Term 4 Week 6 Thursday 14 November 2013

PRINCIPAL’S PAGE

Staffing News
Our school has received some good news in regards to Mr Singh our PE teacher. His transfer to Canigeraba State School has been rescinded and Mr Singh will therefore be remaining at our school. Two of our teachers recently received some very good news. Both Miss Jacobs and Mrs Dhu have been made permanent teachers with Education Queensland. Miss Jacobs has been appointed permanently to Merrimac and Mrs Dhu has been appointed permanently to Broadbeach State School from the start of next year. This is exciting news for both these teachers.

Mrs Fields is continuing in her regional role for three days a week until Thursday 21 November. Mrs Messinbird will continue teaching 7C in Mrs Fields’ absence.

A number of our staff have leave from now till the end of the school year. Mrs McNeillage our Head of Curriculum has Long Service Leave from 18 November through till 13 December. Mrs Lamburd will replace Mrs McNeillage and Miss Kate Kitching will teach Prep 2 during this time. Mrs Chivers also has Long Service Leave from 18 November to the end of the school year. Mr Ben Shaw will teach 56M for these four weeks. Also Mrs Bird has Long Service Leave from 18 November to the 13 December. Mrs Prentis, who normally teaches 3C each Friday, will be teaching the class fulltime for the last four weeks of the term.

Ms Parker commences Maternity Leave on 18 November through till the end of the school year. We wish Ms Parker all the very best. Miss Danijella Rigby will be replacing her for the next four weeks. Mrs Seward has Long Service Leave from 2 to 13 December and Miss Stephanie Coleman will be teaching Year 4A for these two weeks. Mrs Haywood also has Long Service Leave from 2 to 13 December. Mrs Denise Boyd will be replacing Mrs Haywood for these two weeks. Mrs Taffs has Long Service Leave from 9 to 13 December. Mr Akito Nishioka will teach Year 4B for that last week of term.

Year 7 Graduation
The Year 7 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Thursday 12 December in our Performing Arts Centre (PAC) from 10.00am to 12.30pm.

A Year 7 only student disco will be held the same evening at 6.30pm – 8.00pm in the MPC. On the last day of term our Year 7 students will enjoy a special day at Wet n Wild (subject to behaviour review).

School Uniform Donation
Parents whose children finish at Merrimac at the end of the school year may like to donate their children’s old uniforms to our school reserve supply. This would greatly help our spare clothing pool for when children have accidents at school or are in need of borrowing a spare uniform. Parents, please check your uniforms at home as we are missing a few uniforms from our supply. They are numbered on the tag. Also, the Music Committee would be very appreciative of black shoes donations.

Robina High Awards Night
On Monday night Ms Hall attended the Robina State High School Presentation night. Mrs Hall reported that it was a very enjoyable evening and she was so pleased to see a number of former Merrimac Primary students receiving various awards. Well done to the staff of Robina High on a great night.

Carols by Candlelight Information
It’s that time of year again, the season of giving and Christmas celebrations. The annual Merrimac Christmas Carols event is fast approaching and scheduled for the evening of Monday 9 December.

Recently a letter about Kmart Wishing Tree donations was sent home and this week another letter will be sent home appealing to your generosity for Hamper donations. We ask that families begin to consider donating a small gift for a child, adult or grandparent to assist with making Christmas a little brighter. The class that donates the greatest amount of gifts will receive a prize for their efforts. All gift donations, which will be given to the Salvation Army, can be delivered to 4C or 4D along with hamper items which will be raffled on Carols night. We thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity in making Christmas a little brighter for someone less fortunate.

Peace Poster Competition Winners
Congratulations to Natika Boydpratt who won the Peace Poster Competition for our school. Natika’s entry will now progress to the next level of the Lions Peace Poster Competition. Mrs Fran James from the Robina Lions presented Natika with her certificate on this week’s upper school parade. Well done Natika. Also congratulations to Molly Bishop who was placed second. Thanks to all the Year 6 and 7 students who entered into this competition. All entries were of a very high standard.

End of Year Reporting
Report Cards for Prep to 7 will go home on Thursday 5 December. If parents have any concerns regarding their child’s report, they are encouraged to arrange a meeting with their child’s teacher. Parent/Teacher interviews, if needed, can be arranged in the last week of the term.

Human Relationships Education (HRE)
The school’s HRE program for Years 5, 6 and 7 will be implemented in Weeks 7 and 8 of this term. Information and permission letters for the respective year levels (Years 5 to 7) have been sent home.

Parent Information Booklets
New Parent Information Booklets for 2014 have been prepared. These are provided to all new enrolments and beginning Prep families. Additional copies are available from the school office for anyone who may be interested in obtaining a copy. The Parent Information Book is also available on the school’s website.

New School Website and QSchools Smartphone App
The app QSchools is available to the school community as a free download via the Apple iTunes store and Google Play.

The QSchools has just been updated and now includes information on our Tuckshop, Bookshop, enrolment forms and documents, as well
as continuing to give information on newsletters, calendar of events, newsfeeds and alerts. All parents are encouraged to access this free App on their IPhone or Android phone. If you already have the QSchools installed, please update the app to access the latest features.

**Support for the Devastation in the Philippines**

We are collecting and putting together some hygiene packs for the devastating disaster that happened in the Philippines. The items we are collecting are: toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, combs, face washers and women’s personal hygiene items. If you wish to donate to this worthy cause there will be a basket in the Prep 3 classroom until 29 November. Our next Free Dress Day at the end of term will also raise funds for this special appeal.

**Student Placements 2014**

If your child will not be returning to Merrimac in 2014 please fill out the slip below and return it to the school office by Friday 15 November. This will assist in the placements for next year. Please note this does not apply to Year 7 students in 2013.

**FINANCE NEWS**

The finance window operates Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8am - 9.30am. These are the only times money is accepted. Please ensure you include first name, surname and class on notes for easy processing. We are currently accepting money for:

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<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Payment by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Dreamworld</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>2 Dec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Seaworld</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>2 Dec</td>
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**SPORTING NEWS**

**Last day of Interschool Sport**

This Friday is the last day of interschool sport. We wish all our teams the very best for their last game.

**Sporting Success**

**Aus Tag** - Congratulations to Taj McCumstie who has been selected in his club’s Gold Coast Aus Tag team to take part next year in the state championships on the Sunshine Coast. Well done Taj.

**Swimming** - Congratulations to Conor Brown who has qualified for two events (possibly three) for the 2013 Queensland Swimming Championships which will be held between 13 and 20 December. We wish Conor all the very best.

**STUDENT NON PLACEMENT FOR 2014**

My child/children will not be attending Merrimac Primary next year.

The new school is: ________________________________

Signature: ________________________________Parent/Guardian

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student's Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
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**INTERNATIONAL SPORTS DRAW 15 November**

**Basketball at Caningeraba State School, Burleigh Waters**

Yr 5 vs Elanora on Court 2 @ 12.30pm

**Softball at Coplicks Family Sports Park**

A Team vs St Andrews on Field 3 @ 10.00pm

B Team vs Caningeraba on Field 5 @ 10.00pm

**Boys Touch Mallawa Drive, Palm Beach**

5A vs Palm Beach on Field 3/4 @ 12.25pm

5B vs GCCC on Field 5 @ 12.30pm

6A vs Worongary on Field 6 @ 12.30pm

7A vs Burleigh on Field 12 @ 1.25pm

7B vs Worongary on Field 14 @ 12.30pm

**Girls Touch at Galleon Way, Currimundi**

5A vs Elanora on Field 2 @ 12.45pm

5B vs Elanora on Field 5 @ 1.30pm

6A vs Palm Beach on Field 7 @ 12.45pm

6B vs Hillcrest on Field 4 @ 1.30pm

**Girls Touch at Pizzey Park, Miami**

7A vs Merrimac on Field 2 @ 12.45pm

7B vs Elanora on Field 1 @ 1.30 pm

**Important** - Please return all sports shirts washed on Monday to your coach. First team to bring back all team shirts will win a prize from Mr Singh. Also, please check if you have old interschool sports team shirts that you may have forgotten to return. No questions asked, just return to the office.

**P&C NEWS**

**P&C Survey** - Want to win a bookpack for your child in 2014?

Your opinion and feedback on P&C services is important to us, so please follow this link http://bit.ly/16K939g to complete a survey with your child. You and your child’s feedback is very valuable to your P&C. Let your voices be heard. The result of this survey will help us deliver better services to your family.

This survey is anonymous, unless you choose to enter your details at the end to go into the draw to win your child a FREE book pack for 2014! Please note that only fully completed surveys will be eligible to go in the draw.

If you don’t have access to an online computer, surveys are available from the school office to be returned to the bookshop during operating hours.

This survey will close on Thursday 21 November and the winner of the bookpack will be notified by email. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your feedback is very valuable to us.

**Next P&C Meeting**

The final P&C meeting for the year will be held on Monday 2 December commencing at 6.30pm in the school Admin Building.

**Special P&C Meeting**

A special P&C Meeting will be held just prior to our next P&C meeting commencing at 6.15pm. This meeting will determine the P&C financial auditors for the year.

**Artworks Fundraising**

Thank you very much for your support, we raised a fantastic amount of $2825!! The artworks will be delivered mid-November. A big thank you to Yoko Huang for all her efforts in coordinating this fund raising activity on behalf of the P&C.

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

Roster for week commencing 18 November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Mayumi</th>
<th>Meal Deal 21 Nov $5*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Yoko H</td>
<td>- Ham Mayo &amp; Lettuce Snack Wrap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Yoko M, Help Pls</td>
<td>- Frozen Juice Cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>Maria S, Mayumi</td>
<td>- Pkt Sumo Cookies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Mayumi, Yoko H</td>
<td>- Bottled Water</td>
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* Add 50c to upgrade to flavoured milk or small playwater
Many thanks to my volunteers this week. Your help is appreciated. Have a good week. ~ Denise ~

BOOKSHOP NEWS
- Opening times: Mon - Wed - Fri 8am to 9am
- Orders can be placed at the bookshop or on flexischools.com.au

MUSIC NEWS

Magic of Music Concert
The annual Merrimac State School Magic of Music Concert will be held on Wednesday 20th November in the Merrimac School PAC Hall. Family and friends are all invited. Entry Fee: Gold Coin Donation
The program has been separated into two sessions. Please note the following performance information.

Session 1. 6.00pm – 6.45pm
Junior Choir – Meet Mrs Powell in the Hall - side stage.
Junior Strings - Meet Ms Hurst in Music Room
Junior Band - Meet Miss Deb in Science Resource Room

SESSION 1
Tea, coffee and light supper will be served in the foyer for parents.

Session 2. 7.15pm – 8.15pm
Senior Choir - Meet Mrs Powell in Hall - side stage.
Senior & Intermediate Strings - Meet Ms Hurst in Music Room
Senior Band - Meet Miss Deb in Science Resource Room

Full School Music Uniform is to be worn.
Long Black Pants, Black Socks, Black shoes and Blue School Music Polo Shirt.

PLEASE NOTE: IMPORTANT INFORMATION
Music Polo Shirts will be collected after the performance so students MUST BRING A SPARE SHIRT to change into.

INTERMISSION

Thank you to those students who have returned their expression of interest forms for the 2014 strings program. A letter advising the outcome of your application will be sent home next Wednesday and an information meeting will be held soon (date to be advised).

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
Isaac Shelton, Sorina Turcas, Jett Caruana, Abbi Rudland, Carter Armitage, Logyn Sandford, Hugo Landon, Crystal Roberts, William Anderson, Austin O’Neill, Mariella Augustin, Christopher Mahon, Jeremy Mikeska, Ryley Bugg, Emma Foster, Harrison Edie, Mikayla Haynes, O’Shay Boyne, Bryden Kullesa, Bella Wright, Angelina Halom-Lane, Henry Meneghelli, Cody Harrington, Isabella Baston, Jesse Berghuis, Jai Vought, Tiana Martin-Banks, Jasmine Togo, Shaania Moore, Joseph Fels, Lena Matsuo, Aiyana Almond, Tyrell Jesse Berghuis, Jai Vought, Tiana Martin-Banks, Jasmine Togo, Shaania Moore, Joseph Fels, Lena Matsuo, Aiyana Almond, Tyrell Jackson Newton, Jaime Hicks, Kurtis Farquharson, Brehyr Rogers, Brodee Duprez, Tarsha Clerks, Haylee Daniels, Beau Waller, Ray Huang, Olivia Hart, Summer Graham, Samuel Robertson, Florianne Legaspi, Jack Carter, Scarlett Bodewes, Mikayla Athfield, Indah Purcell, Luri Lee, Christina Hay, oldu9@eq.edu.au

Valley Xmas Fair
Sunday 1 December 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 or email alochke16@eq.edu.au

Making every day count
As we near the end of the school year, it's important to remember that all students are required to attend school every day until the end of term which is 13 December 2013. Not only is attendance at school a legal requirement, but being at school helps students to achieve more and builds social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. For more information, visit http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts

UPCOMING EVENTS

| Fri 15 Nov | Last day of Interschool Sport |
| 18, 20, 25, 27 Nov | Years 5, 6 and 7 Family Planning HRE lessons |
| Wed 20 Nov | Prep Experience Day (2 groups) |
| Wed 20 Nov | Merrimac Annual Music Concert in PAC |
| Mon 2 Dec | Last Day for Student Banking |
| Mon 2 Dec | 5.45pm Merrimac Outside School Hours Care meeting |
| Mon 2 Dec | 6.15pm Special P&C Meeting to determine P&C |
| Mon 2 Dec | Financial Auditors |
| Mon 2 Dec | 6.30 pm P&C meeting |
| Tues 3 Dec | IM Workshops at Merrimac High (selected students) |
| Thurs 5 Dec | RE Christmas Presentations |
| Thurs 5 Dec | Year 1 SeaWorld |
| Thurs 5 Dec | Year 2 Dreamworld |
| Thurs 5 Dec | Report Cards to go home |
| Mon 9 Dec | Carols By Candlelight |
| Thurs 12 Dec | Year 7 Graduation Ceremony |
| Thurs 12 Dec | Year 7 Graduation Disco |
| Fri 13 Dec | Last day of Term Four |
| Fri 13 Dec | Year 7 excursion |

Computers for Sale -
Payment and Collection Friday 15 Nov 2013
Dell-Vista, ex classroom computers
- 32byte, 2G Ram, 80GB HDD
- Cables, Mouse, 17” Monitor, Keyboard
- No service, support, or warranty with these machines
$80 each – only 20 available. Payment to finance window 01 between 8.00am - 9.30am.

More readers reading more books in this year’s Premier’s Reading Challenge
This year 84,000 Queensland state and non-state Prep to Year 7 students successfully completed the 8th Premier’s Reading Challenge - up from 82,000 participants last year. During the challenge, participating students read more than 1.7 million books — 100,000 more books than last year.
This is a great outcome as reading, apart from being an enjoyable activity in its own right, is important for improving student literacy and learning outcomes. Congratulations to our students who participated. Thanks to Mrs McClavey for coordinating our school’s participation in this very worthwhile event.

Cricket Australia are holding a free MILO T20 Blast Come & Try evening for girls and boys between 8-12 years old on Monday 18 November from 4.30pm – 6.00pm at Kerrydale Oval, Priddeys Road Robina. Come along and see what the hype is about! For more information contact Sean Dyball on 0416 442 209.

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