are otherwise associated with the school who are not also parents, carers or guardians).

Melrose High School does not have a P & C Association and so will be seeking nominations from:

- 1 x Parent member
  - 1 x Local community member
- as well as
- 1 x Staff member
  - 1 x Student member

Nominations will open at 11 am on Monday 8 February and close at 11 am on Monday 22 February 2021. Nominations forms will be available from the Front Office during the above times.

For more information please contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Ruth Mahon [ruth.mahon@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:ruth.mahon@ed.act.edu.au)

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## Year 7 Camp

Final payments are due NOW. There are still a few places left so if you haven't committed to coming, email [MelroseHS.Events@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:MelroseHS.Events@ed.act.edu.au) to secure your place. It is always a lot of FUN!

## Class changes

Classes are now finalised. Students who didn't receive their preferred elective were given an opportunity at the end of 2020 to reselect.

Class changes can only be made by application to the Deputy Principals (Shannon.carnovale@ed.act.edu.au or Ryan.kay@ed.act.edu.au). These will be considered based on the following criteria:

- The request comes from the Parent/Carer and is based on a genuine need to move from the class such as student health & wellbeing, safety or engagement.
- There is room to move into another class.



Melrose High School presents the 2021

# MEET THE TEACHER AFTERNOON



**Wednesday 17 February**  
4:30 to 6:00 in the Year 7 Quad

- Meet and greet our teachers
- School Tours

(Light refreshments will be provided)

## E safety Webinars

Below are the key dates for the Term 1, 2021 schedule of free line webinars provided by the office of eSafety Commissioner. These sessions will provide parents and carers with the knowledge, skills and tools to support their children to have safe and positive online experiences. To register or for more information please visit [www.esafety.gov.au/parents](http://www.esafety.gov.au/parents)

Topic: eSafety's guide to cyberbullying and online drama

9 February: 7:30-8:30pm

10 February: 12:30-1:30pm

10 February: 7:30-8:30pm

15 February: 12:30-1:30pm



**Is your child feeling unwell with COVID-19 symptoms?**

**Keep them home.  
Get them tested.**



Keep CBR safe & strong

ACT Government [covid19.act.gov.au](http://covid19.act.gov.au)

With increased travel over the summer holidays, it is important that all Canberrans – even children – get tested for COVID-19, even with the mildest of symptoms.

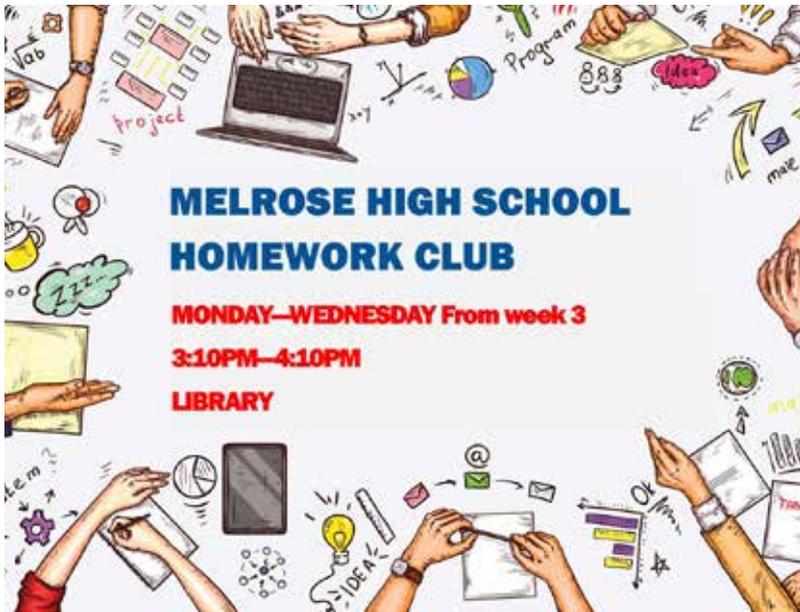
While evidence suggests that young children are less likely to acquire and transmit COVID-19, their symptoms should not be ignored, with testing our best surveillance tool against the virus.

The COVID-19 test is free, quick and easy and most people receive their test result within 24 hours.

Parents and carers who are required to take their children for testing can also be issued with a carers' certificate for the time when they take their child for a test and while they await results.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, sore throat, cough, runny or blocked nose, or shortness of breath. There are seven free COVID-19 testing locations across the ACT, with four of them open seven days a week.

Some testing clinics don't have facilities to test children under the age of eight. Please check the website to make sure you're going to the right clinic: [www.covid19.act.gov.au/testing](http://www.covid19.act.gov.au/testing)



## Homework Club will return in Week 3

A permission form must be handed to Mark Baldwin (Youth Worker) BEFORE the student attends their first session. You can access the permission form from our school website: [http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our\\_community/notes](http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our_community/notes)

## PE REMINDERS

Students are reminded to bring a PE shirt, sun-screen, water bottle and a hat to class.  
DO NOT BRING VALUABLES

We aim to lock all bags in the changeroom to keep items safe, however sometimes due to vandalism we cannot lock the rooms. Please be mindful of this. We always get this fixed as quickly as possible.

The structure of classes has changed a little for PE. We now have one health and one fitness lesson a cycle. The fitness lesson will be either the cross country loop, Proctor Perimeter, or a body weight circuit.

Any questions or concerns with PE contact [Sonja.marmont@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Sonja.marmont@ed.act.edu.au)

SWIMMING CARNIVAL will be held at QUEAN-BEYAN AQUATIC CENTRE on Tuesday 23 February.

## Big Picture

We have a reminder that planners will need to be purchased by each student from the Front Office for \$15 each. They are a key component of the Big Picture design and we will need them at school with all other required stationery at school next week. If there are any questions or difficulty getting supplies, please don't hesitate to get in touch with one of the Big Picture advisors.

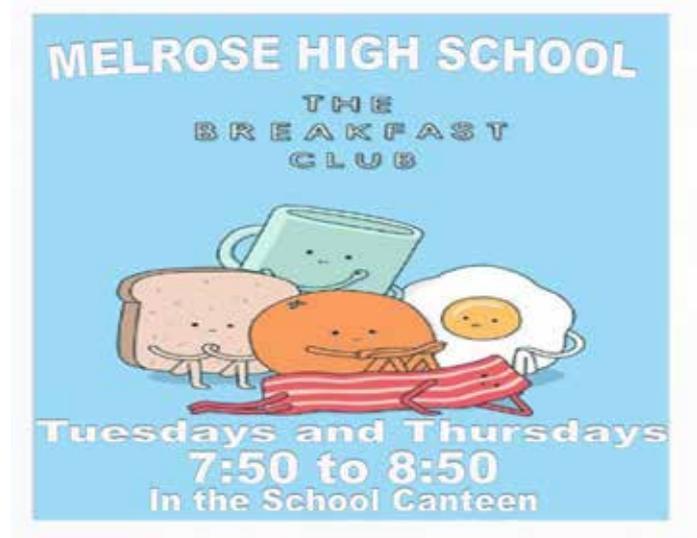
## NAPLAN

NAPLAN Online will occur in our school between 11 and 21 May 2021.

NAPLAN Online is a more engaging assessment that adjusts questions to each student's achievement level. It also delivers more precise results to schools and parents more quickly.

NAPLAN provides valuable information to schools and parents about literacy and numeracy achievement. It supports school improvement processes by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

All eligible students are encouraged and supported to participate in NAPLAN testing. Visit [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au) to see interactive versions of the test and for more information.



## Music Opportunities at Melrose High School

- 1. Would you like to learn how to play an instrument or get better on one you can play?** You can have a one-on-one lesson with a specialist instrumental tutor here at school each week. These lessons can be organised for almost any instrument, including Vocals, Piano, Guitar, Bass, Flute, Clarinet, Sax, Trumpet, Trombone, Drums etc. The lessons run here at school during the day and are provided by Canberra Music Tuition. <https://canberramusictuition.com.au/>
- 2. School Band** - The School Concert Band is open to all students who can play a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument, and rehearsals will be starting in week 3. The enrolment note can be downloaded from the website here [http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our\\_community/notes](http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our_community/notes) and hard copies will be available from outside 206. These notes are due back by the end of week 2 so that instruments can be sorted in time.
- 3. Instrument Hire** - An instrument hire facility is available to all students at Melrose, with preference being given to students in the beginner and senior band. Instruments can be hired for \$80 per semester. See Mr Sciberras in 206 for more information about hiring instruments.
- 4. Rock Bands, Ensembles, Choirs** - Do you want to start a band? The music rooms can be made available to any students who want to play in their own bands or groups. In the past we have had rock bands, vocal groups, saxophone quartet, just to name a few. If you would like to get a group happening, talk to Mr Sciberras in 206.

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## Upcoming Careers Events

White Card and Asbestos Awareness Training is being held at Melrose High School on Tuesday 16 March and Wednesday 17 March. The total cost is \$150.

This training is required before students can commence workplace learning or an ASBA in all building trades, landscaping, surveying, maintenance work, installation of air-con, security systems, fire systems, glass etc.

Students wishing to participate need to register their interest and obtain information and documentation. Please see Sam in the Careers Office, located in the library, at recess or lunch.

This will be the only training held at the school for the year and a minimum number of students are required to go ahead. There is also a maximum number so be quick to respond to guarantee a place.



## School to Work

**For secondary school students with disability**  
Are you a parent or family member of a secondary school student with disability?  
Have you been considering their future after school?

Many people with disability don't have the same opportunity to obtain real employment, with many attending grouped employment, day programs or disability-specific employment options. Secondary school goes by in a flash. It's never too early to support your son or daughter to start thinking about what life after school could look like by having meaningful employment.

Work and contributing to society is important for everyone, and everyone can have a real job. **School to Work** will help your child with disability and your family dream of work and build confidence to explore what work might look like for them.

**School to Work is a series of online webinars and workshops which aim to inspire, increase confidence and motivate students with disability to seek and find meaningful employment with the help and support of their family.**

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### Register to Attend these Webinars in February 2021



**Imagining Work: Getting Started** Thursday, February 25 at 12:30 PM  
**For students in Years 7 and 8**  
• Developing a vision for employment • Identifying strengths, passions, and interests • The value of community connections  
<https://imaginemore.org.au/events/imagining-work-2021-02/>



**Discovering Work: Getting Started** Thursday, February 4 at 12:00 PM  
**For students in Years 9 and 10**  
• Strengths-based conversations • Creative work opportunities • Exploring pathways to work  
<https://imaginemore.org.au/events/discovering-work-2021-01/>



**Finding Work** Two webinars  
**For students in Years 11 and 12** February 11 and 18 at 12:00 PM  
• Learnings from work experience - where to next? • Developing a resume and getting your pitch right • Working for yourself • Customised employment and micro-enterprise options  
<https://imaginemore.org.au/events/finding-work-2021-02-gs/>

Find future events here - [imaginemore.org.au/events](https://imaginemore.org.au/events)  
More information - [fiona@imaginemore.org.au](mailto:fiona@imaginemore.org.au)



**School To Work**  
for Secondary School  
Students with Disability

This project was made possible as part of the Community Inclusion Capacity Development program through the Department of Social Services