Term 3 Week 6 Thursday 21 August 2014

NAPLAN Report Card
Every Year 3, 5 and 7 student who participated in the 2014 NAPLAN test will receive an individual report containing their results. These reports have been sent home today. The report will provide a range of information about your child’s performance on each of the literacy and numeracy tests. It also contains a detailed guide on what is assessed in each test and how to interpret the results. Once received, parents and carers are encouraged to thoroughly read the report and the explanatory notes.

While these tests are important ‘point-in-time’ indicators or ‘snapshots’ of student achievement in literacy and numeracy, the results should be considered along with other information collected by our school about your child’s performance.

If you have any questions or concerns about NAPLAN testing, please contact your child’s class teacher or the school office.

Overall, we were very pleased with our school’s NAPLAN data and can celebrate an overall improvement in many areas – strong Year 5 and 7 data, pleasing Above National Minimum Standard data, and a significant improvement in the Year 3 to 5 and 5 to 7 data from the 2012 to 2014. As a school we will look very closely at the data to inform our overall future school practices and strategies. NAPLAN data is included each year in our School’s Annual Report.

Instrumental Ensemble and Band Performances
Congratulations to both our Junior and Senior Bands who performed this week at the Gold Coast Eisteddfod. The Senior Band played very well but was unplaced on the night. The Junior Band played beautifully on Tuesday and received a Very Highly Commended from the Adjudicators. Thanks to Miss Deb for her excellent work with the Band children.

Congratulations to our Instrumental Strings Ensemble for their awesome performance on Monday. They received First Place for a wonderful performance. Well done to all students involved. Miss Hurst has done a fantastic job with our Strings students.

We still have a number of Strings performances over the next two weeks and we wish them all the very best.

Year Four Bicycle Education Program
Each year our Year 4 students have the opportunity to attend a Bicycle Safety session at the Ashmore Bicycle Safety Centre. This year each class will attend for a whole day program. For just $5.00 the centre provides helmets and bicycles (including bicycles with balance wheels for beginners). Each class attends separately and the schedule is below. It was necessary to split Year 4M students over the various sessions. Permission notes have been sent home with each Year 4 student, and should be returned with the $5 cost by Friday 5th September at 9.30am.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>To bring:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4D+4Mboys</td>
<td>8 Sept</td>
<td>9.00am-2.45pm</td>
<td>MT/Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B+4Mgirls</td>
<td>10 Sept</td>
<td>9.00am-2.45pm</td>
<td>MT/Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>11 Sept</td>
<td>9.00am-2.45pm</td>
<td>MT/Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C+4Mboys</td>
<td>12 Sept</td>
<td>9.00am-2.45pm</td>
<td>MT/Lunch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8 Hour Famine
If your child is interested in participating in the World 8 Hour Famine please get them to see Mr Epita in 7A tomorrow for information and the sponsorship booklet. Participating students can collect sponsors or donations to help raise money for World Vision.

Life Education Program
The Life Education Van will be visiting our school this term from 3 to 18 September. All students are invited to participate in the Life Education Program at Merrimac State School. Life Education is an important program that effectively educates children about health issues. The program puts students in situations where they need to make decisions, solve problems and interact with other students by discussing possible alternatives to problem situations relating to their own health. The Life Education visit is $7.00 per student. There will be a parent session on Wednesday 3 September commencing at 2.00pm in the Life Education Van. The van will be located at the end of the PAC building. Notes for payment have been sent home last week with all students.

MLTAQ Speech Contest
OMEDETOU GOZAIMASU! Congratulations to our 16 Merrimac students who represented our school at the 2014 MLTAQ Languages Speech Contest at Griffith University on Sunday 17th of August. Our students have been preparing and rehearsing their Japanese speeches for some time and finally on the day, their commitment and dedication was rewarded. A big thank you to all the parents and families for your support!

We had outstanding results on the day as our students competed in the biggest division of the contest with 380 students participating in Primary Japanese.

A special congratulations to Emma Mollison, Brie Cassidy, Kayla Hodda, Alexandra Berghuis, Caitlin Haines and Aaron Hollis who were awarded medals on the day!

Emma Mollison
Brie Cassidy
Kayla Hodda
Alexandra Berghuis
Caitlin Haines
Aaron Hollis

Marshall Sensei

2014 MLTAQ Speech Contest Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Emma Mollison</td>
<td>Medal - 2nd Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Brie Cassidy</td>
<td>Medal - 3rd Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jesse Berghuis</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Alyssa Hodda</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Flynn Schmitzer</td>
<td>Participation Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kayla Hodda</td>
<td>Medal - 2nd Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Charlotte Oseman</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ella Moore</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dean Power</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Alexandra Berghuis</td>
<td>Medal - 2nd Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Caitlin Haines</td>
<td>Medal - 5th Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jameson Schmitzer</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Stephanie Roberts</td>
<td>Participation Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Aaron Hollis</td>
<td>Medal - 3rd Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Joey Barreto</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Nikiah Campbell</td>
<td>Participation Certificate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Years 6 and 7 Interschool Debating Competition
Once again Merrimac is hosting this event in Term 4 on October 23. We are entering 2 teams of 4 Year 6 and 7 students who are interested in public speaking. Several more students will be involved in helping on the day of the competition as chairpersons and timekeepers. Students interested in being in a team have presented a persuasive speech and the 8 selected students will be working with the Merrimac High debating team to plan and participate in a mock debate. They will then plan and prepare their debates here at school for the competition in October. We are always seeking adjudicators for the event, so please contact Mrs Messinbird (smess3@eq.edu.au) if you are interested.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
The Premier’s Reading Challenge continues until Friday 5 September. Keep up your reading.

Recycling Crayons
Thank you for all of the crayons and wind-ups that you have sent to P1M. We would like to continue to collect the crayons until the end of the school year, so please keep sending in all of your broken and unused crayons and zooms. There will be a box outside P1M each day until the end of the school year for the crayons and wind-ups. So far we have collected a total of 3 A4 paper boxes of crayons and zooms. We will keep you updated on when we will make and send the crayons to Tanzania. It is hoped that we will continue to recycle the crayons and wind-ups into 2015. Thank you so much for all of your support.

Prep Enrolments for 2015
In October each year our school holds a morning and evening orientation session for our new families. In November we also hold Prep experience days for our future Prep students. Parents are encouraged to start enrolling their children now. Early enrolment allows the school to be better prepared for the 2015 school year.

National Excellence in Teaching (NEITA) Awards
The NEITA Foundation has congratulated our school on having another of our teaching staff nominated for an ASG Inspirational Teaching Award. Mrs Rhonda Wakelin has also been nominated by members of our school community in recognition of the great work that she does at Merrimac State School. Congratulations to Mrs Wakelin. She joins Mrs Hall, Miss Jacobs, Mrs Spencer and Mr Elliott as award recipients from our school.

Education Perfect News
As our school is a subscriber of Language Perfect, all students in years 4-7 have an opportunity this year to participate in all events in the Education Perfect World Series. Last week students had the opportunity to participate in the Education Perfect Maths and English Championships. Congratulations Kurtis Green who earned a Bronze Award and Emily Howard for earning a Credit Award in the Maths and Ashton Williams for earning a Bronze Award in the English Championships. We hope to receive the certificates shortly to present on parade.

Last night the Science Championships started and already a few Merrimac students are on the scoreboard! Well done! Looking forward to seeing the results. Ganbatte! Marshall Sensei

Gold Coast Show Holiday
A reminder to all students and parents that Friday 29th August is a Public Holiday for the Gold Coast Show Day. Please note the Merrimac Outside School Hours Care will not be operating on this day.

Years 6 and 7 Interschool Debating Competition
Now that our school has an official enrolment boundary, all families, especially those residing outside our catchment area, are encouraged to get their Prep enrolments in as early as possible as vacancies are limited. All enrolments must include the student’s Birth Certificate. To date, we have 73 Prep students enrolled for next year, which is more than this time last year.

QSchools Smartphone App
The QSchools app is available to the school community as a free download via the Apple iTunes store and Google Play. QSchools is regularly updated with the latest news and alerts. Parents are encouraged to access this free App on their iPhone or Android phone and to update regularly to access the latest features.

Scholastic Book Fair 1st to 5th September
Scholastic Book Fair comes to our school from 1st to 5th September to share the newest books from more than 150 publishers with our young readers. Parents and teachers will find plenty of items to interest them too. The collection will arrive on Monday and be open for sales from 8.15am to 4pm Tuesday - Friday in the School's library. Children will have the opportunity to view the book selection during their class time and parents are welcome to visit the library at any time during the week. The school receives a commission in books on all sales at the Book Fair. Don't miss out on the fun and excitement of Book Fair.

Lost Property
With the cooler weather a lot of children are wearing jumpers to school. However, as the days warm up, many of the children take off their jumpers at some stage during the day. Jumpers should then be placed in children’s school bags. It is essential that all jumpers be named as they quite often end up in the port racks outside classrooms or in the Lost Property located in the Under Cover Area. There is also a Lost Property Box at Mosch. If you have a missing jumper, please check these areas on a regular basis. Also if your child brings home a wrong jumper with someone else’s name on it, please return to school so that the jumper will be returned to its owner. Also encourage your children to be responsible for their belongings and put jumpers in their bag when they take them off.

P&C NEWS

Fathers’ Day Stall
The P&C would like to let all parents and carers know we will be holding a Father’s Day stall Wed 3rd, Thurs 4th & Fri 5th Sept with some good quality inexpensive gifts available for purchase ranging from $1-$5 each. The stall will be held in the science room but in the meantime, a selection of the items are on display in the bookshop and are available to buy now! What a great way to take the hassle out of heading to the shops for your last minute DAD gifts! Not to mention the kids will get a great kick out of being responsible for choosing a present of their choice! All classes have been allocated a 15 minute time slot for students to purchase their personal choice of gift for their dad or special male figure in their life. Please check with your child which day they are timetabled for and have children ready with their money on the day. Happy shopping everyone!
This is an outstanding effort and we wish Taylor all the best.

BACKSTROKE EVENTS AT THE UPCOMING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS was selected for the 50m Freestyle, 50m Breaststroke and 50m Butterfly.

Congratulations to Taylor Butler from Year 5 who on the weekend won Gold Coast Oz Tag Primary Schools Challenge. On Monday this week, our school took part in the Gold Coast Oz Tag Competition held at Carrara. We entered a girls and boys team in the Years 5, 6, and 7 competitions. All teams did extremely well. Our Years 6 and 7 Girls teams made it through to the Semi Finals on the day.

Well done to all our other teams who took part in this competition. Thanks to Mr Singh, Mr Epilucy, Ms Parker and Mr Elliott for coaching the teams and to the parents who supported the children on the day.

TUCKSHOP NEWS

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TUCKSHOP NEWS

Tuckshop Roster for Week commencing 25 August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Mayumi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Yoko M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Yoko H, Naoko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Maria S, Mayumi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>GOLD COAST SHOW DAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meal Deal - 28 August $5.00* Gold Coast Show Day Snack Pack
- Mini Pluto-pup w sauce
- Haribo Gummybear bag
- SUMO Cookie
- Zooper Dooper
- Bottled Water

*Add 50c extra to upgrade to Flavoured Milk or Sparkling Water

Thanks to all my volunteers this week. Your help is always very much appreciated. Next Friday is our GC Show day so we will have a special Meal Deal Snack Pack to celebrate the event.

Our frozen Gelato cups are back in stock and just $2 a tub. Have a great weekend everyone! ~ Denise ~
~ Currumbin Valley ~
Spring Festival
Sunday 14 September 9.30am - 2.00pm
Live Music, Market Stalls, Rock Climbing, Farmyard Feeding,
Jumping Castle, Games, Arts & Craft, Food, Deck Bar & More!
STALL HOLDERS WANTED - From $10
1226 Currumbin Creek Road
Currumbin Valley 4223 Ph: 5533 0312
info@currumbinfarmschool.eq.edu.au

This annual community event has something for everyone offering
a great mixture of live music, market stalls, deck bar, rock
climbing, kids' entertainment, bush tucker trail, plants and more!
A showcase of original live music will get your feet tapping and
Farmyard Friends animal feeding enclosure will keep the kids busy
for hours.
Make a day of it! The festival is set amongst beautiful picnic
gardens and is ideally located across the road from the Currumbin
Rock Pools, surrounded by the picturesque views of Currumbin
Valley. If live music is your thing, all you will need is a picnic
blanket for a day of relaxing fun. What a great way to spend the
Day!

MLTAQ Participants

About Us: Discounts4u.net.au is Australia's ONLY 24 month free
coupon website with specials from businesses in your local area
aimed for Students. Our mission is to Help Everyday Australians -
we aim to offer the best deals & specials from local business
aimed at helping Students & their families.