



Merrimac State School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 2 Thursday 14 October 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Welcome back to Term 4. What a busy start we have had. It was wonderful to be a part of the Year 4 camp experience last week and watch and learn as the Year 4 students engaged with Country, spoke in Yugambah language and learned about themselves. This camp provides links directly with our curriculum in the way we engage with Indigenous perspectives and I particularly love the way children develop over the time, particularly for some being their first time sleeping away from home. They grow in resilience and confidence.

WELLBEING WEEK

Under the current restrictions, the organising committee of this event has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to offer both our staff and students a whole week of activities and experiences aimed at boosting our wellbeing. This week the students and teachers have participated in Wellness Week – the Merrimac approach to Mental Health Week. Each class made paper butterflies that hang outside the tuckshop. Parents are able to do the same. Tomorrow we are invited to take a butterfly home with us, each with a message that we can bring into our lives. Special thanks to the Wellbeing support team – Mrs Zarew, Mrs Kirk-Lamburd, Mrs Werder, Mrs Axelby, Mrs McNeilage, Mrs Jenks, Mrs Parker, Mrs Blom, Mr Maggs, Mrs Downing and the entire Merrimac staff for their positive support throughout this very enjoyable week. A special thank you to the Leadership Team for supervising the children so the staff could enjoy their lunch together and to the specialist staff who each organised an exciting activity throughout the week for the children to enjoy.

SPECIAL GARDEN

This week Bunnings came to our school to help us build some gardens in the area outside of the Chappy Hut. The idea came from Eden Ellis in 4A, who thought it might be nice for students to visit the gardens in the school, to place their worries in the 'worry garden', or to take some happiness from the 'happy garden'. A group of students came to help plant flowers and vegetables in the garden beds on Tuesday morning. We would like to thank Bunnings and Searles for donating gardening equipment, plants and soil for this project. We would also like to make special mention of Eden's family (Richard, Danielle, Henry and Winnie), our P&C Vice President (Rainy Darke), the Bunnings Team (Grace and Finn) and our groundsman (Mr Maggs) who were there on the day to help out. The gardens are a work in progress, and are looking fabulous so far. We look forward to sharing with you the finished product in a few weeks' time. See photos at the end of the newsletter.

2022 STUDENT LEADERSHIP SELECTION PROCESS

Preparations have commenced to launch our leadership process for 2022. Communication and details will be sent out soon as we continue the tradition of identifying our future leaders.

2022 PARENT REQUEST PROCESS FOR CLASS ALLOCATION

Without doubt, one of the most difficult and time consuming processes for schools to complete before the end of the year is the formation of next years' classes. Parent voice is a critical factor in identifying all the information needed to best place students.

If you would like to notify the school with any information you deem important in placing students into classes for 2022, please do so in writing to principal@merrimacss.eq.edu.au. All requests MUST be in writing and MUST be to me by C.O.B Friday 30 October.

PRINCIPAL INSTALLATION CEREMONY

It is a pleasure to invite friends and family to the Principal Installation Ceremony. This is a new initiative that South East Region have identified, to support new principals in schools. This ceremony will be held next Tuesday from 2.00pm in the hall. Representatives from QLD education, QASSP, Teachers Union and South East Region will be in attendance to formally 'install' Ms Shannon Lusk as the Principal of our school.

Ms Lusk will receive the Merrimac Principal Leadership Baton, and we will plant a fruit tree in honour of this special occasion. The tree will be added to the newly created garden.

We do wish for you to join us at this very special event. Due to COVID event restrictions, Years 3 – 6 will be able to attend. Please contact the office (ph 5569 1555) to RSVP for the event. We will be unable to take 'walk ins'. Thank you for your understanding. The assembly will be filmed/streamed to the younger classes.

VISIONING

I have formally started the process to help us, as a community, identify and articulate our VISION for our school's ongoing future. Your input is critical to this process. Teachers ideas are being generated this week, P&C on Monday night and students, non-teaching staff and parents (more widely than the P&C representation at meeting) will be sourced in the coming weeks. If you are approached by me, staff or students you will be asked, "What do our students need for their future?" Please help us create our shared vision for Merrimac State School.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Senior Strings were awarded Highly Commended at the Gold Coast Eisteddfod. Congratulations Mrs Losada and the students for your incredible efforts and to Mrs Inglis and Mr

Boff for helping with the filming, sound recording and editing for our video entry.

MAGIC OF MUSIC

Our Magic of Music Concert will be held next week on Wednesday 20 October from 6pm in the PAC Hall. We are very excited to be able to host this event. Covid Restrictions will apply.

Each child performing in the concert is allowed **one guest** to attend as we must adhere to density rules at an indoor event. Check in will be required via QR Code and masks must be worn. We appreciate your support and compliance with the above QLD Health regulations and look forward to a wonderful evening of musical talent.

Children involved in the concert will rehearse during the day leading up to the event. Thank you for your understanding.

BOOKLISTS

These are being finalised and will be forwarded to families in the coming weeks.

PREP ENROLMENT

Processes are in place this year to formally interview each student starting with us. If you have already provided enrolment paperwork, you will be contacted to make a time (no more than 30mins, but generally about 20mins) to present, with your child, for an interview. This opportunity gives us insight to your precious ones to enabling us to better cater to their needs from the start of their journey with us.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

A departmental requirement is that this document is reviewed annually. I am seeking a committed group to do this and identify areas that need reworking. Parent and Student Voice is critical in this process. If you are available at the following times in Week 5, please come along.

Tuesday 2 November 9am-9.45am in the staffroom

Thursday 4 Nov 3.00pm – 3.45pm in the staffroom

Please attend only 1 session to allow participation for all interested parents.

Christmas Carols

COVID permitting we will be holding our Christmas Carols evening on Monday 6 December. More details will come out soon.

Shannon Lusk
Principal

PREP ORIENTATION

Next term is the start of our Prep sessions for parents who have new students starting in 2022. It is an exciting time for these families and the school. We have changed the format to meet the current social restrictions. Parents are invited to an Orientation Fair in the MPC where teachers and other members of staff will be setting up information booths and will be available to answer all the tricky questions about the young ones starting school. There will be information packs and some takeaways to support the smooth transition to school for our new Preppies. Families will also be given an

invitation for their Prep to come to a Prep Experience Morning as a way to become familiar with Merrimac School. The Prep Orientation date is 27 October. Parents can choose either a 9.30am or 6pm session.

Prep Experience Days

2022 Prep students will be invited to come for a school experience in November or December. Their invitations will be given out at the Prep Orientation sessions to parents and carers. During the Prep experience, the children will be engaged in Early Learning activities relating to Prep. This is to reassure children that school can be an enjoyable place where they can learn safely. They will also get to know some of their areas such as the classroom, playground and toilets. A parent or carer must stay on site at the school as the children are not yet enrolled until 2022. There will be a parent information session in the Hall for parents and carers from 9.45am-10.30am. Please bring a picnic morning tea and rug/towel to share with your child, a water bottle and a hat for outside play.

FINANCE NEWS

Accepting online payments for the following:

Participants	Activity	Cost	Due by
P-2	Learn to swim	\$40	15 Oct
Year 3	Street Science	\$20	15 Oct
Select Year 4,5,6	Interschool Sport	Yr4 \$50 Yr5,6 \$60	15 Oct

- **Please note final day for payment is tomorrow for the above events**
- **Please check your bank transactions before paying for an event twice**

PHOTO DAY 19 OCTOBER

On Tuesday 29 October Music and Sport groups will have their photos taken. Participating students will be called to the PAC in groups. Please encourage your child to be listening to the call for their group.

PREP-YEAR 2 SWIMMING SCHEDULE

Students will need swimwear and a towel on their scheduled day. Girls are encouraged to wear a one piece swimsuit. Students will change at school into and out of swimwear. Students will required footwear to wear on the bus travelling to and from the pool. Please see timetable below for your child's swim day.

THURSDAYS			
Class	Bus Departure from School	Lesson Time	Return to School
2D	10:45	11:00	11:45
2B	11:15	11:30	12:15
1C	11:45	12:00	12:45
1D	12:15	12:30	1:15
P1M	12:45	1:00	1:45
P2	1:15	1:30	2:15
P1	1:45	2:00	2:45

FRIDAYS			
Class	Bus Departure from School	Lesson Time	Return to School
2A	10:45	11:00	11:45
2C	11:15	11:30	12:15
1A	11:45	12:00	12:45
1B	12:15	12:30	1:15
P3	12:45	1:00	1:45
P4	1:15	1:30	2:15
2E	1:45	2:00	2:45

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



Congratulations to Hana for her 3rd place achievement at the Gold Coast Eisteddfod last term

STUDENTS AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students of the week:

Emily W P1, Paxton B P1, Levi D P1M, Imogen C P1M, Kylie O P2, Mia S P2, Titan P P3, Quade S P3, Valentino T P4, Isabella M P4, Scarlet D 1A, Blaze F 1A, Jed G 1B, Kat H 1B, Lilliannah-Jade S 1C, Arthur H 1C, Amelia F 1D, Jasmine D 1D, Tyler D 2A, Hallie W 2A, Miller G 2B, Danielle S 2B, Zana-Rose S 2C, Olexis G 2C, Lex B 2D, Cruz D 2D, Harlee C 2E, Cooper H 2E, AlVernard F 34M, Banjo M 3A, Beau G 3B, Tilly M 3C, Mason C 3D, Olivia M 4A, Noah W 4B, Luke B 4C, Axel S 4D, Kai T 5A, Thomas R 5B, Aisha S 5C, Eliza O 5D, Charlotte V 5E, Alysha M 6A, Emma B 6B, Lachlan K 6C, Jinn M 6D, Kohdee D 6E.

Congratulations to the following Term 4 Class Captains:

Max B 34M, Lola T 34M, Kingsley M 3A, Ruby D 3A, Taiyo S 3B, Shellbie R 3B, Jennifer L 3C, Eduardo M 3C, Sky A 3D, Cade P 3D, Max S 4A, Hannah K 4A, Braxton A 4B, Abbey D 4B, Samson M 4C, Madison W 4C, Noam G 4D, Tilly V 4D, Madison E 5A, Izaiah A 5A, Kyce P 5B, Ezekiel W 5B, Tanae F 5C, Hana M 5C, Lincoln P 5D, Cleo W 5D, Tyson T 5E, Peppa M 5E, Marcus R 6A, Nevaeh B 6A, Lyla G 6B, Harlem W 6B, Ewan B 6C, Taylar J 6C, Riley P 6D, Jazlyn B 6D, Oliver T 6E, Eden P 6E. All captains in Years 5 and 6 will also be representatives in our Student Council

Congratulations to our Term 4 PBL Patrol Captains:

Kaelan P P1M, Mya G P1M, Mollie F 1A, Masato O 1A, Alexander A 1B, Oliver D 1B, Tyler H 1C, Arthur H 1C, Alana M 1D, Vincent M 1D, Hallie W 2A, Flynn C 2A, Joel T 2B, Isla O 2B, Cohen M 2C, Tahlia F 2C, Chelsea S 2D, Isaiah R 2D, Jack A 2E, Faith R 2E, Alex B 34M, Lani P 34M, Miller W 3B, Max M 3B, Poppy N 3C, Zaniel E 3C, Noah M 3D, Eleanor R 3D, Stevi S 4A, Axel K 4A, Ella T 4B, Declan R 4B, Mia P 4C, Elly R 4C, Koby E 4D, Evie M 4D, Tamika H 5A, Thomas R 5A, Nisha P 5B, Bodhi N 5B, Tristan W 5C, Avril G 5C, Charlotte V 5D, Rhys J 5D, Ruby H 5E, Kobe W 5E, Nevaeh B 6A, Marcus R 6A, Ebony A 6B, Jaka

M 6B, Lakai C 6C, Maddison H 6C, Yuval G 6D, Sienna W 6D, Zack M 6E, Cooper M 6E.

P&C NEWS

A fun filled month of research, connections and organization of upcoming events! Our P&C team is thriving and united. We have a lot of fundraising ideas being washed around, along with wanting to closely connect with the community of our families and carers. We invite you Monday morning 18th October in the old school building to have a cup of tea, meet and connect. This week part of the team attended a free seminar hosted by P&C QLD touching on several aspects of work life, parenting, HR and communication. It was eye opening and informative. Mindful parenting and the understanding around significant changes in our little ones was extremely educational. The facilitator, Kim, is the manager of <https://parentline.com.au/>. If you need support or want more information contact our team so we can connect you. The team would also like to announce, we have filled our employed position for the tuckshop and the bookshop. We would like to welcome on board, Diana Madden as the new Tuckshop assistant and Josephine Stinson as the new Bookshop Convener. The bookshop will be operational starting Friday 15th October, 8am then Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 8am – 11:30am. The team wants to thank you all for your patience around the transition of finding the correct person for the role. Following the break, our team at the Tuckshop has been working hard on implementing the new summer menu and meal preparing for our teachers and students. We have some new delicious salads on offer including one that has been nominated for recipe of the year with QAST Australia. Good luck team Tuckshop! To keep up to date, visit our approved Merrimac P&C Facebook page for regular updates of upcoming events and changes. Lastly we want to thank all the volunteers for all your endless hours of time and heart put into all you do. You are VALUED!!

P&C Meet and Greet

Drop-in after **Drop-off** to say Hi to some of our P&C team. Come along for a cuppa and a bikkie and find out what the P&C does within our school community. We would love your input about the future of the P&C and any ideas you have for 2022.



All parents and carers are invited to join us in the old school building on Monday 18th October at 9am.

FUNDRAISING

Family Photo Portrait sessions to be held 7th and 14th of November. More details to be sent shortly.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
15/10 – 12/11	Interschool Sports Years 4, 5, 6
Tue 19 Oct	Sports and Music Photos
Tue 19 Oct	Year 3 Street Science
Wed 20 Oct	Parent Information Session – Year 5 HRE Sexuality 2.00pm - 2.55pm
21/10 – 19/11	P-2 Swimming
2 and 3 Nov	Year 5 Sexuality Education Lessons
Mon 15 Nov	2A, 2B Beenleigh Museum
Tue 16 Nov	2C, 2D, 2E Beenleigh Museum
Wed 17 Nov	Prep Experience morning
Fri 26 Nov	Years 4-6 Swimming Carnival
Wed 1 Dec	Prep Experience morning
Mon 6 Dec	Carols by Candlelight
Wed 8 Dec	Graduation
Thu 9 Dec	Year 6 Wet n Wild
Fri 10 Dec	Last day of school



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.

Please note: bookings are essential to ensure ratio numbers are adhered to



Scholastic Book Club



Students have received their Book Club catalogue for Issue 7. **The closing date for orders is Tuesday, 19 October.**

There are page guides to help parents choose age appropriate books, as all

students receive the same brochure.

Please purchase on the LOOP Ordering System (www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP). Follow the instructions on your order form under the blue headings "How to Order" and "How to Pay". Book Club can only be purchased online with a debit/credit card. There is no need to return the order form to school after making your online payment. Your order will automatically be included in the bulk delivery that will arrive at school and be distributed to classrooms approximately one week after the closing date.

BOOK CLUB ORDERS CLOSE - 9.30AM

TUESDAY, 19 OCTOBER

School Bus Travel 2022 – please see attached information about School services next year if required



LEAGUE STARS IS COMING TO MERRIMAC STATE SCHOOL 😊

WHEN: 19/10/2021 – 23/11/2021
TIME: Tuesday 3:15pm – 4:15pm
WHERE: Merrimac State School Oval
COST: \$79.00 for 6 week program
INCLUDES: 6 x 1hr League Star Sessions

PLAY LEAGUE STARS:

WHEN: 19/10/2021 - 23/11/2021
TIME: Tuesday 3.15pm - 4.15pm
WHERE: 2 Boowaggan Road
Merrimac
QLD, 4226



- 1 x Drawstring Bag
- 1 x Ball
- 1 x Ball Pump
- 1 x Cape/Flag
- Stickers

REGISTER: <https://www.playrugbyleague.com/league-stars>

KDV KIDS PRESENTS

Hey Kids, Come and Have a FREE TENNIS TRIAL

What is Hot Shots Tennis?
KDV Sport "Hot Shots" is an Introductory tennis program for kids aged 3 - 10. Developing skills like agility, flexibility and speed, the program promotes a "team" ethos by ensuring all participants are involved and actively engaged at all times during the sessions.

Free Lesson at KDV Sport
KDV Sport "Hot Shots" is an Introductory tennis program for kids aged 3 - 10! Apart from skills like agility, flexibility and speed, the program will help your kids learn important social skills, making lots of friends along the way.
To Book: kdv sport.com/kdv-kids-tennis-program/

Free Lesson at Your School
KDV Sport "Hot Shots" is an Introductory tennis program for kids aged 3 - 10! Apart from skills like agility, flexibility and speed, the program will help your kids learn important social skills, making lots of friends along the way.
To Book: kdv sport.com/kids-tennis-program-2/

Enjoy a **FREE LESSON** whether its on your school tennis courts or at KDV Sport and see how much fun it can be!

Book on the links provided and lets see how good your forehand winner is!

KDV Sport - 221 Merang-Broadbeach Rd, Carrara
Ph: 5596 0404 | info@kdv sport.com | kdv sport.com

Walk With Us YOUTH ACADEMY

THE WALK WITH US YOUTH ACADEMY HALLOWEEN SPECIAL

\$5 individual
\$15 per family

Food & Drinks available to purchase

Date: October 30th
Times: 5-12 years (5:30- 7:30)
13-17 years (8:00- 10:00)
Venue: Firth Park Mudgeeraba

MESSAGE US AT
[HTTPS://WWW.WALKWITHUSGC.ORG.AU](https://www.walkwithusgc.org.au)
STRICTLY NO DRUGS, ALCOHOL, SMOKING OR VAPING PERMITTED

Walk With Us YOUTH ACADEMY

School newsletter copy

Advice for parents, carers, guardians and drivers

The City of Gold Coast (City) wants to ensure that motorists comply with [school zone road rules](#) at and around schools to achieve a safer environment for children and the broader school community. These rules also help to optimise traffic movement and safety.

Please take extra care and obey the signed parking rules when parking on the roads and streets around the school.

Park Safe Vehicles - Licence Plate Recognition (LPR)

As part of the *City Parking Plan 2015* to improve parking behaviour on the Gold Coast, City Parking Officers will soon patrol the city (including key school zones) using vehicles, clearly badged as “Park Safe” vehicles. These vehicles use Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) which is camera technology fitted to Park Safe vehicles to ensure motorists are parking safely.

Park Safe will operate on school days at student drop-off and pick-up times focusing on pedestrian areas around schools. If a vehicle is found to be parked illegally the City will issue an infringement notice to the registered vehicle owner by post.

Offences to be aware of:

- stopping 20 metres before or 10 metres after a sign posted crossing
- stopping 20 metres before or 10 metres after a bus stop
- stopping within 10 metres of an intersection or corner
- stopping within a bus zone (bayed area)
- stopping on a footpath or nature strip within a built-up area
- stopping in a way that restricts access to a driveway
- stopping on a yellow painted line
- stopping in a loading zone
- double parking for any period of time.

Park safely and legally to avoid a fine.

For more information visit www.cityofgoldcoast.com.au/parksafe