



Merrimac State School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 2 Thursday 22 July 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Merrimac Community

Thank you for the welcome this term. I have spent a few mornings at the front gate and it has been wonderful to chat with students as they enter and wait for friends. Thank you all for your support of mask wearing, frustrating as it is, we can work together to keep each other safe. This week I have been at Professional Development facilitator training. The timing of this was not great but had been in place for 6 months. The focus of this PD is about building leadership capability - mine as those with whom I work. I am so very excited to be here at Merrimac. I know the incredible grief that has impacted this community and it is my aim to create a sense of calm as we navigate, together, the future.

I am a leader with 32 years' experience in education. As a teacher, I have taught most year levels. From the classroom, my path took me to behaviour. I have worked across a number of settings, supporting students with complex needs in both primary and high schools. From there I moved into leadership as a Deputy Principal at Chapel Hill SS and Silkstone SS and then into Principal positions at Sandgate SS, Palm Beach SS and Norris Road SS.

As a leader, my purpose is to light the sparks for our young minds that create and shape their futures.

I will take time to get to know this community and look forward to the learning that this affords me.



2021 School Opinion Survey

The annual suite of *School Opinion Surveys* is rolling out with Year 5s and 6s this week. It closes on 30 July 2021. All families, school staff have been invited (via email) to participate. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say about what our school does well, and how we can improve.

An invitation to complete the *Parent/Caregiver Survey* has been emailed to one parent/caregiver per family in the week beginning 5 July. The invitation was sent from the Department of Education, not the school, and it will have the subject line *School Opinion Survey for parents and caregivers, 2021*. Check your junk email folders if you can't find it. The survey can be completed

as soon as the invitation is received and will take approximately 5 minutes using a computer, tablet or smart phone.

Athletics Carnivals

These will roll out during Week 3. With current Covid restrictions, all parents will need to sign in using the school's QR code which will be located on a board at the top of the stairs at the oval. We will update restrictions on Monday so look out for the email then.

Whole School Assembly

Darren Scott, my Assistant Regional Director (aka my boss), will be joining Merrimac SS for a whole school assembly on Tuesday 10 August at 2pm. The purpose of his visit will be to present me with a fruit tree for the school. He will explain the significance of this gesture, but essentially it is about 'growing our futures together'.

He would like parents to attend. More information about this will be included with the next newsletter, particularly related to our covid safe plan.

Point for Reflection

Mindfulness is "to pay attention, on purpose, to the present moment" (Grossman, 2016).

The positive benefits of mindfulness have been proven across a number of studies. Being mindful can reduce stress and anxiety, increase concentration and engagement, lead to better sleep, improve social skills, and help develop problem-solving and decision-making skills (Jones, Greenberg & Crowley, 2015). Mindfulness is an active practice that requires us to focus our mind's eye in that moment. We can do this by giving our full attention to what we are doing at that moment. The reason mindfulness is so effective is because it goes beyond our conceptual mind and helps calm our nervous system- which is subject to overstimulation and negative stress. Regular mindfulness training gives us an opportunity to respond to, instead of react to, our environment. "Under duress we don't rise to our expectations, we fall to our level of training." Bruce Lee.

From *Unleashing Personal Potential*, Luke McKenna

Shannon Lusk
Principal

CLASS CAPTAINS – TERM 3

Congratulations to the following students in Years 3-6 for taking on the role of Class Captain for Term 3:

Elara P 34M, Lachlan K 34M, Shiloh T 3A, Dwaine S 3A, Kobie F 3B, Max P 3B, Leilani S 3C, Mason C 3C, Indiana L 3D, Timmy S 3D, Hannah K 4A, Max S 4A, Evie P 4B, Jayden M 4B, Joshua M 4C, Safina B 4C, Tilly F 4D, Kai T 4D, Revathi M 5A, Ryoma S 5A, Thomas D 5B, Isabella W 5B, Phenix D 5C, Layla M 5C, Nicholas D 5D, Ashley L 5D, Tier C 5E, Jaxon B 5E, Alexia P 6A, Jordan S 6A, April L 6B, Jye F 6B, Maddison H 6C, Blake R 6C, Naim G 6D, Indigo M 6D, Luna N 6E, Hayden T 6E.

FINANCE NEWS

We are currently accepting online payments for:

Participants	Events	Cost	Due by
Year 2	Beenleigh Museum	\$25.00	23 Jul

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR PATROL LEADERS

Merrimac State School implements a whole-school framework which promotes positive behaviour across our school and helps to develop safe and supportive learning environments. This framework is called PBL. PBL stands for Positive Behaviour for Learning which makes sure all students are explicitly taught the expected behaviours and helps to establish clear and consistent boundaries.

At Merrimac we have implemented PBL Patrol leaders to assist teachers in promoting positive behaviours. Classes first had the chance to vote on the name of our leaders. Next students had the opportunity to nominate for these leadership positions. Two students have been chosen to represent each class for the term.



The students meet each Monday morning tea to discuss the rule of the week and ways we can promote student positive behaviours and learning. The PBL patrol leaders have the opportunity to gather and share student's viewpoints at the meetings. Mrs Zarew and Mr Mahon are the teachers who are coordinating the senior

PBL Patrol leaders and Miss Potter and Miss Hill are the junior coordinators.

The rule for week 1 and 2 is, 'Responsibility to play in the right areas.' Parents and carers, you can discuss this behaviour expectation with your child/ children and talk about areas to play in and areas which are not safe.

Leaders will be presented with their badges (on order) on parade soon and parents will be notified. Below are the PBL patrol leaders for Term 3:

Scarlett E P1M, Zara D P1M, Riley G 1A, Ayla W 1A, Kat H 1B, Chloe F 1B, Mia J 1C, Amelia F 1C, Jasmine D 1D, Bentley M 1D, Arcadia Q 2A, AriaAnne W 2A, Charlie D 2B, Chanel S 2B, Rebecca J 2C, Cohen M 2C, Imogen P 2D, Loxen C 2D, Faith R 2E, Jack A 2E, Miroslav Y 34M, Nina V 34M, Dante B 3A, Jahzay-Suhreal G 3A, Ruby W 3B, Grace F 3B, Ollie B 3C, Jennifer L 3C, Emmett P 3D, Olivia M 3D, Noah W 4A, Aliyah W 4A, William D 4B, Alexis R 4B, Safina B 4C, Indigo C 4C, Ellie G 4D, Kai T 4D, Amy W 5A, Madison E 5A, Sibellah K 5B, Thomas D 5B, William B 5C, Coco B 5C, Mia J 5D, Braxton T 5D, Kobe W 5E, Macey C 5E, Jordan S 6A, Alexia P 6A, Keisha D 6B, Harlem W 6B, Ewan B 6C, Pepita B 6C, Kianah P 6D, Matthew R 6D, Bianca E 6E, Annabelle S 6E.

We would like to thank Emily Lamburd for this wonderful art work which is being used to promote the rule of the week in all of our classrooms.

2021 ICAS REGISTRATION FOR YEAR 3-6

In 2021 Year, 3-6 students will have the opportunity to participate in the following ICAS subjects:

Subject	Week Sitting date
English	Mon 16 Aug - Fri 20 Aug 2021
Mathematics	Mon 30 Aug - Fri 3 Sept 2021

Student Registration needs to be submitted online through UNSW. The assessments will take place during school time.

If you would like your child to participate in any of the subjects listed above, please visit the new online Parent Payment System to make a direct payment to UNSW Global. The Parent Payment System is a simple and secure online payment service specifically for parents to purchase ICAS Assessments. Cost per test: \$17.05 including GST

The web link is:

<https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>

Our school's unique access code **SCN722**

Online parent registration and payment closes Friday 23rd July

IMPORTANT: Please enter your child's name accurately into the System as it will appear on their ICAS certificate

STUDENTS OF WEEK 1

Congratulations to the following students of the week:

Fateh B P1, Hamish H P1, Aria F P1M, Bowie L P1M, James P P2, Sebastian P P2, Ayda L P3, Eli B P3, Ethan P P4, Leon D P4, Jhett S 1A, Umi H 1A, Zara M 1B, Harbor R 1B, Blayz H 1C, Jake M 1C, Jasmine D 1D, Bentley M 1D, Beau M 2A, Kalita P 2A, Chanel S 2B, Jake O 2B, Indy E 2C, Lex B 2C, Emilia V 2D, Tremayne T 2D, Maya M 2E, Nikolai L 2E, Thomas B 3A, Ky F 3A, Kobie F 3B, Lalita D 3C, Sienna W 3D, Cash B 4A, Riley J 4B, Joshua M 4C, Kaho Y 4D, Toby H 5A, Keira M 5B, Eliza O 5C, Rhys J 5D, Ruby H 5E, Harley P 6A, Melesha O 6B, Jinn M 6C, Jason L 6D, Jasmine A 6E.

PE NEWS

Athletics Carnivals

Next week, we have 3 days of Athletics:

Tuesday - 800M and Field Events (Year 4-6)

Wednesday - Track and Rotation Events (Year 4-6)

Thursday - Prep - Year 3 Fun Athletics Day

Students please bring/wear:

House Coloured Shirt, Appropriate Footwear, Hat, Sunscreen, Plenty of food and drink and ready to have the best time.

Parents, don't forget your masks and maintaining social distancing

Looking forward to a great 3 days.

State of Origin

Last Wednesday, 10 Year 3 and 4 students were lucky enough to be selected to have a 'once in a lifetime' Origin Experience. They were Cash B, Lachlan K, Noah W, Jayuden M, Kingsley M, Tilly F, Riley J, Evie M, Tahlia S, Stevi S.

The students and their parents were transported to Robina to participate in Rugby League Skills Education Programs and then enjoy a BBQ before the game began.

They watched the first half of the State of Origin and then, at half time, the excited students played a short game of rugby league against Jimboomba SS.

The students were buzzing all afternoon, into the night and for the rest of the week. They had a wonderful time. Thank you, students and parents.



South Coast Rugby League

Congratulations, to Sage C who was selected in the U12 South Coast Girls Rugby League Team. Josie T and Sage were in the Oceanic Team and played very well and Sage was lucky enough to be selected. Well done, girls and good luck Sage at the State Championships in Townsville in September.



BOOK WEEK Week 7



Student Council is organising Book Week Character Day
Theme: Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds.
Day: Wednesday 25th August

Dress up as your favourite book character or wear your school uniform and bring along your favourite book to support Book Week 2021.

P&C NEWS

Our next meeting will be held on Monday 9th August at 5:30pm in the school administration block (staff room – entry via staff carpark) this meeting will include our AGM. New members are welcome. This term we will be holding a fun run in week 9. Please see below for more info.

For any other information please contact pandc@merrimacss.eq.edu.au or you can find more information on the P&C FB page, “Merrimac State School P&C Association.”

COLOUR EXPLOSION SPECTACULAR (aka FUNRUN)

When: Monday 6th September (week 9)

Where: Merrimac State School Oval

Who: All students (with the intent for parent/guardian spectators)

The run will consist of an obstacle course children will complete while dodging slime blasters and coloured powder squirters. Sponsorship booklets have been sent home with students, alternatively you can register at myprofilepage.com.au. Any cash donations will need to be loaded to your child's account (please contact pandc@merrimacss.eq.edu.au if you are having trouble). We are looking for volunteers on the day and also looking for donations of pool noodles prior to the event. If every child at MSS donated just 1 pool noodle each it would help us immensely. For more information please contact pandc@merrimacss.eq.edu.au

UNIFORM/BOOKSHOP NEWS

The uniform/bookshop will have limited hours for the remainder of term. Open Mon, Wed, Fri 8am-9:30am. Please use Munch Monitor where possible, over the counter sales are EFT only, no cash. Please contact pandc@merrimacss.eq.edu.au if you have any urgent orders.

TUCKSHOP NEWS

Pizza Wednesdays are back for 2nd break only. Choice of pepperoni, Hawaiian, cheese or veggie. No other hot food will be available at this time. Sushi is still available every Tuesday (2nd break only). Munch Monitor is the preferred ordering system however orders will still be accepted over the counter. EFT only, no cash. Volunteers are always welcome. If interested please contact pandc@merrimacss.eq.edu.au or pop into the tuckshop. Keep up to date with tuckshop news over on the P&C FB page or tuckshop FB group: “Merrimac State School P&C Association” “Ralph and Rosie's Kitchen Merrimac State School Tuckshop”

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
Tue 27 July	Athletics – Years 4-6 800m and Field Events
Wed 28 July	Athletics – Years 4-6 Track and Rotation
Thurs 29 July	Athletics – Years Prep-3 Junior Athletics
Mon 2 Aug	2A, 2B Beenleigh Historical Museum
2-13 Aug	Scholastic Book Fair
Tue 3 Aug	2C, 2D, 2E Beenleigh Historical Museum
Fri 6 Aug	Senior Choir Eisteddfod 6.30pm HOTA
Mon 9 Aug	Junior Choir Eisteddfod 11.00am HOTA
Mon 16 Aug	Senior Strings Eisteddfod 9.30am Gold Coast Youth Orchestra Centre, Ashmore
16 – 20 Aug	Prep Vision Testing
23 – 26 Aug	Children's Book Week
Thur 26 Aug	Student Council Disco (to be confirmed)
Fri 27 Aug	GOLD COAST SHOW DAY
Tue 31 Aug	Year 3 Street Science Incursion
Fri 3 Sept	STUDENT FREE DAY
Mon 6 Sept	P&C Fun Run Fundraiser
6 – 17 Sept	Life Education (notes out soon)
Wed 15 Sept	Parent Teacher Interviews
Fri 17 Sept	Last School Day Term 3
Mon 4 Oct	QUEENS BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Tue 5 Oct	First School Day Term 4

COMMUNITY NEWS



SOCCER X PTY LTD
"PROGRESS THROUGH SOCCER"

After School Soccer
At Merrimac State School
FUN - EDUCATIONAL - ACTIVE

Starting in Term 3, Soccer X will be running a 9 week After School Soccer program at Merrimac State School every Wednesday from 3-4pm beginning on the 21st of July. The program is available to all students. Children will be split into groups according to age. All sessions will be run by qualified coaches. The sessions will be fully inclusive and fun based, catering for all abilities. For more information and online registrations please visit WWW.SOCCER-X.COM.

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.



Outside School HOURS CARE
MERRIMAC OSHC

Hours of operation:
BSC: 6:30am-9:00am
ASC: 2:00pm-6:00pm
VAC: 6:30am-6:00pm

Contact us:
M: 0438 367 390
E: amm@ymcabrisbane.org

TUESDAY 27 July 2021
9.00AM - 2.55PM
800M + FIELD EVENTS: FINALS

Time				
9:00am	800 Metres Boys & Girls			
	High Jump	Long Jump	Shotput	Discus
10:15am	9yrs Boys & Girls	10yrs Boys & Girls	11yrs Boys & Girls	12yrs Boys & Girls
11:30am	10yrs Boys & Girls	9yrs Boys & Girls	12yrs Boys & Girls	11yrs Boys & Girls
12:15pm	12yrs Boys & Girls	11yrs Boys & Girls	10yrs Boys & Girls	9yrs Boys & Girls
1:45pm	11yrs Boys & Girls	12yrs Boys & Girls	9yrs Boys & Girls	10yrs Boys & Girls

WEDNESDAY 28 July 2021
9.00AM - 2.55PM
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL YEARS 4-6

Time	Event
9:00am	Assemble and War cries
9:15am	9yrs Girls 200m Qualifying heats 9yrs Girls 200m FUN races 9yrs Boys 200m Qualifying heats 9yrs Boys 200m FUN races 10yrs - 12yrs Girls and Boys 200m Qualifying Heats and FUN races As Above
10:15am	200m Finals
10:30am	1 st Rotation (as below if time permits otherwise start at 11.00)
11:00-11:30am	Morning Tea

Rotations: 10.30am - 1.00pm with Morning Tea at 11.00am - 11.30am

Time	Sprints	Relays	Ball Games	Tug O War
10:30am	9yrs Boys & Girls	10yrs Boys & Girls	11yrs Boys & Girls	12yrs Boys & Girls
11:30am	12yrs Boys & Girls	9yrs Boys & Girls	10yrs Boys & Girls	11yrs Boys & Girls
12:00pm	11yrs Boys & Girls	12yrs Boys & Girls	9yrs Boys & Girls	10yrs Boys & Girls
12:30pm	10yrs Boys & Girls	11yrs Boys & Girls	12yrs Boys & Girls	9yrs Boys & Girls
1:00 - 1:45pm	Lunch			
1:45pm	100m Finals			
1:55pm	All Age Tug OF War Competition All Age Relay Competition			
2:40pm	Presentation Ceremony			

TIME			P-3 Junior Sports Fun Day Thursday 2					
9.00			Assemble, Welcome, March Past, V					
	P1/P2	P3/P4	P1M	1A/1B	1C/1D	2A/2B	2C/2D	3
9.30	Tunnel Ball	Tug O War	Soccer Dribble	Unders Overs	Relays	Long Jump	Vortex Throw	R
9.45	Long Jump	Races	Unders Overs	Tunnel Ball	Vortex Throw	Tug O War	Soccer Dribble	K R
10.00	Tug O War	Kanga Relays	Tunnel Ball	Long Jump	Soccer Dribble	Races	Unders Overs	R
10.15	Races	Vortex Throw	Long Jump	Tug O War	Unders Overs	Kanga Relays	Tunnel Ball	R
10.30	Kanga Relays	Relays	Tug O War	Races	Tunnel Ball	Rest	Long Jump	V T
10.45	Rest	Rest	Races	Kanga Relays	Long Jump	Relays	Tug O War	S D
Morning Tea								
11.45	Relays	Soccer Dribble	Kanga Relays	Rest	Tug O War	Vortex Throw	Races	U C
12.00	Vortex Throw	Unders Overs	Rest	Relays	Races	Soccer Dribble	Kanga Relays	Tun
12.15	Soccer Dribble	Tunnel Ball	Relays	Vortex Throw	Kanga Relays	Unders Overs	Rest	Lon
12.30	Unders Overs	Long Jump	Vortex Throw	Soccer Dribble	Rest	Tunnel Ball	Relays	Tug
12.45	Presentations							
1.00	Lunch							