



Merimbula Public School Newsletter - 2020

MESSAGES FROM THE PRINCIPAL

IN THIS ISSUE

School News

by Ms Michelle Hulme

Term 3 News: Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community. Thank you all so much for your support of our school, students and staff over what has been a most unprecedented time in the past few months as a result of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you to all for supporting our Learning From Home programs in Term 2, and for keeping up to date with school news via Facebook and School Stream, as well as, for utilising email communications and new teacher-parent communication tools such as Class Dojo messenger. These forms of communication will continue throughout 2020.

I would like to give a special thank you to all of our amazing permanent, temporary and casual staff members. Their dedication, flexibility, commitment to learning and supporting student learning in all areas has been absolutely commendable and world class! Our Director of Schools, Keith Duran, my supervisor, has been so impressed with

the standard of online learning we have provided (and continue to provide) in literacy, numeracy, the arts, physical education, Japanese and media studies. At the end of last term, I shared with him some of the amazing Google Classroom pages that our classes were using during their learning programs. He was very impressed.

To support our students we have made many learning and safety changes. We have employed additional staff to support smaller class sizes at times, and since classes have returned to normal, with students not being required to maintain physical distancing, we have employed additional teachers and School Learning Support Officers (SLSOs/aides). They have assisted with literacy and numeracy support within classrooms, additional playground support, pick-up and drop-off measures as well as, to ensure soap, sanitiser, paper towels etc are all available at every sink area and playground hygiene station.

Further to this, staff have also been cleaning/wiping down all shared play equipment, balls, classroom resources etc in between uses.



Term 3 Calendar

Important events and dates for Term 3 can be found within the 1-page calendar.

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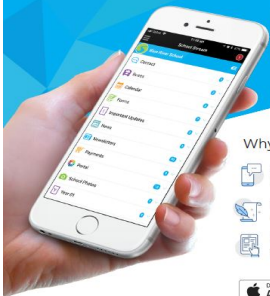


Class News!

See Page 6 for information about learning programs for each stage group.



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Download our school app for free!






Why download the app?

- Receive instant notifications for important news.
- Easily register absentees and excursions.
- Keep up to date with events and set reminders.

Download on the  **App Store** or GET IT ON  **Google Play**

Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.
2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.
3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.

 schoolstream  facebook.com/SchoolStream  website.com/SchoolStreamApp

Canteen News: During the times we could not open the canteen, Ms Sandy Bunce has been assisting with additional grounds and cleaning work as well as, painting the support classrooms with Mr Cooper (during Learning from Home) and the K-2 play equipment. The K-2 play equipment should re-open in the coming week, once the roof is painted.

Our canteen has been offering lunch orders only in Term 2. We had no over the counter sales. Thank you for supporting us with this. In Term 3, we will commence with lunch orders only, as a result of recent cases of COVID on the South Coast. This is just a precaution. The Department has advised we can completely open the canteen. Therefore, unless advised otherwise in the future, in accord with NSW Health Advice, we will be re-opening our canteen over-the-counter service at lunch time and recess from Week 4. Please continue using the Term 2 reduced menu until Week 4. The Week 4 menu has been included in this Newsletter.

When the canteen re-opens for counter sales from Week 4, please try to provide your child with the correct change. If they receive change, they will be required to put it in their pocket or a purse/wallet. They will then sanitise their hands and be handed their food. Food will be in paper packaging. We will no longer be selling Vegemite crackers for 5c. A Vegemite cracker bundle (wrapped in paper) can be purchased for 50c. Mini muffins will also be in packs of 2 and 4. A small bin for

canteen paper waste will be available at the canteen. Students will be asked to sanitise their hands after putting rubbish in the bin. All canteen staff have completed a COVID-19 food handling course. Soft plastic waste brought in from home will continue to be returned with students via their lunch boxes. To support safety at this time, whilst we miss you all, we will not be having volunteers in the canteen.

Our updated Canteen Menu is in this newsletter and on our website/School Stream app.

More information regarding school procedures and COVID-19 safety precautions is included within this newsletter.



We have a sanitising station in every classroom!



Kindergarten Enrolment News:

WE ARE EXCITED!!! We have already received 35 enrolment forms for our Kindy class(es) of 2021! We have also had a couple of weeks of 2021 Kindy enrolment tours, with many more to come (thank you to everyone for making early bookings)!!! Mrs Jenni Smith and Ms Jodi Vaughan are so excited to be

teaching Kindy in 2021! They have also loved meeting their new students during school tours! When we receive more enrolment forms, we will advise you as to who our third Kindergarten teacher will be. We will know this by the end of Term 3.

Thank you to all families for being so organised, and for helping us to plan for next year and arrange staffing and classes early!

If you know someone who is yet to bring in their enrolment forms, please let them know that we cannot wait to hear from them and meet their wonderful child, and support their child's transition.

Early enrolments mean that we can communicate staffing (ie: who our Kindy teachers are, as we may need more!), class information and share transition plans earlier. We will also know funding arrangements so that we can organise resources and further develop our learning programs. Most importantly, we will also be able to meet new families, their child/ren earlier and more often, their early childhood educators and be able to learn more about each individual child and how we can best support their needs.

If you need an enrolment form or more information, please contact us via phone on (02)64951266 or via email at merimbula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Alternatively, let your early childhood centre know that you would like an information pack for Merimbula Public School.

Unfortunately, at this time the Department advises that we are still unable to have large-group Kindergarten Orientation Programs as a result of COVID-19. We look forward to meeting our new families in a 1:1 safe, physically distanced tour in the meantime.



New Enrolments: Welcome to our new families. We have another 8 new students commencing at Merimbula Public School this term (at this stage!!). Some of these students have commenced this week. We hope that you all have an amazing time at our school and in our wonderful community!

If you know of anyone moving to the area that would like to enrol their child, please have them contact our administration office first on (02)64951266. Due to COVID-19, we are not having new enrolments/families on site for meetings, to collect documentation or for school tours without having a phone interview in the first instance. This is to ensure the safety of our current students, staff and families by being able to check where families have moved from and if they have been required to self-isolate or take part in mandatory quarantine in the first instance or to ascertain if this needs to occur. We thank our new families for their understanding in this regard. We are certainly in strange times, but want to ensure that we keep everyone safe during our welcoming enrolment process.



Drink Bottles: Please remind your child to bring their drink bottle to school each day. We do not sell water bottles at the canteen and our bubblers are taped off due to health advice. Fortunately we do have two chilled and filtered water stations on our playgrounds. Next to each station is a handwashing station. Students can wash their hands and refill their drink bottles at any time. Water bottles can also be kept in the classroom. Please ensure that your child's name is clearly marked on their water bottle.

Hats and Beanies: In Term 3, bucket hats are only compulsory at sport carnival days. Students can still wear them if they wish. Our no hat-play-in-shade procedure is only in place for Term 1 and Term 4. Students also have the option to wear our school beanie in Terms 2 and 3. These are available from the uniform shop. Whilst the shop is closed, if your child would like to purchase a beanie, they can bring the money to the office in an envelope and we will get them one by the end of the day. Beanies cost \$15 each.



Active School Vouchers:

Parents/caregivers can now claim their second \$100 Active Kids Voucher for 2020!! Use this link:

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/tr.../apply-active-kids-voucher>

Don't forget, each year you can claim two \$100 sporting and one \$100 creative arts class vouchers per school-aged child.



Uniform Shop Update: REMINDER: Please note that the price changes to our uniform shop will take place from July 1st. Due to current COVID-19 restrictions in place for visitors to the school, if you would like to place an order please contact the office on 6495 1266. A Uniform Shop price list has been posted to Facebook, School Stream and our web site.

what's on

We Have A New Class!!

When classes resumed on our school site (from Week 3 to Week 5 Term 2) we received an influx of enrolments. With 12 new students starting at Merimbula Public School, we were allocated an additional class/teacher. Following many staff meetings and consultation with staff across the school, it was decided that the additional classroom teacher would be allocated to Year 6.

Year 6 classes in Term 2 had 32 students (5/6H) and 33 students (6D). We did consider moving the Year 5 students from 5/6H, however, this would have resulted in having to change all composite classes (and some straight grade class numbers) down to 2/3M to create a new Year 2 class – hence disrupting over 7 classes. As a result, we have decided to keep a smaller 5/6H class and two additional straight-grade Year 6 classes.

Mrs Natalie Donald is our additional Year 6 teacher. Thank you Mrs Donald! We are very lucky to have Mrs Donald return to teaching at Merimbula Public School on a full-time basis. Mrs Donald has been teaching as a Learning Support Teacher in Stages 1 and 2 part-time since the start of 2020, and has taken many classes as a casual teacher during and prior to that. She is very excited to be teaching Year 6 and our other Year 6 teachers (Mr Doherty, Miss Hearn and Ms Hensman) have been enjoying working collaboratively with her. They are also excited about having the additional staff support across Year 6. Mrs Donald worked within the Year 6 rooms in Term 2 and planned with her new team, before commencing on the class this term, Day 1.

An information note was sent home with students in 6D and 5/6H, following a grade meeting at the end of Term 2 regarding this change. The note is available on our website.

We are so excited to now have 19-22 students in each Year 6 class!!! This not

only supports learning, but also physical distancing during the pandemic, wait times at handwashing stations etc etc.

We are very thankful that we made this change, particularly as we have already enrolled 3 more Stage 3 students this term!

Please contact the school during school hours (Ms Hulme or Miss Patterson) on 64951266 if you have any questions, or contact your child's teacher during school hours via Dojo messenger if you have any questions. Teachers will get back to you ASAP.

We will share the 6N Class Dojo messenger information with 6N families in the coming week.



COVID-19 School Procedures Update:

In line with health advice, schools are operating full time, and many additional activities are now able to recommence. With updated health advice and changes to state and national restrictions, schools were able to recommence the majority of school-based activities from either 15 June 2020 or may be able to do so at the start of Term 3 (20 July 2020). Some activities are continuing to be considered.

The following principles underpin Department guidelines:

- Schools continue to be safe and operations are in line with Australian Health Protection Principal

Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines;

- Existing infection control protocols at schools, and new health and safety measures are put in place to help maintain the health and safety of students and staff;
- All activities permitted at school are safe and appropriate in a living with COVID-19 environment.

Our school has been afforded additional cleaning hours each day, as well as a range of cleaning and sanitising products from the Department. As a school, we have also purchased sanitising stations, additional resources, cleaning products, handwashing stations, paper towels etc. This \$8000 of immediate resourcing purchased by our school assisted our students, staff and community in keeping safe. In addition to this, we have already spent around \$40,000 on additional staffing to support teaching and learning, reduced class sizes during the staged return to school, additional learning support on our return to face-to-face learning and employing more staff to support enhanced safety procedures (ie staff cleaning/sterilising sports equipment after each lunchtime use).

School students do not need to follow strict adult physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- Regularly washing hands (we remind them of this throughout each day and provide additional facilities in classrooms and on the playground, not just in bathrooms, so that we can see that they are being utilised);
- Avoiding sharing drinks or food;
- Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately (we also ask students to re-wash their hands after using tissues);
- Filling water bottles from chilled and filtered water stations, rather than using the bubbler directly (we also have handwashing stations next to each refill station).

Support staff and health care providers visiting the school:

- Principals must ensure that all users of school facilities and visitors to the school site are aware of the physical distancing, health and hygiene measures required by the school, and receive written confirmation of this understanding.
- 'Non-essential adults' are still not permitted on school grounds or at school events. This includes parents and carers, except for face-to-face parent/teacher meetings that are essential/unable to take place over the phone (e.g. to discuss disciplinary or other welfare matters). We are only having these meetings for Suspension Resolution Meetings, new enrolment interviews, serious health care meetings – with the Principal or Assistant Principal Welfare. No other parents are to come on site or meet on site with teachers/staff. Please continue to use Class Dojo or the phone to communicate with your child's class teacher. Alternately, email the school account and your communication will be forwarded to your child's teacher.
- Construction and maintenance providers may attend schools for asset-related activities. We are not permitting this during drop-off and pick-up times to avoid further traffic congestion. This is the same for visiting speakers and health care providers.
- Special Religious Education/Scripture volunteers may attend. The number of students participating in group activities should be minimised and large

group activities that involve the mixing of student cohorts should be avoided. According to the Department, following health advice, the gathering of larger groups of students should be limited to 15 minutes. We are awaiting confirmation from our Scripture/SRE coordinators as to whether these programs will recommence from Week 3. If they do, they will take place after lunch on Fridays as per early Term 1.

- The Department has also advised that P&C meetings should continue on-line. P&C run activities involving gatherings should continue to be discouraged to minimise the number of non-essential adults on the school site.

| NSW Department of Education

External Visitors to School Site form

For visitors providing a service to the school during school hours

Before external visitors are allowed on a school site, they must provide a signed copy of this form to the school principal. This form acts as evidence that the visitor is aware of, and will abide by their obligations to comply with the health advice of the day, including hygiene and distancing requirements. The visitor must provide personal contact information to the school to be used in an emergency or when performing contact tracing if required.

- **Stay at home when unwell.** Do not attend the school site if you are unwell.
 - **Practise good hygiene when on the school site.**
 - Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly.
 - Wash your hands or use hand sanitiser on arrival to the school and between providing support to students. Implement hand hygiene practices at regular intervals throughout your visit to the school.
 - **Maintain respiratory hygiene.**
 - Cover your cough or sneeze through coughing or sneezing into your elbow or tissue, and then disposing of tissues immediately. Always wash your hands after you have coughed, sneezed or blown your nose.
 - **Avoid shaking hands.** Adopt non-contact greetings.
 - **Maintain physical distance.**
 - Maintain physical distance from other people while on the school site. In particular, maintain a physical distance from adults at the school and limit physical contact with students.
 - **Implement cleaning protocol for shared items.** (where relevant)
 - Any tools or equipment that will be used by staff or students must be cleaned before use.
 - Equipment that will be shared between groups of students should be cleaned between each use.
 - Equipment that cannot be cleaned should not be shared and must be disposed of between each use.
 - Equipment that is exposed to any bodily fluids must not be shared and must be cleaned and disinfected between each use.
 - **Use personal protective equipment (PPE) (where relevant)**
 - If there is a risk of exposure to bodily fluids, suitable PPE must be worn while conducting the activity or task.
 - **Keep our school environment clean (where relevant)**
 - Schools maintain a clean working and learning environment. Working and learning spaces should be left clean and tidy. Any high touch surfaces or work spaces areas should be wiped down following use with a suitable cleaning product.
- Acknowledgement from visitors on health and hygiene measures at our school:**
- I am well and have no signs or symptoms of flu like illness.
 - I confirm that I have not been in Victoria in the last 14 days.
 - I have provided my personal contact information to the school so I can be contacted where appropriate.
 - I have reviewed the most recent [AustDC Guidelines](#) and [NSW health advice](#) on COVID-19 and can confirm that I can comply with the requirements outlined (where relevant).
 - I understand the current requirements and directions in place for hygiene and physical distancing within NSW as per [NSW Public Health Orders](#).
 - I confirm I have reviewed the safety and hygiene measures in place at the school and I agree to follow and implement these requirements.

Print Name _____ Phone and email _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Declarations need to be completed daily by any educational visitor or contractor on site.

Border restrictions:

For staff and students who reside in Victoria (VIC border community residents): The closure of the border means that all staff and students who reside in Victorian border towns will need a border entry permit to travel from Victoria to NSW. This will need to be carried with the child at all times and checked at the checkpoints. This permit is valid for 14 days from the date of issue.



It is important to stay connected and strong as a community during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. That includes looking after our community wellbeing and mental health.



Keep in contact with friends and family over the phone or online. Talk to people about how you are feeling.



Ask people if they are okay. We need to look out for each other. It's important to think about our levels of stress and anxiety.

Remind yourself this situation will pass.



If you are spending lots of time on social media or watching lots of COVID-19 news on TV, make sure to **take breaks and do something that you enjoy.**

It might be painting, exercise in the house or yard, spending time with your pets, or playing a game with your children.



Keep up to date on information only from trusted sources and help share trusted information with others.



Look after yourself and others. Ask for help if you need it.

- **Need support?** Call the Mental Health Line on **1800 011 511**
 - **Feeling unwell?** Call Healthdirect on **1800 022 222**
- For more information: nsw.gov.au/covid-19



For staff and students who reside in NSW (NSW border community residents): The closure of the border means that all staff and students who live on the NSW side of the border, in a border town, will not need to do anything different unless they have travelled to Victoria. In this case, they will need to self-isolate for 14 days before returning to school. NSW border community residents will be allowed to travel across the border in both directions by applying for and obtaining a permit.

For staff and students who reside in Victoria who are not a border community resident: Those who reside in Victoria who are not eligible for

a cross-border resident permit will not be able to cross the border each day to attend work or school due to self-isolation requirements. Staff and students unable to attend school will be supported through remote working and learning via the online learning hubs until they are able to return to on campus teaching and learning.

Staff and students who have travelled through or visited Victoria: As you would be aware the border between NSW and Victoria closed as of 12:01am 8 July 2020.

All staff and students returning from Victoria after this time must have a

permit to enter NSW and are required to self-isolate for a period of 14 days. This means that any child who has been in Victoria during the school holidays is unable to attend school.

With the exception of staff and students who reside in a border town, *all other staff and students who have been in Victoria in the 14 days before the commencement of school should not attend school until they complete the 14 days self-isolation period since they left Victoria.*

NSW Health has requested anyone who has been in Victoria and is unwell or has flu like symptoms arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics.

In addition, if you and/or your child have been in a COVID 'hot spot', and have been asked to isolate for 14 days, or be tested, please do so (ie attendance at Batemans Bay RSL, or one of the Sydney areas – in accord with NSW Health Guidelines).

Has your child been tested for COVID-19? If your child has been tested for COVID, please have him/her isolate until they either receive a negative result or have completed the 14 days of isolation, as required by NSW Health. Please also inform our administration office on (02) 64951266, as we need to keep record of these details and advise the Department's Health and Safety Line of such. We will need to know when and where your child was tested, as well as when they receive their results (and the outcome of the result).



School attendance:

All students should be:

- At school;
- At home because they are currently unwell;

- At home because they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition (or in limited cases where a family member has an ongoing medical condition).

If parents believe that their child has a condition which means it's not safe for them to return to school, they will need to provide a medical certificate. These are likely to be children that are at a higher risk of severe illness if they contracted COVID-19. These families will need to speak with their doctor, or health care provider, to develop a COVID-19 Action Plan to support decision making about their activities, including attendance at school. Where there are only a few cases

in the local community, the actual risk of getting COVID-19 is low. Further information is available from the AHPPC.

Students in a higher risk group can return to school with the written support of their health care provider.

Please note, students who are residing with a family member in one of the categories identified as being at increased risk, should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise. The parent or carer should provide written confirmation from the treating health professional that the student is unable to attend school and for what period of time.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) can be very dangerous especially for our Elders and people who already have health problems. We are a big mob but now we need to become a small mob.



For more information visit nsw.gov.au/covid-19 or call Healthdirect (24-hour help line) on 1800 022 222

If students are away from school because they are unwell, there is no expectation that they complete school work. It is important that unwell students rest.

If students cannot attend school due to a long-term illness or underlying health condition, as is current practice, schools will continue to be responsible for providing work for students for the period they are prevented from being at school.

If this is the case for your child, we will work with parents to determine how to best meet your child's needs in these circumstances. Additional support and advice can be found on the [Learning from home hub](#). In limited circumstances, short term enrolment in distance education may be considered. Please contact the Principal or Assistant Principal Welfare to discuss this.

If a student falls ill while at school, the department's current first aid procedures apply, including contacting the student's parent or carer or emergency contact, to collect the student. Please ensure that your child's Emergency Contact Details are up to date by emailing or phoning our office, or by messaging us via School Stream.

If a student is absent without a medical reason (with no Dr Certificate) for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school. This may mean the Home School Liaison Officer will become involved and will contact parents/caregivers.

The majority of school-based activities can recommence, as long as the following measures are observed:

- All visitors and external to school providers (speech pathologists, occupational therapists etc) must adhere to relevant hygiene, distancing and safety protocols;
- Principals may continue to restrict, limit or prohibit activities if they are seen as contrary to the current health advice;

- External providers and visitors (professional learning presenters, educational guest speakers etc) are required to demonstrate compliance with health and safety requirements, including adhering to strict guidelines and completing relevant forms;

- Non-essential adults are still not permitted on school grounds or at school events – this includes parents/carers unless specifically approved by the principal. At this stage, as shared, I am giving tours of the school to new parents and students, during times when physical distancing of all students and staff can take place, and at times when our bus bay areas and drop-off/pick-up zones are not congested. Our school psychologist has also taken a few essential appointments at times allocated by myself, the Principal. No volunteers, parents or parent groups are attending our site. This will continue to remain the case throughout Term 3.

Physical distancing Physical distancing of children in schools is not required under the Australian HPPC guidelines. Research has shown limited transmission risk associated with school children in the school environment.

Activities/site usage that can already take place:

- Use of the school library. We have not been using the library for lessons in Term 2, as to not share tables/resources. Students have accessed the library for borrowing only. Any students entering the computer room or other classrooms for literacy groups etc have their desks/keyboards washed between uses. Our library will be open for lessons in Term 3. Students will have a double period a fortnight though, so that tables, chairs and high touch surfaces can be thoroughly cleaned between classes. Books will continue to remain in a sorting area for a week before being re-loaned to other students.

All students have been taught Japanese in their classrooms, as to not share desks etc in Term 2. In Term 3 they will access the new Japanese Room in the Technology Room, which will be cleaned between classes. Alternately they will be taught from their home classroom. 6N (our new

class) will be located in the room previously used for Japanese classes.

- Canteens and uniform shops can open at principal's discretion. Our canteen has been open, and will continue to use the Term 2 reduced Menu and serve Lunch Orders only until Week 4. Provided that there are no more local COVID-19 concerns, we will be following strict guidelines to open for over the counter sales from Week 4 in Term 3, as advised above. Our Uniform Shop will only be taking over-the-phone orders as per Term 2. Daylight Clothing have not been employing staff on our site. We are processing orders as a school, supporting families and our uniform providers, on a needs basis.

Students with upstairs classrooms are also being allowed to go up stairs at break times to put things in their bags (ie jumpers and lunch boxes), as opposed to using a shared class tub.



Activities/site usage that was able to/began to take place from Monday 15 June 2020:

- School assemblies (limited to 15 minutes and no external visitors). Due to these restrictions, we have not been having School Assemblies and will not be having them in Term 3. It could take the 15 minutes to get all students in and out of our hall! Optimising face-to-face learning is also of a higher importance to our students in 2020. Students are continuing to go directly to class each time the bell rings, instead of lining up in Stage-groups. This practice will continue throughout Terms 3 and 4;

- Choirs and performing arts at school, with safety protocols in place;
- Students may attend other schools for essential curriculum related reasons or placements (e.g. auditions or placement tests);
- Incursions/external providers can provide activities that support delivery of curriculum (e.g. music tutors, sport skills development programs, science demonstrations, drama tutors, Healthy Harold);
- Community use activities used by students such as dance classes, and student sport skills development, outside of school hours with limited adult attendance). Our school does not have any community use activity groups and will not be taking any on at this time. Our school received a thorough hall/area clean following the election on July 4;
- Day field trips to outdoor locations with no physical distancing requirements can take place. We will not be taking field trips at this time. We will consider utilising the Bournda Environmental Education Centre in the coming terms in align with work units and NSW health advice. Using this centre can mean it will not be accessed by the public or other schools on the day and that toilet facilities etc are cleaned to the Department's high standard;
- School photos. Whilst we have limited sporting activities for representative groups, we will still have our representative photos taken early in Term 4 for students who made higher levels. Despite no Zone, State or Regional Sporting events, carnivals or teams taking place, we will still be having school carnivals and age-champions etc. We will share more information in the coming weeks. These students will get photographed. We will also take a whole-school 150th School Birthday photo.

Activities/site usage that can take place from beginning of Term 3:

- All school sport and activities including competitions aligned with current health advice (including those activities run by external organisations). Inter-school student events and competitions (choirs,

sport, debating, public speaking, performing arts, Selective Sports High School trials etc);

- Scripture/ Special Religious Education Lessons (we have invited our providers to return in Week 3 and are awaiting advice as to whether their staff are still willing and able to teach lessons);
- Work experience for students (with appropriate risk assessment);
- VET work placements can proceed subject to the availability of placement and appropriate risk assessments.
- Parent/teacher meetings – where these need to take place (as described previously) –online where possible unless involving serious matters that require face to face discussion. Our parent-teacher interviews, following reports being sent home, will be held over the phone. Only select parent meetings (some essential health care, disability support or welfare/suspension related meetings will take place on site following physical distancing advice);



Sport Advice Updates:

From July 1, updated health advice and changes to state and national restrictions on children's sport and community competitions come into effect. From Term 3, the following school sport and physical activity programs are able to recommence in schools:

- All contact sports, semi-contact and non-contact sports (following Department safety guidelines);

- Inter-school sport competitions (Zone competitions are still cancelled though);
- Locally organised knockouts, round robins, gala days (We are not attending these in Term 3);
- School carnivals (swimming, cross country, athletics). We will hold our school Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals at school during sport time. In following safety advice, we are not permitted to have parents/spectators attend;
- Specialist coaching programs in selective settings (for example, Sports High Schools).

The Representative Sport Pathway, including state championships and knockouts for NSW PSSA and NSW CHSSA are not proceeding in 2020. All School Sport Australia events were cancelled in March, therefore no pathway exists to national championships.

All sport or physical activity conducted must meet all recommendations listed in the Sport Safety Unit Guidelines, including teacher/student ratios. All activities should follow safe health practices (including teachers/staff physically distancing from students).

Where possible, the mixing of students from different schools when not participating in the activity should be minimised. Staff supervising sport and physical activities should continue to practise physical distancing between staff and other adults (for example, at recreational venues).

Spectators, including parents and carers, are not permitted within school grounds or at sporting events held during school hours.

Schools can recommence use of external sporting grounds, swimming pools (including hydrotherapy pools) and community facilities where schools have exclusive use of the facilities or a designated area, and where contact with the general public can be minimised.

Although restrictions in relation to external sporting providers such as gyms,

health centres, and bowling alleys are relaxing, some restrictions may continue in these facilities. When planning sport and physical activities, schools must negotiate with local venues regarding restrictions including for example, there may be a maximum number of people permitted to use a facility or join a class. Although school activities can resume, schools will still consider their own arrangements so that they comply with external venue restrictions and the needs of their community, in align with current health recommendations.

Bus/school transport to/from venues is permitted. Where practical, schools are advised to negotiate with the bus company to implement cleaning protocols prior to student travel.

Sharing of sporting and physical activity equipment, such as fitness equipment and weights, is permitted, and should follow safe health practice guidelines including cleaning of equipment at the end of each session.

Activities on hold until further notice - Department

Requirements: A small number of activities remain on hold and will be reconsidered during Term 3:

- Kindergarten orientation;
- School camps;
- Excursions (other than field trips explained above);
- Interstate excursions;
- International excursions (cancelled until further notice);
- Gathering of large groups of staff (from either one school or from multiple schools) for face to face conferences, all day professional learning activities, meetings or planning sessions;
- Parent and carer attendance at assemblies and other school events;
- Parent and carer volunteers;
- School-based activities that involve large gathering of adults;
- Certain large arts and sports events are cancelled or delayed.

Activities under consideration by the Department:

The following events will be reconsidered in Term 3.

- **School camps.** Merimbula Public School will not be holding school camps in 2020, regardless of whether restrictions ease. Postponing camps in accord with previous advice has already resulted in loss of deposits, which the school has incurred instead of parents having to. We do not wish to continue to lose school money and see costs raise further, as trips may still be cancelled and some locations are still inaccessible. This is a challenging time for families financially and we are also considering not burdening families with costs. Further to this, it is a pandemic, and student safety is and always will be our greatest concern during this time. We have reallocated excursion subsidies from the school to all students via increased learning support and specialist staffing. All classes will continue to access Library and Japanese specialist teachers, as well as specialist PE teachers and art/music teachers for the remainder of 2020.
- **Excursions** (other than field trips explained above);
- **Parent attendance at assemblies and other school events** (e.g. graduation ceremonies or student speech events). While this will be considered, at Merimbula PS are planning to live stream the event to parents. Our traditional Year 6 farewell at Oaklands has been cancelled. We will advise of other student-only celebrations later in the year. These will still take place in December and are likely to be held on the school site. Students have been spoken to about this in Term 2, so that they can come up with ideas as

part of the planning process and consultation. Graduation events/grade meetings may still take place if assemblies cannot, and parents cannot attend. These will either be filmed or live streamed.

- **Parent volunteers** – e.g. parent reading helpers;
- **Interstate excursions;**
- **School based activities that involve large gathering of adults.**

Reporting and assessment:

You will receive your child's Semester 1 report before the end of August (Week 6, Term 3). This will be a simplified version of the report you normally receive. Please contact your child's classroom teacher should you wish to discuss your child's progress before the written report is issued.



School Hours: REMINDER: School hours are from 8.55am until 2.55pm. Each morning we have teachers on various morning duties from 8.30am. These staff members now open morning access gates.

Our office/contact hours are from 8.30am to 3.30pm. Communication outside these times can take place via email and/or Dojo messenger. A staff member will then get back to you ASAP during contact hours.

We no longer have before school care on our premises, therefore, students should not be arriving at school before 8.30am, as the school is not open and morning supervision has not commenced.

To support safety measures during this pandemic, staff who open gates also provide hand sanitiser to students on

entry, and/or remind them to wash their hands at our hand washing stations on the playground.

If your child is walking to, riding to or being dropped of at school, please help us to support their safety by making sure that this is after 8.30am. Our school does not open until 8.30am and gates will be locked until this time.

To avoid your child waiting outside of the school, please drop them off or ensure that they arrive after 8.30am.



Class Dojo Program: Each term, classes set whole-class goals (as well as individual ones). When these behavioural and/or learning goals are met, the class receives a reward in accord with our Discipline Policy. For example, they may have a 'Pyjama Day' or 'Class Mufti Day'. As to save paper/the environment, these events will be communicated via Facebook and School Stream, as with all other notices/updates. Please join these sites/download apps if you have not already.

BACK GATE/HENWOOD STREET Drop Off & Pick Up:

Thank you to all 3-6 parents/caregivers who have been following safety guidelines and road signs when dropping off and picking up students on Henwood Street. This street is not usually busy during these times, however, following safety measures is a must as the drop off area is grassed and can become slippery in the mornings and during wet weather.

Please continue to support safety measures (road, parking and COVID-19 safety measures), by adhering to traffic and road rules as well as, by maintaining physical distancing by staying in your car at drop off and pick up times.



During drop-off times, if this access area is too congested, please wait patiently or continue around the block. You will then have the choice of dropping your child/ren off on your 'second lap', or parking nearby (ie: at Spencer Park or on Main Street) and walking your child to the school side of the road so that they can enter the gate away from where the cars pull up. If you do this, please remind your child to follow road/car safety measures, walk safely, and please follow physical distancing precautions yourself.

Very few cars are using Henwood Street during morning drop-off times. Less than 6 cars used this space last Wednesday morning in over 20 minutes.

If using the Henwood Street access, please DO NOT park/stop illegally in the 'No Stopping Zones' on the opposite side of the road. Further to this, please PARALLEL PARK in accord with the traffic signs. Parking nose-to-the fence is illegal and unsafe. When the grass is wet this could create a slip hazard. In past years we have had to close this gate following parent and staff concerns, as cars continued to park/pull up nose to fence

and were slipping towards students who were walking along the fence line.

This directly impinges on everyone's safety. Please don't put your child/ren or others at risk.

Year 3-6 students will continue to use this access gate, and be supervised, during drop-off and until pick up each afternoon until the end of Term 3 at least. Following consultation, this continues to be the best option. If you have children in K-2 AND 3-6, YOU CAN DECIDE which gate to use. Just remind your children where you will pick them up.



BUS BAY/RANDOLPH STREET Drop Off & Pick Up:

Thank you to all K-2 parents/caregivers who have been following safety guidelines and road signs when dropping off and picking up students on Randolph Street. This street can be busy at times. Please continue to support safety measures (both road and COVID-19 safety measures), by adhering to traffic and road rules as well as, by maintaining physical distancing by staying in your car at drop off and pick up times.

During drop-off times, if this access area is too congested, please continue around the block. You will then have the choice of dropping your child/ren off on your 'second lap', or proceeding to the 'back-gate' on Henwood Street. Very few cars are using Henwood Street during morning drop-off times.

If using Randolph Street, please DO NOT park/stop illegally in the 'No Stopping Zones'. This directly impinges on everyone's safety. Parents have been booked by the police/traffic officers recently. Sadly, despite continuous reminders, 5 cars still dropped students off in the No Stopping Zone right near the

crossing on Wednesday this week alone. Please don't put your child/ren or others at risk.

Kindy to Year 2 students will continue to be walked across the Randolph Street crossing, and supervised, until pick up each afternoon until the end of Term 3. Following consultation, this continues to be the best option. If you have children in K-2 AND 3-6, YOU CAN DECIDE which gate to use. Just remind your children where you will pick them up.



Learning Support News: We have 21 Learning and Support Groups running in Term 3 to give additional support to students across the school in Literacy and/or Numeracy, as well as Social Skills or Gross Motor Support. Students who have been identified by classroom teachers, stage assessment data or Learning Support Officers have been referred to the Learning Support Team who have allocated additional assistance. This assistance may be up to 5 hours a week of 1-to-1 or small groups support with reading, writing or Mathematics.

If your child has been allocated this additional support you will receive an information letter this week. If you would like more information about the types of support being received, and how this will compliment and support classroom learning, please message your child's teacher via Class Dojo and they will contact you at a mutually convenient time.

This additional support is being offered by Learning Support Officers, our Learning Assistance and Support Teacher Mrs Corinna Mace, Support Teachers or our Assistant Principal for Welfare, Mrs Janelle Hodsdon.

Learning and Support, Specialist Teachers and Learning Programs Term 2 and 3:

Welcome to our support team who have been giving additional in-class learning support in Term 2 - Mrs Lara Lewis, Mrs Theresa Friede, Mrs Adele Mackey, Miss Emily Barron, Mr Mitch Wallis, Mrs Tamara Hallam and Mrs Jody Burkinshaw. Mrs Mackey, Miss Barron, Mr Wallis and Mrs Hallam will continue until the year's end.

Welcome to our new PE/Arts teachers, who are contracted until the end of 2020: Mr Mark Moses (Years 3-6), Mr Phil Jackson (K-2) and Mr David Jenkins (Support Classes) will continue to teach PE throughout 2020. They have been teaching a range of PE activities and gross motor to students. Welcome to Miss Arati George and Ms Liz Renauld who have been teaching Music in Term 2. They will teach Visual Arts in Term 3 and Music again in Term 4.



School Planning Survey:

REMINDER: Thank you to the parents/caregivers who have already completed our planning survey. If you have not already done so, please take the time to answer our survey to assist us with planning for the coming 4-year School Plan. Our survey is open until the end of Week 2, Term 3. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RMNQBLB?fbclid=IwAR2FNmsep3pUIQKv56rj6ObmBBmlR-aQX5bux9vOGMIMMzGHMej-pYX1Uc>

If you do not have internet access, please call our school during Week 1 or 2 of this term, please contact our office (PH: 64951266) and we will arrange a time to take you through the interview questions over the phone. This survey will close at the end of Week 1 Term 3.



Staffing News:

Congratulations to Mrs Amanda Fowler (Japanese Teacher) and Miss Talia Clough (Year 5 Teacher), who at the end of Term 2 received permanent appointments as teachers at Merimbula Public School! Following a number of years as valuable temporary teachers at our school (on yearly contracts), they have been appointed permanent positions! We are so excited to know that they will continue to remain part of our dedicated staff team!

Congratulations to Mrs Deborah Redman who has also been appointed to Merimbula Public School as a permanent School Learning Support Officer. We are currently in the process of establishing more permanent SLSO positions via internal staffing EOI processes. Congratulations as well to Mrs Cheryl Frans. She has received permanent part-time work on an ongoing basis also. She will continue to work 5 school days, with some of her days being on a temporary contract at this stage.

Classroom Timetables: With the additional Learning Support Programs and Visual Arts Classes commencing in Term 3, class timetables have changed. Please see the table on the following page to find out when your child has special classes. Please ensure that on your child's sport/PE day that they wear safe sport shoes (joggers).

School Timetable

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.30am (30 min)	Teachers are on duty, gates open	Teachers are on duty, gates open	Teachers are on duty, gates open	Teachers are on duty, gates open	Teachers are on duty, gates open
9.00am (60 min)					
10.00am (60 min)					
11.00am	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
11.30am (45 min)	SUPPORT CLASS ROTATIONS				SCRIPTURE
12.15pm (60 min)					STAGE 3 SPORT
1.15pm (40 min)	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
1.55pm (60 min)	K-2 SPORT				STAGE 2 SPORT

Special Programs Timetable

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
PE (Sport Shoes Needed)		K/1S 1/2K KV FL FH	1N 2B KS FM	3/4H 4M 4/5P 2/3M 6D	6N 5C 3M 5/6H
Japanese	2B 4/5P 5/6H	1N FM FL	3M 2/3M K/1S 5C	4M 3/4H FH KV 6N	1/2K KS 6D
Visual Arts	6N 3/4H 4M 6D		2/3M 3M 4/5P FL 5/6H FM	K/1S 1N KS FH	2B KV 1/2K 5C
Library (Bag needed)	5/6H Odd Weeks 6D Even Weeks 4M 3/4H FM	4/5P Odd Weeks 5C Even Weeks 6N	FL 2/3M Odd Weeks 3M Even Weeks FH	2B Odd Weeks 1/2K Even Weeks KS Odd Weeks KV Even Weeks	1N Odd Weeks K/1S Even Weeks

*Odd Weeks = Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 in the term / Even Weeks = Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10.

Sustainability Education News:

At Merimbula Public School we take pride in supporting our students to learn about how they can help look after their environment and our treasured Sapphire Coast in a number of ways. Classes are taught about sustainability, waste reduction and recycling etc as per the syllabus.

Information about sustainability education can be found on the Department of Education's website at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/.../teaching-and-learning/waste>

The Department/this site states that we must teach all students ways to make informed environmental choices, including: "Low waste lunches: Audit students' lunch boxes and food packaging in the school canteen to assess the impact of packaging on your school's waste stream. Discuss and propose low waste strategies to implement in the school such as 'nude food' and waste-free lunches". This makes learning relevant for students.

Whilst we do not 'police', 'punish' or 'reward' students for what is in their lunch box, we do discuss how to make sustainable and environmentally sound choices that are possible, in align with the curriculum. Sometimes students who can communicate what they learn, or changes to practice they have completed at home or at school, may receive Dojo points for what they have learnt and communicated with their peers.

We talk to students about options, how they can help their parents to pack lunches etc as part of this learning and to develop responsibility, respect and resilience (our school values).

Further to this, we educate our students about the different recycling bins we have at school, worm farms, feeding our school chickens appropriate food scraps etc. We also have a student 'Waste Warriors' and Gardening Group in the school, who take care of the school garden, in addition to this occurring during class programs during relevant units of work. Feedback from past parent surveys has indicated that our school community appreciates and encourages learning in this area too.

Rubbish that can't be recycled has been taken home in lunch boxes for almost two years. Thanks for your support! We appreciate this as part of our education program. In addition, we save around \$8,000-\$10,000 a year now in waste collection (as it costs our school around \$15-\$17 per bin emptied). This huge economic (as well as environmental) saving has saved us holding a lot of fundraisers and P&C sausage sizzles etc to support purchasing modern resources for all students. The saving also equates to about 30-35 Chromebook laptop purchases for the school each year! This has supported us in purchasing 150 laptops in the last 3 years, which has come in handy during this pandemic!

Sometimes learning about changing habits, or making changes, can be challenging. Children may get anxious just like when learning their times tables! If we all encourage our children just to make one change a month (or learn one more times table a month or term) and make stepping stones towards our goals, things are not as challenging. Further to this, we all become more educated and can better support looking after the beautiful coastal town we live in.....to support our planet.

More Department of Education sustainability learning topics can be found using the following link:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/.../sustainability/teaching-and-learning>



Online Chat Groups:

At the end of last term, all of Year 6 were spoken to about appropriate online behaviour and chat groups. We were given some information that Year 6 had formed a Snapchat group and some students were not conducting themselves

in an appropriate fashion online. As a result, several students were issued with a 'Warning to Suspend'. It was explained that using chat groups to tease, threaten/bully, stalk, harass or intimidate is a criminal offence and will not be tolerated.

Please help the school by supporting our no tolerance of this behaviour. We remind all parents that it is their responsibility to supervise their children online at home. However, if what occurs online filters into school and any negative behaviours are reported, we will take them seriously. We thank you for your cooperation with this issue. We want to keep all of our students safe at school and online.

We urge parents to educate themselves about Snapchat, TikTok etc. We also remind parents that we have been made aware that there are students that have been using Facebook. This is illegal and you cannot have a Facebook account until you are 13 years of age, and in creating an account below 13 years of age, you are committing an offence.

Mufti Day Fundraiser: Thank you to all families who supported our Cambodian Rice Run Sister School Fundraiser. We raised over \$360! Well done SRC on another great initiative.



The families we supported were so happy!



During the school holidays, another 11 bags were delivered, thanks to our Mufti Day fundraising (below).



The Cambodian Rice Run Group worked with us to support the village, delivering 32 x 50kg bags of rice on June 17. Here are the bags, some oil, fish sauce and vegetables being delivered to the Sister School (above) and being picked up (below).



Here are some of the homes where the rice bags were delivered, thanks to our SRC.



Tony, Samuth and Saven (next picture) collected the rice for our school, wrote 'Best Wishes Merimbula Public School' on the bags for us and took them to the village.

Tony, Saven and Samuth have family in the village. They do not have work at the moment either, due to the pandemic. They are tuk tuk drivers. They volunteered for the Cambodian Rice Run to help us.



Aurora College Case Study: Our school, and 2019 and 2020 Aurora students, will be filmed in Week 2 of this term as part of a case study and promotions program regarding gifted and talented education. We are so fortunate to be a part of this program, the recent trial and ongoing classes now that this program has been successful and will become permanent in 2021.

Selective High School / Aurora College News: Congratulations to Darby R and Archie S who have been successful in gaining a place in the Aurora College virtual selective high school program from 2021. They will take part in their online English, Science, Technology and Engineering and Mathematics lessons from Eden Marine High School.

Japanese News:
 こんにちは konnichi wa!

The Japanese topics students will be exploring in Term 3 are:

Kindergarten: Pets, animals and adjectives to indicate size, colour and shape.

Stage 1: Students revise and extend on self-introductions, revise numbers, colours and learn about Japan and other nationalities.

Stage 2: Read, tell and ask the time in Japanese. Explore seasons and how Japan's ancient calendar is divided into 24 seasons and 72 microseasons.

Stage 3: Students will explore the topic of weather and will learn to state, read and write weather types. They will discuss extreme weather events that occur in Japan such as typhoons, earthquakes and tsunamis and the effect they have on Japan.

Fowler Sensei

New Japanese Room location!



K-2 News

by Ms Bain and Mrs J Smith

It was great to be back in the classroom and teaching face to face in Term 2 and 3. The children appear to be coping well, however, if you feel that they are having any issues, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Thank you for all of the support that you have given to the K-2 teachers and your children while we were learning from home. If your child still has any items from the Learning at Home Packs, such as library books, recorders or Sound Waves books, at home, please return them to school as soon as possible to ensure learning can continue smoothly. Most of these items have been returned and we appreciate this.



K-2 having fun in the sun, back at school with their friends in Term 3!



Home Reading: Home Reading recommenced in Term 2, with some limitations. The books will be sent home early in the week and will need to be returned on Friday. This is to allow them to sit for 3 days before they are sent home again. We would appreciate your support with this.

Literacy: K-2 teachers have begun teaching Initialit as part of our Literacy session each day. Initialit is a comprehensive whole class reading and spelling program for all children in the first years of schooling. It includes an explicit and systematic synthetic phonics program as well as, a literature component to enrich oral language, listening, comprehension and vocabulary. This program commenced in Term 2 and will continue in Term 3.

In Term 3 we will also be focussing on explicit writing skills.

Numeracy: In Mathematics lessons during Term 2, we were learning about multiplication and division, data, fractions and decimals as well as chance. In Term 3 we will be revising whole number, addition and subtraction, as well as, teaching 2D shapes, 3D objects, whole number, length, area, volume and capacity, patterns and algebra concepts.

Science: In Science in Term 2, we learnt about energy and forces.

Geography: In Term 3 we will be learning about the geography of Australia.

Sport: In Term 2 we had been completing class sport, learning about fundamental movement skills.

In Term 3 we will be taking part in a golf program, following receiving a Premier's Sporting Grant to get golf coaches into the school. We will also be holding a K-2 Athletics and Cross Country Carnival at school. Please ensure that your child wears their correct sports uniform for sport and PE.



From the Desks of Kindergarten:

Time has certainly flown since returning to school! Thank you to all the parents and children who remembered to bring their Learning from Home packs back.

Please make sure you return all the Library books which went home as a loan.

Literacy and Numeracy: We have all been busy revising our sounds, letters and numbers. It has been an important time to revise many concepts about print, numbers and number operations during Term 2. Through Term 3 we will be taking part in Initialit during our literacy sessions. We will also be commencing our Home Reading Program (for students who are ready and didn't commence in Term 2).

In Numeracy time we will be revising counting sequences, counting backwards and forwards and counting coins. We will also be learning addition, subtraction and number stories. We will also be exploring 3D objects and working with volume, capacity and mass.

Science: In Term 2 we learnt about "How Things Move" – this included what made things move, and different ways of moving. The children enjoyed discovering lots of new information about moving. Our Term 3 Unit is 'Paddock to Plate', and we will be learning about the science and geography of farms.

Geography: Our Term 3 Geography unit is called 'Locating Places', which will look at basic mapping and location information.

Assemblies: We will not be holding assemblies in Term 3 as stated.

Head Lice Check Up: As we are all together again, nits have managed to infiltrate the classrooms once more. Please check your child's hair for eggs or nits regularly!

Lost Property: Please ensure your child's belongings are clearly marked, as there are many nameless jumpers already in lost property. If your child is unwell, it is essential that you keep them home please. Thank you.

K-2 Personal Development and Health: In Personal Development we will be completing the compulsory Child Protection Unit. It will focus on 'Recognising Abuse', 'Power in Relationships' and 'Keeping Myself Safe'.

Stage 2 and 3 News

by Miss Patterson

Term 2 was a very busy and enjoyable term, upon the return in Week 5. All of the Stage 2 and 3 teachers want to say a huge thank you to all families and carers for their wonderful support during our time of remote learning. We were so impressed at the resilience shown by students and their positive attitude towards their learning on return.



2/3M have loved being back at school in Term 3 – with their teacher Mr Unicomb!



Since Week 5, during Term 2, we focused on the following topics within the classroom:

English: Students had been focussing on their reading and comprehension skills through using the range of texts within The School Magazine editions. They have been developing their persuasive writing skills by exploring various persuasive devices and techniques. For spelling, we have been continuing on with our Sound

Waves Program. Students can access games and online activities that link with our weekly concepts at home at www.soundwaveskids.com.au. The access code for Year 3 is **fuss034**, Year 4 is **spine986**, Year 5 is **cuff546** and Year 6 is **then931**.

Mathematics: The following content areas have been covered within the classroom during Term 2: fractions and decimals, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, chance, volume and capacity, and position.

Science: Stage 2 have explored how Energy makes things happen and investigated contact and non-contact forces. In Stage 3, students explored how energy transforms from one product to another and looked at electrical circuits and discussed the purpose for these.

Sport: Students participated in a range of modified sports and games in Term 2, as well as in fitness and aerobics activities.

Students can wear their sports uniforms on their sport day.

Home Reading: Home Reading commenced last term for students in Stage 2 and 3. Students who are participating in this program are encouraged to continue to bring their readers and Home Reading booklet in to check in with their classroom teacher.

Term 3 units and work programs include:

English: Our shared reading focus in Term 3 for Stage 2 is on the text Storm Boy. This involves a drama unit and comprehension activities. Stage 3 will be reading the text Fire and Flood for their shared reading unit. This is a text by Australian author Jackie French. Activities will focus on comprehension strategies.

Our writing focus includes poetry and we will continue working through the Soundwaves Program in spelling. Reading groups have resumed and we will place a greater focus on the MaqLit reading program across Years 3 to 6.

Mathematics: The following concepts are focus areas in Mathematics this term:

Whole number, addition, subtraction, fractions, decimals, multiplication, division, patterns and algebra, 2D shapes, 3D objects, area and time.

Conceptual Unit - Science and Geography: Stage 2 and 3 are looking at the concept of 'Changes', with Stage 2 investigating the changing of the Earth's surface in different ways. Stage 3 will be investigating how natural disasters change the Earth's environment, particularly bushfires.

Personal Development and Health: In Personal Development we will be completing the compulsory Child Protection Unit, 'Recognising Abuse'.

Sport and Physical Education: During Sport and Physical Education in Term 3, classes will be developing skills in a range of running and athletics activities. This will lead into our Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals. We will be holding them at school.

Whilst there will be no Zone or State Carnivals this year, students will still have the opportunity to compete, be recognised for their achievements and be awarded ribbons/age championships etc at a school level. As previously mentioned, we are unable to have spectators, but will share a lot of photographs!

Aurora College Application - Current Year 4 Students:

High achieving Year 4 students recently applied for the Aurora College Opportunity Class Program.

We currently have four Year 6 students studying Maths and Science with Aurora College, four days a week at our school.

Applications closed on Friday, June 26th. Individual notes were sent home last month with high achieving students. There is additional information on our school's webpage under Handouts. If you have any further questions, please contact your child's teacher.

Support Class News

by Mr Brenton Mace



Programs and Reports: It has been fantastic to have the kids back in the classroom from mid-Term 2 and, from their reactions, they have loved being back as well. It is great to have them back again in Term 3!

In Term 2, each class had been focussing on English, Maths and Science. Each class was also receiving specialised teaching

from other teachers in PDH/PE, Japanese and Music. In Term 3, we will continue to focus on English, Maths, Science and Geography, with specialist teachers providing Digital Citizenship (Library), Japanese, PE and Visual Arts Lessons.

Classroom programs continue to be based upon your child's year level and focus on their stages outcomes, however, differentiation does occur to ensure students' IEP goals are a primary focus. With these goals, there may be small adaptations or a need to review growth due to the interrupted term and changes that were required during the Learning from Home period. As a result of this, we will not be doing IEP reports during the Semester 1 reporting period, but will look to update plans during Term 3.

Depending on restrictions, this may need to be done over the phone and plans sent home. Students will receive an amended report, which has been provided by the NSW Department of Education. The report will focus on the areas listed above and in some areas, will contain generic comments about content that was taught.

Transition: For Weeks 5 to 8 in Term 2, students within our support classrooms were not transitioning to home rooms. Although transitions to classrooms were

temporarily stopped, all students attended their Stage's designated sport day. With restrictions in place, and a focus on getting students back into school and targeting their learning needs, we will continue our transition programs in Term 3.

Support Services: If your child is receiving assistance from a support service at school, make sure to let the school know at least three days before the appointment. We will need your approval in writing. The person providing the service will need to provide 100 points of ID to the front office on their initial visit to the school and complete a COVID-19 related health declaration on the day of each visit.

If visits are to be ongoing, they can be booked through the front office. If you or your family are in need of support or guidance in receiving help, Family Referral Services can be contacted to provide assistance on 1300736384.

Appointments can only take place between 10am and 2pm, as to not affect pick-up and drop-off traffic congestion.

Brain break fun in between lessons!



School Calendar – Term 3, 2020

See Facebook/School Stream for updates!

Month	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
July	1	20 Staff Development and Professional Learning Day	21 Students return to school	22	23	24 Stage 2 and 3 Sport / No Scripture	25/26
July/August	2	27 K-2 Sport	28	29 Aurora Case Study Filming at MPS	30	31	1/2
August	3	3 P&C Meeting via Zoom / Education Week	4 Semester 2 SRC Induction – See Facebook for video/Live Feed 12.30pm	5	6 International Food Day Orders Due	7	8/9
August	4	10 Canteen open for over the counter sales	11 K-2 International Food Day – New Zealand	12 3-6 International Food Day – New Zealand	13	14	15/16
August	5	17 Book Week – Books discussed and order forms sent home this week / ICAS Science Test	18	19	20	21 Book Week Mufti Day and Dance Off	22/23
August	6	24 ICAS English Test	25	26	27 Semester 1 Reports sent home	28	29/30
August	7	31 2021 Kindy Interviews this	1 Parent-Teacher Interview Phone	2 Parent-Teacher Interview Phone	3 Parent-Teacher	4 Parent-Teacher Interview	5/6 Father's

