P&C Meeting
The next P & C meeting will be held on Monday 3 June at 6.30pm in the Staffroom. All parents are invited to attend. P & C Meetings are a good way to find out what is happening in your child's school. The Staffroom is situated at the end of the Administration Building. The next Outside Hours School Care meeting will also be held on the same evening Monday 3 June commencing at 5.45pm in the MPC. All interested parents are welcome to attend.

International Exchange Parent Committee Meeting
The next Parent IEC Meeting will be held on Monday 3 June at 5.30 p.m. in the staff room. The agenda will focus on the final preparations for the upcoming Japan trip in June/July.

Under 8's Day
Last Thursday was Under 8’s day at Merrimac State School and we were blessed with beautiful weather. Mrs Lamburd coordinated the team of Junior School staff in preparing a range of developmentally appropriate activities for all Prep to Year 3 children to enjoy. We had over 450 students, their younger siblings, families and staff join together to celebrate our young people. A big thank you goes to Robina High teachers, for bringing their senior students to make wooden planes, face paint and run the music workshop. It wouldn’t be the same without the high schoolers. Thank you to Mrs Hurst and the Strings students for their performance. If parents know of any other great activities or community groups which can contribute for next year, don’t hesitate to tell us.

It was also Chaplaincy Week and our Under Eights sausage sizzle was to raise money for our Chaplaincy program here at Merrimac. Our wonderful P&C ran a refreshments stall. Mr Jeffrey (our Schools Facilities Officer) and Mr Paul Leighton worked tirelessly behind the scenes taking tables, chairs, tents etc to and from the oval. Most of all thank you to all of the lovely families who spent their time with us helping to manoeuvre children around to all the activities and relaxing with a picnic. A great day was had by all.

School Nurse Information
Good vision is important for a child’s educational, physical and social development. With approximately 1 in 4 Australian children suffering from an undetected vision problem, vision screening is vital for your child’s learning to give him/her the best chance of reaching their full learning potential. Many children try to adapt to their vision problem without knowing they could see better. The Child Health Nurse will commence Vision Screening for all Prep Year children on Tuesday 4th June 2013. If you wish to have your child participate in this very important health screening, please complete and sign the Vision Consent form sent home with your child and return this to your child’s class teacher as soon as possible. All parents will be advised in writing of the outcome of your child’s screening.

Terese Spry
Clinical Nurse
Child Youth and Family Health

Car Park Extension
It is very exciting news that our new car park is definitely going ahead. Planning meetings have commenced to finalise more detailed construction and timelines. As has been communicated the major earthworks will occur over the upcoming school holiday period. However, there will be some drainage work starting in the near future. Also the new car park will involve the relocation of the existing play fort to another area within Boowaggan 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. Once earthworks commence it is important that parents and students take extra care in this area.

P&C Fundraiser
Our school Fun Run is happening next Monday 3 June on the school oval. Hopefully, all children have been busy getting sponsors for the Fun Run. This is our P&C's major fundraiser for this term. All funds raised will be going towards the new car park extension. This is a much needed facility at our school. 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.

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. Forms are also now available from the school’s office.
Canberra 2014 Student Interest Surveys
Thank you to those families who have returned their interest forms for Canberra next year. We will now commence the booking and costing and advise families later in the year when to formerly submit an Expression of Interest.

Children at School after 3.15pm
Children are supervised in the parent car park till 3.15pm. Any children who have not been collected by this time are asked to wait in front of the school near the Administration Building (between the large car park gum tree and the main small gate entrance to the school). This allows Admin to monitor that students are all eventually collected by their parents. Please do not ask your child to meet you anywhere else if you will be collecting them after 3.15pm as this practice could prove unsafe.

Absence Notes
Parents are asked to ensure the following information is always included on absence notes:
- Child’s First and Last Name (especially when this differs from the informing parent/caregiver)
- Child’s Class
- Reason for Absence (absence remains as unexplained unless a reason is given for the absence)
- Date of Absence
If a notification of a student’s absence is not received at school, the absence is recorded as ‘unexplained’ on our school records. Our goal is to have no unexplained absences for any students.

QCT Excellence in Teaching Awards 2013
Nominate now. Are you inspired by an excellent Queensland school teacher? Download a nomination form at: www.qct.edu.au/awards

Woolworths Earn and Learn Promotion
Keep collecting points for our school until 9th June.

Prep Enrolments for 2014
Enrolments for Prep 2014 can be made at the school office. Parents of Prep students for next year are encouraged to start enrolling their children. Early enrolment allows the school to be better prepared for the 2014 school year.

School Photographs
We have now completed our Class Group, Individual and Brother/Sister photos. Any late orders can be placed directly with Silver Rose on 3262 5788. A late fee of $7 will be charged for late orders. You are still able to order the Traditional Value Pack or Digital Pack for $29 but remember if your child was away both days (21 & 28 May) they will not have had their individual photo taken and if they were away on 21 May they will not be in the class photo.

BOOKSHOP NEWS
- We are currently taking orders for new style Tracksuit Pants $25 each
- New Style Jackets are now in stock $40 each
- Orders can be placed at the bookshop or on flexischools.com.au
- Opening times: Mon - Wed - Fri 8am to 9am

TUCKSHOP NEWS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roster for week beginning Monday 3 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday Yoko</td>
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<td>Tuesday Help Please</td>
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<td>Wednesday Naoko, Yoko</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday Mayumi, Maria S</td>
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<td>Friday Mayumi, Naoko</td>
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MEAL DEAL 6 JUNE $5 State of Origin 1 Post Match Pack
- Pluto pup w sauce
- Maroon & Blue Jelly Cup
- Packet of Chips
- Maroon or Blue
- Aroona Springwater

Thanks to all my volunteers. Your help is greatly appreciated. A big thanks also to everyone who helped out at the school disco. It's that season again and the State of Origin is back for 2013! Our annual ‘Post Match’ packs are a hug hit with the students. Don't forget to place an order for next week. Good luck to our Faces of Merrimac students performing tonight. A reminder that a new Price menu is now in effect. A copy is being sent home today with the newsletter. Please continue to support your school tuckshop. Have a good week! Go the Mighty Maroons!

~Denise~

P&C NEWS

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

The program for the day will be:
- 9.00am to 10.00am Prep and Year One
- 10.00am to 11.00am Years Four and Five
- 11.30am to 12.30pm Years Six and Seven
- 1.45pm to 2.45pm Years Two and Three

Students need to wear their normal school uniform and their hat. They 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 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.

On Monday, completed sponsorship forms and money (in an envelope) can be delivered to the Bookshop from 8am. P&C will collect all other forms and money from the classrooms after 9am. Please be sure to fill out your prize request. The individual prizes will be delivered shortly after the fun run.

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.myschoolathon.com.au.

Happy fundraising!
UPCOMING EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 30</td>
<td>Merrimac High Musical</td>
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<td>Mon 3 June</td>
<td>5.30pm Merrimac IEC Meeting (Japan Trip)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 3 June</td>
<td>5.45pm Merrimac Outside School Hours Care meeting</td>
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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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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<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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COMMUNITY NEWS

New mental health service for children on the Gold Coast
Children aged between 0-12 can now benefit from a new, free mental health service that has recently been established on the Gold Coast. The ATAPS Child Mental Health Service has been set up through a primary healthcare organisation, Gold Coast Medicare. Local and is being administered through Artius Health. The program provides eligible children with short-term psychological services. It particularly focuses on children who have, or at risk of developing a mental, childhood, behavioural or emotional disorder. This service aims to provide early treatment to assist and support children before they develop long-term mental health issues as they grow older. Children can be referred to this service by general practitioners, psychiatrists and paediatricians. If you are concerned about your child, or would like to be considered for referral, visit your local general practitioner. For further information contact Eric Van den Bossche at Artius Health on 5580 4900 or visit www.artiusu.com.au

Maths at Home #4

Topic: Partitioning

NOTES: Also called number splitting, partitioning is a way of working out problems that involve large numbers by splitting them into smaller units so they’re easier to work with, making the problem more manageable. Students are generally taught to use standard place value partitioning to start with, for example 45 is 4 tens and 5 ones or 40 + 5. A non-standard partition could be 20 + 25 or 31 + 14.

Children are taught this method before they learn to add numbers in columns. Partitioning gives children a different way of visualising maths problems and helps children work out large sums in their head.

Partitioning can be applied to numbers with decimals as well.

ACTIVITY: The important thing to remember is that there is no one correct way, they are all right. So having the flexibility with mental computation strategies allows your child to select a method that works for them in each particular situation.

Practice how many ways can you add two numbers? For example:

35 + 88

- 35 + (5 + 60 + 23) = 40 + 60 + 23
- 88 + (2 + 10 + 23) = 90 + 10 + 23
- 35 + (35 + 3 + 50) = 70 + 50 + 3

Partitioning helps you ‘see’ the answer. How many different ways can you partition the same numbers?

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

INTERSCHOOL SPORT FOR 31 MAY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rugby League at Pizzey Park, Miami</td>
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<tr>
<td>IIA vs Elanora on Field 3 @ 1.35pm</td>
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<td>11B vs Caningeraba on Field 1 @ 12.50pm</td>
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<td>Open R vs Broadbeach on Field 3 @ 12.50pm</td>
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<td>Netball at Firth Park, Mudgeeraba</td>
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<td>Year 6 vs Varsity on Court 7 @ 1.25pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7 vs Varsity on Court 3 @ 12.45pm</td>
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<td>Soccer at Robina Common Fields, Robina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boys 7A vs Mudgeeraba Creek on Field 1 @ 12.40pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soccer at St Vincents School, Clear Island Waters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boys 6A vs St Vincents on Field 1 @ 12.40pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boys 5A vs Broadbeach on Field 4 @ 1.35pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soccer at Marymount College, Burleigh Waters</td>
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<td>Girls 6A vs Marymount on Field 1 @ 1.35pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls 7A vs Marymount on Field 1 @ 12.40pm</td>
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STUDENTS OF THE WEEK


Broadbeach C&K Kindergarten turns 60!

To celebrate the amazing milestone of 60 years of caring for our community’s children the Broadbeach Kindy will open its doors to all past, present and future families on September 14 from 10am to 4pm. There is a vintage ‘1953’ fun day planned with photographic displays, rides, food stalls, cake stalls and entertainment. Maybe people would like to revisit their childhood and climb the tree! The fun day is open to the whole Gold Coast community and we invite everyone to come along to celebrate this special occasion. For details and enquiries phone 5531 6377.