



Merrimac State School

Newsletter

Term 2 Week 2 Thursday 29 April 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Last week, the Merrimac State School was rocked by the loss of two staff members, Principal, Mr Andrew Schumacher and teacher, Mrs Domenika Seward. Andrew and Dom made considerable contributions to our community in their respective roles.

Vale Mr Andrew Schumacher

Mr Schumacher's sudden and unexpected passing has shocked everyone in our community and the broader South East Community. Andrew was a passionate and committed educator. Those of us who have worked with Andrew or knew him as a friend also knew he was a thoroughly decent person, a caring and loving father and husband, involved and engaged in a variety of sporting and community activities. Even though Mr Schumacher had only been with us for a short time, his loss is significant for our students, our teachers and the broader community. Mr Schumacher will be sadly missed by all those who knew him.

On behalf of the Merrimac Community, we extend our sincere condolences to Andrew's family, his wife Kate, his children Zoey, Abby and Toby and his mother Judy. Following is a poem for Mr Schumacher by Year 2 student Imogen P

***Super Schumacher in the school
Strong and caring 'super cool'
Kind and loving everywhere
We really loved him and we really care***

Vale Mrs Domenika Seward

Mrs Seward, was a long-standing Year 4 and Year 5 Teacher at Merrimac since her appointment to our school in 1996 from Nerang State School. She will be well remembered by her students for her passion for English and her enthusiasm and commitment to school camps and "Fun Fridays". Many students will also remember her sense of joy and fun with learning. We send our condolences to Doms' family, her husband Cam and her sons, Andrew and Tom, and their families.

Staffing Term 2

Regional Office have notified our school that they will use the second half of this term to run a process to appoint a permanent Principal to our school. That process has a variety of pathways but a permanent Principal will commence at Merrimac SS in Term 3.

In the interim, I will be the Acting Principal for the duration of Term 2. Mrs Christine McNeillage and Mr Majeed Zadeh will manage the Year 3/4 Sector.

Brandi Anderson
Acting Principal

NAPLAN Information

Years 3 and 5 students will participate in NAPLAN testing online from 11 - 21 May. More information, including online privacy information, is available on the [NAPLAN website](http://www.nap.edu.au/) at <http://www.nap.edu.au/>.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child participating in the NAPLAN testing, please contact the school's office to speak with a Deputy Principal.

Prep Enrolments

Enrolments for Prep for next year are now being accepted. Parents of Prep students for next year are encouraged to enrol their students now. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website and emailed to admin@merrimacss.eq.edu.au. 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 a copy of the enrolling student's Birth Certificate and where both parents are born outside of Australia, residency documents must be presented. An Australian passport for the student is acceptable as proof of citizenship.

Early Development Census in Prep

Our school, along with thousands of others across the country will begin preparations for the fifth Australian Early Development Census (AEDC).

The AEDC gives us a national picture of the development, health and wellbeing of children in their first year of full-time school. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and develop better policies to target support for children and families.

Children don't miss any class time, and parents/carers don't need to supply schools with any new information for the census. The AEDC gives us data at a school and community level - it isn't an assessment of individual children.

Some teachers have also noticed that completing the assessments made them more aware of the needs of individual children and the class as a whole and that

the census results are useful in planning for transitions to Year 1 and developing class programs. Participation in the AEDC is voluntary. Parents/carers don't need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census. To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website: www.aedc.gov.au.

Late Arrivals

All students must report to the school office if they arrive at school after the second bell at 8.50am. Rolls are marked immediately when school commences and any student not present at the time of marking will be marked absent. If a child does not obtain a late slip from the office parents may experience unnecessary concern as they will receive an SMS text for an unexplained absence. When a late slip is issued through the office the absence will be overridden in the school system and no text will be sent.

Class Captains

Congratulations to the followings students who will represent their classes in Term 2 as Class Captains:

Class	Captains
3A	Nate W, Isabella D
3B	Ronan M, April M
3C	Xander A, Ivy B
3D	Kaisey D, Ruby R
34M	Alex B, Isla N
4A	Jake G, Stevi S
4B	Declan R, Ella T
4C	Azaan A, Ivy K
4D	Zakariya G, Rahni P
5A	Jackson K, Tori M
5B	Jonathon C, Sibellah K
5C	Len H, Avril G
5D	Benji D, Aemaelena R
5E	Luke B, Ruby H
6A	Rhylee V, Demi S
6B	Jaydin A, Ebony A
6C	Flynn Z, Lyla C
6D	Logan S, Krysta R
6E	Isaac S, Bianca E

All captains from Years 5 and 6 will also act as Student Council Representatives.

Retirement wishes for Kay Kirby – school cleaner

Thank you for being a tireless, professional, helpful friend and co-worker since 2013. We wish Kay a long and enjoyable retirement. We hope you have nothing but happiness in the years ahead.

Use of Student Toilets at school

Parents are asked not to use student toilets. If amenities are required on site please access female staff and male staff toilets only.

STUDENT BANKING

Students banking services will cease to be offered in our school and all Queensland state schools from 31 July 2021. In line with several other states and territories, the Department of Education's decision is in response to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission's (ASIC) Review of School Banking Programs report in December 2020. Students will be able to maintain their banking relationship directly with the bank. Consumer and financial literacy will continue to be delivered to students as part of the Prep to Year 10 Australian Curriculum.

SCHOOL PHOTOS – TUESDAY 4 MAY

Silver Rose will again be in attendance at Merrimac SS next Tuesday 4 May. School leaders, current sports teams, siblings and catch up portraits will be taken on the day. Older siblings will be directed to get their younger siblings as the session progresses so please advise your children of this process. Sports group photos will be available to order online approximately one week after the photo session. Please check with your child as to what photo group/s they are in for ordering purposes.

BREKKIE FITNESS CLUB RETURNS TO MERRIMAC

Our weekly Brekkie Club & Games will be back from next Wednesday (5th of May) starting at 8.00am at the oval.

Our Merrimac students in Years 3-6 are welcome to come and enjoy games, french toast, fruits and juices. We could need couple more people to help with the brekky. If you are interested please contact Chappy Hugo at hugob@chappy.org.au

STUDENT DISCO TERM 2



Student Council is having a "Pyjama Party" disco Wednesday 5th May, next week. The students can come along and hang out together. They will dance and play organised games.

Date: Wednesday 5th May

Time: Junior Disco 6:00pm to 7:00pm

Senior Disco 7:00pm to 8:00pm

Year 3 can go to either disco but not both.

Theme: Choose your favourite pyjamas and comfortable shoes and come dance the night away.

Cost: Free

We have to follow Covid Safe rules so parents will not be able to come into the MPC with the children but can wait outside, on the tennis court or surrounding areas, socially distancing. Food and drinks cannot be sold. Children should bring a water bottle to keep themselves hydrated. At the end of each disco, parents will need to come and pick up their children from the door as we cannot let them run out to you. We hope your children will come and have a dreamy time!

KOALA JOEYS IS BACK!!!- TERM 2



Koala Joeys is an early year's literacy and numeracy oral language program. The program is suitable for children of all ages. As part of our school's commitment to early years' development, Koala Joeys will be held at Merrimac State School. The program will commence in Week 3 of Term 2 (7th May). Please contact Mr Chris Boff via admin@merrimacss.eq.edu.au to register your interest.

When: Friday mornings

Where: PAC

Time: 9.00am – 10.00am

See you there.



KOALA JOEYS FAMILY PROGRAM
FROM BUMP TO BIG SCHOOL

A universal, free, community, interactive oral language program
For families with children under school age

The Koala Joeys Family program: "From bump to big school"
Koala Joeys Returns to Merrimac

The Koala Joeys Family Program – a Transition to School program - has been specifically created to deliver in all primary schools for families with children under school age.

The KOALA JOEYS FAMILY PROGRAM focuses on empowering parents and carers to use nursery rhymes, songs, dance, movement and stories as a tool to form secure attachments.

Early years brain development, emotional and social development, child development knowledge, early literacy and early numeracy information is shared during the program. Parents gain skills in a fun, interactive and supportive environment.

WHERE: Merrimac State School PAC Hall
WHEN: Friday 9.00am—10.00am
STARTS: Term 2 Week 3 (7th May)

If you would like to register your interest or simply find out more please contact Mr Chris Boff on 55691555.

See You There!!!

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS DRAWS

Friday 30 April Draw

AFL at Carrara Saints AFC, Nielsens Rd Carrara

Merrimac v Elanora on 1Yellow @ 12.40pm

Rugby League

5B v Burleigh on Pizzey Park Mini @ 12.45pm

6A v Augustines on Marymount3 @ 1.30pm

Soccer at St Vincent's Primary Clear Island Waters

6A Boys v Worongary on SV4 @ 12.40pm

5A Boys v St Vincent's on SV2 @ 12.40pm

5B Boys v St Vincent's on SV2 @ 1.35pm

Soccer at Robina Common Ron Penhaligon Way

Girls v Worongary on R3B @ 12.40pm

Netball at Firth Park

Snr B v William Duncan on Court 11 @ 12.45pm

Girls Ozttag at Marymount College, Burleigh Wtrs

5A v St Augustine's on Red2 @ 12.45pm

5B v St Augustine's on Red2 @ 1.35pm

6A v Worongary on Yellow1 @ 1.35pm

Friday 7 May Draw

AFL at Carrara Saints AFC, Nielsens Rd Carrara

Merrimac v Caningeraba on 3Blue @ 12.40pm

Rugby League at Firth Park, Mudgeeraba

5B v Mudgeeraba on FP3 @ 1.30pm

6A v St Vincents on FP1 @ 12.45pm

Soccer at TBA

6A Boys v Mudgeeraba on

5A Boys v Mudgeeraba on

5B Boys v Mudgeeraba on

Girls v GCCC on

Netball at Firth Park, Mudgeeraba

Snr B v William Duncan on Court 11 @ 12.45pm

Girls Ozttag @ Marymount College, Burleigh Wtrs

5A v St Andrews on Red1 @ 12.45pm

5B v St Andrews on Red1 @ 1.35pm

6A v Mudgeeraba on Purple2 @ 1.35pm

PE NEWS

Cross Country

On Wednesday, we got to enjoy the lovely weather and participate in the School Cross Country.

All students tried their best, competed well for their house and had a great time.

Thank you to all the teachers, volunteers and many parents for attending. Special thanks to Mr Maggs for setting up the course. Results as follows:

Age Champions

9 yrs – James L, Riley P

10yrs – Jaxon B, Evie M

11yrs – Declan W, Tori M

12Yrs – Ewan B, Sage C

Overall House Places

1st Davidson

2nd Birmingham

3rd Hamilton

4th Gooding

Students who came in the top 4 for 10, 11 and 12 years, can now compete at the District Carnival next Wednesday 5 May. These students have been given notes to attend. We wish them well and thanks all our students for making it a great day



SCHOOL ANZAC CEREMONY



Merrimac held its annual school ANZAC service for students on Friday morning in the Performing Arts Centre. Ruby H delivered the Acknowledgement of

Country accompanied by Luke W playing the Digeridoo. Many thanks to Indy F, Chappy Hugo, Ryan V and Annabel K, and Mr Boff for leading the Flame of Remembrance ceremony. Mr Mahon engaged the students with a moving story, "This is Where I Stand". Representatives from each class laid wreaths. Mrs Reid and Ms Body led the choir and band in beautiful performances. A big thank you to all staff and students who participated in the the service. Our thanks especially go to Mrs McNeillage and Mrs Zarew for organising our school ANZAC Service.

ROBINA TOWN CENTRE ANZAC DAY MARCH

Last Sunday morning on ANZAC Day, Merrimac State School participated in the Robina community ANZAC Day parade. The students marched from Arbour Lane at Robina Town Centre down to the Robina Community Centre. This year we had a pleasing turn out of approximately 12 students ranging from Prep to Year 6. I would like to thank all the parents and students who attended making our school participation in the march most successful. Thank you



to Mrs Hall and Mr Boff for your attendance and support.



BUNKA NO HI

On Wednesday 28th April, in collaboration with Robina State High School's Japanese department, Year 6 students participated in "Bunka no Hi". This is referred to as "Culture Day" in Japan. It is an annual event where school children can participate in a range of activities specifically aimed at cultural understanding and engagement. Our students spent the day involved in five varying activities celebrating Japanese culture whilst using their Japanese language skills. Students challenged themselves in Karate - Japanese martial arts, Shodo - Japanese calligraphy, Taiko - Japanese drumming, Anime - Japanese comics and illustrations and Geimu Show - a Japanese trivia competition. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all students. Thank you Robina High for sharing your fabulous Japanese resources and raising our cultural awareness through exciting and engaging activities.

Mason Sensei





YEAR 5 POLICE VISIT

Students in 5C and 5D were lucky enough to receive a visit from Sergeant Ange of the Mudgeeraba Police Station this week. Our HASS unit focusses on Australia's legal system. Sergeant Ange spoke to the students about her role as a police officer and explained how she keeps our community safe. She also brought her speed radar gun, which she uses to check speeding cars – and speeding kids! The students had a fun time recording their running times using the radar on the oval. We sincerely thank Sergeant Ange for visiting us!

"I learned about what it would be like as a police officer and enjoyed testing my speed on the oval" – Sakura

"I liked how she showed us all her gadgets on her uniform" – Avril
 "Ange was good at telling stories and it was fun to have her as our guest" – Ayden



TALENT QUEST RESULTS

Congratulations to our wonderfully talented students of Merrimac Primary. Results as follows:

Section	Award	Recipients
Junior Instrumental	1 st Place	Jayce G
	2 nd Place	Thomas B
	Highly Commended	Safina B
Senior Instrumental	1 st Place	Ada Y & Hiyori T
	2 nd Place	Annabelle K
	High Commended	Emma B
Junior Singing	1 st Place	Shiloh T
	2 nd Place	Stevi S
	Highly Commended	Amy B
Senior Singing	1 st Place	Annabelle S
	2 nd Place	Emily W Elliot V & Daisy B
	Highly Commended	Eden P
Junior Drama	1 st Place	Van S
Senior Drama	1 st Place	Lara G, Emily W, Lachlan K, Natalia T, Taylar J
Junior Dance	1 st Place	Zara W
	2 nd Place	Sky A
	Highly Commended	Safina B
Senior Dance	1 st Place	Sienna W
	2 nd Place	Cohan H
	Highly Commended	Ezekiel W, Thomas D, Auralia W, William D
Junior Visual Art	1 st Place	Natalie S
	2 nd Place	Miroslav Y
	High Commended	Hally T Olivia M
Senior Visual Art	1 st Place	Sahara W
	2 nd Place	Nevaeh B

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students of the week:

Scarlet D P1, Lenny L P1, Zara D P1M, Harlan C P1M, Braxton D P2, Cleo M P2, Quade S P3, Ella W P3, Getziel L P4, Luke H P4, Jed G 1A, Mollie F 1A, Summer A 1B, River B 1B, Quade T 1C, Jackson D 1C, Ziggy P 1D, Cooper V 1D, Jaxon-Moana R 2A, Arcadia Q 2A, Nate V 2B, Chanel S 2B, Emma T 2D, Enrique D 2D, Asha L 34M, Shellbie R 3B, Jennifer L 3C, Indiana L 3D, Isaiah-Maruaao R 4A, Izaak M 4B, Samson M 4C, Rahni P 4D, Revathi M 5A, Marshella W 5B, Kobi M 5C, Mia J 5D, Alysha M 5E, Alexia P 6A, Jacob D 6B, Hana V 6C, Riley P 6D.

P&C NEWS

P&C News

Welcome back to Term 2 to all our Merrimac Families! We are excited to be back and see all those friendly faces.

This Term we will be holding our Mother's Day Stall from Tuesday 4th May - Friday 7th May in the Old School Building (*please see attached flyer*). Orders can be placed on Munch Monitor under monetary value then students can go and select their gifts as per their class timetable (TBA with teachers).

If you haven't already, please make sure to come grab a copy of our Centenary books from the administration or bookshop buildings (if you are a prep family, you can get yours from the class teacher as a box was sent to each class). These books illustrate the fascinating history for our school and the students have been loving them.

Don't forget that we are no longer running Flexischools and are instead moving ahead with Munch Monitor. If you have any remaining money left on your account with Flexischools you can log in to Flexischools, select the "Profile" option in the gray navigation bar then select "Account" and then "Close Account". You will then be prompted regarding a refund for any remaining balance.

If you have any questions or just want a friendly chat please don't hesitate to contact us at pandc@merrimacss.eq.edu.au or go to our Facebook Page "Merrimac State School P&C Association"

Our next P&C Meeting will be **Monday 10th May at 6:00pm**, see you there!!

Tuckshop News

We're back with a brand new menu for Winter!! Yummy things like soups and Butter Chicken, you are going to want to be at school with the kids! Kids are loving being able to come and order over the counter again so don't forget to sign up to Munch Monitor and activate their 'snack allowance'. Again if there are any parents who are wanting to lend a hand around the school we love having volunteers, come and have a chat with us in the Tuckshop, if you're interested. For extra tuckshop news head over to the Facebook group page 'Ralph and Rosie's Kitchen Merrimac State School Tuckshop'. We can't wait to have the best Term 2 ever!!

Bookshop News

Bookshop will now be operating under Munch Monitor (Flexischools has been discontinued at Merrimac State School). If you have not yet signed up you can find information sheets at the school, bookshop or tuckshop. Additionally you can go to

www.munchmonitor.com and register using

School ID: merrimacss and Password: munch4226

Bookshop hours are Monday/Wednesday/Friday 8am-9:30am and Tuesday/Thursday 2:15pm-3:15pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
Tue 4 May	Sibling, Leaders, Catchup individual and Sports Photos see article
Wed 5 May	District Cross Country see article
Wed 5 May	School Disco see article
Fri 7 May	Koala Joeys see article
Mon 10 May	P&C Meeting see article
11-21 May	NAPLAN see article

COMMUNITY NEWS

MERRIMAC YMCA OSHC

YMCA is the provider for Outside School Hours Care at Merrimac SS. YMCA is a child safe organisation that prides itself on high quality relationships with the community, Families and children. Permanent placements can be completed via my family lounge through the link:

<http://www.ymcachildcare.com.au/services/outside-school-hours-care.html>.

For any enquiries please email us at amm@ymcabrisbane.org or call us on 0438 367 390.



School Dental Van

The dental van will be relocating to Merrimac SHS on Tuesday 4 May. Parents wishing to access the service are able to attend at the High School. Bookings are still made through the booking call centre number on 1323 300 850. The staff of the dental van wish to thank Merrimac Primary for their warm welcome and friendly environment whilst they have been treating our school community.

The Zones of Regulation Parent Session

Who: Parents and Carers

What: The Zones of Regulation

Regulation is something everyone continually works on whether or not we are cognizant of it. We all encounter trying circumstances that test our limits from time to time. If we are able to recognize when we are becoming less regulated, we are able to do something about it to manage our feelings and get ourselves to a healthy place. This comes more naturally for some, but for others it is a skill that needs more attention and practice. This is the goal of The Zones of Regulation (or Zones for short).

When: Thursday 3rd June 1:45-2:45

Where: PAC

RSVP: eperr62@eq.edu.au



The **Red Zone** is used to describe extremely heightened states of alertness and intense emotions. A person may be elated or experiencing anger, rage, devastation, or terror when in the Red Zone.

The **Yellow Zone** is also used to describe a heightened state of alertness and elevated emotions. However, one has more control when they are in the Yellow Zone. A person may be experiencing stress, frustration, anxiety, excitement, silliness, the wiggles, or nervousness when in the Yellow Zone.

The **Green Zone** is used to describe a calm state of alertness. A person may be described as happy, focused, content, or ready to learn when in the Green Zone. This is the zone where optimal learning occurs.

The **Blue Zone** is used to describe low states of alertness and down feelings such as when one feels sad, tired, sick, or bored.