



ACT
Government
Education

Melrose High School Message Stick



4 September 2020

Positive Incidents

As a whole staff, Melrose High teachers have been focusing on positive incidents and recording these in our SENTRAL database. As part of our Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL) journey we are shifting towards acknowledging students for displaying the Expected Behaviours of the school. Research indicates that contingent praise for academic behaviour increases student productiveness, accuracy and academic performance. This is being well received by students, with a Year 9 MHS student stating, "When a teacher focuses on the positive for me, it makes me want to do my work and it makes me feel good."

Please have a conversation with your child about how focusing on the positive, when at school, is making them feel. The staff are feeling upbeat and positive about it.

Big Picture 2021



Big Picture applications for our 2021 Year 8 Advisory are open! We are putting the call out to any current year 7 students who might be interested in joining the Melrose High School Academy. Big Picture Academy design sees students learning through a topic of interest or curiosity and are taught to manage this process independently by their advisor. We have information packs and application forms available for anyone who would like to know more. Contact Anna.Russell@ed.act.edu.au

Applications close on 8 September 2020.

Bell Shakespeare Workshop

Students from Years 8, 9 and 10 are invited to join the in-school workshop of Bell Shakespeare. It is about love, hate, laughs, revenge, brawls, swords, marriage, life and death – it's fair to say that Romeo and Juliet have it all. Follow Shakespeare's rebellious teens from youthful innocence to tragic conclusion. Featuring analysis of language techniques, character motivation and narrative devices. Such Sweet Sorrow is an interactive experience that will keep students on the edge of their seats, from first sight to final breath. Due to COVID 19 we are limited to 100 places for each session. Positions will be allocated in a first in, first served basis, based on receipt of payment.

When: Friday 18 September 2020

Time: 12.25 – 1.25pm (Year 8 and 9) or 2.10-3.10pm (Year 9 and 10)

Where: Melrose High School Malcolm Barlow Hall

Travel: NIL

Cost: \$9.00

Completed permission forms need to be returned to the Front Office by 8 September 2020. Collect these from the English Faculty.

Head Lice

Please be advised that we have been notified that one of our students has head lice. Parents should check their child/ren and take action as required. Please refer to the linked handout for further details.

Head Lice: <https://www.health.act.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-10/Head%20Lice.pdf>

STRANGER SAFETY FOR STUDENTS

This is a reminder to help our children understand the importance of stranger safety and the need to report any unusual incidents or approaches to staff immediately.

If you become aware of an incident or notice anyone acting suspiciously around a school or child, contact police immediately on 131 444 or in the case of an emergency call 000. If you witness incidents or if you have any information that could assist Police, contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Information can be provided anonymously.

Please support us to keep our children safe by having conversations about moving safely around the community and what to do if they ever feel unsafe. You may wish to visit the AFP website section on Child Safety for tips. In addition, the Safety4Kids is a non-government website that has useful information and links. The Constable Kenny website also has a number of tips for parents.

The school and the Education Directorate will continue to work with ACT Policing on this issue. Contact: schooloperations@act.gov.au Ph: 620 53313

Upcoming Parenting Webinars

eSafety Live Family Webinar

The Education Directorate, through its partnership with the Office of the eSafety Commissioner and the Australian Federal Police, will be hosting a live webinar for families on Wednesday 16 September 2020 from 7.00pm to 8.15pm. This webinar is suitable for adults and will provide an overview of the role and function of the Office of the eSafety Commissioner and the AFP. It will cover prevention tips and resources, difficult conversations, how to help your child be a responsible digital citizen and how to report inappropriate and harmful content.

Participants will be able to ask questions throughout the webinar through a secure link. Register for the best experience and full functionality. We encourage you to use a personal PC/laptop or mobile device.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/897715369413913104>

eSafety Parent Guide to Popular Apps Webinar

Taking a look at TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat and YouTube

Join the eSafety Commissioner's expert education and training team for our National Child Protection Week parent/carer webinars.

This live webinar (no cost), focuses on popular apps used by young people. It will include case studies, research, and targeted advice so you can support the young people in your life to have safe, enjoyable online experiences. 10 Sept 12:30-1:30 (limited spots available) or 17 Sept (4-5 pm). Register now at: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/9112156844257168398>

Parent/Carers Free Assistive Technology Webinar

Literacy Accessibility Tool

Boost reading and writing confidence

Read & Write for Google Chrome (RW4G)

Join us for the Webinar Introduction to Read & Write for Google Chrome

Tuesday 20th October 2020 3.30pm

Read & Write for Google Chrome (RW4G) offers support for Google Docs and the web and is especially beneficial for students with *literacy needs*. It offers a range of powerful support tools to assist students to gain confidence with reading, writing, studying and research. RW4G is available free for all students in ACT public schools. Students can access the tool online at school and home, with the licence extended for the next three years.

This one-hour webinar will provide an introduction to how Read&Write can:

1. Support reading and access to the curriculum.
2. Support readers with text to speech, dictionary and vocabulary tools, study tools, annotation tools and more.
3. Support writing and the ability to demonstrate understanding.
4. Support writers via word prediction, voice notes, speech recognition, vocabulary support, research skills and more.

Webinar Registration

Click on link to register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6266222728869005328>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

NOTE: If you are unable to attend, please still register to gain access to the recorded live webinar

Videos on the program

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvSZbmGbKpCTkk3S93CXtQWNf50f_Ow3D&disable_polymer=true

<https://www.texthelp.com/en-au/products/read-write/read-write-for-google/>

Further information contact michelle.vanpuyvelde@act.gov.au



Love cricket? Registration for Weston Creek Molonglo Junior Cricket is open now!

Dear Parents/Guardians and cricket lovers!

We understand that the last few months have been challenging to say the least and with winter sports only just commencing, cricket season probably seems far away.

However the ACT junior cricket competition is scheduled to start in mid-October – only a few short months away! It will run until March/April 2021 with a break over Christmas for school holidays.

Junior cricket is fast and fun, and WCMCC aims to field teams in all age groups including girls' only and mixed competitions, with multiple options for both ungraded and graded teams. For the younger siblings, there is also the popular Junior Blaster and Master blaster programs for children 5 to 10 years old wishing to start their cricket career.

Registrations are now open, with an early bird rate for those who register prior to 22 August 2020. Registration will close on 11 September 2020 and there are discounts for families with multiple players. You can also opt to pay in two or three instalments.

The safety of the players is paramount and as the season draws closer we will be following ACT Government advice and guidance from Cricket ACT.

For more information, please visit us at:

- Website – www.westoncreekmolonglojuniors.act.cricket.com.au
- Facebook – www.facebook.com/wcmcc.juniors

You can also email our Junior Registrar, Ian Nokes, at wcmcc.juniors@gmail.com with any questions.

We hope to see you on the cricket field this season!

