Term 4 Week 2 Thursday 16 October 2014

Proposed Class Groupings For 2015

The school’s administration is at present starting to work on class groupings for 2015. Planning is currently being based on 31 class groups. This year we currently have 34 class groups but there will be a significant reduction as we lose our Year 7 classes to high school from the start of 2015.

If our projected numbers for next year increase, we may possibly grow to 32 class groups. This will be monitored and a decision made towards the end of this school year. At this stage we are planning for the following number of classes in each year level:

- Prep Year: four classes
- Prep/Year One: one class
- Year One: four classes
- Year Two: four classes
- Year Two/Year Three: one class
- Year Three: five classes
- Year Four: four classes
- Year Five: four classes (Year Five/Six: one class - if 32nd class is formed)
- Year Six: four classes

These year level compositions, however, could still change depending on the changing enrolment numbers. The number of composite classes could either be reduced or increased depending on year level enrolments. Final arrangements for class groups will not be finalised till the start of the 2015 school year. All Class groups will be published on the first day back next year on the block wall at the next to the bookshop and outside all classes. This will lessen the chance of forced changes to class groups which usually happens over the Christmas period.

Parental Educational Requests - 2015

The process for allocating children to classes is a complex process where class teachers, support teachers and administration use their professional judgement to consider the academic, social and emotional needs of all students and how these needs can be best met the following year. Determining the best possible educational environment for all children is a high priority. If you are aware of specific educational needs for your child, please list these concerns on the relevant form available from the school office. This form is not intended for specific teacher requests but for genuine educational issues.

Teacher class allocations have not been finalised at this stage and may not be finalised till the end of term. Parent requests will be considered in light of providing the best possible educational placement for all students. Because of a number of factors, it is not always possible to meet all parent requests. Multiple requests concerning the same child should not be made and cannot be catered for.

Forms are available from the school office and must be submitted to the office by 3pm Friday 14 November. After this date, class requests will only be considered if operationally convenient to the school.

Class Newsletters

Class Newsletters will be sent home tomorrow Friday 17 October by all class teachers. Class Newsletters are an important form of communication between school and home. They outline curriculum content for the term, reminds about class rules, behaviour management, teacher expectations and homework expectations. Any special events and activities will also be highlighted in the Class Newsletters.

Term Four Class Captains

Congratulations to the following students who will take on the role of Class Captain for this term. Certificates and badges were presented on this week’s upper school parade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Boy Captain</th>
<th>Girl Captain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Jay O’Neill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>Jordan Guttenbeil</td>
<td>Halle Tafts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Isaac Vellacott</td>
<td>Katia Whitford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Zac Tilden</td>
<td>Sophie Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4D</td>
<td>Yui Okagawa</td>
<td>Runa Oshika</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Dean Power</td>
<td>Anais Hicks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Liam Kaneko</td>
<td>Grace Elliott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Cash Kelhear</td>
<td>Sunny Gerrard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5D</td>
<td>Daniel Males</td>
<td>Bridie Fletcher-Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>Lauchlan Thomson</td>
<td>Tia Duggan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>Jazz Jensen</td>
<td>Sharon Kim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6C</td>
<td>Nicholas Perry</td>
<td>Kasha Read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Louis Stone</td>
<td>Vicki Ip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A</td>
<td>Teruki Wakayama</td>
<td>Jade Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Yusuke Zamma</td>
<td>Jala Lopich</td>
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<tr>
<td>7C</td>
<td>Jordan Toirkens</td>
<td>Teah Johnston</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Student Council Representatives

The following students will join our four school captains and comprise our Student Council for Term 4: Tia Duggan, Jazz Jensen, Kasha Read, Louis Stone, Jade Martin, Jala Lopich and Teah Johnston.

Student Leadership Process for 2015

The leadership process for the positions of Student Leaders, House Captains and Music Captains will start in the next few weeks. The student leader process has a strong emphasis on written applications, responses to a range of scenarios, reflection on leadership, preparation and presentation of speech along with a detailed analysis of behaviour and academic history. Information gathered through the process is considered by a panel of teachers with recommendations for appointment made to the Principal.

The selection of House Captains and Music Captains will commence when the student leaders are finalised. Students in each house will have the opportunity to elect their captains. Our music staff will meet to determine the positions of Music Captains.

Flying Start Resource Kit 2 (Primary)

This year will mark the final year that Year 7 will be a part of primary school in Queensland.

At the end of the school year, we will say farewell to both our Year 6 and Year 7 students as they join approximately 100,000 students who will enter high schools across Queensland.

For the past three years, 20 state schools have been piloting the move of Year 7 students to high school. These pilot schools have generously shared their learning and insights with all schools in Queensland. A review of the pilot program was recently completed and four key insights have emerged: focus on transition, invest in your people, understand the adolescent learner and seek regular feedback. Pilot schools have emphasised the importance of a strong
transition program. If you have any specific questions or concerns related to the move, please contact us or the high school where you are planning to send your child.

Transition to High School
With all of our Year 6 and 7 students transitioning to high school at the end of this year, staff have been very busy planning a program that will ease the stress and anxiety involved in such a move. While this can be a stressful time for students, we are hopeful that with the plans we have in place, we can help our students to feel confident about this move and approach high school with confidence and enthusiasm.

Transition life skills program:
This program has been designed to help our Year 6 and 7 students cope with their upcoming transition to high school. The following areas will be covered:
- Week 1: Self-esteem, strengths and weaknesses
- Week 2: Making Friends
- Week 3: Bullying
- Week 4: Dealing with stress and Anxiety
- Week 5: Cyber Safety
- Week 6: Responsibilities and organisation at high school
- Week 7: Work at High school, reading and understanding criteria sheets
- Week 8: Summary and Staying in touch

Classroom teachers will be covering these topics each week this term while Mrs Prentis and Mrs O'Rourke will also be holding more intensive sessions with students who we believe require a more structured support program.

If your child has received learning support in the past or has learning difficulties we have plans in place to smooth the transition process. Mrs Prentis will be in close communication with the high school learning support departments and any relevant information will be passed on.

We will be taking selected students (and their parents) to Merrimac High school to meet with the learning support teacher and have a guided tour of the high school in Week 5. Letters will be sent home with all the details.

The learning support teacher from St Michaels will be visiting our school later this term to meet with students who may require extra support next year. She is also happy to answer any questions that students or parents may have regarding the learning support program at St Michaels. We may also arrange an excursion to Robina High if we feel it is necessary.

Please make an appointment with Mrs Prentis or Mrs Murray if you have any questions regarding our transition program.

Dates to remember:
- Monday 3rd November St Michaels Learning support teacher to visit our school
- Wednesday 5th November Year 6 Learning support excursion to Merrimac High 1:30-3pm
- Thursday 6th November 1:30-3pm Year 7 Learning support excursion to Merrimac High.

Sports/Musical Photos
Silver Rose visited our school yesterday to photograph the current sports teams and musical groups. Ordering will be available online @ www.silverrose.com.au/schools. Username: Groups Password: 285023 next week. The photo size is 25cm x 20cm and the cost is $15. Silver Rose can be contacted on 3262 5788 for any questions regarding photos.

Human Relationships Education (HRE)
Last year our school used Family Planning Queensland to run our school's HRE Sexuality Program. A decision has been made to again use them this year. The HRE program involves Years 5, 6 and 7 only. The P&C and school will be jointly funding the program so there will be no cost to the students. The content of the program will be very similar to previous years. A number of schools are using Family Planning Queensland to present their school's HRE. The Family Planning HRE student sessions will be held in the week beginning Monday 17 November. A timetable for each of the classes will be developed and published in a future newsletter. Thank you to those parents who attended the parent session which was held on Wednesday.

2015 Year 4 Camp Information
Advanced information: Next year's Year 4 Camp will be held in Week 9 of Term 1 atCurrumbin Farm School. Cost will be approximately $165.00. PAYMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED THIS YEAR.

GROUP ONE
- 23-25 March

GROUP TWO
- 25-27 March

Groups will be determined after classes are established next year. Deposit will be required by Friday 13th February 2015 with the balance required by Friday 6th March 2015.

To view where the camp is and find out more go to www.thebeachschool.eq.edu.au. Note this camp is managed by Tallebudgera Beach School.

Take Care in the Car Park
Parents are asked to take extra care when reversing out from car park spaces especially of an afternoon. Drivers are asked to please be considerate and allow plenty of room for cars reversing from car park spaces.

After School Pick Up
Please do not ask your children to wait for you at Boowaggan Park of an afternoon. This is an unsafe practice. School staff do not have access to the park and children cannot hear paging off school grounds. Students playing at the park after school are presumed to be with their parents or carers and are not monitored by school staff. All students are to be collected from the front of the school where staff can monitor children. All students should be collected by 3.15pm. If you are unable to collect your children by this time you may need to look at After School Care as an option. They can be reached on 55252617.

2015 Prep Enrolments
We are currently accepting Prep enrolments for 2015. Enrolment packs are available at the office. All enrolments must be accompanied by the child's birth certificate and proof of residency. The school will be holding a Prep Orientation Day on Wednesday 29 October 2014 in the MPC. The morning program runs from 9.00am to 11.00am and the evening program runs from 6:00pm to 7.30pm. Parents will have the opportunity to purchase Book Kits and Uniforms at the end of each of the sessions.

The school also arranges a school experience morning for new Prep students in November. We have found that these mornings are invaluable in demystifying the school environment and help children to have a better start to the school 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.

**Student Banking**

Student banking continues each Monday. Please note that the penguin keychain and whale shark pencil case are out of stock and not longer available. The projector cup and sea streamers are now available. See the community news at the end of this newsletter for a couple of great competitions for student bankers.

**FINANCE NEWS**

The finance window operates Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8.00am - 9.30am. These are the only times money is accepted. Parents should ensure payment is made by due dates as final numbers are often required children will miss out on an event if they have not paid by the due date. Pay early and avoid disappointment. We are currently accepting payments for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Payment Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P-3</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>29 Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snr Choir</td>
<td>Music Count Us In</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>17 Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Seaworld Entry</td>
<td>$23</td>
<td>14 Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seaworld Bus</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 6/7</td>
<td>Graduation Activities</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>21 Nov</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

Roster for week commencing 20 October:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 20/10</th>
<th>Tue 21/10</th>
<th>Wed 22/10</th>
<th>Thur 23/10</th>
<th>Fri 24/10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
<td>Yoko M</td>
<td>Naoko, Yoko H</td>
<td>Maria S, Mayumi</td>
<td>Yoko H, Mayumi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meal Deal 23 Oct $5.00*  
- Penne Pasta Tuna  
- Salad w cucumber & corn kernels Large  
- Muffin  
- Zooper Dooper  
- Bottled Water  

*Add 50c extra to upgrade to Quench Springwater or flavoured milk

Many thanks to my volunteers this week. Your time given is very much appreciated. Don't forget next Monday is a Pupil free day. Unfortunately Streets have deleted the Paddlepop Fruit Stack from their line. We still sell plenty of Zooper Doo pers @ .50c though.

Don't forget to buy a cold drink before the interschool bus for sports leaves each Friday. Have a great week all. ~ Denise ~

**P&C NEWS**

Family Portrait Fundraiser New venue  
Due to the road closure for the triathlon on Sunday, the Family Portraits will be taken at Lakelands Golf Course. Please enter off Gooding Drive.

**PE NEWS**

Sporting Success  
Congratulations to Teliah Risati who competed yesterday at the State Track and Field Championships in Brisbane. This is a fantastic effort. Well done Teliah.

Prep to Year 3 Term Four Swimming  
All students from Prep to Year 3 will be involved in a six week swimming program this term commencing in Week 4. Information and permission notes have been sent home with the children in these year levels.

**Lunchtime Soccer Program**

Total Football Academy will be running a lunchtime program during Term 4 at Merrimac State School. Registrations forms were distributed during the free demonstration held last Friday. During the program games will be played inside an inflatable soccer field, which captures the imagination of students, giving them a great soccer experience. Training will take place inside a skills square focussing on different skills each week, such as dribbling, turning and shooting. Students in Prep - Year 7 are invited to participate from 11:00pm - 1:40pm each Friday until 28 November. Cost is $55 per student. You can register online at www.totalfootballacademy.com.au or phone Adem on 0439757718 or email adem@totalfootballacademy.com.au.

**INTERSCHOOL SPORTS DRAW 17 OCTOBER**

Boys Touch at Pizzey Park Soccer Fields  
5A v Elanora on Field 1 @ 1.35pm  
5B v Caningeraba on Field 4 @ 1.35pm no time change  
6A v Elanora on Field 6 @ 1.35pm  
6B v Hillcrest on Field 6 @ 12.50pm  
7B v William Duncan on Field 11 @ 12.50pm

Basketball at Mudgeeraba State School, Old Coach Rd, Mudgeeraba  
6B v Mudgeeraba on Court 2 @ 12.45pm  
7B v Mudgeeraba on Court 1 @ 12.45pm

Girls Touch at Robina Common Fields  
5A v GC Christian College on Field 1 @ 1.30pm  
6A v Caningeraba on Field 8 @ 12.45pm  
6B v Burleigh on Field 12 @ 1.30pm  
7A v Palm Beach on Field 7 @ 1.30pm  
7B v Mudgeeraba on Field 2 @ 12.45pm

Softball at Coplicks Fields, Tallebudgera  
Team A v Caningeraba on Field 1 @ 12.50pm  
Team B v Caningeraba on Field 4 @ 12.50pm

**MUSIC NEWS**

MUSIC COUNT US IN - SURFERS PARADISE  
The Merrimac Senior Choir has been chosen to represent our school at this year’s Music Count Us In Performance in Surfers Paradise.

On Thursday October 30th at 11.00am, selected students from our Senior Choir will be performing at the Skypoint Observation Deck Q1 as a part Of Music Count Us In. Each year on October 30th at 11:30am schools across the nation have participated in Music Count Us In: Australia’s biggest school initiative. More than 600,000 students, teachers and parents from schools all over Australia sign up to learn, rehearse, then perform the same song, on the same day, at the same time. Once again, this year students from 12 Gold Coast Schools will be taking this initiative to "new Heights". Students will perform this year’s Music Count Us In song, “Paint You a Song” atop the Q1 and on Surfers Paradise Beach while students around the country will be singing along via a live feed on the music count us in website. http://www.musiccountusin.org.au

Notes have been sent home with the Senior Choir students. Please return the notes and payment ASAP if you want your child to attend.

The MAGIC OF MUSIC CONCERT is on Wednesday 19 November. Notes will go home soon with details of the Concert but please save the date.

**Instrumental Band News**

Recruiting for 2015 has now commenced. Due to the Year 6 students moving to high school next year, Education Queensland have allowed Year 4s to join the band program. Therefore all Year 3 and 4 students will be tested this year. Students will be mouth tested on band instruments to find which instrument is most suitable for them. Other areas assessed are:

- Physical attributes
Every student will have the opportunity to try out. To test everyone will take several weeks. Successful applicants will be notified midway through next term. It’s a fun time and I look forward to meeting prospective new students in the weeks ahead.

Strings Recruitment for 2015

Last term year two students were issued with an invitation to join the strings program for 2015. Instruments on offer include *Violin *Viola *Cello *Double Bass. Places are limited and once all applications have been received, students will be assessed for their suitability to join the program. Please ensure your child has returned the reply slip before the end of term three. Spare copies will be held in the office.

Change to Strings timetable for Term 4

**Beginner Strings** will now be held on Tuesdays = Beginner String Ensemble before school from 7.50 and lessons as per new timetable.

**Senior Strings** will now be held on Wednesdays = Senior Strings before school from 7.50 and lessons as per new timetable.

**Intermediate Strings** will still be held on Wednesdays with rehearsal at 1:00p.m and lessons as per new timetable.

Thanks to all students for their hard work this term. Have a wonderful, well-deserved holiday.

Helen Hurst (Strings Instructor)

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB CLOSES TOMORROW

If you wish to make a purchase, please follow these instructions:
- Complete the order form on the back of the brochure including the child’s name, class and phone number at the top; Clearly label an envelope with "Book Club Order";
- Into this envelope, place the order form together with correct money or cheque payable to Scholastic Australia (or utilise the credit card option on the order form);
- Put the envelope in the box at the finance window at school tomorrow morning before 9.00am

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK


COMMON NEWS

**Commonwealth Bank**

**Rewarding regular savings with previous prizes**

The Dollarmites have uncovered the ancient Clam of Fortune. Inside they found these amazing prizes that you could win a share of:
- 40 x GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras
- 150 x Slip N Slide Double Wave Riders

Every deposit you make with School Banking will automatically create one entry for you into the competition so the more you save, the more chances you have to win (up to a maximum of 6 entries). Competition runs: 20 October – 30 November 2014. To find out more, visit commbank.com.au/deepseasavers

**Robina State High School**

**Orientation Days for 2015**

**Year 7 2015 – Friday 31 October 2014**

**Year 8 2015 – Friday 24 October 2014**

Prior to these days all families regardless of their primary school must complete and submit Robina State High School enrolment forms. When enrolment forms are submitted we will book your individual enrolment interview. Enrolment packs are available on the Robina SHS website or from reception. For more information contact our Head of Junior Secondary – Mr Ben Weeks bweek12@eq.edu.au.
UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 10 Oct</td>
<td>Interschool Sport resumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 13 Oct</td>
<td>6.30pm P&amp;C meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 13 Oct</td>
<td>5.45pm Outside School Hours Care meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 15 Oct</td>
<td>School Sport and Music Photo Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 15 Oct</td>
<td>2.15pm to 3.15pm HRE Parent Session in MPC Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 16 Oct</td>
<td>Year 5 Y Lead day at Miami High School (selected students)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 19 Oct</td>
<td>P&amp;C Family Portraits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 20 Oct</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 21 Oct</td>
<td>Surf Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 23 Oct</td>
<td>Inter School Debating Day at Merrimac</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 29 Oct</td>
<td>Prep Orientation Day (9.00am and 6.00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 30 Oct</td>
<td>Gold Coast Music Count Us In (Senior Choir)</td>
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<td>1 and 2 Nov</td>
<td>Redland Bay interschool Touch Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 5 Nov</td>
<td>School Disco (Week 5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 10 Nov</td>
<td>6.30pm P&amp;C meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 10 Nov</td>
<td>5.45pm Outside School Hours Care meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 10 Nov</td>
<td>2.00pm to 2.55pm Merrimac High to talk to Years 6 and 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 and 11 Nov</td>
<td>Teaching and Learning Audit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 11 Nov</td>
<td>Remembrance Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 13 Nov</td>
<td>Prep Experience Day (2 groups)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 and 16 Nov</td>
<td>620 Summit in Brisbane</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 17 Nov</td>
<td>7.00pm Robina High Awards Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 17 Nov</td>
<td>Years 5, 6 and 7 Family Planning HRE lessons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 19 Nov</td>
<td>Magic of Music Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 20 Nov</td>
<td>Prep Experience Day (2 groups)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 21 Nov</td>
<td>Last day of Interschool Sport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 1 Dec</td>
<td>5.45pm Outside School Hours Care meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 1 Dec</td>
<td>6.30 pm P&amp;C meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 4 Dec</td>
<td>Year 7 Transition Day to Merrimac SHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 4 Dec</td>
<td>RE Christmas Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 8 Dec</td>
<td>Carols By Candlelight</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 9 Dec</td>
<td>Report Cards to go home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 9 Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 Transition Day to Merrimac SHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 10 Dec</td>
<td>Year 7 Graduation Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 11 Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 11 Dec</td>
<td>Years 6 and 7 Graduation Disco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 12 Dec</td>
<td>Last day of Term Four</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 12 Dec</td>
<td>Years 6 and 7 excursion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tired of Fighting with Your Teenager?
FREE SEMINAR ON REDUCING FAMILY CONFLICT!

- Is your teenager between 11 and 16 years?
- Would you like practical tips for dealing with conflict with your teenager?
- Come to our free 2-hour seminar!

Parents of teenagers are invited to take part in new research by attending a seminar based on the successful Teen Triple P: Positive Parenting Program.

Dates: October to December, 2014
Venues: PCYC Bayside, Carindale, Inala and UQ St Lucia

To find out more or register your interest:
W: https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/parentingteens
E: parentingteens@uq.edu.au
P: 3365 7306 or 3365 7303

The University of Queensland  PCYC  Youth Development