



Week 9 Term 2, 2012

Dear Parents, Carers and Grandparents,

Congratulations to all of the Merimbula Public School students who participated in the Sapphire Coast Learning Community Music Camp last week. I was so excited and proud to watch you perform at the end of camp concert last Thursday evening. Your pieces were fantastic, showing how much you learnt and achieved in such a short time. Thank you to Mr Claxton and Mrs Freedman for coordinating the concert on behalf of our learning community. We are so lucky to have such talented and dedicated staff members at our school.



Principal's Merit Awards: Congratulations to Arabella, Maggie, Roy, Kate, Hannah, Samuel, Jacob and Jessie. They have all received Principal's Awards this week after having received 5 Merit Awards for their outstanding work and commitment to learning. Thank you to Mr Hughes for presenting the awards on my behalf while I was at a leadership conference.

Empowering Local Schools National Partnership: Our school is one of the 229 successful schools across NSW that is participating in the Empowering Local Schools National Partnership (ELSNP). This is a Commonwealth Government initiative to empower participating schools to make decisions at a local level, supporting them to better respond to the needs of students and the school community and provide services designed to assist their students to achieve their best educational outcomes. Merimbula Public School will receive additional funding of \$45674 to assist in this first stage of making decisions that best suit the local needs of the school.

In participating in the initiative, there is the opportunity for the school leadership team and other staff members to engage in a range of professional learning that will support them in moving into a different way of planning and reporting outcomes. In addition, the school will be part of a Learning and Business Management Reform that will improve the delivery of services to schools and the broader community.

It is an exciting time for schools and our school has indicated that it wants to be a leader in NSW. We are looking forward to engaging with this initiative to provide better outcomes for our students. I also thank the P&C for being involved in the expression of interest consultation process. If you would like any more information about the Empowering Local Schools National Partnership, please call me at school on 64951266.

Paul Kelly Cup South Coast Final: Good luck to our AFL team who are taking part in the Paul Kelly Cup AFL final in Batemans Bay on Friday. I know that you will make our school proud! Thank you Mr Morris for coaching our team.

Multicultural Speaking Festival Success: Congratulations to Tiger Miles for winning the Regional Final. You have made our school proud.

I hope that you enjoy reading more about our innovative school within this newsletter.

Michelle Hulme - Principal

School News

Voluntary Contributions: It's not too late!
Thank you to those families that have paid their contributions.
Payment of these contributions help
to purchase much needed classroom supplies and resources to
enhance each child's learning journey. Please send payment to
school as soon as possible. Many thanks.

Coast Road Clothing has changed hands! New owners Eleisha & Jason wish to welcome new and existing customers. Same number, same address, different faces! Eftpos is now available. Trading Hours Mon-Thurs 8.30-5.00. Friday 8.30-4.00, including school holidays. Closed Public Holidays.

Woolworths Earn & Learn: This week due to the double your stickers promotion we collected a massive **461** completed sticker sheets! There were oranges everywhere! That's a weekly total of **13,830** stickers which brings us to a whopping **50,360** points! There is only two weeks left for the collection of the sticker sheets, so get them into a box at school or at Woolies as soon as you can whether they're completed or not. Remember, Earn & Learn finishes on July 1 and even though it is school holidays, the stickers boxes will still be emptied at Woolies. Thanks so much for your help, keep them coming.

P&C News: Due to the next usual general meeting date falling in school holidays, there will be no meeting in July, so the next meeting will be Tuesday August 7th, 7pm in the staffroom.

Our **Uniform Shop** is in operation from the canteen. Donations of second hand uniforms are appreciated. Second hand shirts and shorts can be purchased for \$5. Second hand jumpers are \$10. All profit made from the sale of second hand uniforms goes directly into fundraising for the school. New hats are \$12. Money for hats can be forwarded with your child to school in a clearly marked envelope to purchase a hat if necessary. The very stylish and practical school jackets are available also in sizes 8-14 and cost \$45. The uniform shop is open on a Tuesday morning from 8.30am, as well as anytime during school hours.

Kinder

KW and KD will be sending home their family trees for everyone to complete later this week. It would be wonderful if they could be returned to school as soon as possible.

Thanks so much to all those parents who have given a small photo of each Kindergarten child as a baby and a toddler to their child's teacher. If you haven't had a chance to do so yet, then there is still time.

Congratulations KH and Mrs Pearce! Your assembly item was amazing! How lucky we are to have such talented children at Merimbula Public School.

We are all excited about KD's assembly which is on Tuesday 26 June at 2:15pm in KB and KH's classroom. KD would love to invite all KD parents, grandparents and special friends to come along and see how clever they are.

This week we are learning all about the letter 'c'. Please help your child correctly form this letter at home.

Have a wonderful week. Only 1 more week to go now!

Stage 1

We are getting very close to the end of the term, and what a dinosaurific term it has been! Well done to each Stage 1 class for the great work that has been going on, in and outside classrooms for our dinosaur unit of work.

To bring this unit to an amazing end we invite all children and their families back to school for 'A Night At the Museum' commencing at 5pm in the school hall next Tuesday 26 June. In the museum you will get a chance to see some of the work that has been done in the classrooms and the great dinosaur designs completed at home. Bring a torch! We plan on having some 'lights out' for effect!!! We are asking for a coin donation as entry into the museum. The donation will go towards purchasing some games and puzzles for our classes. If you have any puzzles or games in (good nick) that you could donate to our classrooms we'd love them! On our wish list is also some construction toys such as Lego so if you know of anyone who has grown out of theirs please mention us to them!

Last week I was at the SCLC music camp with Mr Claxton and 11 music teachers from this area. It was fantastic. Hopefully our budding musicians in Years 1 and 2 will get the opportunity to attend this camp when they are in Years 5 and 6!

I have also been very busy training in Sydney and Queanbeyan over the past few weeks to be one of the Illawarra and South East Regional Facilitators of the Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN) program. In my role as a facilitator, I will be working for the next two terms to support Merimbula's K-2 classes every Wednesday and Thursday to implement the TEN program. I will also be working with Tathra PS occasionally, helping them maintain the program which they implemented in Term 1 and 2. The TEN program provides support for students experiencing substantial difficulty in learning numeracy in the early years. TEN is implemented within a normal daily lesson block, without the need for withdrawal or (after training) an additional specialist teacher. It recognises that a small percentage of students are at risk of numeracy failure, despite participation within a quality early numeracy program but also caters for children of all abilities.

Next term I will provide professional learning to teachers K-2 in deepening understanding of how students learn number and help build their skills in intensive teaching. I will also provide professional learning in student management, both in working with small intervention groups and providing engaging, productive learning activities for the other students in the class; and further developing teacher familiarisation with intervention program activities, resources and the tracking of students on the Learning Framework in Number (LFIN). The program also supports teachers to differentiate numeracy lessons to suit all learners from those targeted to those needing extension. In Stage 1 this term we have already changed the way we teach numeracy. We changed from streamed Maths classes to numeracy being taught by the classroom teacher, who knows their own children best. One of the reasons we made this change was to prepare for implementing TEN. We have already assessed children and placed them on the learning framework and are already planning lessons to move children and track their progress. The TEN program will help us to do this even better!

During next term, each teacher, K-2 will be given time to initially do some further training with me and then have extra support from me in their classrooms on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Merimbula PS will also get the opportunity to share their successes in network meetings with other schools who are also on the program. I have spoken to facilitators and teachers from other schools who are implementing the program and the reports are absolutely glowing.

While I am filling the TEN facilitator role, Mrs Annie Hay will be sharing 1F with me, taking the class every Wednesday and Thursday. We all welcome Annie back and look forward to working with her again. IF is in for a treat! Finally, we would all like to wish Mrs Beth Smith a speedy recovery after her recent knee surgery. While she is on Leave Ms Terri Kimpton and Ms Wykes are sharing 2S this week and Mrs Terri Kimpton and Mrs Paula Park next week.

Reports go home next week. Parent, Teacher, Student interview booking sheets will be sent home with the reports. Lisa Freedman, Stage Leader.

Stage 2

Stage two have a busy few weeks coming up leading up to the end of term. We have enjoyed learning about space, beliefs and attending the Life Education Program throughout this term.

2012 Spelling Bee: Over the next two weeks students will be participating in the Spelling Bee during class time to find out the top spellers within the stage to progress to the next round. The finals of this event will take place on Monday and Tuesday of Week 10 from 11.30 to 12.30pm in the Jackson Hall and all are welcome to attend. The 2012 word list can be found at: internal.spellingbee.com/.../spellingbee.../2012%20school%20spelling%20bee%20study%20list-2pgs.pdf

Jigamy Farm Excursion: Students from Year 3 will be invited to attend Jigamy Farm on Thursday, June 28th as part of NAIDOC week celebrations. Permission notes have been sent home this week and need to be returned with payment by Monday, June 25. The cost is \$12 and all students are encouraged to attend this wonderful educational experience.

Footwear: A reminder for students that appropriate footwear must be worn on **PE AND sport days**. We are currently completing athletics field events in preparation for our carnival. If correct footwear is not worn students will not be able to participate due to safety concerns. Skate shoes are **NOT** suitable for these events.

Art Works: 3H are currently completing several art projects including paper mache. Could all students send in an old t-shirt to be used to protect children's clothing this week.

Stage 3

Eden Marine High School Parent Information Evening: Merimbula Public School parents and caregivers, of Year 5 and 6 students, are invited to attend an information evening at Merimbula Public School to find out more about: the programs, facilities and transition activities on offer at Eden

Marine High School. Light refreshments will be provided and question and answer time available. Come and meet Kristen Smith, 2013 year Advisor, and her team so that you can find out more about your local award winning public high school.

Date: Wednesday July 25, 2012

Time: 5.30 - 6.30pm

Location: 6H and 6K classrooms

Spelling Bee: Stage 3 recently held their spelling bee competition, with 8 students representing their stage. Students who made it to the Stage 3 finals included: Bailey (6K), Pelenise (6K), Natalie (6H), Angus (6H), Zak (5M), Annalise (5M), Heath (5H) and Connor (5H). Each finalist tried their absolute best, applying spelling rules when in doubt with words such as edifice, belligerent, synapse, boccocini and synonymous to name a few. Congratulations to Bailey and Angus who are now Regional Finalists. Good luck!

Ceramic Workshop at BEEC: Last Tuesday, Hayden, Abbi-Lee and Imani, were lucky enough to be selected to attend a ceramic workshop at the Bournda Environmental Education Centre. Students from other students within our learning community also attended. The day involved students working within their school group to carefully create landscape murals. The first stage involved students painting a clay tile and the second stage entailed students creating their own tile and recreating their landscape in 3D. The murals will be presented to our school at a later date.

Homework: By now, Stage 3 should have submitted their descriptive writing task and will be presenting their talking and listening task. Teachers have been very happy with the quality of the descriptive writing and have thoroughly enjoyed reading them. Below is an extract from Zane's piece. Other pieces will be available on the website in the coming weeks.

I zip up my wetsuit and grab my snorkel and mask and hit the water. I dive under the sea into the cool aqua water and the sound of my breathing into my snorkel is like Darth Vader. I look up and through the bubbles, I see the sun beaming down. I am a dolphin in the sea. I swim further out and a big blue groper glides past me. A school of mackerel speeds past as I head toward the multi-coloured coral. It flashes at my eyes and inside it hides sea urchins and neon tetra fish. Hundreds of abalone hide in the rocks and seaweed... Suddenly a bolt of purple lightning strikes and the sky crackles as loud as fireworks. The thunder follows and roars like a bear. Seconds later hail blasts down onto the beach and burrows into the sand. I grab my gear and run like Usain Bolt to the car. It is the end of a summer's day. Extract of writing By Zane 5H

Sydney Excursion: Final numbers for the Sydney excursion have been finalised. If paying in instalments, the third instalment of \$75 is now due. Please see the office with payment or bring it to your child's teacher.

Paul Kelly Cup Finals: All students participating in the final of the Paul Kelly Cup in Batemans Bay this Friday should have received their permission note. For those students who are travelling up on the mini bus, you are required to be at school for a 6.45am departure. Those traveling by private transport need to be at the ground by 9.30am. Please contact Mr Morris if you have any questions.

