



SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community,

Merimbula Public School is proud to be part of the Sapphire Coast Learning Community of Public Schools. We enjoy working collaboratively with our local public partner schools to offer a wide range of innovative opportunities for our students, including but not limited to: performing arts festivals; music, visual arts, dance and drama camps; high potential and gifted education and technology opportunities; sporting opportunities; academic and other learning experiences.

This week, the Sapphire Coast Learning Community (SCLC) held a Music Camp, which concluded last night with an outstanding showcase of performances. Congratulations to all of our students who were involved! We are sure to see some of the talented performers on our own stage in 2026, when we present Matilda Jr. the musical! More information about our upcoming musical will be shared via the newsletter in Term 4.

Congratulations to our amazing sporting teams, who have also demonstrated high potential and achievement in the last week. Our

Boys' Basketball Team has progressed to the next round of the PSSA Knockout against Wanjiora PS, and are in the top 16 teams in NSW. Our Netball Team is also in the top 16 teams in NSW, and are awaiting the results of a game between Jerrabomberra PS and Hayes Park PS to see who we play next. Our PSSA AFL Team are now in the top 8 teams in the State. Next Friday we play Mount Terry PS in Shellharbour, for a chance to make it to the State Finals in Sydney on September 22. Our Boys Cricket Team is also awaiting their next game against Milton PS, which will be played before October 27. The Cricket Team is currently in the top 32 teams in the State.

Congratulations to our Ski/Snowsports Team and to Mr Craig Morris on such an amazing result at the State Snowsports Championships this week! What an effort for our school! Thank you to Mr Morris for your outstanding coordination for our school this year, and to the parents and carers who assisted with travel and volunteering throughout the season.

A massive congratulations to Heath and Mitch on your recent efforts at the National AFL Titles in Maroochydore,

COMING EVENTS

Term 3:

Week 6:

Monday, August 25: PSSA Boys Basketball @ Fishpen;

Tuesday, August 26: EVAC Drill;

Wednesday, August 27: Netball Regional Finals @ Nowra; K-2 Assembly Hosted by KS;

Thursday, August 28: Gymnastics Session 1 6K & 6D, Gymnastics Session 2 Year 2; Stage 2 & 3 Elective Sports begins; 2026 Kindy Special Transition Visit 1/3; Year 6 Sydney Camp final payment due;

Friday, August 29: PSSA AFL vs Mt Terry @ Shellharbour.

Week 7:

Monday, September 1: FSC Dance Festival;

Tuesday, September 2: Eden Marine HS Information night; P&C Father's Day Stall;

Wednesday, September 3:

Thursday September 4: Gymnastics Session 1 Family Classes; Stage 2 & 3 Elective Sports;

Friday September 5: Regional Athletics Carnival @ Wollongong.



QLD. The boys represented NSW in the U12's State Team, making our school and the State proud!



More news and pictures about our high achieving students will be shared throughout this newsletter. Thank you to the staff, parents, carers, family and friends who support transport, scoring, umpiring, refereeing and more - and especially our staff (school-based and state-wide coordinators) who coach the teams and provide the opportunity.

Regards,
Michelle Huddleston
Principal

School News:

Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



Reporting Absences - Reminder: Students may be absent from school if they are sick (symptomatic, mental health rest day), or with permission forms from the principal for holiday/family leave (in accord with NSW law). Birthdays and wet weather are not reasons for students to take

leave. Road closures, flooding and natural disaster leave is permitted with explanation (Please talk to our office for details in this regard).

A short note to parents/carers about the importance of their children attending school every day is available in multiple languages using the following link:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/translated-documents/every-day-matters>

Communication Protocols, Communication Procedures A-Z and Decision Making Protocols: Merimbula Public School has a range of procedures and protocols supporting implementation of the Department's policies. These documents can be found on our website at: <https://merimbula-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/rules-and-policies.html>

In accord with the Department's communications and digital communications policy and expectations being implemented in 2024, our school updated our *Communication Protocols*, our *Communication Procedures A-Z*, and our *Decision Making Protocols and related documents*. These updates and school policy/procedure documents can also be found on our website.

School Refusal Webinar and Resources

- Reminder: School refusal and anxiety at drop off times has become more common since COVID lockdowns, especially after holiday periods and long weekends. To find out more about how you can support your child if they are experiencing anxiety/school refusal, check out this link from the Raising Children webinar last month: <https://raisingchildren.net.au/guides/podcasts-and-webinars?a=130339>



P&C News:

The Merimbula Public School P&C is a group of parents and carers working together to support our school through fundraising, events, and community initiatives. We're always looking for new faces and fresh ideas—everyone is welcome to get involved!

Upcoming Events:

- Monday 25 August - General Meeting
- Tuesday 2 September - Father's Day Stall (more info to follow)
- Monday 27 October - General Meeting

Our email address is merimbulapandc@gmail.com and we'd love to hear from you with any ideas or suggestions you have!

Did you know we have a Facebook page too? Stay up to date with P&C news and events here: <https://www.facebook.com/MerimbulaPandC>



Other Recorded Webinars from Raising Children Website (raisingchildren.net.au)- Reminder:

Click on the links to get more information and a recording of each webinar.

- [Managing anxiety in your family:](#) Anxiety is common in families. In these webinars, you can learn skills like mindfulness to help you and your child manage it.
- [Encouraging better behaviour in children:](#) This webinar provides research-based strategies that can help parents prevent or manage challenging behaviour in children 2-12 years.
- [Digital Technology and your family:](#) Digital technology can be a safe, healthy and positive part of family life. Our webinar explains how to move beyond screen time and make tech work for you.
- [Social skills and helping children build them:](#) Social skills are how children relate to, communicate with and connect with others. Children need these skills for healthy development and resilience, now and over time. As your child grows, you can do a lot to help them develop positive social skills.
- [Blended families and stepfamilies:](#) When you understand the different needs of the people in your blended family or stepfamily, it can create a positive and supportive environment for everyone.
- [Tantrums and children:](#) Tantrums happen when children are overwhelmed by emotions. When you understand tantrums, you can manage and even prevent them.
- [Self-compassion in families:](#) Self-compassion is treating yourself with kindness even when things don't go well. It's good for mental health and

- wellbeing. Find out more in our webinar.
- [School refusal](#) is when children struggle to go to school. Strategies and professional support can help. Find out more in our webinar.
- [ADHD in children and teenagers:](#) Support for children and teenagers with ADHD starts with recognising the signs, finding professional help and getting a diagnosis. Learn more in our webinar.

Medical Reminder: Parents and Caregivers receive notification of expired and/or expiring Action Plans/Ventolin/Medication when due. It's imperative that we have an up to date Asthma Action Plan and ventolin for your child. If your child no longer requires ventolin/medication to be administered at school, please inform us via the school email merimbula.p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

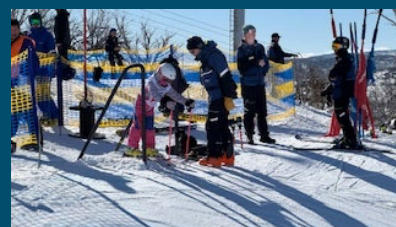


P&C News - Fathers Day Stall: This year, our Parents and Citizens Association volunteers will again be hosting the Fathers Day Stall. The stall will be taking place on Tuesday, September 2, from 9.30am. Our P&C would love volunteers to assist on the day. Students will have time to attend the stall with their class and teacher, during class time, as well as attend the stall during lunch time with their sibling should they wish to do so.

Children are encouraged to bring small change with them, in a wallet, purse or envelope labelled with their name and class, as well as a reusable shopping bag to place their purchase/s in.



Snowsports Highlights:





High Potential and Gifted Education News:

Academic Learning and Social Emotional Learning News:

Mini Fete Fun!: Stage 3 students have been busy planning for the 2025 Mini Fete to be held on Friday, October 17. Consent for your child/ren to attend the mini fete will be published through Compass in the coming week. Please review the event details and provide permission.



Mini Fete Book Stall: During the Mini Fete, students will also be hosting a book stall. To make this stall a success, we are requesting donations of good condition children's preloved books of all genres. If you have any books that you no longer need or are looking to pass on, we would be grateful to receive them.

Sport and Physical Activity:

Interschool Snowsport Championship:

This week, two students from Merimbula Public School, Millie and Flynn, took part in the NSW/ACT/QLD State Interschools Snowsports Championships held at Perisher Valley. Both competed in the Alpine events, with Millie also participating in the Ski Cross.

The students enjoyed beautiful conditions over the two days and faced competitors from public and private schools across NSW, ACT, and Queensland, all vying for a chance to represent their state at the Australian titles at Mt Buller in early September.

On Monday, Flynn competed in a field of 74 in his Alpine event, completing two clean runs with a best time of 33.87 seconds, finishing in 50th place—a commendable performance. Meanwhile, Millie competed in the Ski

Cross in a field of 60 students, securing an impressive 19th place with a best time of 38.34 seconds. Notably, three of the top finishers were ACT representatives, making Millie the 16th fastest competitor from NSW.

On Tuesday, Millie took part in her Alpine event, finishing 29th out of 75 competitors with a strong time of 42.68 seconds—an excellent achievement for her first year in snowsports competitions.

Congratulations to Millie and Flynn for their outstanding representation of their school and region. Thanks also to their families for supporting their participation in these events.

Invitations for the Australian Interschools Championships will be announced following the conclusion of the State Championships later this week.

PSSA Netball: Congratulations to our outstanding PSSA Netball Team who were victorious over Gerringong 21-17, when they played yesterday.

Our Netball Team is now in the top 16 teams in NSW, and are awaiting the results of a game between Jerrabomberra PS and Hayes Park PS to see who we play next. Good luck to the players who are heading to Nowra next Wednesday for the Netball Cup!



Paul Kelly Cup Highlights:





PSSA AFL News: Last Friday our PSSA AFL Team defeated Milton PS in the Round of 16 game of the NSW State Primary Schools Sports Association Knockout. Milton gave it a good crack but Merimbula won 33-7, in a tight and competitive round of the knockout.

Our goals came from Charlie, Makai, Mitch, and Heath, each making their mark on the scoreboard. Milton proved to be a quick and determined side, but Merimbula's skill, teamwork, and smart use of the ball proved the difference. The team showed fantastic sportsmanship, grit, and determination from start to finish, securing a well-deserved win!

Thank you to Mrs Emma Doyle for coaching the team, and Mrs Delvene Mason for your assistance, while Mrs Huddleston was on leave. Good luck to the team in their State Quarter Final Game against Mount Terry PS, in Shellharbour, next Friday. Permission notes for the game were sent out yesterday via Compass.



PSSA Paul Kelly Cup State Final Achievement! Congratulations to our Paul Kelly Cup 12-a-side AFL Team who played some awesome football in Sydney at the recent Paul Kelly Cup State Final! The day was very wet and cold, but our boys displayed determination and skill, despite two of our players being out in preparation for their participation in the NSW U12's National AFL Titles in Maroochydore, QLD.

Each game took place for 20 minutes, with 10 minutes played for each half. Our first game was against St Mary's Dubbo. In the first half, Makai kicked two goals, and Henry and Jordan a behind each during the first quick half. Makai kicked another two goals and Jack kicked one in the second half. We defeated St Mary's 5-2-32 to 0-2-2 in Game 1. Parker's defense and tackles were amazing; Pinky took some great marks, as did Sam; and Makai was a goal kicking sensation!

In the second game we played Jerrabomberra. Jordan was an awesome ruck and demonstrated great defensive skills. Sam was also a rock in defense! Makai kicked one goal and Henry a behind in the first half, with Jack kicking two much needed goals and a behind in the second half. The whole team showed great defensive skills in the second half. The final score was 3-2-20, to 2-1-13, giving us another win!

The third game we played was against Lilli Pilli school. Bailey kicked two great goals and Makai a behind. Unfortunately, we were defeated 8-5-53 to 2-1-13 in this game. Our final game was against last year's State PKC Champions. It was another tough game which saw Henchke win 3-4-22 to 0-1-1.





Thank you to Mrs Huddleston, Mrs Doyle and Mrs Mason for coaching and managing the team, to the parents and carers for transporting the team, and to Darcy for being an awesome and motivating team captain throughout the day! Thank you also to Jake D for joining the team at short notice, with other players being out. You were a great support and valued part of the team!

Thank you also to the Photo Trading Cards company for taking some amazing pics! Mrs Huddleston and Mrs Doyle have been busily finalising quotes for your very own trading cards, that will be delivered to the school before the end of Term 3.

National AFL Titles Congratulations! Congratulations to Heath and Mitch on their recent selection and participation in the NSW U12's National AFL Titles in Maroochydore, QLD! Your efforts were amazing!



Learning in the Arts: Congratulations to the students who attended this week's Music Camp and Music Camp Showcase Concert last night! What an

amazing collection of items were shown, displaying the efforts and achievements of our students and the programs on offer throughout our Sapphire Coast Learning Community of Public Schools.

Learning and Support News:

Learning Support Groups: Semester 2 Learning Support Groups have commenced in the last week. Some groups have not been able to take place each day, due to staffing/casual shortages. This is also the reason why group information has not yet been sent to the parents of participating students. Information about which students are receiving support in Semester 2 will be forwarded to parents/carers in the coming week via Compass. We thank you for your understanding.

Transition and Integration Meeting News: Next week we will commence our Special Transition to Kindergarten 2026, for students who have parents considering accessing our Support Unit, and/or have children with anxiety. This small group transition opportunity is also for families who have not been able to access childcare/preschool due to placement shortages.

Mrs Corinna Mace and Mrs Erica Bell are looking forward to spending time with these new Kindy students, next Thursday between 11.45am and 12.45pm. If you would like more information about our Special Transition, please contact Mrs Mace at school on (02)64951266.

