National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN): NAPLAN results have arrived in schools! We are very pleased with the great results our Year 3 and 5 students have achieved. Information about our school’s achievements as well as our plans to further improve in the future will be shared at the next P&C Meeting on September 1, at 6.30pm. Students in Years 3 and 5 who sat the assessments in May have been given their results to take home today. If you have any questions about your child’s individual report, please contact their classroom teacher to arrange a meeting.

"On Safari" The School Musical: Our School Musical "On Safari" will be showcasing our school music program on the following dates: Tuesday September 15 (6.30 - 8.30pm); Wednesday September 16 (12-2.00pm); and Thursday September 17 (6.30 - 8.30pm). All students are expected and encouraged to attend the two evening performances. Please save the date so that your child/children can be here for the performances as every child is in at least one item. Tickets for the musical will go on sale next Tuesday from the front office. Tickets will be $10 each. Entry to the hall will not be permitted without a ticket and seats will not be reserved. Therefore, whilst tickets are pre-sold, the first people to turn up on the night of the performances will get to choose their seats first. Last year tickets to the evening performance sold out very quickly therefore we are having two evening and only one matinee performance. This being said, we still believe that the tickets will sell fast so please purchase your tickets ASAP. Tickets can be purchased from the office or by filling in the order form that has been sent home with today’s newsletter.

Maths Information Night for Parents: An information session about how to teach your child great numeracy tricks, and how Mathematics is taught at our school, will take place at 6.00pm on Tuesday, September 1 during the K-2 Disco. The Information Session will be held in the Year 6 Classroom closest to the Hall.

School Discos: Don’t forget the disco will be happening on Tuesday September 1st. Please make sure Permission notes and money are handed in to the office money box by Wednesday August 26th.

Philosophical Ethics classes: Philosophical Ethics classes for Stage 1 and Stage 2 are now offered at the school for 1/2hr every Friday afternoon. The curriculum comprises a wide range of age appropriate topics that primary-aged children find interesting. Students learn to think about ethical matters together and engage in the give-and-take of reasoned argument. It is not too late to enrol; please contact the school if you would like your child to attend. See www.primaryethics.com.au for more info about the classes.

The ethics teachers are volunteers; trained and vetted by Primary Ethics. If you are a parent or carer who would be interested in becoming an ethics teacher – or know somebody who would – please contact Elisabeth Larsen, Ethics Coordinator at MPS, e.larsen@bigpond.com

School Photos: School photos will be taken on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th September. Individual order envelopes have been sent home today with students. Family photo order envelopes can be collected from the office. Students must wear full school uniform for class and group photos or else they will not have them taken.

Photo packages cost from $21 up to $37. Payments for photos can be made by cash, cheque, money order, credit card or online payments. If paying by cash, please enclose the correct money as no change will be given. It would be appreciated if all money and orders could be into the school on or before Friday September 4th, as this will help with the organisation on the day.

K-2 News

Welcome: Welcome to Mr Doherty who will be working with Mrs Smith and K/15 for the next few weeks.

Assemblies: Our next assembly will be hosted by 1Y on the 24th August, Week 7 at 1:55pm in the Jackson Hall. All are very welcome to attend.

Maths matters: Year 1 and 2 have been adding 2 dice. Add 2 dice or play a game using two dice. Kindergarten have been learning about Friends of 10 and visualising numbers. Ask your child about Friends of 10 and how to visualise the numbers 1,2,3,4,5,6. 2H have been learning about Cheese Production and how milk can be processed into cheese. Mrs Green has had a lovely week with 2H.

Thank you: Thank you very much to Mrs Pearce and Mrs Green for the wonderful job you did with KU and 2H. Welcome back Mr Unicomb and Mrs Hodsdon.

Disco: A reminder that Disco notes and money are due to the office by Wednesday August 26th. The K-2 theme is Sport.

Stage 2 News

PBS: This week two students from Stage 2 achieved PBS Merit Awards for completing one area of their PBS Matrix. Awardees were: Taylor Auld for Respect and Ashton Reyneke for Responsibility.

Bournda Environmental Education Centre: Last Friday Stage 2 students Walter Blewett, Darren Vong, Lachlan Charlton-Seanman and Hunter Badewitz participated in a Science enrichment program at the Bournda Environmental Education Centre. The
students undertook a range of experiments in the BEEC’s new science lab. They each developed a hypothesis and undertook a range of experiments to test that hypothesis before coming to a conclusion.

**Postponed NRL League Tag/Rugby League Gala Day:** The postponed Stage 2 NRL League Tag/Rugby League Gala Day will now be held on Friday, 9th October. The bus money that the children paid was not refunded when the day was postponed so it can be used on this alternative date. An updated note will be sent home next week.

**HSIE:** In Semester 2, Stage 2 students will be completing a Unit of Work titled “Who Will Buy?” The students will identify personal and community needs and wants, and how these needs are met. Students will study some products and services e.g. primary products, service providers, medical services, voluntary organisations and the rights and responsibilities of the people who access and provide these products and services. They will also examine how changes in the use of technology are impacting on the way different services are accessed.

**Stage 3 News**

**EMHS Science Day:** Last Thursday Stage 3 were lucky enough to have a talented group of scientists come in and give them a taste of the things they can do in high school science. There were 4 stations set up that had students creating circuits, using microscopes, testing endothermic and exothermic reactions, and testing the PH level of substances. It was a great day and a huge thanks must go out to Mr High and his eight helpers who ran the groups. A drama workshop will be the next exciting event run by Eden Marine High School, early in September.

**Kianinny Camp:** Today students should have received their information notes and medical notes for camp. Please contact your child’s teacher if you have any questions.

**In Class:** Stage 3 classes will be exploring multiplication and division in class this week along with area. Remember that all students have access to Mathletics and should know their passwords. Sitting with your child while they complete some tasks is a great way to support them while at home. In English, we are continuing our unit on positioning and poetry. In science, students will continue looking at states of matter. Stage 3 also chipped in to get the gardens beds prepared under Mr Bakker’s guidance. We look forward to working on this in the future.

**Homework:** All Stage 3 students will now have received their homework task for this term. This term’s homework is based on our rainforest unit and is due by Week 9.

**End of Year Excursions:** Invoices for both the Yr6 Canberra excursion and the Yr5 Kianinny camp have been sent home today. It would be appreciated if payments (either part or full) be made as soon as possible so accounts can be finalised.

**Athletics Shirts:** Could all those who still have athletics tops from the Zone athletics carnival please return them to Ms Vaughan so that your name and number can be marked off.

**PSSA Tennis:** Our Tennis Team, including Logan Staight, Maka Ofati, Charlotte Miller and Aria Little, attended the Primary School Sports Association (PSSA) Semi Finals in Homebush on Monday. The students played an awesome game against Aridlethan Barellan Central School in the Semi Final, winning 8 sets nil; 49 games to 19. Our team then progressed to the Grand Final, playing Tamworth Public School. It was their hardest game yet. Despite the challenge, our team still won 5 sets to 3; 41 games to 33. Merimbula Public School is the first South Coast school to win the State Final and Victor J Kelly Trophy since the competition began in 1971.

Mrs Dykes, our team coach, shared that the children played extremely well throughout the competition, and particularly made their parents and school proud when winning the final. “They played brilliantly and never gave up”. Thank you to the parents for their ongoing support, particularly Mrs Amber Little and Mrs Jo Miller who transported the team to all of their earlier matches. Thank you also to Mr James Poso and the Merimbula Tennis Club for their support throughout the competition.

**PSSA Athletics:** Congratulations to all our school athletes who participated in the PSSA Zone Athletics Carnival which was held at the Bega Athletics Field. The level of effort and sportsmanship was a credit to them all. The teachers also extend a big thank you to all the parents who provided transport and cheered on our athletes on the day. The following twelve children from Merimbula PS qualified to compete at the South Coast Regional Championships to be held at Canberra on Friday.

- Alicia Ambrose: 100m
- Charlotte Purcell: 100m & High Jump
- Rosy Ryan: High Jump
- Charlotte Miller: Discus
- Jessica Crane: Discus
- Will Roberts: 100m
- Luke Shaw: 200m
- James Richardson: High Jump
- Maka Ofati: Shot Put & Discus
- Jem Ryan: Discus
- Senior Boy 4x100m Relay: Will Roberts, Luke Shaw, Sam Wood & Bailey Cooper

**Library News**

**Book Week:** Hopefully everyone received the Library Newsletter that was sent home last week outlining next week’s Book Fair and Book Parade. A reminder that children are asked to dress up as a book character that ‘lights up their world’ for the Book Parade that will be held at 12pm on the basketball court on Wednesday 26th August.

The Department of Education is currently changing the library operating system. Due to this, children may not be able to borrow books this week as we are relocating many of these. They will still have their library lesson as usual. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Next week the following classes will have library: Monday - FM, 1/2V, 5/6BL and 1Y; Tuesday - FB, KW, 3J, 5H and 2H; Friday - 4C, 2/3BR. It would be great if children had their library bags and books to return/renew with them.

**Uniform Shop**

The Uniform shop will be closed on Monday 14th of September but will be open on Tuesday 15th September instead.

**Canteen News**

**Mexican Fiesta:** A big thank you to all our families and staff for your support of the Mexican food Fiesta and thank you to Santa Fe for their donation of vouchers for the lucky lunch draw. The winners of the Santa Fe vouchers were Brody Kellalea, Elouise Hicks and Arabella Tarpey. Congratulations!!