



Merrimac State School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 4 Thursday 28 October 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

A big shout out to the Merrimac Music Department for their amazing efforts last week at the Magic of Music Concert. Our first live concert this year and the students did a fantastic job. Great work Deb, Jemma, Danica, Dena and Jodie and our accompanist, Yukari Blinks. Our parents gave some lovely positive feedback after the concert. Thank you to all those involved in helping to make this concert the wonderful community event that it is. It provided the opportunity for me too to see and hear, first hand, the incredible talent that lies at the heart of this school. It really was MAGIC.

Student Code of Conduct

I am hosting two sessions next week (Tuesday morning at 9:00 – 9:45 and Thursday afternoon 3:00 – 3:45) to unpack the document and align our systems here at school. If you are available to attend please do. If not, and would like to share your thoughts, please email principal@merrimacss.eq.edu.au. Each session will be held in the staffroom. **There will be a QR code at the door for sign in.**

The Student Code of Conduct and Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students are attached with this email for your perusal.

Carols by Candlelight

Please see detailed article following. This event is coming together thanks to the dedication of many and the Leadership of Kimberley Chipp. Thank you all.

Year 3 building renovation

ALL SCHOOL ACCESS WILL CEASE FROM FRIDAY 29 OCTOBER
The Year 3 classes have moved out of their building now and are housed across the school. They have settled in quickly and are going about their learning with enthusiasm. All access will be closed from next week.

SunSmart school

In conjunction with the P&C, the school is undertaking the work needed to meet the requirements of a SunSmart school. Part of the change will be hats, or more specifically – caps. From next year, all students will be required to wear a brimmed hat. This can be a bucket hat, wide brimmed or legionnaire's hat. To make this move, we will be offering each student a one-off free hat (style to be decided) next year. The P&C is investigating options for hats that will include a reversible hat with school colour on one side and sport house colour on the other. More information will be provided as we navigate this further.

Prep Orientation sessions

Thank you to Mrs Hall, Prep Teachers and Merrimac staff and P&C for making this event an incredible learning opportunity for me. It is always exciting to see how schools engage new

families and the 'Market Stall' approach is a new one for me, and such a welcomed one. Watching as people engage where they need rather than where 'we' think they need was brilliant.

3D Writers

Thank you 3D for inviting me into your learning and sharing your 'fear story'. You created the mood very well and helped me relate this experience to one I had already had. I think you know the power that writing has!

World Teachers' Day

Tomorrow marks a celebration of the impact of Teachers on the lives of your young, and not-so-young minds. Thank you to the incredible efforts of our teaching staff. Please take the time to acknowledge your child's teacher.

Intention to Leave

If you know you will not be returning to Merrimac SS for the 2022 school year, please advise admin by email (admin@merrimacss.eq.edu.au). Please include the student's name and current class, their new school, and if you would like to provide a reason for leaving, we would appreciate that.

Class requests

The opportunity to provide **educational reasons** to support class placements for 2022, will close tomorrow at 3pm. Requests for individual teachers will receive a reply email asking for the education reasons to support the placement. No individual teacher can be guaranteed. Staffing has not been finalised.

**Shannon Lusk
Principal**

FINANCE NEWS

Accepting online payments for the following:

Participants	Activity	Cost	Due by
Year 6	Wet n Wild	See excursion note for options	22 Nov

- **Late payments not accepted after the due date for this event as confirmed numbers are required**

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT – MON 6 DECEMBER

Christmas Hamper and Raffle Prize Donations

Before you know it, we will be celebrating the end of the school year with our annual Carols by Candlelight.

SAVE THE DATE - Monday 6th December.

After a year break due to COVID stealing 2020, we are appealing for your generosity in donating items for our Christmas hampers. We understand that this can be an expensive time of the year, but we would appreciate any

items that you can donate. This year we are providing each year level with a theme. Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter with ideas your family can donate. A printed hard copy will be sent home too. You never know, you may even win back your donation along with many other goodies in a hamper on the night. Donations are to be given in to Mrs Wakelin in classroom 1B.

If you have a connection with an organisation or you have a business that may be willing to donate a prize for our raffle draw, please give it to the front office and they can send it my way.

Thank you for all your support and generosity.

Kimberley Chipp

2021 Carols Coordinator



STUDENT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students of weeks 2 and 3:

Khybah S P1, Sophie B P1, William O P1, Mia S P1, Indi S P1M, Harry W P1M, Aria F P1M, Nate M P1M, Violet D P2, Eli G P2, Cleo M P2, James P P2, Onyx R P3, Oliver R P3, Eli B P3, FaithLee B P3, Isla G P4, Blain C P4, Getziel L P4, Holly H P4, Jhett S 1A, Cleo W 1A, Philip B 1A, Macy L 1A, Oliver D 1B, Chloe F 1B, Abi B 1B, Alarrah S 1B, Kora M 1C, Ciera W 1C, Polly S 1C, Sophie N 1C, Liam T 1D, Ryan W 1D, Allira A 1D, Alana M 1D, Miller G 2A, Arcadia Q 2A, Beau M 2A, Hamish G 2A, Oliver B 2B, Evie N 2B, Jake O 2B, Chanel S 2B, Amy W 2C, Blake G 2C, Noah M 2C, Thaison M 2C, Chelsea S 2D, Bella T 2D, Loxen C 2D, Joshua I 2D, Faith R 2E, Liam P 2E, Jack A 2E, Sienna L 2E, Katie W 34M, Alex B 34M, Cooper W 3A, Alexis L 3A, Asher D 3B, Zaniel E 3C, Ivy B 3C, Kaisey D 3D, Noah M 3D, Cooper M 4A, Eden E 4A, Alexis R 4B, Ella T 4B, Aki Y 4C, Amy B 4C, Benjamin P 4D, Kaho Y 4D, Julian G 5A, Tamika H 5A, Aisha S 5B, Dusty A 5B, Thiago I 5C, Kobi M 5C, Emily E 5D, Aurelia H 5D, Jake F 5E, Jarred L 5E, Tmz B 6A, Xavier D 6A, April L 6B, Elliot V 6B, Danielle S 6C, Pepita B 6C, Lara G 6D, Jack W 6D, Michael H 6E, Oliver T 6E.

JAPANESE NEWS

Connection through Covid

For the last two weeks, Merrimac students have been connecting via TEAMS with our Sister School in Kobe City, Japan. Katsuragi Elementary School students prepared many interesting questions to ask our students. These included questions about school life, food, sports, hobbies and interests. Merrimac students relished the opportunity to use their Japanese language skills and share their everyday life with their friends in Japan. All sessions evoked thoughts about community and culture and global awareness. The TEAMS session provides an additional platform to the already engaging Pen Pal program. Some Merrimac students even had the opportunity to meet their Pen Pal friend face to face during their session. Our TEAMS session was also observed in Katsuragi by Kobe Board of Education officials, visiting Principals from surrounding schools and the parent community group due to the intrigue and interest in our successful Sister School Program. This past fortnight our students have laughed, reflected, thought globally and engaged with children far away.

Arigatou
Mason Sensei

MUSIC NEWS

Junior and Senior Choirs will continue until Week 9 in the PAC.

Juniors on Tuesdays at 8am

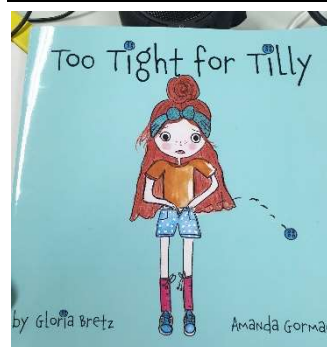
Seniors on Fridays at 8am

Students who have withdrawn from the program must bring a note to Miss Palmer or Mrs Reid from a parent/carer confirming their withdrawal.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Recent sports photos are available to order online. Please see the end of this newsletter for ordering instructions.

YEARS 2 AND 3 READING



Year 2 and Year 3 had a treat when author Gloria Brett and Amanda Gorman visited and gave a presentation on their book and the writing process. A copy of their book was donated to the library.



P&C NEWS

The P & C has a great deal of projects on offer taking us right into the first day of next year.

Firstly, booklists will go home shortly and over the years you could order through the Merrimac bookshop. However, this year we are trialling a new service and we would love your feedback after the trial. This year we are using the Officeworks click and collect, and Office National click and delivery.

Officeworks and Office National have been very competitive with their prices and we believe this is more viable. We welcome feedback!

Coming up to Christmas we have some smaller fundraisers which include:

- Family portraits, no nasty icy poles, crispy cream donut drive and biscuit drive.

You will see on Facebook our new summer menu and you will see our wonderful volunteers handing out copies of the menu at the front gate. Along with this will be a step by step instruction sheet on the portal in which we use for purchasing tuck shop and book shop items. The portal we use is extremely effective and easy to navigate. For further information on Munch Monitor refer to your instruction sheet, attach in the newsletter.

A reminder the bookshop is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning's 8am-11:30am. Pop in and see Josie for all your school needs. We have plenty of stock of new uniforms and stationary.

Keep an eye out on the Facebook page for further information or feel free to send us a message if you have any questions what so ever.

Team P&C

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
21/10 – 19/11	P-2 Swimming
2 and 3 Nov	Year 5 Sexuality Education Lessons
Wed 3 Nov	Prep Experience Morning Session 1
Mon 15 Nov	2A, 2B Beenleigh Museum
Tue 16 Nov	2C, 2D, 2E Beenleigh Museum
Wed 17 Nov	Prep Experience Morning Session 2 Ditto Program P-3
Thur 25 Nov	Years 4-6 Swimming Carnival **Note change of date**
Wed 1 Dec	Prep Experience Morning Session 3
Mon 6 Dec	Carols by Candlelight
Wed 8 Dec	Graduation
Thu 9 Dec	Year 6 Wet n Wild
Fri 10 Dec	Last day of 2021 school year
Mon 24 Jan	First day of 2022 school year



Children in Prep to Yr3 will soon have the opportunity to experience Bravehearts' personal safety education program Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Show.

Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure show has been educating Australian children since 2006, providing them with personal safety tools and strategies while supporting positive self-esteem and resilience-building.

Parents/Carers are welcome to attend, however, due to COVID19 social distancing restrictions there are only a limited number of seats available. RSVP is essential, no walk-ins, no toddlers. Email to admin@merrimacss.eq.edu.au by Friday 12 November 3pm.

Date: Wednesday 17th November 2021 in the PAC

Time: Prep/Year 1 10.15am - 11.00am

Year 1 and Year 2 11.45am – 12.30pm

Cost: \$9 per child

Notes and invoices will be sent home next week to students in Prep to Year 3

The program is highly effective and great fun too - kids love Ditto!

Independent evaluation of Bravehearts' Ditto Show suggests the principles of personal safety embedded in the program can reduce the incidence of child sexual assault as well as other forms of abuse, including family violence and bullying. The Ditto show is a live, interactive 35 minute performance starring Bravehearts' mascot 'Ditto'. It includes song, dance,

and easy-to-remember messages about personal safety. These songs and messages were written by Bravehearts' professional educators and child psychologists and are developmentally appropriate for your child's age group.

How you can learn more

Bravehearts is extremely proud of Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure program and believes by empowering children with personal safety skills and knowledge we are providing them with the tools to stay safe. However, just as teaching children road rules cannot guarantee our children's safety on the roads, no program can 'abuse-proof' our children. Parents, grandparents, care-givers, teachers, and all adults must be vigilant and informed.

If you would like to learn more about how to talk to your child about personal safety, download Bravehearts' FREE PERSONAL SAFETY PARENTS AND CARERS GUIDE from the Bravehearts website. Just go to: bravehearts.org.au/personal-safety.

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





Ordering co-curricular groups online

(sports, music, special groups)



Photo Days

After Photo Day allow 48 Hours for the products to be available online for purchase



How to Order

Go Online

silverrose.com.au >
Schools >
Order Co-Curricular >
Select School >
and follow the prompts



Delivery

Your photos will be despatched in approximately 3 weeks from date of order

We communicate directly with you online and post your photos to your home for your convenience

t. 07 3262 5788 | e. schools@silverrose.com.au | w. silverrose.com.au



OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2021



HOLIDAY HAMPER DONATIONS

Merrimac State Schools annual Carols by Candlelight



THEME IDEAS FOR EACH YEAR LEVEL

Suggestions for donations

Prep - Family Fun: playing cards, board games, interactive games, DVDs (rated G/PG only) etc

Year 1 - Boredom Busters: arts & crafts, activity packs, puzzles, drawing supplies, paper, etc

Year 2 - Outdoor fun: outdoor games/activities, frisbees, balls, picnic mats, cooler bags, etc

Year 3 - Sweet Treats: candy canes, Chocolate Santas, fruit mince pies, mixed lollies, boxed chocolates, panettone, biscuits etc

Year 4 - Summer fun: goggles, pool toys, sunscreen, beach towels, beach toys, picnic mats, sun umbrella, etc

Year 5 - All things Christmas: wrapping paper, gift cards, bon-bons, Christmas decorations, Christmas themed tableware, etc

Year 6 - Savoury Snacks: gourmet sauces, potato chips, popcorn, crackers, pretzels, etc

THIS YEAR OUR DONATION DRIVE WILL RUN FROM MONDAY 25TH OCT TO FRIDAY 26TH NOV (W4-8).

Once again we are appealing for your generosity in donating items for our annual Holiday Hampers. Each year level will be given a theme suggestion, this is a guide only. We understand this can be an expensive time of year, but we would appreciate any items that you can donate. This could be as simple as a pack of biscuits, Christmas decorations, candles, chocolates to a gift/restaurant voucher.

If each family could donate one item, the hampers will be a huge success! You never know, you may win back your donation along with many other goodies in a hamper at MSS Christmas Carols by Candlelight.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept any donations that require refrigeration, any home baked goods or alcohol.

STUDENTS ARE TO BRING THEIR DONATIONS TO MRS WAKELIN'S CLASSROOM (1C).

Family Portrait Fundraiser

~ Perfection Photography Queensland ~



Update your Family Portraits for only \$50!

~ \$20 from each session booked goes directly back to the school ~

Sunday 7th November
Botanical Gardens Benowa

Sunday 14th November
Pizzey Park Miami



Botanical Gardens, Benowa (Above)
Pizzey Park, Miami (Below)

\$50 Family Portrait Package

- 20-minute session with Photographer
- 5 Digital Images***

***Option to purchase additional images

Sessions available from 8am - 5pm!



Bookings: Please Contact us via our Facebook Page or Email us : perfectionphotography@outlook.com

Merrimac State School P&C Association presents

CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER

TERM 4 2021

Gingerbread House Kit

Gingerbread Folk

Decorating gingerbread houses is a growing annual tradition that is guaranteed to bring Christmas fun and creativity.

Kits are allergy-friendly with absolutely no colours, flavours or preservatives added, and they offer a gluten-free option **

Kit includes gingerbread parts, royal-icing mix, baseboard, piping bag and instructions.

Original Gingerbread House Kit \$35
Chocolate Gingerbread House Kit \$35
Gluten Free Gingerbread House Kit \$35



MADE IN AUSTRALIA

**vegan | dairy free | egg free | nut free | palm oil free | gluten free option



12 x Original Glazed Doughnuts



6 x Original Glazed
6 x Strawberry Iced



6 x Choc Iced
6 x Choc Iced Custard



6 x Original Glazed
2 x Choc Iced with Sprinkles
2 x Choc Iced
2 x Strawberry Iced



Krispy Kreme donuts

Krispy Kreme Australia

From their signature treat - the Original Glazed™ Doughnut, to some of our favourite flavours; explore delicious, made fresh Krispy Kreme Doughnuts.

Original glazed dozen \$20
Assorted mixed dozen \$28
Chocolate delight dozen \$28
Strawberry delight dozen \$28.

Order through Munch Monitor

Orders close 10th November 2021

Orders are open Monday 25th October, and close on Thursday 10th November. Orders will be ready to collect on Monday 30th November