



MERRIMAC STATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

CRICOS Provider Code: 00608A

23 April 2026

Term 2, Week 1 Newsletter

WHAT'S ON

Term 2
Week 1

Thursday 23 April

Senior Strings 3-4pm

Friday 24 April

Senior Choir 8am
ANZAC Service 9.30am PAC
ISS and Enrichment Yrs 5, 6

Week 2

Monday 27 April

Senior Band 3-4pm

Tuesday 28 April

Junior Choir 8.10am
Junior Band 3-4pm

Wednesday 29 April

Beginner Strings 8am
Breaky Fit 8am Yrs 1-6
Junior Assembly 2.20pm

Thursday 30 April

Intermediate Strings 8am
Senior Strings 3-4pm

Friday 1 May

Senior Choir 8am
ISS & Enrichment Yrs 5, 6

Week 3

Monday 4 May

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Tuesday 5 May

Junior Choir 8.10am
Main Photo Day Classes/Individuals

Wednesday 6 May

Beginner Strings 8am
Breaky Fit 8am Years 1-6
Mothers Day Stall (P&C)
Senior Assembly 2.20pm

Thursday 7 May

Intermediate Strings 8am
Mothers Day Stall
Senior Strings 3-4pm

Friday 8 May

Senior Choir 8am
ISS & Enrichment Years 5, 6

PARENTS TO DO LIST...

- Follow Social Media
- Register for QParents
- Order your school photos

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Welcome to the new school term

As I reflect on my first week as Acting Principal of Merrimac State School, I would like to share how privileged I feel to be part of such a strong and connected community.

It has been wonderful to see how quickly students have settled into the term. In every classroom, there is a calm and purposeful tone, with students engaged in their learning and showing a genuine commitment to doing their best. This positive start is a credit to both our students and the supportive environment that surrounds them.

I have also been deeply impressed by the strength of our staff team. There is a clear sense of collaboration and shared purpose, with staff working closely together to support one another and every child in their care. What stands out most is the genuine care shown to each student. At Merrimac, there is a strong sense that every child is known, valued, and feels a true sense of belonging.

I would like to sincerely thank the staff who have supported our ANZAC Ceremony, which will take place tomorrow at 9.30am in the PAC. This will give our students the opportunity to pause, reflect, and develop a deeper understanding of the service and sacrifice of others.

During the ceremony, I will speak with students about the enduring values of mateship, courage, and resilience. While these qualities were forged in times of great hardship, they remain deeply relevant in our everyday lives. At school, mateship is seen in the small but meaningful actions—students including others, offering support, and choosing kindness, even when it is not the easiest option.

I will also discuss courage and resilience in learning. Courage is shown when students step forward despite uncertainty—having a go at a challenging task, asking questions, or putting their hand up to share their thinking. Resilience is built when they persist, learn from mistakes, and continue to try. These are the moments that shape not only successful learners, but confident and capable young people.

In these everyday actions, our students are not only growing but also honouring the legacy of those we remember. The spirit of courage and mateship lives on when students support one another, give their best, and keep going, even when things feel difficult.

As a school community, this is something we nurture together. The partnership between home and school is vital in reinforcing these values, ensuring our children feel supported, encouraged, and inspired to be their best.

I look forward to continuing to work alongside you all as we support our students to grow, learn, and carry these important values into the future.

QParents

We now have almost 60% of parents who have registered with QParents and who have access to their child's school information on the QParents App. Details can be changed, absences entered, report cards readily available, and a snapshot of invoices can be seen. Registration invitations were resent yesterday to parents who have not already signed up, so jump on board and have your child's information at your finger tips. We are planning on moving to consent for the start of Term 3 so you will need to be registered to be able to provide consent for excursions and events.

Early pick ups and late arrivals

A reminder that students cannot be collected during breaks between 11am – 11.45am and 1.45pm – 2.15pm and no collections after 2.30pm. If you need to collect your child at 11am or 1.45pm please call the school so that the children can be waiting at the office for you. Early departures from school are discouraged. We kindly ask that students only leave early for appointments or urgent matters. Thank you for your understanding and support. If your child misses even just ½ hour each day either by coming late or leaving early or both then that equates to 100 hours or more a school year which is 20 school days spent not learning.

Kind regards

Julia Hoy – Acting Principal



FINANCE

We are currently accepting payments for:

Who	What	Cost	Pay by
Year 5	Camp Deposit	\$50	Overdue
Selected Yrs5, 6	Interschool Sport	\$85	Overdue

Methods of payment accepted are:

BPoint is for single invoice payment only

Direct Deposit for multiple invoices as a total to:

BSB: 064 445

Account: 00090019

Account Name: Merrimac SS General Account

Reference: Student Surname and initial

Back to School Boost process

If you'd like to apply your Back to school boost, after you have received an invoice email admin@merrimacss.eq.edu.au that you wish to apply what amount to an invoice. Please remember to include your child's name in your email subject. You will receive an email stating "We will apply" to confirm your request.

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS AND ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Interschool sport and enrichment starts tomorrow. Sports draws will be emailed home to Years 5 and 6 families each Thursday.

Note: the email is only relevant to students participating in Interschool Sports.

For those students who signed up for an Interschool sport and were invoiced but have not paid they will be placed in an at school enrichment group.

Students participating in the Enrichment program will remain at school with their groups.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAYS

Leading Image will be on site on Tuesday 5 May and Tuesday 12 May to take class and individual photos. Schedule as follows:

Tuesday 5 May – class and individual photos

Tuesday 12 May – catch up individual photos, Kokoda and Interschool Sports Groups

Please ensure children are at school on time and dressed in neat clean uniforms ready for their photos.

Sibling photos can be ordered online and students can present to the PAC from 8.15am on 5 and 12 May. Family photos must be ordered by 4.30pm on 4 and 11 May.

See flyer below for ordering instructions.



SCHOOL PHOTOS
PHOTO DAY
TUESDAY 5TH MAY 2026!
DON'T MISS OUT!

To order your school photos:

1. Go to www.leadingimage.com.au
2. Click on Order Your School Photos
3. Enter your Access Key

Individual & family photos can be ordered with the same access key. Family photographs must be ordered **before 4:30pm the night before photo day**. Please ensure your orders are placed before this time.

Access key: **95VH7JPJ**

LEADING IMAGE School Photos

SCAN TO ORDER

MERRIMAC SS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Sophie V who has made it into the Gold Coast representative team for Under 10 Girls Touch Football. Well done Sophie, we are proud of you.

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

The 2026 Premier's Reading Challenge will begin on May 11 and conclude on August 29. Class teachers will receive a bookmark and tracker for children once the challenge officially opens. These are to be handed into class teachers in conclusion of the challenge. Class teachers will notify Mrs Boff which children are participating. At the end children will receive a participation certificate. Enquiries can be directed to your class teacher or the school's Co-ordinator Mrs Boff on cveiv2@eg.edu.au.

DIARY DATES FOR HPE EVENTS THIS YEAR

The following dates are correct at time of publication

DATE	EVENT
24 Apr – 12 June Fridays	Interschool Sports and Enrichment Groups – Years 5 and 6
Thu 14 May	District Cross Country – qualifying students
Tue 21 July	800m and Field Events – Years 4-6
Wed 22 July	Track Events – Years 4-6
Thu 23 July	Junior Sports Day Prep – Year 3
24 Jul – 21 Aug Fridays	Interschool Sports and Enrichment Groups – Years 5 and 6
Tue 11 and Wed 12 August	District Track and Fields Events – qualifying students
Wed 2 Dec	Swimming Carnival – Years 4-6

ICAS

This year we are taking part in the ICAS Australia tests for students in years 4,5 and 6.

ICAS is an online academic competition that gives students the opportunity to challenge their higher order thinking and problem-solving skills. We have made English, Mathematics and Science available. Costs are to be covered by parents if they wish for their student to participate.

Please contact Ms Parker at admin@merrimacss.eq.edu.au for more details.



P&C NEWS

Welcome back to Term 2, the P&C hope all our families enjoyed a happy and safe Easter break.

Tuckshop & Uniforms

After a successful start to the year, the tuckshop are looking forward to another exciting term of delicious food and amazing meal deals for the students. Thank you to Kyrie and all Volunteers for their dedication, and to all parents for your continued support.

Remember to order before 9am each day on Munch Monitor or in person at the tuckshop.

Uniform shop opening hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-10:30am or online anytime.

Mothers & Important Person Day Stall

Our much-loved stall is just around the corner! Students will have the chance to choose a special gift for someone important in their lives.

When: Students - Wednesday 6th & Thursday 7th of May.

Parents - Friday 8th May 8:00-9:00am.

Where: The Old School Building.

Purchase with: Mum Bucks now available via Munch Monitor. Cash and Eftpos will also be accepted at the stall.



Upcoming P&C Meeting

Our next P&C meeting is Monday 27th April at 9:15am in the Administration Building staff room. If you have thought about coming along and haven't had the chance, join us after school drop off - everyone is welcome.

Your P&C team

Rayleen, Shannon, Kate & Kelly

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE Y MERRIMAC 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. Enrolment information can be found at: <http://www.ymcachildcare.com.au/services/outside-school-hours-care.html>. Enquiries to amm@ymcabrisbane.org or call us on 0438 367 390. **Thomas, Tori & The Y Merrimac Team**

