



# Merrimac State School

## Newsletter

**Term 3 Week 5 Thursday 10 August 2017**

### **PRINCIPAL'S PAGE**

#### **School Opinion Surveys - parent reminder**

Each year Education Queensland conducts state wide school Opinion Surveys for Parents, Staff and Students. The students in Years 5 and 6 have completed their online surveys. The school staff have also undertaken their online surveys. All parents have the opportunity to complete an online survey as well. As of today, only 25 parents have completed a survey.

Parents were given a letter (which was sent home on Monday 31 July with the eldest child in the family) inviting parents to complete an online Parent Opinion Survey.

Hopefully, more of our parents will take up the invitation to provide their thoughts and feedback to our school. Online surveys need to be completed by this Friday 11 August.

Data from all these surveys will be included in this year's School Annual Report.

#### **P and C Meeting**

The next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 14 August at 6.30pm in the Staffroom. All parents are invited to attend. The Staffroom is situated at the end of the Administration Building. All interested parents are welcome to attend. At the P&C meeting we hope to fill the vacant Treasurer's position. Please come along if interested in this role.

The Outside School Hours Care meeting will also be held on the same evening commencing at 5.45pm in the MPC.

#### **International Exchange Parent Committee Meeting**

The next Parent IEC Meeting will be held on Monday 14 August at 5.30 p.m. in the staff room. This meeting will focus on our upcoming trip to Japan.

#### **Regional LOTE Speaking Competition**

A number of our students will be participating in the LOTE speaking competition this Sunday 13 August at Griffith University. Mrs Marshall has been practising with the students and I'm sure that they will do well. We wish them all the very best.

#### **Gold Coast Show Holiday**

A reminder to all students and parents that Friday 1st September 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.

#### **NAPLAN Student Reports**

NAPLAN Reports for every Year 3 and 5 student who participated in the 2017 NAPLAN test will be sent home today. 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.

#### **Term Three Reporting to Parents - Parent Teacher Online**

Parent/teacher interviews for Prep to Year 6 have been scheduled for the end of this term. The majority of interviews will be held on Wednesday, 6 September from 3.30pm to 7.30pm in the classrooms. A selection of other times will also be offered by class teachers.

Student folios will be issued at the interviews. These should be returned to school before the end of term. It is hoped that the majority of parents will take the opportunity of attending the planned parent/teacher interviews.

We continue to use the online booking system for all parents/teacher interviews. Parents will be able to book interviews through the PTO website. This is an online booking system that makes it very easy for parents to book in their preferred interview times. Parents will receive immediate confirmation of their interview times.

All interviews will be scheduled at 10 minute intervals. Parents are reminded to be on time and to notify the school if they cannot make their scheduled interview time for some reason. It is important to allow at least a 10 minute gap between interview times if you have more than one student.

More information will be provided in next week's newsletter, in relation to the online booking procedures.

#### **Hostile Parents on School Grounds - Verbal Direction**

Principals have been given the power to give a verbal direction (rather than a written direction) to hostile persons to leave and not enter school premises for a period of 24 hours. Principals can also ban a person for up to 60 days by written direction. I am pleased to say that in the 24 years of being Principal here at Merrimac State School, I have not had to use such powers in relation to hostile parents. This gives a good indication of the support we get from our Merrimac parents and parents understanding the need to follow school guidelines and maintain a good order within our school. All parents and visitors to our school need to be aware of the appropriate conduct that is expected at our school.

#### **Children on School Grounds after School**

During after school hours, Merrimac offers a variety of programs such as chess, cartooning and cooking.

We also have band and strings ensemble practice or lessons. It has been noticed that on occasions siblings have been left to wait without a parent for their brother or sister participating in these activities. Please be aware that siblings should not be left alone to wait without proper adult supervision. This is an important matter of safety.

Any child found waiting for a brother or sister without adult supervision will be asked to wait at the office. Thank you.

Chris Boff

School Engagement Officer

### Centenary Books

Our Centenary Books have been a great success and are selling very well. The Centenary Books are professionally done and will be a valuable memory of our school's rich history. The Centenary books are on sale through the Bookshop.

The cost of the Centenary Book is \$15 which is certainly value for money as the GCCC has subsidised the actual cost of the book. It is a must to have as a souvenir of our school's Centenary. All current 2017 class photos have been included in the Centenary Book.

### Centenary Memorabilia

To help celebrate and remember our school's Centenary we have several souvenirs still available to purchase. Souvenirs are available from the Bookshop. Orders can also be placed through flexischools.com.au

All orders must be collected from the Bookshop.  
Centenary Memorabilia Items include:

KEYRING \$ 2.00  
STYLUS PEN \$ 3.00  
DRINK BOTTLE \$ 4.00  
STUBBIE COOLER \$ 4.00  
TRAVEL MUG \$ 4.00  
WINE GLASS \$ 5.00  
STEMLESS GLASS \$10.00  
PREMIUM TAWNY PORT \$25.00  
CENTENARY BOOKS \$ 15.00  
CENTENARY PAVERS \$ 40.00  
CENTENARY SHIRTS \$ 25.00

These are available from the Bookshop  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 8.00am to 9.00am.

### Centenary Pavers

Do you and your family want to have a permanent reminder here of your attendance or involvement in Merrimac State School especially being the Centenary Year? We are offering the opportunity to purchase a Centenary Paver as a lasting record of your child's/children's/family's involvement in our school's Centenary year.

Included in the school newsletter is further information about the paver promotion and also how to order your paver or pavers. Our school did a similar paver promotion when the MPC was built and also when the Chappy Hut was built. I'm sure that this paver promotion will be even bigger than those in the past. The paver promotion will also be open to school community members as well as businesses. It is planned to develop a large paver space near the entrance area to the Performing Arts Centre as a permanent tribute to our School's Centenary year. Orders can be placed through the Bookshop.

### Centenary Shirts

It is not too late to purchase a Centenary Shirt. Currently there are limited numbers in stock but another order has been placed and will be arriving at the Bookshop shortly. The Centenary shirts look very smart indeed and are a great reminder of our school's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Students can wear these shirts as part of their school uniform. This was the decision made earlier in the year regarding the Centenary shirts.

### Scholastic Book Fair

Merrimac State School is currently hosting the Scholastic Book Fair through till Friday, 18 August. This is a wonderful chance for our young readers to see the newest books from more than 150 publishers. Parents and teachers will find plenty of items to interest them as well.



The collection will be ready for "class viewing" following delivery on Monday, 7 August where most students will have the opportunity to fill out a "wish list" prior to the Fair opening. We officially open our doors for purchases from 8.15am on Thursday, 10 August. The Book Fair will then continue until 4.00pm on Friday, 18 August. Parents are welcome to visit the Book Fair anytime during the school day. The school receives a commission on all sales at the Book Fair through books and resources which are added to our Library collection. This is always an exciting event in our annual school calendar where parents and children alike can indulge in their love of books and reading. So please take a moment to visit our Library while Book Fair is here!

### Life Education

The Life Education Van will be visiting our school towards the end of Term Three from 5 to 15 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 situations relating to their own health. The Life Education visit is subsidised by the school which reduces the cost down to \$7. More information and permission slips for payment have been sent home with all students.

### 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 for a whole day program. The cost is \$5 per child. Each class will attend separately and the schedule is below. Consent forms/payment advices have been sent home with each Year 4 student and should be returned to the finance window by 21<sup>st</sup> August.

Class	Date	Times	To bring:
4C	11 Sept	9.00am-2.45pm	MT/Lunch
4A	12 Sept	9.00am-2.45pm	MT/Lunch
4B	13 Sept	9.00am-2.45pm	MT/Lunch
4D	14 Sept	9.00am-2.45pm	MT/Lunch

### Donation

A big thank you to one of our students,, Charlee B-J from 5D, who recently won a raffle and donated her prize of a wheelbarrow to our school.

Charlee wanted to win the wheelbarrow for the school's Facilities Officer, Mr Maggs for being such a kind, happy and hard working person. Charlee presented the wheelbarrow to Mr Maggs at the beginning of the week and Mr Maggs was thrilled. Well done Charlee and thanks for your very kind donation.

### Woolworths Earn and Learn

Our school is again participating in the Woolworths Earn and Learn promotion. In previous years, our school has received many valuable resources through this promotion. The program for 2017 has commenced and will run through till Tuesday 19 September. It's simple to participate. From Friday 21st July to Tuesday 19th September 2017, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator or

through an online order and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. There will be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards). Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either at school or at your local Woolworths.

Our school can then redeem the Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers for valuable education resources for our school.

Points will be traded in for valuable school resources from Modern Teaching Aids.

Parents and family friends who shop at Woolies are encouraged to collect the stickers and sticker cards and send them along to the school. Your support in this program would be much appreciated.

#### **Upcoming Staff Leave**

The following staff have leave in Term Three:

- Mrs Chrystene Conder LSL 3 to 11 August - Ms Julie Poole to replace
- Mrs Sloss LSL 4 to 15 September - a replacement for Mrs Sloss is still to be finalised
- Mr Boff LSL 21 August to 15 September - Mrs Barrett will be the acting School Engagement Officer- Mrs Denise Boyd to replace.

#### **Koala Joeys**

The Koala Joeys Family Program is a transition to school program and has been specifically created to deliver in all primary schools for families with children under school age. It focuses on empowering parents and carers to use nursery rhymes, songs, dance, movement and stories as a tool to form secure attachments. Early literacy and early numeracy information is shared during the program in a fun, interactive and supportive environment.

Where: PAC

When: 9.00am - 10.00am

Ages: Bump to big school

Cost: Free

#### **Premiers Reading Challenge**

The Premier's Reading Challenge continues until Friday 11 September. Keep up your reading.

#### **From the desk of Ralph and Rosie**

##### **Merrimac State School Focus of The week**

Over this past week, the children at Merrimac State School have been examining the topic of being safe and respectful by keeping hands, feet and objects to themselves. In their classes and on parade, the boys and girls at MSS have been asked to engage in discussions, role plays and class demonstrations on the importance of following these behaviours.

Well done to 1C and 4C for being awarded the Ralph and Rosie Award of the Week. 1C received their award for lining up beautifully and following their teacher. 4C received their award for continually lining up ready for a Music lesson in a respectful manner. Congratulations to all girls and boys for remembering to be safe, respectful learners in the classroom and in the playground.

**Ralph and Rosie**

#### **Prep Enrolments for 2018**

This year we currently have 115 Prep students. This is a very good intake of new students. Prep is an extremely important part of our school. We are already getting inquiries regarding Prep for 2018. 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.

Enrolments for Prep for next year can be made at the school's 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 2018 school year.

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. All enrolments must include the enrolling student's Birth Certificate.

#### **Breakfast and Fitness Program**

This term we are continuing with the Breakfast/Fitness Program on a Wednesday morning for interested Years 4 to 6 students.

The fitness component starts at 8.00am and goes through till 8.25am when the children then line up for a well-earned breakfast. Interested students need to commit to the program each week from 8.00am to 8.45am. Usually the program is held on the oval but on wet days will take place in the PAC.

A big thank you to our Chappy Steve for running the program and also thanks to the many staff and parent helpers who assist each week.

We certainly appreciate the support from Coles Worongary, Tina Nenadic, from Harcourts Real Estate and the Genesis Church who support Breakfast/Fitness Program which allows us to buy the various breakfast requirements.

#### **Parent Fitness (Boot Camp) Program - free for Merrimac Parents**

Thanks to Tina Nenadic from Harcourts Real Estate, for sponsoring the weekly free fitness program each Thursday for our parents. The Parent Fitness Program will continue at school in Term Three.

Simone Doyle, a fitness instructor, runs the sessions in the MPC/Tennis Court area on Thursdays from 1.45pm to 2.45pm. It is completely free. Parents wishing to participate can contact Tina direct on 0402984898. Simone can only cater up to 20 in the session so please register your interest with Tina to avoid disappointment.

#### **P&C NEWS**

##### **Feedback and Suggestions**

The P and C is happy to receive any suggestions for improvements in relation to future Fairs/Fetes, etc. Feedback can be sent to the P and C through the following email address -

[PandCPresident@merrimacss.eq.edu.au](mailto:PandCPresident@merrimacss.eq.edu.au)

##### **Fundraising News**

Once again Merrimac State School will be running our successful Calendar Artwork Fundraiser. This year our options will include 2018 calendars, greeting cards, diaries and sketch pads. Students will be working on their artwork in class and more information will become available throughout the term.

#### **STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

**Congratulations to the following students of the week:**

Caleb P 1A, Tier C 1A, Piper D-H 1C, Sibellah K 1C, Dante M 1D, Nixon K 1D, Josiah-Hamiora M-B 1E, Crystal L 1E, Kaea R 2A, Maddison H 2A, Ella H 2B, Cocomi C 2B, Alexia P 2C, Michael H 2C, Lyla C 2D, Taylor C 2D, Kohdee D 2E, Jonathan N 2E, Thomas W 3A, Levi O 3B, Star B 3C, Tony D 3D, Riley C 3E, Jaymie H 4A, Harrison M 4B, Jade K 4C, Jae S 4D, Rylee F 5A, Ryunosuke N 5B, Keelan K 5C, Charlie M 5D, Si T 5E, Kevin T 6A, Iona G 6B, Jonathan D 6C, Jake M 6D, Jai E P1, Chase T P1, Braxton A P1M, Tayloa B P1M, Eleanor F P2, Cooper M P2, Bonnie H P3, Hunter N P3, Broc Mc P4, Jonas B P4

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

**Congratulations to the following students of the month:**

Keira M 1A, Rhys J 1C, Amelia S 1D, Jonathon C 1E, Emily W 2A, Matthew R 2B, Kaea A 2C, Isaac S 2D, Kohdee D 2E, Sancia S 3A, Ruby K-Y 3B, Maya W 3C, Seth S 3D, Solitaire F 3E, Charlotte W 4A, Arielle C 4B, Lily Horner 4C, Baileigh R 4D, James G 5A, Sawa K 5B, Sasha Mc 5C, Natalie T 5D, Jacob B 5E, Liana B 6A, Sophie F 6B, Shanaye-Louise S 6C, Sienna R 6D, Hanjun M P1, Taylor M P1M, Jacinta H P2, Axel K P3, Nahalia M P4,

## FINANCE NEWS

### Important Information on Invoicing

When the payment date for an excursion closes and we cancel unpaid invoices if you did not pay for this excursion you will receive an adjustment notice email, [this is not an invoice, please open and read](#). This email only goes to those not participating and can be ignored.

Please ensure that all payments to the finance window have your student's **full name and class** marked on the permission form/envelope. Payments made online should also have the student's **surname, initial first** and then a description of excursion if possible. Permission, medical or order forms should then be handed in at the finance window Thank you

**We are currently collecting money for:**

Participants	Event	Cost	Payment due date
Selected Students	Gymnastics Sem 2	\$162	23 August
Year 4	Gold Coast Suns Shine Program	\$10	16 August
Selected Students	Junior Choir Eisteddfod	\$10	11 August
All Years	Life Education	\$7	5 September
Year 4	Bike Safety	\$5	21 August

**MONEY IS ACCEPTED IN PERSON AT THE FINANCE WINDOW MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS FROM 8AM - 9.30AM - DIRECT DEPOSITS CAN BE MADE ON RECEIPT OF INVOICE (VIA EMAIL)**

### School Website and QSchools Smartphone App

The QSchools app is available to the school community as a free download via the Apple iTunes store and Google Play. Update regularly to access the latest features.

## JAPANESE NEWS



Thank you to all students who participated in the trials and congratulations to our 16 students who have been selected from years 4-6 to represent Merrimac State School at the 2017 Gold Coast Languages Speech Contest at Griffith University this Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> of August, organised by the MLTAQ Gold Coast Branch (Modern Language Teachers' Association of Queensland). Every year hundreds of students from the Gold Coast and Brisbane compete at this exciting annual event. Food and entertainment will be available on the day. Come along to enjoy the day and support our contestants! Parking is free on the day!

Our students have been preparing and practicing their Japanese speeches and I thank them for their commitment and dedication. We wish all our students every success. Names and results will be posted in next week's newsletter. Good luck! Ganbatte!

Marshall Sensei

## PE NEWS

### District Athletics

Results from the District Athletics (10 and 11 August) will be published in next week's newsletter.

## MUSIC NEWS

### SENIOR CHOIR

This term is very busy with Eisteddfod Performances so there will be **Rehearsals on Mondays and Tuesdays at 8.00am**

### MERRIMAC STATE SCHOOL EISTEDDFOD PERFORMANCES

Group	Date	Time	Comp No
CHAMBER STRINGS	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	10.30am	5 of 6
SENIOR STRINGS	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	1.00pm	4 of 8
INTERMEDIATE STRINGS	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	9.00am	2 of 11
BEGINNER STRINGS	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> August	9.00am	8 of 11
INSTRUMENT ENSEMBLE	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	9.00am	6 of 7
BEGINNER BAND	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	10.30am	8 of 12
SENIOR BAND	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	4.00pm	7 of 8
JUNIOR CHOIR	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> August	12.30pm	6 of 10
SENIOR CHOIR	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> August	6.00pm	8 of 11

## TERM THREE UPCOMING EVENTS

10 and 11 Aug	District Athletics for selected students
Sun 13 Aug	Regional LOTE Speaking Competition
Mon 14 Aug	8.00am School Council meeting
Mon 14 Aug	10.30am Chamber Strings at GCCC Eisteddfod
Mon 14 Aug	1.00pm Senior Strings at GCCC Eisteddfod
Mon 14 Aug	6.30pm P&C Meeting
Mon 14 Aug	5.45pm MOSHC Meeting
Mon 14 Aug	5.30pm IEC Parent Meeting
Tues 15 Aug	Australian Maths Competition
Tues 15 Aug	9.00am Intermediate Strings at GCCC Eisteddfod
Wed 16 Aug	9.00am Beginner Strings at GCCC Eisteddfod
Mon 21 Aug	9am Instrument Ensemble at GCCC Eisteddfod
Mon 21 Aug	10.30am Beginner Band at GCCC Eisteddfod
Tues 22 Aug	4.00pm Senior Band at GCCC Eisteddfod
Fri 25 Aug	Closing date for the Premier's Reading Challenge
Tues 29 Aug	12.30pm Junior Choir to GCCC Eisteddfod
Tues 29 Aug	6.00pm Senior Choir at GCCC Eisteddfod
Wed 30 Aug	2.00pm Active School Travel meeting
Thurs 31 Aug	Skip Off - Years 4, 5 and 6 (Jump Rope)
Thurs 31 Aug	Science Competition Awards Night
Fri 1 Sept	Gold Coast Show Holiday
5-15 Sept	Life Education Van at school
Wed 6 Sept	3.30pm to 7.30pm Parent/Teacher Interviews
Fri 8 Sept	Interschool Sport to commence Years 4 to 6
9-17 Sept	Japan Trip
11-14 Sept	Year 4 Bike Education
Mon 11 Sept	6.30pm P&C Meeting
Mon 11 Sept	5.45pm MOSHC Meeting
Mon 11 Sept	3.30pm to 5.30pm Miami SHS Spelling Bee Final for participating schools
Wed 13 Sept	6.00pm to 8.00pm Active School Travel Concert
Fri 15 Sept	Last Day for Term Three

## TUCKSHOP NEWS

Tuckshop Roster for week commencing 14 August 2017:

Date	Volunteers-Thank you	MEAL DEAL
Mon 14/8	Mayumi	<b>Thursday 17 August \$6*</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chicken &amp; Broccoli</li><li>• Chessy Pasta Bake</li><li>• Paddlepop Ice-cream (Choc or Rainbow)</li><li>• Bottled Water</li></ul>
Tue 15/8	Yoko H	
Wed 16/8	Mel/Selena	
Thu 17/8	Maria S/Mayumi	
Fri 18/8	Mayumi/help please	

\* add extra 50c to upgrade to flavoured milk or small playwater  
\* add extra \$1.00 for large playwater

Many thanks to our volunteers this week. We are receiving orders with very old prices written on lunch bags. Please ensure to ask your child to collect a recent menu from the Tuckshop.

Alternatively, check the menu online through the Flexischools ordering system. Have a great week all.

~Denise~

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### ROBINA STATE HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING FOR YEAR 7 2018

THURSDAY 17 AUGUST 5:30 - 7:00PM  
RESOURCE CENTRE - 1 INVESTIGATOR DRIVE, ROBINA

Join us for an Enrolment Information Evening for students entering Year 7 in 2018. All prospective students and parents are welcome to attend this evening to hear about our school, our curriculum, our Signature Programs and our unique approach to Junior Secondary Education.

Find out more about enrolling at our school, including out of catchment enrolment procedures.

[WWW.ROBINASHS.EQ.EDU.AU](http://WWW.ROBINASHS.EQ.EDU.AU) (07) 5562 3444



ENROL FOR 2018





# NAME PAVER TEMPLATE

MERRIMAC STATE SCHOOL CENTENARY 1917-2017



**OFFER 1: \$40**

**INDIVIDUAL PAVER**

Your donation of \$40 or more entitles you to have your name engraved into a paver as a lasting record of your valued support. The paver will be permanently installed at Merrimac State School proudly showing your donation.

Size: 230 x 115 x 40mm

**OFFER 2: \$75**

**DOUBLE PAVER**

Your donation of \$75 or more entitles you to have your names engraved into two pavers as a lasting record of your valued support. The pavers will be permanently installed at Merrimac State School proudly showing your donation.

Size: 230 x 230x 40mm

**OFFER 3: \$100**

**TRIPLE PAVER**

Your donation of \$100 or more entitles you to have your names engraved into three pavers as a lasting record of your valued support. The pavers will be permanently installed at Merrimac State School proudly showing your donation.

Size: 230 x 345 x 40mm

**OFFER 4: \$130**

**FOUR PAVER**

Your donation of \$130 or more entitles you to have your names engraved into four pavers as a lasting record of your valued support. The pavers will be permanently installed at Merrimac State School proudly showing your donation.

Size: 230 x 460 x 40mm

Simply fill out this form and return along with full payment to the Bookshop

**Merrimac State School Bookshop,  
Boowagga Road, Merrimac  
QLD 4226**

<b>Contact Name</b>		<b>Phone</b>	
		( )	
<b>Street</b>			
<b>City</b>		<b>State</b>	<b>Post Code</b>
<input type="radio"/> Offer 1 <input type="radio"/> Offer 2 <input type="radio"/> Offer 3 <input type="radio"/> Offer 4			<b>Our Donation</b> \$
<b>Offer closes on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017</b> For engraving details please complete the form on the reverse.			

Please copy and pass on to any friends & family.  
**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

**SIGNATURE**  
— ENGRAVING —

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