

# Merimbula Public School

## Newsletter – Term 4, Week 2

October 24, 2025



## SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community,

Thank you to all grandparents, parents, families and staff who supported today's Grandparent's Day event. Once again it was wonderful to have such special visitors to the school. We hope that you enjoyed visiting classrooms, enjoying canteen treats and picnicking with your grandchildren.

Thank you to all of the staff who have volunteered to attend school camps in the coming weeks, missing time with their families to take all children in Years 5 and 6 on adventures. Our staff attending, teachers and learning support officers, do not get paid overtime. It is the dedication of these staff who allow such amazing opportunities for our students.

Thank you to the families, parents and caregivers who have also supported their child in attending the school camps. We know the expense can be challenging in the lead up to Christmas and the summer holidays. We value your support in allowing your child to add to their varied learning experiences as we offer exciting curriculum opportunities outside of the classroom.

Regards,  
Michelle Huddleston  
Principal


**Bandanna Day:** Our School Leaders will be selling bandannas throughout next week for \$7. Children/Staff interested in supporting this Canteen fundraiser should bring \$7 to the office between 8.30am and 9am any day next week (while stocks last).



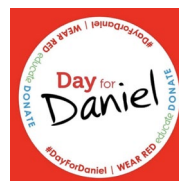
Our School Leaders will then visit classrooms to allow purchasers to choose their bandanna style. Bandannas can be worn any/every day next week. Our school will be celebrating/learning about Bandanna Day next Thursday, October 30.

**Day for Daniel - Wear Red Day:** Day for Daniel honours the memory of Daniel Morcombe. Our

school will be participating in Day for Daniel on Friday, October 31.

 We ask all students on this very special day to "Wear Red, Educate and Donate" a gold coin where possible. Our school will be learning about child safety.

If your child does not have red clothing they can wear any out of uniform clothing they choose.



## COMING EVENTS

### Term 4:

#### Week 3:

Monday, October 27: Aurora Camp; Girls PSSA Cricket

Regional Final @ Milton PS;

Tuesday, October 28: Aurora Camp; FH (Yr 6 students)

Transition to Eden Marine HS;

Wednesday, October 29: Aurora Camp; Support Class Life Skills Program;

Thursday, October 30: BVSC Playgroup; Aurora Camp; Bandanna Day;

Friday, October 31: Aurora Camp; Day for Daniel.

#### Week 4:

Monday, November 3: Year 6 UOW Discovery Day;

Tuesday, November 4: Year 6 Sydney Camp;

Wednesday, November 5: Support Class Life Skills Program; Year 6 Sydney Camp;

Thursday, November 6: BVSC Playgroup; Year 6 Sydney Camp; SRC Leader EOI due by 9am;

Friday, November 7: Year 6 Sydney Camp return.



### **School News:**

**School Uniform Requirements:** As per school policy and procedures, students are required to wear a school uniform that meets the schools' uniform requirements. Students are also expected to be in uniform for school photo day and when other photos are taken, and when taking part in representative events and off-site activities.

It has come to our attention recently, that some students are regularly not wearing uniforms. Some students are also wearing tights that are extremely short and not in align with sun safety expectations, as they are not being worn under shorts or skorts. Please be reminded of the following school uniform expectations:

#### Daily Uniform Requirements/Options (from Uniform Shop):

- Sports trousers;
- Sports shorts;
- Drill/cargo material pants;
- Fleecy jacket;
- Microfibre jacket;
- Polo shirt;
- Long sleeve polo shirt;
- Skort;
- School bucket hat (all year round during break times and sport/physical education sessions & carnivals);
- School beanie (optional - Term 2/3 before school and when permitted during class times).

#### Daily Uniform Requirements (from elsewhere):

- 150th MPS Birthday hoodie;
- Blue tights/stockings (under MPS shorts/skorts);
- Blue or black socks (white if unavailable);
- Raincoats/other coloured hats on route to/from school;
- Year 6 Shirts/Hoodies (Year 6 students only);

- School Hoodies (all students). Sports Day Uniform Requirements (Uniform Shop):
- House coloured shirt on sports and carnival days (Pelicans: Blue, Kookaburras: Green; Bellbirds: Red, Swans: Yellow);
- Team uniforms (provided for competition days). Mufti Day Expectations and Requirements (other):
- Safe enclosed/sport friendly shoes are required;
- No singlet tops or midriff/crop shirts permitted on mufti days.

#### Requirements – Other Apparel:

- No variations to the school beanie, hat or other items should be worn at school (an explanatory note from a parent/caregiver could outline the use of an alternate 'like item' should other items not be in stock/available);
- Socks are to cover the ankle and not have logos;
- Primary School Sports Association (PSSA) hoodies (obtained when representing the District Team at Zone Sport) may be worn at school to recognise student achievement, for one week after the jumper was received/worn at a representative level and on full carnival days/at sports assemblies and other events representing the District at Regional Level;
- School bags and library bags are available but not compulsory;
- Students must not wear makeup, unless approval is given by the Principal (ie: school performances, medical/wellbeing reasons);
- No earrings/jewellery is to be worn for sport/representative sport as per PSSA Sport Guidelines;
- Studs and small earrings should be worn for safety reasons, should a student wear earrings;

P&C  
*stronger together*

### **P&C News:**

Welcome back to Term 4 - we hope everyone had a safe and relaxing holiday break.

Our next general meeting will be held on Monday 27th October at 6:00pm, we'd love to see you there!

On Tuesday 18th November we will be running a parent and carer seminar in conjunction with Inform & Empower which will be jam packed with information about how to raise kids in a digital world - please see our Facebook page for more information or scan the QR code below.



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



- For safety, it is recommended that necklaces, chains, wrist bands and bangles are not worn by students. If students wear them they may be required to remove them during some activities. Watches are acceptable, but again may need to be removed during certain activities for safety (ie: due to PSSA Sport policy) or during assessment activities (ie: smart watches);
- Smart watches must be in airplane mode when on school grounds.

#### OUTCOMES:

- Students not wearing uniform are not published on social media/media, except in the event of a mufti day/camp where approved by the Principal;
- Students may lose their SRC/representative privileges if they do not wear uniform;
- Students must wear uniforms for photo days. With minor differences, may take part in back rows (or have clothing pool items provided);
- Uniform non-compliance may be recorded as a minor inappropriate behaviour on school recording systems;
- Non-compliance may result in a 'minor' inappropriate behaviour record but will not result in students attending the Reflection Room.

**Camp Reminders:** Year 5 and 6 students all have camps coming up in the next two weeks. Please remember to get your child to school on time, so that they do not miss the bus! Pack lists and itinerary information will be sent home shortly.

Arrival times back to school are estimated and will be confirmed/updated as required via the school Facebook page. Keep up to date with what is happening at camp, by checking out the photos on Facebook in the coming weeks.

**Year 6 2026:** The Class of 2026 have selected their Polo/Hoodie design for next year. The polo shirts will be teal with white printing while the hoodies, will be navy blue with teal writing.

The cost for each polo shirt is \$40.00 and the hoodie is \$57.00. Orders to be complete before the 18th of November. No extension to the ordering timeline will be possible.

\*The Year 6 polos and hoodies are purchased from a different supplier than the regular Merimbula PS school uniform, so if in doubt order the bigger size. We have some samples in the administration office, for students to look at for sizing if required.

#### **Stage 2 News**

##### **Conceptual Unit: Food and Fibre**

As part of our unit of work this term, we are requesting for each child to bring in an old item of clothing with the label still attached. Please DO NOT buy a new item as we will be cutting it up. We will ONLY need one piece from each child eg: T-shirt, shorts, singlet. No underwear please. Thank you in advance!

#### **2025**

##### **Merimbula's Got Talent - Talent Quest: It's Talent**



Quest Time!!! It's that time of the year again! We love to sing, dance, act and showcase our individual talents at the Student Representative Council Talent Quest Showcase. Expression of Interest has been sent to all students via Compass today, please assist your child in completing their EOI and sign the permission section where relevant. If your child will not be auditioning, you may decline the event. Spare copies of this information/permission note are available from the office and via Compass.

#### **Hosted by Merimbula P&C:**

##### **Raising Kids in a Digital World Seminar:**

Join us for an engaging night of information and discussion about how to keep our kids safe in an increasingly digital landscape.

The team from Inform & Empower bring a mix of expertise and passion to help schools confidently navigate the online world.

This event is open to all Bega Valley parents, carers and educators of children up to Year 6, and due to the nature of the content being discussed, this is strictly an adults only event.

A donation on entry is appreciated, and will allow us to continue holding these important events for our community!

- 📅 Date: Tuesday 18th November 2025
- 📅 Time: 6:00pm for a 6:30pm start - the presentation runs for approximately 90 minutes so the evening should be wrapped up by 8:30pm

We look forward to seeing you there and learning valuable information and strategies from the experts!





## 2026 School Leader Expression Of Interest Process and Voting:

Merimbula Public School offers a range of leadership opportunities for all students. One of the opportunities Stage 3 (Year 5 and 6) students have is to represent their peers as a House Captain, Technology Monitor, Library Monitor, Bus Monitor, Flag Monitor, Class Student Representative Council Leader and/or Mascot. Year 6 students also have the opportunity to represent their peers and school as a School Leader (please note, this option may also open up to Year 5 students if there is not enough interest from Year 6 students). These same opportunities will continue in 2026. Students who have held positions in 2025 can also reapply.

Leadership positions EOI have been sent home with all Year 4 and 5 students today. Further information and EOI/speech timeline is attached to this week's newsletter.

The number of students giving speeches is culled due to the length of time the assembly/presentation takes. Up to 12 students will be invited to give speeches based on the quality of their EOI and ability to meet the school values and position's role and responsibilities.

Students asked to give a speech are to present a 3-4 minute speech in the Jackson Hall to all guests, staff and students. Following speeches – all K-5 students complete a preferential voting process to elect leaders. Staff do not vote.

If you have any questions about the leadership nomination and voting process, please contact the school Administration Office on (02) 64951266 to arrange a time to meet/talk with Mrs Bell (SRC Coordinator).

## Sporting News:

**Girls PSSA Cricket:** On Wednesday last week, the Merimbula Public School Girl's Cricket Team were victorious in a very close match against Googong Public School in the semi-final stage of the PSSA Knockout Competition.

MPS batted first, scoring 109 runs. Layla top scored with a game high total of 43 not out. Abby and Charli also contributed significantly to the innings.

Googong were in a commanding position to win the match at 4/97 with 7 overs remaining, however, the MPS girls rallied late to take 6 quick wickets and win the match by 5 runs. Wicket takers included Layla, Abby, Marlee, Charli and Sasha. Laura also had a fantastic game as wicket keeper.

Well done to the entire team on an amazing win and thank you to all volunteer scorers and umpires for your assistance. Thank you to Mr Kirk for stepping in as coach in Mrs Mace's absence.

MPS will now play in the South Coast Final against Milton PS on Monday. Good luck to the team!



## SRC DISCO:

To celebrate the end of the 2025 school year, our SRC will be hosting a celebration disco on Wednesday 3.12.2025 (Week 8).

The disco will take place in the hall at lunchtime for students in Kindergarten to Year 2 and at recess for students in Years 3 to 6.

If your child/children will not attend the disco, please decline the Compass event.

The theme each disco is as follows:

- K-2 Theme - Party
- 3-6 Theme - Sport

Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation on the day, to support this SRC fundraising initiative. Students are also permitted to wear mufti for the event. Please remember that students are to wear enclosed shoes and sleeves (no singlets).

**Canteen News:** Term 4 Canteen days will continue to be every day, Monday to Friday.

Our Term 4 Canteen Menu is attached to this Newsletter and is also available via Compass, and on our website.



## HOT DOG DAY:

Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of November.

Orders due to the Canteen by Friday November 14.

## Hot Dog Day - 19th Nov



Plain Hot Dog - \$4.50  
Hot Dog with Cheese - \$5.00  
Vegetarian Hot Dog - \$5.00  
(Tomato, BBQ or Mustard)  
All orders need to be placed by Friday 14th November



**2026 Kindergarten Orientation:** We are looking forward to our Orientation Program and meeting our 2025 Kindergarten students and families in November! If you have not completed your enrolment form yet, please do so ASAP. If you have any questions, please reach out via our front office.

2026 Kindergarten Orientation Program:

- Thursday, November 20, 2025: 9.30am-10.30am (There will be a parent information session running at this time);
- Thursday, November 27, 2025: 9.30am-11.00am;
- Thursday, December 4, 2025: 9.30am-12.00pm.

#### Mobile Phone Ban Policy Reminder:

Students in public primary schools and high schools across NSW have had to follow a phone/smart device ban since Day 1 of Term 4, 2023, as the NSW Government delivered its commitment to ban students' use of phones at school. The ban came into force after consultation with teachers, students and parents; and applies during class, recess and at lunch and when on school sites/excursions. Students are still permitted to carry a phone while travelling to and from school. The ban on use of phones in public schools fulfills a key election promise. Students at Merimbula Public School were reminded again in Term 3 and this week of the ban.

Students who need to carry phones on route to and from school must hand their phones into the front office each day. They must be turned off or put on silent. Once phones are collected at the front office, they are immediately placed in a locker. Students deposit their phone at the school's front office at the start of the school day and collect it at the day's end (or when leaving the school premises).

Phones are to be turned off before entering the school premises, and should not be turned on until after students have left school grounds. This is the same for smart devices such as tablets. Smart watches must be in airplane mode when on school grounds. Should a student be seen using a smart watch for reasons other than checking the time, they will need to hand it in to the office in future, and will receive a caution. *These expectations are also in place at off-site activities, after hours school activities and on excursions.*

Schools have been given the authority to determine how they enforce the ban and respond to any breaches. At Merimbula Public School, students who do not hand their phone/device into the front office, and have it with them on site, will be recorded as having breached the Department Ban and school Behaviour Code/Procedures. Students will receive a Major Notification recording and will have one break session in the Time Out Room to discuss their breach. Students who use their mobile phone during school hours will receive a Formal Caution to Suspend, in addition to support in the Time Out Room. Should students use a mobile phone on site a second time, they may be suspended. Students who repeatedly fail to hand in their mobile phone will receive a Formal Caution for continued disobedience, in line with the school's Discipline Policy. Students who are deemed responsible enough to have a mobile phone need to demonstrate that responsibility by adhering to Department of Education Policy and School Discipline Procedures.

Principals and teachers can authorise the use of mobile phones for educational purposes, or as part of a reasonable adjustment for student learning and wellbeing – such as monitoring blood sugar levels for

#### Stage 3 Mini Fete Highlights:







students with diabetes. If students require the use of personal mobile devices, they will be provided with a Mobile Device Agreement to sign with their parents. At this time all devices used by students at school are provided by the school. Student devices are not required during school hours.

Further information about the use of digital devices at school can be read within the Merimbula Public School *Student Use of Digital Devices and Online Services Procedures* sent home with today's Newsletter, and available on our website.

### Parent and Carer Support Hub and Resources for Families – Supporting Children with Disability:

A new online hub was launched for parents and carers, in 2021, featuring information about the supports available for students with additional learning and support needs or disability. If you have not yet checked it out, it is worth a look. The one-stop online resource will ensure parents and carers are able to easily find up-to-date information about how to access support. Parents can also use the hub digitally or access printable sheets on key topics related to their child's education.

The hub has a tool to help parents and carers know when their child can start school and it can help with enrolment information. Parents and carers will get a personalised timeline when they enter their child's date of birth. The timeline

personalised timeline when they enter their child's date of birth. The timeline can be saved to email and SMS reminders can be set-up. Check out the Department's support resources at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/inclusive-learning-support>

### Stopping The Spread of Childhood Infections:

Infections are common in children and often lead to illness. If your child has symptoms of an infection, they should visit their doctor to rule out an infection before returning to school. Students with the following infections are required to stay at home: Chickenpox (Varicella); Conjunctivitis; Gastroenteritis; Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease; Hepatitis A; Impetigo (School Sores); Influenza, Measles; Mumps; Ringworm; Rubella (German Measles); Scabies; Scarlet Fever; and Whooping Cough. If a child has Glandular Fever, they do not need to be excluded from school unless they are sick at the time

If they are showing flu-like/COVID-19 symptoms, a letter from their doctor sharing it is fine for them to be at school would allow them to attend. Students with head lice do not have to miss school if they have commenced effective treatment.

More information about childhood infections, is available from <https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/health-and-physical-care/infectious-diseases>



**Merimbula Public School**  
49-55 Main Street, Merimbula, NSW 2548

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





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# Year 6 Parents & Carers Webinar

Monday, 10 November - 7 pm

Parenting experts will cover  
transitioning to high school,  
peer pressure, friendships, and more!

**Register now**