Dear Parents, Carers and Grandparents,

School Leaders Visit Pambula Preschool: Last week our wonderful School Leaders created an iMovie about our school, demonstrating how our school ‘reduces, reuses and recycles’ and how we care for our environment. They had lots of fun and made a great resource. Yesterday the School Leaders shared their movie with the children at Pambula Preschool. They also worked with students from the Pambula Public School Environment Committee and the Principal from the Bournda Environmental Education Centre to run some workshops for the preschool children.

The students were great and so was their presentation. They will be sharing their movie at the next School Assembly at 1pm on Monday, May 6 (Week 2 next Term). I was so proud of our leaders yesterday. They demonstrated our school values (respect, responsibility, care and fairness) extremely well. I will be awarding them with a Picture Showman movie pass for their efforts!

Pink Breakfast Congratulations: Congratulations to the Health and Wellbeing Committee and our Year 6 students!!! Thanks to your efforts we raised over $1500 for the Cancer Council at last Thursday’s Pink Breakfast. Thank you to all of the parents, caregivers, family and friends who supported this great fundraiser.

Stage 2 Visit the Old School Museum: Stage 2 students visited the Old School Museum this week! They had a great time dressing up and learning about Merimbula’s past. Their behaviour was outstanding and all students were enthusiastic learners. We look forward to celebrating the school’s 140th Anniversary later in the year.

Enjoy reading more about our caring school within this newsletter. Check out our web site for more photos!

Michelle Hulme - Principal
SCHOOL NEWS

Phone: 64951266
Fax: 64953239
email: merimbula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: http://www.merimbula-pschools.nsw.edu.au

Yellow Emergency Forms: In the case of an emergency we need to have CURRENT contact information including work and mobile phone numbers. Please send back to school ASAP. Only one card required per family.

Office hours are from 8.30am – 3.30pm.
Please make phone calls between these times.

Supervision before 8.30am: Please be advised there is NO supervision in the playground before 8.30am. School finishes at 2.55pm, please try to be on time for collection of your child/ren.

Absence Notes: Thank you to those families who send in ‘Absence notes’ the day after their child’s absence. This greatly reduces the time spent chasing up reasons for absences. It is a requirement of the Department that all absences are explained. You can also ring the school on 64951266 and give a verbal explanation.

P & C NEWS

April P&C Meeting: The monthly P&C meeting has been postponed to Tuesday April 9th, instead of April 2nd. Please come along, everyone is welcome. We meet at 7pm in the school’s staffroom.

Easter Raffle: Thank you to everyone who returned their raffle tickets and made donations of Easter Eggs. The raffle was very successful and as promised we really did spread the Easter cheer, with 49 winners! Congratulations to Maddie Cullen who won 1st prize.

Mother’s Day Stall: This year’s Mother’s Day Stall will be held at the school on Thursday May 9 and Fri May 10. If you are able to volunteer some time on those days to help with the stall, please leave your contact details at the office for the P&C. Thank you.

Creating Responsible Children Parenting Workshop
Presented by Graham Parry Psychologist (Graham is a psychologist and District Guidance Officer with extensive experience supporting rural families and children): Does parenting seem to be getting harder? Do you feel like you are fighting with your children just to get the simple things done let alone the difficult things? This workshop is designed to change all that. You’ll learn practical and easy strategies that can be used at home to get kids to behave for you like they do when they visit somewhere else. Yes: those friends who tell you what wonderful kids you have. It’s not a dream. It can happen. Come along, bring a list of things you would like to change and leave empowered to go home and shift the balance back in your favour without all the emotion. Graham’s sessions always rate very highly with parents and the take home strategies work immediately! Graham attended Merimbula Public School 3 years ago. His presentation was greatly received by parents and caregivers. Bega Valley Public School will be offering this workshop to all parents on 10th April at 6pm. A video and a light dinner will be provided for the kids whilst you talk with Graham until around 7:30pm. Please contact the office of Bega Valley Public School 6492 1280 if you would like any more information and/or to register your attendance.

Merimbula Public Schools Cross Country Carnival:
In the lead up to Merimbula Public Schools Cross Country Carnival, all students had been training to increase their strength and endurance for the big day. This training contributed to students improving on their overall fitness, running style and stamina. All students displayed dedication, commitment and the school values during the carnival and all students should be extremely proud of their personal achievements.

Due to a misunderstanding at a checkpoint, 11 year old boys will running again in Week 2 of Term 2.

Students going through to Zone in Wolumla include:
8/9 Year Old Boys: 1st Bailey, 2nd Logan , 3rd Noah and 4th Luke
8/9 Year Old Girls: 1st Marlee, 2nd Calissa, 3rd Ayla and 4th Charlotte
10 Year Old Boys: 1st Blake, 2nd Jacob, 3rd Charlie and 4th Angus
10 Year Old Girls: 1st Issey, 2nd Ameilla, 3rd Lily and 4th Jessica
11 Year Old Girls: 1st Hannah, 2nd Jessie, 3rd Jessica and 4th Indigo
12/13 Year Old Boys: 1st Joel, 2nd Harry, 3rd Charlie and 4th Ewan
12 Year Old Girls: 1st Jessica, 2nd Imani, 3rd Annalise and 4th T’leah.

KINDER NEWS

Teaching And Learning: Kindergarten children are getting so clever at reading and writing their own names. Thank you so much for helping us learn how to write our names correctly at home. It is so important that we form each letter correctly and your help at home with this is so valuable. Don’t forget that you may also like to help your child form the letters a, m, s, t and i correctly at home. You can also have the children play around with the letters a, m, s, t and i and have them make simple 2 and 3 letter words. Some children are also now starting to learn how to read and write the next group of letters which are the letters d, f, r, o and g. We are all going so well!

Kindergartens love numbers: We especially love our new floor number lines that Woolies gave us and are able to actually walk along the number line itself. Number lines really help us with counting and working out what number comes before and after a particular number. At home you might like to pick a number between 1 and 10 and ask your child what number comes before the number that you picked and what number comes after the number that you picked. Drawing a number line to 10 helps your child see this easily. Don’t forget to practice counting forwards to 10, 20 and 30 and backwards from 10, 20 and 30.

Home Readers: Please remember always to pack your home reader in your bag so that you can get a new one. Every Kindergarten class changes their reader 3 times a week so your child should be getting 3 new readers home each week. If this doesn’t happen please see your child’s teacher and we will only be too happy to give you another reader.
Library Bags: Thanks so much to everyone for bringing in their Library bags every Tuesday for Library day.

Fruit Break: Thanks so much to everyone who brings in a piece of fruit or vegetable for fruit break which we have first thing in the morning after ‘Move To Learn’.

Travelling Home: Thank you so much to everyone for writing on your child’s hand how they are going home. Please make sure if there are any changes to their normal travelling home routine that you let your child’s teacher know straight away and write it down on the appropriate list in Mr Bootes and Mrs Smith’s wet area.

Time Changes: With our change in timetable occurring next term we will have to change the times that parents, grandparents and friends come in and help us in class, with readers and Kindy Coops. Your child’s teacher will be sending out a note soon asking you for your assistance again. Please fill out the note and return it to your child’s class teacher as soon as possible.

Thanks: Thanks so much to everyone who was able to come and watch Kindergarten have a bit of fun at the Cross Country and Mad Hatters Parade. It was also nice to see so many Kindergarten parents turn up to our Pink Breakfast. We raised so much money together for such a good cause and we particularly thank Mrs Dykes who organised the special breakfast for us all. Thanks also to our Scripture teachers who put on a lovely Easter Assembly.

STAGE 1 NEWS

We hope everyone had a relaxing break in such beautiful weather. We had a lovely Thursday last week with our Pink Breakfast, K-2 Cross Country, parent picnic and Mad Hatter’s Parade. Thank you to all the parents, family members and friends who could come along to support these events.

Congratulations to all the children who participated in the K-2 cross country. Everyone had a go and tried their best and we are proud of you all. We would like to recognise the following children for displaying some above average skills in this long distant event on the day:

Kinder Girls: Lily
Kinder Boys: Tom
Year 1 Girls: Holly
Year 1 Boys: Beau
Year 2 Girls: Monique
Years 2 Boys: Samuel

We would also like to congratulate those Year 2 competitive 8 year old boys who attended the Primary Berrambool Cross Country Carnival, Seth, Sean, Hunter, Maka, Nathaniel, Rhyse and Harley Warnke.

Stage 1 are starting to collect boxes of tissues in preparation for the change of season and colder mornings. Thank you if you have already sent some in and please send in a box if you haven’t done so yet. We really need them!

STAGE 2 NEWS

Today, Year 3 students enjoyed learning about the history of Merimbula and seeing many interesting relics from the past at the museum. They also had fun playing olden day games and experiencing what life was like for children at school. Thanks very much to parents and carers who helped the children dress up in appropriate clothes for the day, it all helps them get an understanding of life in the past.

Mathematics: In Maths we are learning length and working out the perimeters of different areas. We will be comparing and representing fractions including halves, quarters and eighths.

AFL Gala Day: We are looking forward to the Stage 2 AFL Gala Day next Wednesday at Pambula Sporting Complex. All the students will be attending and playing fun games in either boys, girls or mixed teams.

Assembly: The students are looking forward to performing items for you at our special Stage 2 assembly on Tuesday April 9 from 2.10 – 2.55 pm in the Jackson Hall. Parents and carers are welcome to see the great work we have been doing this term.

STAGE 3 NEWS

Sharing Time Tasks: We have been really impressed with the quality of the Sharing Time Tasks that have been presented this week. They will continue until Friday. Well done everyone!

Sydney Excursion: A reminder that if your child intends to participate in the Sydney Excursion in Term 4, the permission note and $50 deposit is due this Friday, April 5.

Diaries: If your child requires a student diary, they are available now from Ms Hensman for $1.50.

Pink Breakfast: Congratulations to Year 6 children who participated in the Pink Breakfast last Thursday. It was great to see your enthusiasm in contributing to your community. Many children dressed in pink and helped to set up and pack up throughout the breakfast. Your amazing effort helped to raise $1568 towards our ‘Relay for Life’ effort.

COMING EVENTS:

Wed April 10 Year 3 & 4 Auskick Gala Day – Berrambool
Thurs April 11 Year 3 Jigamy Farm Excursion
Fri April 12 Last day of school for Term 1
Mon April 29 Staff Development Day
Tues April 30 Staff Development Day
Wed May 1 STUDENTS RETURN FOR TERM 2

COMMUNITY NEWS

Merimbula Diggers Auskick season will start on Thursday May 2 at 4.30 at Berrambool oval. We are also putting together an under 10s team of any 8s, 9s , and 10 year olds wanting to try Aussie Rules. For more information please contact Rod Geaghan on 64954863 or 0437651405.