

# MERRIWA NEWS



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

### COVID-19 Update

As you will be aware, there have been several changes to COVID-19 guidelines since the end of Term One. Thank you for all your support as we work through the changes together.

- ◆ If your child is unwell, please keep them home and test them.
- ◆ If you have a positive case at home, your child should come to school if they have no symptoms.
- ◆ They only need to wear a mask if they are Year 7 and above.
- ◆ They should have a RAT every day for seven days.
- ◆ We will be receiving 20 free RATs for every child from the Departments of Health and Education.
- ◆ High school students can take the free RATs home, but we have been instructed that parents are required to pick up the primary ones.
- ◆ We will let you know of the pick up arrangements once the RATs arrive.
- ◆ We have masks available for any child who wishes to wear one.
- ◆ We are following the extra ventilation guidelines in classrooms.
- ◆ Our COVID cleaning team is still cleaning hard surfaces at least twice per day!

Please note that this information can change at any time. We will communicate any updates as soon as we receive them. For further information please visit [healthywa.wa.gov.au](http://healthywa.wa.gov.au) or call 1300 316 555.

### New Nature Playground

We are pleased to announce that a new Nature Playground is being installed in the Kindy Pre-Primary area.

The playground will have some exciting elements to suit children with different abilities and interests. It will be wonderful to see happy, smiling faces enjoying the outside activities. A big thank you to Mrs Bell for working so hard in managing this project.

### NAPLAN

The NAPLAN tests for Year 3 and 5 students are held from Tuesday 9 May to Friday 20 May. All tests, except for the Year 3 writing test, are online and our students tell us that they much prefer this to the written tests! If anyone is absent, don't worry, as Mr Fenn has catch up tests arranged.

### Calabar Reward Event

Congratulations to Calabar Faction, winners of the Term 1 faction points competition. They celebrated with ice cream sundaes!

Kind Regards

Mrs Sue Waterhouse, Principal

Breakfast Club  
Every day from  
8am



School  
Briefings and  
Assemblies  
Internal  
Online

Latest COVID  
Health  
Department  
Advice

[WWW.WA.GOV.AU](http://WWW.WA.GOV.AU)

## NAPLAN

Years 3 & 5  
during  
Weeks 3 & 4

VISIT

[www.merriwaps.wa.edu.au](http://www.merriwaps.wa.edu.au)

To see our  
Website

# Merriwa ESC

## Dear Parents & Carers,

We trust all our super mums, carers, grandmothers, or aunties enjoyed the treat that your child brought home last weekend. The children seemed to have a wonderful time creating crafts and baked goods for their special person.

This week was particularly exciting for our building project as we watched the trucks and cranes bringing in the buildings which will be connected and furnished in readiness for Term 3. I appreciate the community support on Wednesday when the Greyhound Drive gate was closed for the day to keep everyone safe during the busy traffic of trucks in the car park and lawn area. While I understand that this was inconvenient for many, your help in keeping the children away from the fenced area is much appreciated.

Also this week, families would have been provided a supply of RATs to assist with regular testing for Covid. It can be difficult to determine whether symptoms are cold/flu related, hayfever or Covid, so the supply of tests from the Department of Education is greatly appreciated. If you have not been able to collect your free supply, please contact your classroom teacher to arrange a time. We will not be sending them home with students.

As always, we appreciate that sick children are being kept at home to rest, whether they have Covid or cold/flu symptoms. This assists us all in maintaining healthy classrooms for all students and staff.

Thank you to the parents/carers who have been making regular payments towards school fees and stationery contributions. The fees are \$40 and stationery is \$60 for the year. You can contact Kylie on 6206 2330 to arrange for bank transfer of funds.

Stay well and keep warm,

Regards

Karen Macri.

Principal ESC



## NEWSLETTER RAFFLE

I have read newsletter 7 Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Room No. \_\_\_\_\_

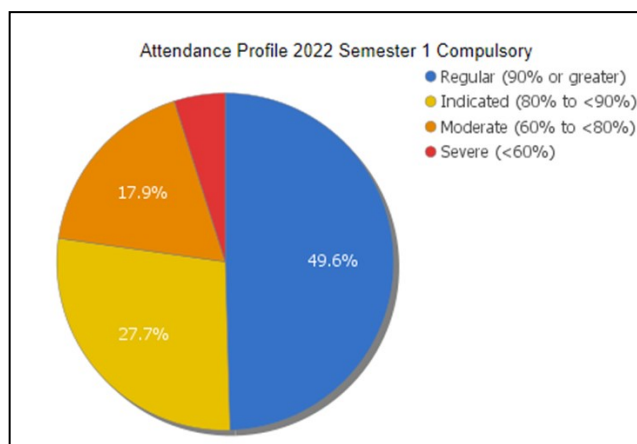
**Congratulations to last newsletter winner - LaKeysha Room 22**



## Attendance 2022 Week 3

### Attendance breakdown by year level.

Breakdown	Attendance Rate %
KIN	88.1%
PPR	85.5%
Y01	85.6%
Y02	84.9%
Y03	86.6%
Y04	88.1%
Y05	84.1%
Y06	84.2%
<b>Compulsory</b>	<b>85.6%</b>



### *Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow*

*Welcome back to another great term at Merriwa Primary School. We are making a huge push this term to try and have as many students as possible increase their attendance to above 90%. The above table shows that only half our school has the required attendance.*

*I would like to also thank you for helping look after our school community by keeping students' home when they are sick.*

*Please just remember to let our front office or classroom teachers know that they are unwell.*

### ***VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS***

*Thank you to the parents who have already paid their Voluntary Contributions.*

*Voluntary Contributions can be paid at the school office.*

*Merriwa Primary School  
BSB Number—016 246  
Account Number—340918248*

Kindy—Year 6	\$40
One child	\$40
Two Children	\$80
Three or more children	\$120

### **ROOM 9**



## Community Health Nurse

### Colour Blindness

Children who are colour blind can see as clearly as other people but can't tell the difference between some colours or see colours differently from other people. Very few people who are colour blind are 'blind' to all colours - most often they see red and green as very similar.

It's good to know if a child is colour blind because they may have difficulty at school with activities that use colours, such as drawing and sorting blocks, and with computers.

If you have any concerns, colour vision testing can be performed by some General Practitioners (GP), eye specialists or optometrists

You can also contact our School Health Nurse, Sally Steffanoni on 0414 896 506.

### Mini Forest at Merriwa

Murdoch University has sponsored Merriwa Primary to plant a mini forest in the junior playground. The Year 5 students are preparing the soil ready for planting and are collecting food scraps from our Crunch 'n' Sip to create a great quality compost for the forest. They collect the scraps on a every day from each block and can't wait to plant the trees.

## MIYAWAKI FOREST COMPOST BIN

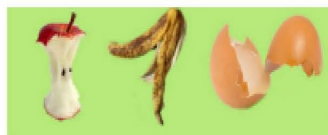
Ask the Food Scrap Friends: Can I put this in the compost bin?



### YES!

These become nutrient-rich fertilizer:

- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Egg Shells



### NO!

These create bad odors and attract pests:

- Bread
- Dairy
- Meat



If you have any more questions, please ask the Year 5 students or teachers.