School Plan and Priorities: Merimbula Public School's School Plan outlines our priorities for 2015-2017. Over the coming months we will be conducting surveys and information sessions to ascertain what we are doing well and how we can futher improve in the coming years to achieve our goals. Our School Plan can be found on our web site by clicking "Annual School Plans" under the "Our School" tab. The school plan outlines strategies and some of the goals (performance measures, products and processes) we would like to achieve over three years. We strive to achieve excellence and improvement through three strategic directions:

1. Effective and Equitable Literacy and Numeracy Practices;
2. Confidence, Creativity and Resilience; and by having
3. Informed Leaders and Active Community Partnerships.

Early next term we will be having an Information Night for parents and caregivers to be consulted on how we can further improve in these areas. Another way we will be gaining feedback to improve will be through surveys.

School Surveys and Evaluations: As part of our school's self-evaluation, we would like to know the opinions of parents and caregivers on different areas of school life. The information will be used to develop programs and practices across our school. Your response is confidential and will be stored securely. Survey completion is voluntary. Survey results will be shared later this year as part of our school’s Annual School Report. If you would like to see our 2014 or previous Annual School Reports, survey and NAPLAN Data you can find the evaluations by clicking "Annual School Report" under the "Our School" tab on our school web site.

Survey 1: Tell Them From Me
The Tell Them From Me survey is being conducted to further inform our "Effective and Equitable Literacy and Numeracy Practices" planning. The survey is anonymous. It is conducted entirely online at home or may be completed at school using our library computers. Please see us before the end of term if you need to access a computer to complete the survey. The survey takes around 15 minutes to complete.

Please complete the "Tell Them From Me" survey by clicking the link below. You can complete the survey once for each child you have attending our school.

Survey 2: Leadership Survey
The Leadership survey is being conducted to further inform our "Informed Leaders and Active Community Partnerships" planning. The survey will take 5 minutes to complete. Each parent/caregiver only needs to complete the survey once. Please contact the school if you would like to access the library computers to complete the survey.

The link to this survey is:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MPS_ParentLeadership_Survey

Another survey, to inform our "Confidence, Creativity and Resilience" strategic direction, will be open before the end of term. Please try to complete the above surveys in the meantime. The "Confidence, Creativity and Resilience" survey will be asking parents and caregivers about their perceptions of our new Visual Arts program, Music program, art room, music room and other potential opportunities that could take place for our students such as introducing the teaching of another language.

2014 Kindergarten Excursion Refund: At the end of 2014, some Kindergarten families paid $12 for their child to attend an excursion at Potoroo Palace. Due to inclement weather the excursion was cancelled. The $12 was credited to parent/caregiver accounts. Some parents have already used their credit off other excursions and performances this year (for any of their children). Families in credit of $12 can let us know if they would like the $12 to be credited off their child's voluntary school contributions. Alternately, the next excursion or school performance can be credited. If you are unsure of whether you have any credit, please contact our office.

Absences: Thank you to everyone for being so prompt in contacting the school in regard to your child's absences. Phone calls on the day of absences are much appreciated (6495 1266) or notes sent in the following day after absences make for less admin follow-up. It is a requirement of the Department of Education that all absences are explained. (this needs to be done within 7 days or absences are classed as unjustified). If you have planned absences ie family holidays in school time, please contact the school prior to your departure to fill in appropriate paperwork.

Emergency Contact Information: Please ensure you update any change of address or phone numbers (work, home or mobile) to the school office as it is extremely important that we have up to date information on our data base in case of emergencies.

Footy Colours Day: A reminder that the SRC will be running a Footy Colours Day this Friday, September 4 to raise money for the Fight Cancer Foundation. This foundation funds vital care, treatment methods and cures for young children living with cancer. Children are asked to wear their favourite teams footy colours for the day regardless of whether it is soccer, NRL, Rugby Union or AFL, and to make a gold coin donation. The SRC will collect the money and send it off. Thank you for your support for this important cause.

School Photos: School photos will be taken on Tuesday September 8 and Wednesday September 9. Individual order envelopes and 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.

Father Day Stall: Will be held tomorrow from 1.25pm - 2.55pm. Years 3-6 can attend during recess time and K-2 will attend after recess. It will also be held before school 8.30am – 9am on Friday morning.
K-2 News

Assemblies: Our next assembly will be hosted by KU on the September 7, Week 9 at 1:55pm in the Jackson Hall. All are most welcome to attend.

Maths matters: Year 1 and 2 have been working with Friends of 10 and 20. Ask your child to teach you how to play Friends of 10 or 20 Go Fish. You will need a pack of cards.

Excursion: We are looking forward to our Stage 1 excursion to Cobargo Farm on the 18th September. Notes have gone home and need to be returned with $10 to the office by the 17th September.

Musical and Costumes: K-2 will be busy rehearsing over the next week. If your children have not brought in costumes as yet please do so in a plastic bag labelled with their name. Kindergarten need black clothes for their performance.

Talking and Listening Task: Just a reminder about the Talking and Listening task Year 1 and 2 have been given. If your child has not yet presented their speech it is due to be given in Week 9 on their usual news day. Some great presentations have been given so far.

Book Week Parade: Thank you for all the wonderful costumes that were created for book week. We had a great day.

School Supplies: We desperately need more white board markers as they are welcome to attend.

Stage 3 News

Performing Arts Musical: All Stage 3 students will have a performing roll in the musical in Week 10 as part of their class item. We are asking for a little help with costumes. Below are what each class will need for their item. It would be fantastic if you could help us source these items. If your child is having any problems finding these things, please let your teacher know.

- 4/5HD: Animals/birds of any kind - colourful, ears, masks, onesies,
- 5H: Zebras - Black and white striped clothing & Zebra mask (We can create the stripes at school if students can find a white t shirt they can dye)
- 5/6BL: Animals/birds of any kind - colourful, ears, masks, onesies,
- 6K: Humans - Pink and red clothing.

Mr Hughes will be taking leave in Weeks 9 and 10 this term. Mrs Green will be taking 5H for the two weeks. Mrs Lawson will be relieving as Stage Leader in place of Mr Hughes.

Canberra and Kianinny Camps: The camps are quickly approaching. Thank you to all the students who have paid in full. Remember, full payment is due at the end of Week 9. If you have any questions please contact your child’s teacher.

High School: Year 6 got their first taste of high school today with an orientation morning at Eden Marine High School. We can’t wait to hear about all the great things they got up to.

Uniform Shop

The yearly 20% off sale at the Uniform Shop will run from Monday September 7 till Thursday September 17.

The Uniform shop will be closed on Monday September 14 but will be open on Tuesday September 15

Ph: 64951266
email: merimbula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Art Program

Our popular ‘Calendar Art’ Fundraiser is on again to raise money to buy art supplies for our wonderful new art program. Your junior artist has been working on a Personalised Calendar Artwork that you can purchase in the form of a calendar, mobile phone cover, pillow case, greeting cards and more! They make great personalised gifts!!

The artworks will be on display in your child’s classroom for the next 2 weeks.

This year we are also offering assorted packs of greeting cards and Xmas cards featuring a selection of individual students’ artworks from across the school!

Order forms have been sent home today, each child requires their own order form. Please send order forms and money to school by October 16.

Thank you for your support,
The Visual Arts Team

Library News

Book Week: Wow, what a busy week in the library! Our book fair was very successful and attended by every child and many families. If your book needed to be ordered, it will be available shortly. Thank you to the great effort that was put in to creating amazing costumes and dressing up as favourite characters. The book parade was again a success thanks to the cooperation from everyone, even if the weather wasn’t kind. It was great to see an event where all of the school community was involved! Thank you also to the families who donated books to our library, $625 was raised from book sales so will we now be able to purchase more new books for the children to borrow.

Library Lessons: The following classes will have library next week (beginning Monday September 7):
Monday: 4/5HD, 5/6BL and 1Y; Tuesday: FB, KW, 3J, 5H and 2H; Friday: 4C and 2/3BR.

www.ehow.com which explains how to make a homemade African tribal outfit. Please contact your child’s class teacher if you need assistance with your child’s costume.

Performance times/dates reminder – WEEK 10
Monday September 14 - Matinee for school CAST B
Tuesday September 15 – Evening CAST B
Wednesday September 16 – Matinee CAST A
Thursday September 17 – Evening CAST A

4C require black t-shirts & black pants for the performance.

www.merimbula.p.schol.edu.au

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Stage 2 News

PBS: Four Stage 2 students have received PBS Rainbow wrist bands for completing four area of their PBS Matrix four times.

Awardees were: Rachael Ward, Stephanie Hughes, Ebony Christie and Beau Bennett.

Bournda Environmental Education Centre: Last Thursday, Stage 2 students Hunter Badewitz, Daniel Piccione, Jayda Hulme and Sam Hsiao participated in a Science enrichment program ‘Weather Warriors’ at the Bournda Environmental Education Centre. The students learnt how clouds are formed and what makes the wind blow. They discovered why our weather is so important to life on Earth and how we can create power from the wind.

School Performance: “ON SAFARI”
Year 3 students should be working on their costumes for the School Performance. Year 3 children need to wear brightly coloured African style clothing. A useful website is

Ph: 64951266
email: merimbula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au