PRINCIPAL’S PAGE

Magic of Music Concert

Congratulations to all our music students who took part in our Concert evening on Wednesday night. Our bands, ensembles and choirs all performed beautifully. It’s great to see the progress the students have made during the year so far. Thanks to the many families and friends who came along and supported the children on the night. It provided the opportunity for the children to perform on stage for a large audience. This will help prepare our students for the Gold Coast Eisteddfod later in the year.

A big thank you to our music teachers Mrs Powell, Miss Deb and Miss Hurst for the great job they do with our music students. Also thanks to Mrs Lush for her accompaniment on piano and to Mr McBlane and Adam who worked with the sound system on the night. Thank you to the Merrimac staff who assisted on the night—your commitment contributed to a great night. Mrs Hall also did a fantastic job as MC for the evening. Our Music Program at Merrimac continues to grow in strength. Next Tuesday night our Senior Band will be performing at Merrimac High School.

Staffing News

Mrs Powell has Long Service Leave from 27 May till 21 June. Mr Luke Reichelt will be replacing Mrs Powell for these four weeks. Mrs Fields has Long Service leave from 3 June to 7 June. Mr Greg Chin will be replacing her for this time.

Car Park Extension

As was announced in last week’s newsletter, our school is to get a new car park extension. Most of the earth moving and construction work will be undertaken during the upcoming school holidays. However, there will be some drainage work started in the near future.

The new car park will also involve the relocation of the existing play fort to another area within Boowaggon Park. This work has already commenced and this area has been fenced off. Please stay away from this area and supervise your students after school so that they do not climb on the security fencing which is placed there for your safety.

P&C Fundraiser

The P&C is holding a Fun Run at school on Monday 3 June. Has your child got their fun Run Sponsorship Form? More forms are available from the Bookshop. It is hoped that students are busy collecting sponsors for the Fun Run. This is our P&C’s major fundraiser for this term. All funds raised will go towards the new car park extension. This is a much needed facility at our school.

The Fun Run is less than two weeks away. Please support this school fundraising activity. It is hoped that all children will participate as there are some fantastic prizes on offer.

More details about the Fun Run are included in the newsletter in the P&C news section.

Term 2 Disco

Come to the Merrimac Student Council’s “Favourite Characters” Disco next Wednesday 29 May. Entry is just $2 for the Junior Disco and $3 for the Senior Disco. The Junior Disco is from 6pm to 7pm and the Senior Disco starts at 7pm and finishes promptly at 8.30pm. For safety reasons please ensure your child does not arrive too early for their disco and that they are picked up promptly at finishing time. Prep, Years 1, 2 and 3 can only attend the Junior Disco and Years 4, 5, 6 and 7 must only attend the Senior Disco. There will be a sausage sizzle during both discos as well as drinks, chips, etc being available for purchase. Come along and have a great time.

Merrimac High Concert

The Merrimac State High School ‘Faces of Merrimac’ concert will be staged at The Gold Coast Arts Centre on Thursday 30th May. For the first time, this year Merrimac Primary School has been invited to be a part of the event. 70 of our Years 5 to 7 students have been working each Friday afternoon with Mrs Chilvers, Mrs Haywood, Miss Murray and a teacher aide from the High School to choreograph a dance and drama performance which highlights aspects of Australian culture. We wish all of our students and teachers the best for the competition and performance.

Tickets for the evening performance can be purchased through the Arts Centre.

National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEITA)

To nominate an inspirational teacher visit the 2013 NEiTA ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards website, phone NEiTA on 1800 624 487 or email neita@asg.com.au for a form.

Canberra 2014 Student Interest Surveys

To gauge the interest for next years planned Capital City - Canberra Study Tour notices have been sent home to students in Years 4, 5 & 6. Please return these forms by this Friday 24 May so that we may assess the interest and commence the booking and costing procedure. It is important we receive this information now so that accurate planning and costing can be achieved.

Smoking in the Car Park

Our school has again received complaints of some parents smoking in the car park of an afternoon while waiting to collect their children. Although it is a public car park, parents are asked to be considerate of others and refrain from smoking especially around children. Your assistance with this request would be much appreciated.

JAPANESE NEWS - Language Perfect World Championships

The CHAMPIONSHIPS have commenced. Language Perfect is holding its annual world championships, touted as the largest online languages competition on the planet, from May 20 to 30. More than 200,000 school students around the world will be participating in a cyber-battle to become the world champion of language. All students in Years 4 to 7 from Merrimac State School are registered to compete in this event. Please encourage your child to participate.

Students earn points for producing correct answers - under time pressure - to vocabulary and grammar questions.
In our quest to be the best this year as well as competing against 900 schools worldwide, we have been challenged by Clover Hill SS and Mudgeeraba Creek SS. Let’s all participate and compete not only for ourselves but for our class and for our school!!!

There are over $20,000 in prizes on offer from Language Perfect as the competition will find the world's most multilingual country, top languages department and top language student. As well as some great prizes from Language Perfect, we are awarding the student with the most points at Merrimac SS with an iTunes voucher, all students who score over 500 points with a Language Perfect Certificate and an opportunity for all students who participate to go into a draw to win an iTunes voucher! Let the Championships begin...

Good luck to all year 4 to 7 students! Ganbatte!

Let the Championships begin...

Perfect Certificate and an opportunity for all students who participate to go into a draw to win an iTunes voucher!

Participate to go into a draw to win an iTunes voucher!

Perfect Certificate and an opportunity for all students who participate to go into a draw to win an iTunes voucher!

Thank you to my many volunteers this week. Your help is very much appreciated, especially during these cooler days! We are greatful for the continued support from our students, families and teachers. A reminder that our online ordering system is very easy to use and free to set up. Visit the Flexischools online ordering website www.flexischools.com.au to register. The online ordering system takes care of all your ordering needs. Large notes are often very hard for us to change first thing in the morning. We carry just a small float. Please consider this BEFORE arriving at school with any orders.

Another reminder about our school disco next week. There will be chips, drinks and ices available as well as a sausage sizzle. Please support your school.

~Denise~

P&C NEWS

Upcoming Fundraising Events - Fun Run

As part of our major fundraising initiative our P&C we will be conducting a Fun Run on Monday 3 June. Family support is most appreciated. Funds raised will go towards our carpark extension.

Students have received a sponsorship form and can collect donations. Students who receive $10 or more in donations will be entitled to a prize of their choice and will also receive a family discount voucher for AMF Bowling, Baskin Robbins, Stefan Salon and Pixie Fotos valued at $140.

Also a 2GB P3 player will be given to the highest fundraising student and a free surprise party for the highest fundraising class. Each student will receive a Berri Quelch frozen juice stick on the day of the event.

Win an iPad - each student has the chance to win an iPad. At the end of each term a winner will be selected. If one of our students wins the prize, our school will also win two iPads. So don’t forget to enter. For more details on this promotion and how to enter, please view the back page of the sponsorship form or visit www.myschoolathlon.com.au. Once the fundraiser is complete, please cut out the ‘how to claim your prize section’ on the sponsorship form and return with your monies to the tuckshop by 3rd June. Please be sure to fill out your prize request. The individual prizes will be delivered shortly after. Happy fundraising and we look forward to seeing you at our Fun Run to cheer on the students.

Date Saver

On Saturday 13 July the P&C have organised a local photographer to come to our school to take family portraits. These might make a great Father’s or Grandfather’s Day gift and is an opportunity to update your family portrait and help raise funds for our Carpark extension project as well. More information will be sent home soon.

PE NEWS

School Athletics Dates
Senior Athletics - Tuesday 11 June and Thursday 13 June
Lower School Athletics - Tuesday 18 June

Sporting Success

Congratulations to both Shunsuke and Yusuke Zamma who have been selected in the South Coast regional Primary Soccer team to take
part in the State Championships in Cairns. This is a fantastic effort. Well done boys.

**INTERSCHOOL SPORT FOR 24 MAY**

**Rugby League at Pizzey Park, Miami**  
11A vs Varsity on Field 1 @ 12.50pm  
Open R vs Palm Beach on Field 1 @ 1.35pm  

**Rugby League at Glennon Park, Nerang**  
11B vs Worongary on Field 2 @ 12.50pm

**Netball at Firth Park, Mudgeeraba**  
Year 6 vs St Brigid’s on Court 8 @ 12.25pm  
Year 7 vs St Brigid’s on Court 2 @ 12.45pm

**Soccer at Merrimac State School due to BYES**  
Boys 5A vs Boys 7A Social Game/Training

**Soccer at St Vincents School, Clear Island Waters**  
Boys 6A vs Marymount on Field 3 @ 12.40pm  

**Soccer at Robina Common Fields, Robina**  
Girls 6A vs St Vincents on Field 5 @ 1.35pm  
Girls 7A vs Worongary on Field 3 @ 12.40pm

**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**


**UPCOMING EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue 28 May</td>
<td>School Photos - catch up and sibling photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 29 May</td>
<td>School Disco (Week 7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 30 May</td>
<td>Merrimac High Musical</td>
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<td>Mon 3 June</td>
<td>Merrimac Outside School Hours Care meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 3 June</td>
<td>5.30pm Merrimac IEC Meeting (Japan Trip)</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 3 June</td>
<td>6.30pm P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>Mon 10 June</td>
<td>Queens’ Birthday Holiday</td>
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<td>Tues 11 June</td>
<td>Senior Athletics</td>
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<td>Thurs 13 June</td>
<td>Senior Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 18 June</td>
<td>Report Cards to be sent home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 18 June</td>
<td>Junior Athletics</td>
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<td>Fri 21 June</td>
<td>Last day of Interschool Sport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 21 June</td>
<td>Last school day for term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 8 July</td>
<td>First school day for term 3</td>
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**Robina State High School invites**  
Yr 5, 6 and 7 Families

**JAPANESE IMMERSION PROGRAM**  
**Parent Information Evening At Robina High School**  
**Tuesday 4 June**  
5pm - 6:15pm 6S410  
If you are interested in working hard with a class of like minded and well behaved students, and you are interested in getting excellent results at school - you are invited to come and hear about our exciting Japanese Immersion Program.  
An excellence program for excellent students  
We hope to meet interested students & parents June 4 at Robina High.  
RSVP & enquiries to sksin26@eq.edu.au  
PARENTS WHO HAVE ALREADY ATTENDED A MEETING DO NOT NEED TO ATTEND AGAIN

**Maths at Home #3**

**Topic:** chunking with addition  
**NOTES:** Chunking can be used to add numbers together. It is the preferred method in young children as it allows children to understand place value which in turn makes working with larger number easier.  
When you break addition into parts, it is easy to add the chunks and put them back together. You can even learn to do it in your head.

**METHOD:**

- Practice with your children using the chunking method.

**Example:** 55 + 34  
Start with the tens  50 + 30  5 + 4  
Next, add the ones  80 + 9  89

Have a go at doing some, it is easy. Lots of people add up in their head like this, without even realizing it.

**Example:**  
- 56 + 34  
- 97 + 54  
- 143 + 354

Remember to start with the hundreds when adding 3 digit numbers.

**Currumbin Community Farm Campus**  
Family Fun Day Sunday 2 June 9.30am - 2.00pm  
Live Music, Rock Climbing, Farmyard Feeding, Jumping Castle,  
Market Stalls, Food & More!  
Stall Holders Wanted - from $10  
1226 Currumbin Creek Road, Currumbin Valley  
Phone: 5533 0312 Email: alock16@eq.edu.au