

Merimbula Public School

Newsletter – Term 3, Week 7

September 5, 2025



SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community,

This week we celebrated School Support Recognition (SASS) Week. SASS Week is held to highlight and give thanks to the wonderful work our SASS staff do within our school. Our school could not function without the hard work and dedication of our amazing and caring support team. These dedicated professionals are the backbone of our school, ensuring everything runs smoothly, supporting students, teachers and families in countless ways.

From our Business Manager and School Administrative Officers to General Assistants and School Learning Support Officers, every role plays a crucial part in our school's success. We extend our sincere gratitude to all our SASS staff for their unwavering commitment and invaluable support throughout the year. Thank you for everything you do!

Regards,
Michelle Huddleston
Principal

School News:

Animals/Dogs on School Grounds:

Please be reminded that dogs/puppies (other pets) are not permitted on school grounds or near the school entry/exit gates at any time.

R U OK?

Day: On Thursday, September 11, we

acknowledge R U OK? Day—a special day focused on raising awareness about suicide prevention. It serves as a reminder to reach out, connect with family, friends, and colleagues, and ask the simple but important question: “R U OK?”

R U OK? contributes to suicide prevention efforts by encouraging people to invest more time in their personal relationships and build the capacity of informal support networks—friends, family, and colleagues—to be alert to those around them. It empowers us to have conversations if we notice signs of distress or difficulty and to connect someone to appropriate support long before they reach crisis point.

Regular, meaningful conversations with the people close to you can help prevent small things from becoming big things. By checking in regularly, you build trust and normalise talking about what's really going on, so when the people in your world find themselves struggling, they know you're someone they can talk to.

Proudly supporting
RUOK?

COMING EVENTS

Term 3: Week 8:

Monday, September 8: Executive Planning Day;

Tuesday, September 9: Kindy Planning Day; Festival of Instrumental Music Concert @ Sydney;

Wednesday, September 10: Stage 2 Planning Day; K-2 Assembly – Hosted by KV 2pm; Support Class Life Skills Program;

Thursday, September 11: Playgroup 9.30-11.30am; Stage 1 Planning Day; 2026 Kindy Special Transition Visit 2/3; Stage 2 & 3 Elective Sports;

Friday, September 12: Stage 3 Planning Day.

Week 9:

Monday, September 15: Year 2 Swim Scheme Commences (Mon-Fri) 1pm-2.45pm; PSSA Boys Cricket Semi Final @ Ulladulla;

Tuesday, September 16:

Wednesday, September 17: Support Class Life Skills Program; Thursday, September 18: Playgroup 9.30-11.30am; Stage 2 & 3 Elective Sports;

Friday, September 19:

Kindergarten Fairy Tale Ball; Year 6 Graduation Memento payment due.



We encourage everyone to take a moment to check in with those around them. A genuine conversation can make a real difference and may help someone who is struggling. We all have a role to play in looking out for those we care about at home, work, or in our community. Ask, R U OK? Any Day, because a conversation could change a life.

Let's continue to foster a caring and supportive community—not just today, but every day—by staying connected and looking out for one another. Your kindness and attention could truly save a life.

For more information and resources, visit [R U OK?](#)

Uniform Shop News:

Please note, the uniform shop is now operating with new opening hours each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday - 8:25 am to 8:50 am. Families will access the uniform shop via the administration gate entry (not the Canteen gate). This change will commence from next Monday.



Second-Hand Sales: Thank you to our parents and carers for their ongoing donations of school uniforms. Thanks to your support, we have a wide selection of high-quality uniforms in various sizes now available for purchase.

Uniform Shop Sale: Enjoy 20% off all uniform purchases, available in-store and online.

Offer valid from Monday, 15th September 2025 to Friday, 26th September 2025. Take advantage of this limited-time sale to get your school uniforms at a great price! [Let your 2026 Kindy friends and new enrolments know!](#)

Family Class News: Life Skills Our students have been having an amazing time during our Life Skills rotations. Last week, our walking group enjoyed a walk through Spencer Park to the start of the Djirringanj Walk. Along the way, they saw 13 seals sun baking and playing, a tree eating a sign and some beautiful scenery.



Academic Learning News/Social Emotional Learning:



Berry Street Trauma Informed Practices: This week, members of the Executive Team continued to further their studies and research in trauma informed best practice teaching approaches.

School Communications, Meetings and Parent/Carer Interviews:

Please note that all school communications, for all families (mainstream and family class parents/caregivers) should be via the school phone and/or email as per the new Department of Education Procedures shared in this newsletter. Please support our staff in meeting the NSW Government's new 'right to switch off' laws/requirements.

Following our Semester 2 Student Reports being sent home, parents/carers will be offered another opportunity to book a Parent/Teacher Interview in to discuss their child's report. Should you need to meet with your child's classroom teacher in the meantime, please email the school or phone the administration office on (02)6495 1266 to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

We appreciate your collaboration, and for supporting us to meet your child's academic, physical, social and emotional learning goals and outcomes. By working together we can ensure that *all children achieving their best is inevitable!*



Mrs Bell and Ms Hensman took part in the first session of a series of professional learning workshops, called *Understanding and Responding to Adverse Behaviours*, whilst Mrs Mace and Mrs Huddleston learnt more about *Culturally Responsive Trauma-Informed Education for Superdiverse Schools*.

This learning adds to the repertoire of Berry Street Education Model provisions already employed by the school. Our Executive Team look forward to sharing more information about these masterclasses with all staff during upcoming Staff Development Days.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the Berry Street Model of Education.

Sport and Physical Activity:

PSSA AFL: Congratulations to our awesome PSSA AFL Team!!! What an awesome effort they displayed, last Friday, at the State Quarter Finals of the Tony Lockett Shield PSSA Knockout. Our team played against Mount Terry Public School in Shellharbour, on a very windy day. We still came away with an epic win....Merimbula PS 9-14-68 defeated Mount Terry PS 1-2-8 🏈.

Congratulations to Mitch on being such a great Captain throughout the game! Well done to Mitch for kicking the first goal in the first quarter too, with Jake D and Darcy also kicking a goal. Darcy got two behinds also. We were 3-2-20 to 0-0-0 at the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter, Heath kicked two goals, Henry one goal, Mich two behinds, Bailey two behinds, and Henry and Jake each kicking one behind. We were 6-8-44 to nil at half time.

In the third quarter, Makai kicked a great goal. Bailey kicked two behinds and Flynn and Parker got a behind each. Mount Terry still hadn't scored a point,

thanks to our great defense. Our score was 7-11-53.

In the final quarter, despite everyone playing a range of positions, Mitch kicked two goals and a behind, and Jack and Darcy each kicked a behind. Ryder demonstrated strong defense and Charlie saved what could have been a great goal for the opposition. Our final score was demonstrative of the excellent team-work, ball skills and strategic play-making of our strong team.

Our team is now top 4 in the State and off to the State Finals on September 22! Training will take place at the following times between now and the finals!

Tuesday after school - Berrambool Oval (note to be sent home) 3.30-4.30pm (*Compass note to come);
Wednesday and Friday at Recess 1.25-1.55pm.



P&C News:

Thank you to everyone who purchased a gift from our Father's Day stall, we raised over \$1500 which will go straight back into our school community. A big shout out also to the volunteers who made it all possible!

We held our Term 3 General Meeting on Monday 25th August. There was a great turnout, it's good to see so many people wanting to get involved. Meeting minutes have been sent to all members, if you'd like a copy please let us know.

We have some exciting projects coming up in the next couple of months - if you can spare any time to help out (as much or as little as you can - it's all appreciated) email us or send a DM to our Facebook page and we can give you some more information.

Our email address is merimbulapandc@gmail.com or you can find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/merimbulapandc

Upcoming Events:

- Monday 27 October - General Meeting



Interschool Snowsports Australian Titles:

On Tuesday, Merimbula Public School had its first student competing in the Australian Championships of the Interschools Snowsports. This was the first time the event had been held at Mt Buller in Victoria for a couple of years, and we were fortunate to have great conditions to kick off the week-long event. Millie, our competitor, represented both our school and NSW in Ski Cross, competing against Division 6 athletes from across Australia.

The course was tough and took out several competitors with its tricky corners, but Millie completed two clean runs and finished in the top 50. This is a fantastic achievement for a first-time Interschools competitor reaching the Australian Championships. Well done, Millie — Merimbula Public School is very proud of you.

Thanks again to all the families that provided their children with the opportunity to participate in this year's Interschools and well done to all our competitors. Bring on next year! Thank you to Mr Morris for his continued support of attending students and families throughout the season.



PSSA Netball News: Congratulations to our PSSA Netball Team on their outstanding achievement in reaching the South Coast Final in the PSSA knockouts for the very first time! Making it to the final is a remarkable milestone for our school and a testament to the team's dedication, skill, and hard work throughout the season.

On Monday, we faced a strong Hayes Park Public School team and finished with a 26 - 6 result, this accomplishment reflects the tremendous progress and commitment shown by every player. Qualifying for the South Coast final required determination and teamwork, and we are incredibly proud of all the players for their perseverance.

Well done to everyone involved in this memorable season. Heartfelt thanks to the parents and friends who supported the team by attending games and helping with transportation.

A big thank you to Krystle and Aisling for volunteering their time to umpire our home games and to our coaches, Mrs Kennedy and Ms Bain, for their ongoing commitment and support of the team.





Learning and Support News:

Learning Support Policy: We are currently reviewing our Learning Support Policy. If you have any questions, feedback or suggestions, please let us know.

[https://merimbula-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/does/schools/m/merimbula-p/2023-term-3/Learning Support Policy Merimbula Public School 16.12.22.pdf](https://merimbula-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/does/schools/m/merimbula-p/2023-term-3/Learning%20Support%20Policy%20Merimbula%20Public%20School%2016.12.22.pdf)

PBL News:

What is happening in PBL? We are currently reviewing our PBL Playground Procedures (rules). Please check out our website to have a look at our Playground Procedures and let us know if you have any questions, feedback or suggestions while the review is taking place.

[https://merimbula-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/does/schools/m/merimbula-p/term-3-2022/PBL Rules - On The Oval.pdf](https://merimbula-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/does/schools/m/merimbula-p/term-3-2022/PBL%20Rules%20On%20The%20Oval.pdf)



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Merimbula Public School
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Contact Details:
PO Box 48, Merimbula NSW 2548
PH: (02) 6495 1266
EMAIL: merimbula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Facebook - Find us on Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/MerimbulaPublicSchool/>

*This is the only official Facebook page for
Merimbula Public School.*

Communicating with our school

All contact with our school is to be consistent with the School Community Charter respecting that our staff are primarily engaged with the teaching and caring of our students.

By phone



Urgent matters

Urgent matters require an action or response from staff on the same day, like:

- your student's attendance
- changes to arrangements that need to be communicated to your student
- your student's health and wellbeing.

Non-urgent matters

Including:

- requesting a meeting with our school staff
- requesting information about an upcoming school event
- providing brief information to the school
- raising a concern.

What you can expect

If necessary, you will need to leave a message with our office staff who will identify the best person to respond to your call, if needed. The response will happen by the end of the next school day.

Our school phone number is:

(02) 6495 1266

You are welcome to phone our school during school hours **8:25am - 3:15pm**.

By email



Our school email address is:

merimbula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

You can email us about non-urgent matters that do not require a same day response, like:

- requesting a meeting with our school staff
- requesting information about an upcoming school event
- providing information to the school such as specialist reports
- raising a concern.

For matters that require an action or response from staff on the same day, please phone the school.

What you can expect

Emails will be:

- read within 3 school days of receipt
- acknowledged, if required
- assessed to decide what action is needed, including if a response is required
- monitored between Monday to Friday **8:00am - 3:30pm**, during school terms only
- responded to by relevant staff only.

In person



How to contact our school

Parents are welcome to meet with our school staff.

- We prefer you phone or email a request, briefly explaining the issues you wish to discuss,
- or if the staff member is available at the end of the school day, have a very brief meeting. Please understand they may have other duties to attend to.

You are welcome to bring a support person or advocate, with prior notice, to be present at any meeting.

What you can expect

Our staff will:

- respond to your request within 3 school days
- discuss with you a mutually agreeable time to meet and agree on what will be discussed
- decide who is best to meet with you.

