

Merimbula Public School's New Building

By SRC Leader Kiah

On the first day of the new school year, all Year 1 and 2 teachers, and the school's Learning Support Teacher, moved into the new building block at Merimbula Public School. The school was fortunate to be allocated new resources as part of the Building The Educational Revolution stimulus package from the government. The teachers and the students are very excited to have these great facilities. They celebrated having the new facilities with an official Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday, April 6. Dr Mike Kelly, Member for Bega, and Mrs Tania Dwyer, P&C President were special guests on the day, unveiling the building's new plaque.

Mrs Michelle Hulme, the school Principal, also addressed the ceremony's audience. "We are very fortunate to have received \$3.2 million dollars worth of funding to receive such valuable additions to our already well resourced and fantastic looking school facilities" said Mrs Michelle Hulme, school Principal. "The last 18 months have been a very exciting time. From the very beginning of the project the whole school community worked together on the project. The Student Representative Council, Parents and Citizen's Association, teachers and staff worked together to develop grant applications and put forward what facilities we would like to receive as part of the Government's stimulus package. After prioritising our wish list we ended up getting everything we wanted."

"The service was outstanding" shared Mrs Hulme. "Over 200 highly skilled local tradespeople worked on the project. It was even great to see ex-Eden Marine High School students working with the builders, completing their apprenticeships".

Facilities installed at the school as a result of the Government's stimulus package include: 6 new classrooms and storeroom facilities equipped with solar panels, covered walkways, rainwater tanks, furniture and an Interactive Smart Board; a new Covered Outdoor Learning Area; refurbished infants toilets; cricket nets; a climbing frame playground, soft fall play area and sunken sand pit; 3 additional Interactive Smartboards for the existing building; and 40 desktop computers.

Indiana from 2W shared "there is lots of space and we love it". Other children in the class remarked that it is a lot lighter, the storerooms are bigger, there is a larger wet area and more hooks to hang their schoolbags.

Jacob and Lily from 2U like the big computer room. Mr Unicomb says his "classroom is fresh and new". He likes the covered walkways, the wet area for art and craft and also the computer room.

Paddy from 1J says he "likes that there are no sliding doors to get to the wet area". The class also like the opening windows with fly screens, meaning they can get fresh air but no flies.

1/2S are happy in their new classroom as it is well set up, user friendly and smells good.

Miss Peters loves having her own big room for learning support. "It's clean, fresh and new" she shared. She now has a large space to hang the children's achievements.

Everyone in the new building is just so happy to be there in this fantastic learning environment. It is an asset to Merimbula Public School and the wider community.

Merimbula Public School's remaining 4 demountables are being relocated during the Easter Holidays. The six new classrooms have replaced the demountables so they are no longer required.