



Merrimac State School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 10 Thursday 9 December 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

WOW! Where have the last 6 months gone?

This community has a strength that nurtures the soul. Its foundations grow hope for our future.

As a community, you have endured a lot this year. I am humbled every day by your resilience.

The work Andrew began has taken root and flourished through Power Hours and collegial engagement, developing strength of the whole-of-school teaching team to do their best work, supported by an incredible Leadership Team. The Administration Team too have seen many changes this year and their willingness and ability to learn and adapt is testament to them and their investment in this community. The 'behind-the-scenes' work of the ancillary staff creates the pride of place we see in our grounds and classrooms.

To our families, I thank you for your welcome and your support of the work we have done this year, albeit restricted and frustrating at times. Your voice is so important to our continued work and I look forward to consolidating this next year.

As a community we will work next year to refine our collective vision for the future of our young minds and our community. We will grow talent, strength, optimism and futures of choice.

To each and every one of you, I wish you a safe and happy holiday break. Enjoy times with friends and family, make connections that create joy and live each opportunity for the memory it will make.

Stay safe, see you next year.

Shannon

2022 classes

Families will be advised of their child's 2022 class during the Pupil Free Days next year (20th January). To do so any earlier may create issues as changes may occur to enrolments and teaching staff over the break.

We appreciate your understanding. Every effort is made to support students to transition comfortably to their next learning space.

Please ensure your contact details are up-to-date if these change over the break. Email admin@merrimacss.eq.edu.au

Graduation and Year 6 end of Year Celebrations

What a privilege it was to be apart of these events this week. Congratulations and a huge thanks to all involved – teachers, support staff, parents and Miss Murray. The events were well received by those attending.

School Watch

Please keep an eye on our school over the break. If you see something that needs reporting, please contact school watch 131788.

Prep (and other) enrolments for 2022

If you haven't done so yet, or know of others who need to enrol students for 2022, please contact admin@merrimacss.eq.edu.au to book an appointment.

**Shannon Lusk
Principal**

2022 STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

After a very lengthy process, the 2022 Student Leadership Team have been elected. We are very proud of all the students who nominated for leadership positions. Congratulations to the following students:

School: Ruby, Amelia, Len and Ezekiel

Languages: Charlotte V and Charlotte R

Music: Madison and Chloe

Band: Ashley and Sibellah

Strings: Hana and Thomas

House

Birmingham – Max and Tori

Hamilton – Jaxon and Anja

Gooding – Corey and Layla

Davidson – Sakura and Isabella



STUDENT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students of weeks 8 and 9:

Haruto N P1, Aubrey M P1, Frankie L P1, Dustin F P1, Scarlett E P1M, Mason H P1M, Charley W P1M, Paris M P1M, Noah B P3, Emilia S P3, Valentino T P4, Layla S P4, Zephyr S P4, Isla G P4, Kalia T 1A, Kaiden P 1A, Harbor R 1B, Zara M 1B, Finn C 1C, Quade T 1C, Alana M 1D, Ryan W 1D, Harper R 2A, Tyler C 2A, Ada A 2C, Tahlia F 2C, Ethan S 2C, Ethan G 2C, Tadhg S 2D, Elena D 2D, Araelia K 2E, Tilly M 2E, Isla N 34M, Jonah M 3A, Layla P 3B, Halle T 3B, James M 3C, Abigail M 3C, Eleanor R 3D, Axel K 4A, Jaxon S 4A, Hudson S 4B, Jai C 4C, Elly R 4C,

Broc M 4D, Clayton W 4D, Tamika H 5A, Jacob G 5B, Bodhi N 5B, Liam V 5C, Tanae F 5C, Mia J 5D, Lyrik M 5D, Daisy B 5E, Riley K 5E, Hannah S 6A, Jye F 6B, Sahara W 6C, Marshall S 6D, Oliver M 6D, Aston B 6E, Josie T 6E.

MUSIC NEWS

The IM team would like to share some fantastic success that our Merrimac IM/Music Students achieved on the weekend.

Annabelle K (Violin), Annabelle S (Voice), Ashley L (Flute) and Thomas D (Double Bass) were all selected for SHEP and performed at the Queensland Conservatorium over the weekend. This was a fantastic achievement and a wonderful opportunity for them.

Well done to Miss Inglis who was involved in the event and features in one of the photos with Annabelle K.

We are feeling so proud of our amazing and talented students. See photos at the end of the newsletter

PE NEWS

Swimming Enrichment Day

On Wednesday, Merrimac had a Swimming Enrichment Day for our Advanced Swimmers. 27 Year 5 and 6 Students battled it out in the various strokes at All Saints Anglican School.

Results were as follows:

Age Champions - Tier C, Jaxon B (10 Years)

Tori Mc, Jacob D and Lennon D (11 Years)

Tahlia L, Lakai C (12 Years)

Jacob D - 1 Record

Thanks to all the students who participated, the parents who attended and Mr Elliott for his assistance.



Budgeting for Sports in 2022

Please see details below of the sporting schedule for 2022.

Note: DO NOT PAY UNTIL INVOICES ARE ISSUED. The following information is a courtesy to help with your budget planning for next year only.

Term 1 - Swimming Year 3/4

Term 1 - Surfing Year 5/6

Term 2 - Interschool Sport Year 5/6

Term 3 - Interschool Sport Year 5/6

Term 4 - Swimming Prep - Year 2

All Approx. \$75

CAROLS NEWS

Another successful Carols for our Merrimac students who are buzzing with thankfulness for the memory of Carols 2021. The excitement of the children's faces throughout the day of rehearsals to beaming on stage in your presence at night. Sausages (thank you for your patience as one BBQ had too many moments and not turning on), cold ice-creams, pink fairy floss, face painting, glowing glow sticks, laughter, fellowship, fun and the finale of popping fireworks.

Thank you for coming and making this annual event one to remember. Without you, there is no Carols. We had 10 hours to implement our Plan B so thank you for being so kind and understanding of, not only a soggy oval, but COVID restrictions. All in all, a busy and buzzing night for all.

Signing off as your Carols Coordinator for 2021. Merry Christmas to one and all, and to all a Goodnight!

Please see the attached businesses that donated. iFly and Infinity have given anyone a percentage off should you visit in the holidays. See CODE to receive your percentage off.

Lastly, congratulations to all our 72 raffle winners.

Kimberley Chipp

2021 Carols Coordinator signing off



P&C NEWS

Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and carers that have contributed to the school and the P&C over the last 12 months.

We are so pleased to be involved with **Merrimac State Schools' Annual Carols by Candlelight** evening. The School did an amazing job coordinating all of the details (organiser - Mrs Chipp), and the P&C was honoured to help with hamper donations, selling the entry tickets, raffle tickets etc. A big thank you to all of the off-duty teachers and staff, as well as the local Lions Club, who volunteered their time to help run the night. Despite the last minute location change, and some hiccups, the night was a huge success! The children were delighted to showcase their Christmas songs, and the families seemed to have the most wonderful night! With entry, sausages, drinks, face painting and raffle tickets we managed to raise enough money to cover the running cost of the event (fireworks, stage hire, sound and lights, fridge hire, drinks etc). Once the finances have been finalised, if there are any funds left over, we can allocate them to the new shaded area.

Thank you to all of the families that donated one item or many. With your donations we were able to create 40 Hampers! Once added to the other donated prizes, sourced by the School, they were able to raffle off 72 prizes on the night!

Prue, from the charity **Hope in a Suitcase**, was blown away by the magnitude of our donations. She was so grateful to accept our contributions to their charity. Thank you so much for your generosity to this fabulous cause.

MP Ros Bates was also in attendance, and gifted Merrimac State School a jumbo cheque for \$1,000. This will be put towards the cost of concrete art work around the school in the coming months.

Thank you to all the families who took part in the **Christmas Treats Fundraiser**. We hope you enjoyed your Gingerbread Houses and Krispy Kreme doughnuts! We priced these products below RRP, to raise community spirit and help

families at this expensive time of year. We were able to raise \$367.21 to be used towards the concrete artwork.

The **Family Portrait Fundraiser** with Perfection Photography Queensland was a huge success. Thank you so much to the lovely Laura for 2 days, 2 gorgeous locations, 29+ good-looking families, and money raised for our school! Due to bad weather, Laura still has a few families who have had to reschedule their photo shoots, so we haven't been able to finalise numbers.

These funds are earmarked to add to our kitty to pay for the new shaded area. This is a very expensive project, and we are hoping that we get some good news in Term 1 regarding our Cancer Council Grant application.

As you may have heard, Merrimac State School will be implementing a new **Sun Safe Policy** in 2022. MSS currently has a NO HAT - NO PLAY Policy, with students being able to wear any school-coloured, non-branded hat. During 2022 this will change, and the school will require all students to wear a sun safe hat that protects their face, neck and ears. The P&C are working with the school to find a suitable Broad-Brim, Bucket or Legionnaire Style hat that will suit the schools style and needs. As part of the roll-out (expected Term 2), each student will receive one free hat to ensure that families are not impacted by this change. This cost will be shared by the School and the P&C. There will be further communication closer to the date.

As our year end approaches we want to thank you for your patience and understanding as the **Tuckshop** has been running down it's stock. We apologise that your favourites may not have been available all of this week. But we'll be back next year with a fully stocked kitchen and looking forward to delivering delicious treats to your children once again.

Looking ahead to the first day of school 2022, the P&C is holding a **Tea & Tissues** morning tea for the new Prep parents. If you would like to attend to help welcome our new families, please email the P&C – pandcmerrimacss@gmail.com

Our next **P&C Meeting** will be held on Monday the 31st January at 5:30pm in the staff room. All welcome!

We wish you all the safest of holidays and a fabulous New Year. The P&C could not have achieved what we did this

year without the support of families and community. Next year, we look forward to welcoming all new families and community members to our not for profit association.

To stay up-to-date with news around the school, please follow us on Facebook – “**Merrimac State School P&C Association**”.

We wish everyone happy holidays! Stay safe, we'll see you next year.

Merrimac State School P&C

BOOKSHOP OPENING HOURS 8AM – 11.30AM



Friday 10 December
Wednesday 19 January
Friday 21 January
Monday 24 January
Tuesday 25 January
Friday 28 January

Following will be Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday 8am – 11.30am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
Fri 10 Dec	Last day of 2021 school year
Mon 24 Jan	First day of 2022 school year
Wed 26 Jan	Australia Day Public Holiday

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.

Celebrating Success at SHEP - State Honours Ensemble Program

Well done to the following Merrimac State School students for being selected for SHEP and performing at the event over the weekend at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music.



Annabelle



Annabelle



Ashley L



Thomas D

祝

Our warmest congratulations on your graduation!

There is always light behind the clouds.

Don't be afraid to fly!

8 December 2021

*From all the members of
Katsuragi International Exchange Committee*

COMMUNITY NEWS



MERRIMAC STATE SCHOOL SOCCER X SCHOOL PROGRAM / FUN - EDUCATIONAL - ACTIVE

Starting in Term 1, Soccer X will be running an 9 week Soccer program at Merrimac State School every **Wednesday** from **3 - 4pm** beginning **February 2nd 2022**.

The program is available to students from **Prep - Year 6**.
On arrival children will be split into groups according to age.
All sessions will be run by **qualified coaches** who hold blue cards.
The sessions will be **fully inclusive & fun-based**, catering for all abilities.

Cost: \$125 / 9-weeks.

For more information and online registrations please visit
www.soccer-x.com



We had 37 hampers plus 35 major prizes.

72 giveaways went on Monday night. 😊

Thank you again to all those who donated to make
2021 Carols by Candlelight a fabulous night.

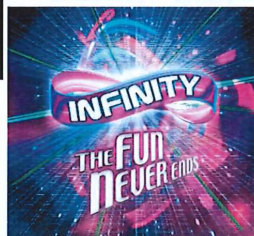
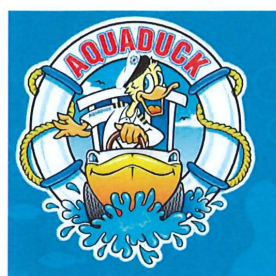
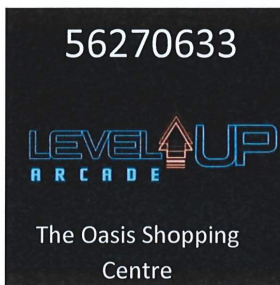
- 🐻 **The Village Roadshow Theme Parks *Four Park Annual* Pass** gives you unlimited access to Sea World, Wet'n'Wild, Warner Bros. Movie World and Paradise Country for 12 Months!
- 🐻 Sarina Thompson Framed Art valued at \$500
- 🐻 **Bunnings Robina** – Jumbuck 4 Burner Hooded BBQ
- 🐻 **George Williams Hotel and YMCA of Brisbane** – One night's accommodation for two in a Queen Terrace including hot breakfast for 2 and free wi fi
- 🐻 \$250 gift certificate to **Nothing Else Platters**
- 🐻 **Currumbin Sanctuary - 2 x Admit One General Admission Entry Vouchers** (valued at \$49.95 each)
- 🐻 **KDV Sport Experience** – Spend the day with your loved ones at the best family-friendly sports facility on the Gold Coast – KDV Sport! Unlimited family, Mini golf, gold course, Tennis Court and climbing Wall for one month. ♥
- 🐻 **Aquaduck** – Family Pass (valued at \$138)
- 🐻 Scooter donated by **Gold Coast Property**
- 🐻 **iFly Basic** – indoor skydiving
- 🐻 **Infinity** – One family admission
- 🐻 Blue Ray DVD Player
- 🐻 Framed artwork by Amanda Potter
- 🐻 **Auto Lavaggio at Oasis Shopping Centre** – Exterior Car Wash x 3
- 🐻 **Zarraffa's Worongary Hamper**
- 🐻 **Combined donation: Amaria Press:** Too Tight for Tilly story book with a box of 4 cupcakes from **Zesty Creations**.
- 🐻 **Zumba with Shantelle** – 10 class pass
- 🐻 **Zesty Creations** Christmas Wonderland Cake
- 🐻 \$50 Voucher – **Woolworths Carrara**
- 🐻 \$50 Voucher – **Coles Worongary**
- 🐻 Sweet Celebration Hampers – **Gourmet Explorer Online Gift Hampers x 2**
- 🐻 **Merrimac McDonalds** – \$30 voucher x 2 **plus** vouchers in every hamper
- 🐻 **Worongary Meats** - \$30 voucher
- 🐻 **Iceland** with Skate hire x 2 Admittance x 2
- 🐻 **Merrimac Amcal** hamper
- 🐻 **Level Up VIP Card** \$20 x 4
- 🐻 **Kingscliff Bowls Club**



- 🐻 **National Tae Kwon-Do (Martial Arts)** – vouchers in every hamper



Thanks to our own Miss Potter
for her beautiful art work.



Robina Fresh Fruit Shop.
Outside Woolies under Big W

An enormous thanks to our local businesses for
their generous donations towards our
successful Carols by Candlelight 2021.



5559 1372



Worongary



Instagram: @zestycreations Mobile: 0490 840 291



221 Nerang-Broadbeach Road
Carrara QLD 4211
Open 5:30am - 9pm, 7 Days



Shout Out! Thank you to Gold Coast
Events and Party Hire for donating
our first ever Raffle Barrel for our
Raffle tickets for Carols.



07 5594 7787

sales@gcpartyhire.com.au



CONTACT US



Merrimac School Carpark Access during Construction



Children First

Children First is an educative peer support group for children and young people with separated parents.

Ages: 6-10 years

When: School Holiday Program (two consecutive days)

-Wednesday 15 to Thursday 16 December 2021 or
-Wednesday 19 to Thursday 20 January 2022

Time: 9:30am - 3:00pm

Where: 56 Davenport Street, Southport QLD 4215

Cost: \$40 (morning tea and lunch included)

Children First assists children to learn and develop new ways of coping with feelings associated with their parent's separation. It also provides young people with an opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings in a safe, fun, and confidential environment.

To register, please phone (07) 5552 6500

