From the Principal
It’s week 4 of the school year and all classes have been hard at work. It’s not only the students who have been putting in the extra effort to achieve success this year, but our dedicated staff as well. Seven of our staff were at Collinsville State School on Saturday for an SSP in house training session where master trainer Kristy Pethers guided us through the ins and outs of SSP. It was a fantastic day where we learnt a lot and also had the ability to talk to colleagues from around the region who are also on the SSP journey.

Next week on Tuesday 23rd February we will be holding a parent information session on SSP. It will be held in the Prep-Year 1 room and start at 3:30pm and run until 5pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Swimming began last Friday and it was wonderful to see so many enthusiastic students attend. Their energy is contagious and we are looking forward to seeing their progress over the next five swimming lessons.

Quote of the Week
“When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts” – Dalai Lama

Merinda State School Uniform Standards
A reminder that the uniform for all students are as follows –
- Red Merinda State School Polo Shirt or Sports Shirt.
- Black Pants or Skirt (must be at least mid-thigh in length).
- Covered in shoes.
- Hat for outside play.

P/1 Super Stars News
We have been having another busy week in our classroom! We are enjoying our reading groups where we have been working hard! Many year one students have moved in their PM reading levels because they are doing so well! Miss Pawson has been showing us some really cool counting videos. We love them because we get to exercise at the same time as well! In design and technology, we work with year 2 and our end assessment will be making a spinning toy. In our last design and technology lesson, we got to make a paper plane. We had a race on the oval to see whose could go the longest distance. All our planes went far! We are having so much fun learning at Merinda State School with our teacher Miss Pawson.

Upcoming Event

Swimming Calendar
19th February 2016
26th February 2016
4th March 2016
11th March 2016
18th March 2016
Lessons must be paid for before students may attend.

SSP Parent Info Night
23rd February 2015
Prep-1 Room
3:30pm – 5:00pm

P&C AGM
7th March 2016
Library – 6:30pm

P&C Meeting
7th March 2016
Library – 7:00pm

Crazy Hair Day
16th March 2016
Gold Coin Donation – Raising much needed funds for cancer research

Easter Parade
23rd March 2016
9:00am CPA – Parents are more than welcome to attend

Swimming Carnival
24th March 2016

Good Friday
25th March 2016

Term 2 Starts
11th April 2016
News from 2/3 Smarty Pants Owls
Welcome to week 4 already! We are in the full swing of term. We have done some 'super' work changing rhyming words in poems the past couple of weeks. We are becoming 'owl-tastic' mathematicians with number as well. We thoroughly enjoyed making paper planes with the Prep-1 class last week and had a great time testing how well they flew. The students have loved making their own hidden messages in their artworks last week and these will soon be displayed in our classroom. Come and see some of our 'super' work and artworks in our classroom! A big thank you to Mrs Schulz for cutting our fruit every day, you are a treasure! Remember to be reading every night so you can have 'wise' readers! Enjoy your week, Mrs H.

Above: Making paper planes with the P-1 class

A Blast from 3/4 Class!
We are well and truly into our units. In Civics we are learning about democracy and the upcoming local election may be a great opportunity for you to discuss this at home. Many children are still opting to come to homework club, but if they don’t, then they are required to get the homework completed at some other time. Please come and see me to negotiate homework expectations for your child. We have finally started our garden; we have a variety of herbs, some tomato and beetroot plants as well as some flowers. I am hoping that this becomes a bit of a community garden (linking with our Civics). There are a number of other activities I would like to get started and you will hear more about them as time passes. Remember swimming on Friday! Having a blast in 3/4 class!

What’s Happening in 5/6
We have been busy working in our class the last week! We have been working really hard writing sizzling starts in our story writing. This is making our writing more interesting and entertaining. Last week our leaders went to the PCYC to develop their leadership skills. They absolutely loved getting up on stage and being a part of a team. In maths we are looking at surveying and creating graphs with our data. We are pretty excited to create our own surveys and survey one another.

Right: Our Senor students attending GRIP Leadership at the PCYC.

Learning Support
Learning Support Monday and Tuesday with Ms Chidley – Prep and year 1 are learning so much and developing social skills including organisation, confidence and working together. They are fantastic, keen learners achieving great results already. P/1 Super Stars!

P&C Announcement
Merinda P&C would like to welcome all members and anyone wishing to become a member to our AGM on the 7th March, 6:30pm, in the school library. The AGM will be followed by our regular meeting. We look forward to seeing everyone there.
Lunch Time Wool Craft with Mrs Toms
Mrs Toms is kindly donating her time and expertise to the school again this year. The children will have the opportunity to learn crocheting, knitting and toy making while increasing their fine motor skills. All items made will be again donated, this time to local organisations. We ask that if you could donate wool, knitting needles, crochet hooks and face washers it would be greatly appreciated.

What are we doing this year?

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Mobile Playscheme is running again in 2016
Free Play Group
Merinda State School – Covered Play Area
Thursday - 9:00am to 11:00am

Service is available for children 0 to 5, their parents and other carers. Come and join in with some free play, structured activities, craft, singing, stories, a healthy morning snack and lots of fun! All families are welcome and invite your friends to join in too.

For further information please phone 0438 202 058
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