

Dear Parent/Carer,

4/7/2018

Merimbula Public School is committed to providing a technology rich environment for our students as our community believes the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is fundamental in assisting teaching and learning in all areas of the school curriculum.

With the school vision of providing an ICT rich environment at Merimbula Public School we have been using G Suite for Education (G Suite), which is an online productivity tools that works on any device. G Suite lets teachers and students create, communicate and collaborate in real time. G Suite is accessed via a dedicated Department domain rather than downloading.

Teachers and students have access to tools that allow:

- Collaborative word processing, presentation and website creation
- Easy delivery and management of assessment
- Time and task management
- Unlimited online storage.

To make further connections with our school community and show the work of our students, we are looking to use Google+. Google+ Community will provide an online sharing platform called Google Community that allows parents to see photos of their children while at school and receive important reminders about class information from the classroom teacher. It is a closed network that <u>only</u> parents/carers of children within the classroom will be able to view (which means it is similar to a closed Facebook group).

We began our trial using the platform in Stage 2 and have now created communities for Stages 2 and 3 and the support classes. Year 1 have now created their own community and they would love to share the experiences the students within the classes are having. To be able access your child's page you will need to access the class link. In the slip below can you provide the email address that you will be using to access the Community and a link will be sent to this account (this will further ensure security over the page). The process may also require you to create an account with Google depending on the email account you may currently have.

All students who have the appropriate permissions, provided on enrolment, will be included in the trial. If you have any queries about the trial or about the use of G Suite please do not hesitate to contact me on 64951266 or email me at <u>merimbula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au</u>.

Regards

Brenton Mace Assistant Principal Special Education

