



# WELCOME TO MERRIWA PRIMARY SCHOOL 2026

## 2026 CLASSROOM ALLOCATIONS

Year	Teachers	Location
Kindergarten	Mrs Liddelow and Ms Purcell (Thurs)	Room 3
Pre-Primary	Mrs Devlin	Room 1
Pre-Primary	Mrs Morgan	Room 2
Year 1	Miss McAteer	Room 6
Year 1	Mrs Ellyard	Room 7
Year 2	Mrs Avins and Mrs Barr (Thur-Fri)	Room 9
Year 2	Mrs Dorney	Room 11
Year 3	Miss Winter	Room 12
Year 3	Mrs Hawkins	Room 13
Year 4	Mrs Zainudin	Room 21
Year 4	Mrs Ebert and Mr Kuipers (Thurs)	Room 22
Year 5/6	Mrs Perkins / Ms Sullivan / Mr Allan	Room 15
Year 5/6	Mrs Maher	Room 16
Year 5/6	Mrs Pledge	Room 17
Science	Ms Purcell	Science Room
Music	Mrs Prior-Longmuir	Music Room
Phys Ed	Mr Allan	Phys Ed
LOTE	Mrs Zoccali	Room 19
Technologies	Mr Kuipers	Room 20

## **WELCOME BACK**

It is a pleasure to welcome you all back to another exciting year at Merriwa Primary School.

I hope the holiday break was a happy one for you and your families. Our staff have returned with renewed energy and a shared commitment to creating an inclusive and engaging learning environment for every child.

We are especially delighted to welcome our new families joining the school community for the first time. We look forward to getting to know you and supporting your child as they settle into school life.

The year ahead is filled with opportunities – new friendships, new challenges, and new achievements. Our teachers have been preparing new learning experiences, and we are excited to see our students grow academically and in confidence, independence, and creativity.

## **SPARKS OF THE FUTURE PROGRAM**

Over the last 3 years I have been proud to work with His Excellency, the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM Governor of Western Australia and his wife, Mrs Darrilyn Dawson, on the Sparks of the Future program at Government House.

The Sparks of the Future program is designed to assist student school leaders from Merriwa, Clarkson and Dianella Primary Schools in developing leadership skills and providing opportunities to find future pathways. Other key aspects of the program are providing public speaking training for all Year 4 -6 students and invitations for our students to Government House for events and workshops.

To date, over 800 students have benefitted from this partnership with the Governor.

It has been wonderful to see how the positive reputation of Merriwa Primary School and our students is enhanced and acknowledged by the wider community.

This year I have been invited to work at Government House for 3 days per week on this project and have been encouraged by the Director General of Education, Mr Jay Peckitt, to accept the appointment.

## JOB SHARE PRINCIPAL ARRANGEMENT

I am pleased to inform you that Mr Kristopher Fenn will continue to job share as Principal this year and Mrs Naydene Duffill will be working as Associate Principal. Mrs Long will also be reducing her hours.

Mr Fenn and I are delighted to share the Principal role and believe strongly that this structure brings significant advantages for students, staff, and families.

By combining our strengths, experience, and perspectives, we are able to provide consistent leadership while also ensuring that the demands of the role are met with energy and a shared purpose in providing the very best for our students.

Here are the arrangements:

LEADERSHIP ROLE	NAME	DAYS
Principal	Mr Fenn	Monday - Wednesday
Principal	Mrs Waterhouse	Thursday - Friday
Associate Principal	Mrs Long	Monday – Thursday
Associate Principal	Mrs Duffill	Monday – Friday

We encourage you to contact us at any time, as our regular communication will ensure that the needs of our school are met.

## TEACHING STAFF FOR 2026:

YEAR	TEACHER/S	ROOM
Kindy	Mrs Liddelow / Ms Purcell	3
Pre Primary / Kindy	Mrs Devlin	1
Pre Primary / Kindy	Mrs Morgan / Ms Cooper	2
Year 1	Miss McAteer	6
Year 1	Mrs Ellyard	7
Year 2	Mrs Avins/Mrs Barr	9
Year 2	Mrs Dorney	11
Year 3	Ms Winter	12
Year 3	Mrs Hawkins	13
Year 4	Mrs Zainudin	21
Year 4	Mrs Ebert/ Mr Kuipers	22
Year 5/6	Mrs Perkins / Ms Sullivan / Mr Allan	15
Year 5/6	Mrs Maher	16
Year 5/6	Mrs Pledge	17

SPECIALIST SUBJECT	TEACHER
Information Technology and Computing	Mr Kuipers
Italian	Mrs Zoccali
Music	Mrs Prior
PE	Mr Allan
Science	Ms Purcell

## INVITATION SCHOOL LEADERSHIP BADGE PRESENTATION

You are all invited to meet the Governor of WA and his wife on Friday 13<sup>TH</sup> February 2026, as they present our student leaders with their badges. The ceremony will begin at 8.30 a.m. and will be held in the undercover area.

Congratulations to our new student leaders:

ROLE	STUDENT
Head Girls and	Haniya Akbari
Governor's Sparks of the Future	Jasmine Wilson
Councillors	Kiara Lemon
	Ryker Meha
	Carter O'Connor
	Adam Plitcha
	Asha Reader
	Madison Thurlow
Media Technicians	Ryker Meha
	Adam Plitcha
ESC Councillors	Logan Paice
	Jeremy Smith - Rash
ESC Representative	Lawson Bennetts
Baltimore Faction Captains	Tanner Ashby
	Neyla Warwick
Calabar Faction Captains	Lionel Ishimwe
	Madison Smith-Ince
Palermo Faction Captains	Ella Mc Ardle
	Katana Kingay
Akita Faction Captains	Kaidance Garlett
	Alan Sambo



Dear Parents and Carers,

### A Message from the Department of Education

The safety of students is our priority and under WA laws, only individuals aged 16 and over are permitted to use eRideables or eBikes with the motor engaged.

From 2 February 2026 (first day of Term 1), the Department of Education is introducing a ban on the use and storage of eRideables and eBikes on public schools grounds by students under the age of 16. This ban supports student safety and aligns with road safety laws.

Please be advised that from Term 1 2026, if a student **under 16** brings an eRideable or eBike on Merriwa Primary School grounds parents/carers will be contacted to collect the device.

#### eRideables

Students aged **16 and over** may store their eRideable safely at a place to be determined by the school, provided they comply with all relevant laws, including:

- Helmets are required
- Only one rider at a time
- Maximum speed: 10 km/h on footpaths.

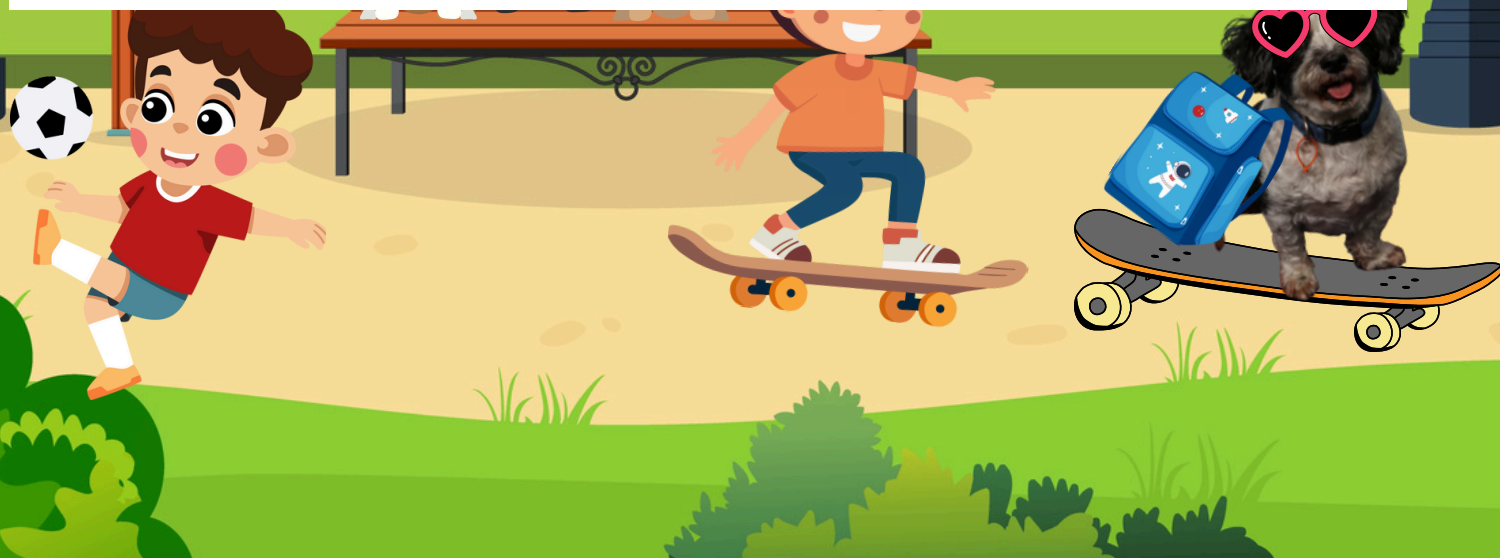
#### eBikes

Students aged **16 and over** may store their eBike safely at a place determined by the school, provided they follow the major rules for eBikes, including:

- The motor can have a maximum power output up to 250 watts
- The bike needs human power to make it move - it is not meant to be ridden using the motor alone
- The road rules applying to regular bicycle riders also apply to eBike riders.

Please be aware that not all eRideables or eBikes sold in WA are legal to ride on WA roads and paths. Visit the Road Safety Commission for more information on [eRideable](#) and [eBike](#) laws, penalties, buying guides and safety.

Thank you for your support in keeping our students and school community safe.



## **BUILDING UPDATES**

The PA system has been upgraded with funds from the Government's Election Commitment. It sounds fantastic! We will also be installing a large fan, a new screen, a new stage and completing the mural very soon.

Over the holidays the ESC has installed a new demountable classroom in the senior block.

## **CLASS LISTS**

These will be placed on notice boards in the undercover area from 11.00 a.m. Friday 30th January 2026. Due to safety concerns for some students, these will not be circulated electronically. We ask that to ensure the safety of all students, that you do not share photos of these class lists please.

We look forward to a positive and productive year ahead and to seeing you all soon.

Kind regards

Mrs Sue Waterhouse and Mr Kristopher Fenn

Principals

29 January 2026

