

Things you should know:

Name

Please put your child's name on all clothing and belongings e.g. bags, lunch box, drink bottle, hat. Please put your child's name on the inside of their school bag.

Newsletters

Notes and newsletters go home throughout the term with the youngest child in the family, a digital version can also be accessed on School Stream and the school website. Please read notes and reply promptly.

Fruit Break (9-11am, varies per class) Children may eat fresh fruit or vegetables. Please do not include very juicy fruit. Please cut fruit into small pieces when your child has a wobbly teeth.

Lunch (11.00 – 11.30am) – Healthy food is encouraged.

Afternoon Tea (1.15 – 1.55pm) - Healthy food snack encouraged. *Soft plastics are taken home in lunch boxes. Please try to use labelled containers for small snacks.*

Canteen

Please write your lunch orders on a paper lunch bag. Canteen price lists are printed in the Newsletter. Children take their lunch order to the canteen before 9.00 a.m. The canteen operates daily.

Dropping Off Your Child

To avoid tears or upsetting your child, often the best solution is to go quickly with a firm promise to return at home time. We like to call this 'stop and drop' as this helps us at the start of the year.

Home Time

If you are collecting your child, please be on time (2.55 pm). Being late can be very stressful for a small child. Please let the teacher know of changes to your child's going home routine. Children in Kindy will be walked to the back gate for pick up each afternoon (at 2.45pm, weather permitting). They should also use this gate in the mornings when dropped off. Siblings are welcome to use this gate also.

Absences

All absences must be explained. Parents / Carers can do so by completing the form on our School Stream app, or by phoning the school office by 10am.

Spare Clothes

Please place a named set of uniform (including underwear) in a plastic bag just in case your child may need it.

Sick children

If your child becomes sick or injured at school you will be contacted to collect him/her.

Hats

Broad-brimmed hats are worn during all outdoor activities (including excursions). If a child doesn't have a hat he/she must play in a designated shaded area. Beanies are also available to purchase in winter months.

Footwear

Closed-in shoes are required. Most children wear runners to school. Children should wear navy socks.

Assembly

Parents are advised in the newsletter of the time and dates of assemblies.

Library

Children borrow books each week from the school library. Classes have a weekly library skills lesson. Your child will have received a library bag at orientation, this bag is required in order to borrow each week.

Student Medication

Only 'Prescribed' medication can be administered at school. Please see the office for more information.

Problems or Queries

If there is an issue, please call and make an appointment to see the teacher - many issues can be sorted out quickly if addressed at the source. Alternatively, you can send your child's teacher a message via the [Class Dojo app](#) (*More information will be shared in the first Term 1 newsletter*).

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Merimbula Public School

Excellence ~ Opportunity ~ Success



Starting School with a Smile!

At our school students learn in a stimulating and challenging environment and are encouraged to reach their full potential. Strong academic programs, highly dedicated staff and excellent facilities offer your child the very best opportunity for success.

A Safe & Happy School

Our students prosper in a safe, inclusive and nurturing learning environment that develops respect, resilience and responsibility. We have an effective welfare and discipline program with a focus on social skills, decision making and citizenship.



Uniform Shop

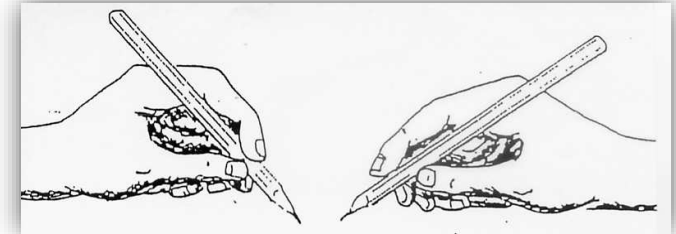
The school uniform shop is located on the oval side of the Jackson Hall and is open weekday mornings from 8.30 – 9.00am. See our web site, School Stream app or Facebook page for holiday opening times. At this time with COVID restrictions, onsite purchases are only taking place via appointment. All other purchases can be done through the online store and collected from the office. The uniform shop will call you when your items are available for collection.

How You Can Assist Your Child

- *Recognise and praise your child's individual efforts as each child is unique.*
- *Talk to your child about school – meeting new friends, learning new skills, playing games and having fun.*
- *Help your child recognise his/her name and write it. Encourage your child to use the correct pencil grip.*
- *Sing nursery rhymes and songs.*
- *Read daily to your child. Join the local library and regularly borrow books. Talk about favourite characters and parts of the story.*
- *Recognise and talk about words in the environment such as shop names and labels on packages.*
- *Take your child to places such as the park, beach, shops and playground.*
- *Talk about shared experiences, family outings, remember events and ask questions.*
- *Use everyday objects to count, sort and share.*
- *Recognise and write numbers.*
- *Provide pencils, paper and scissors to encourage writing, drawing, colouring and craft activities.*
- *Encourage creative play and limit TV viewing and computer activities.*
- *Play games outside to develop gross motor skills.*



- *Help your child learn to share and take turns by playing board and card games as well as using construction toys.*
- *Be consistent with behaviour expectations and explain family rules.*
- *Establish routines for going to bed, having breakfast and getting ready for school.*
- *Provide opportunities for your child to make decisions and accept that other people may like different things.*
- *Help your child to learn to dress and undress him/herself.*
- *Provide healthy food choices and encourage the drinking of water.*
- *Share in your child's education at school by being a classroom/canteen helper, member of the P&C or joining in school functions.*
- *Check out the 'Parent Information' section of our school website for more ideas.*



Handwriting

Your child will be learning to write N.S.W. Foundation style at school.

A copy of the alphabet, numbers 0-10 and a personalised name guide has been included in our Kindergarten Information Pack to assist your child learn the correct letter formation. Please use whiteboard marker on the plastic sleeve as provided. The sheets can then be reused. Old socks are great erasers.

Please encourage your child to write his/her name in lowercase letters with a capital letter at the beginning. Correct pencil grip is very important for fluent handwriting. Please assist your child to hold his/her pencil in the way shown below.

Stay up to date with your child's classroom events and school wide information by downloading the free School Stream app and creating an account. An information sheet about how to do this has been provided.



Like us on Facebook to keep up to date with school activities!

<https://www.facebook.com/MerimbulaPublicSchool>

