From the Principal's Desk……

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

So many events have occurred these past few weeks with students engaged in interesting activities to supplement their learning programs.

◊ The very successful visits to Buckingham House in Wanneroo provided our Year 2 students with the opportunity to experience what it may have been like to live in the past.

◊ The students in Pre-primary, Yr 2 and 3 were visited by a lovely group of older ladies who shared ‘Tales of Times Past’ and engaged the students in some conversations around items that were used in our lives not too long ago.

◊ A group of senior students represented Merriwa admirably when they attended an Indigenous Reconciliation service at Kings Park.

◊ The whole school participated in a Simultaneous Storytime session. Keep your eyes out for a photo in the local paper with the Mayor of Wanneroo, Tracey Roberts who read the story to a large group of students in the library.

◊ This week our Year 5 students visited East Perth and Maylands for a History inspired excursion. Congratulations to all students and staff who made these events such a success.

I look forward to the upcoming incursions that have been planned: Australian Animals for Kindy, Pre-primary and Year 1 students, African Drumming group, Salaka and also a SmartStart money program for several classes across the school.

Recess

This week we have trialled allowing our senior students in Yr 5 and 6 to play on the oval during recess time. It is hoped that this strategy will help to alleviate some issues we have experienced due to a large number of students gathering around the Yr 3-6 classes during this break.

Reports

Teachers are currently working on student semester reports. These will be available to parents in the final week of term.

Sport Programs

Ms Leonard has successfully applied for special funding to run lunch time sport and afterschool sporting programs. Notes were sent home last week advising families of the activities being offered. At this stage the programs are almost full with some spaces still available. Please send in your preferences in order to secure a place.

Mrs Waterhouse

I have enjoyed the opportunity to work in the Primary School over the past two months and thank the staff for their support. I would also like to thank Mrs Sallie for the good work she has been doing with managing the ESC while I have been in this role. Mrs Waterhouse is due to return on the 15th June and I will then take some leave allowing Mrs Sallie to end the term in her role as Principal of the ESC.

Kind regards

Mrs Karen Macri
Principal

Grill’d
Thank you to everyone who supported our school. Merriwa PS won the $300 prize.

Warm regards
Rose Prior- Longmuir
Music teacher ♪ ♫ ♪ ♫ ♪
From the Principal…Merriwa ESC…

Buckingham House

On Tuesday 2\textsuperscript{nd} June, students from the Centre went on an excursion to Buckingham House. They participated in activities such as making butter and damper. They learnt how to sew, iron and use a washboard. Our students also learnt how to play traditional games such as hula hoop, hopscotch and noughts and crosses. I am very proud of all the students that attended, their behaviour and willingness to have a go was remarkable.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) for Students with Disabilities

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data for Students with Disabilities (NCCD) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment they are provided with. The aim of the national data collection is to collect better information about school students with disability in Australia. This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability. We think it’s important for everyone to contribute to this project so it helps Government and the Department of Education to better provide for all students in Western Australia. However you can opt for your child’s information not to be included. Please see the letter that is attached to this newsletter for more information. The data collected will be submitted in August 2015, if you would like to learn more about the NCCD you can visit this website: www.deewr.gov.au/students-disability or call the helpline on 0477 741 598.

Christina Maunick-Sallie
Principal
ESC

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Tales of Times Past were invited to Merriwa Primary school, the senior storytellers are a volunteer group. Val Corey, Deanne Hetherington and Judy Scrimegour shared their stories of the olden days to entertain and educate the children with stories from the past. Children from Pre Primary, years two and three participated as part of their History curriculum. The children enjoyed playing games such as egg and spoon race and exploring old objects from the past.

This annual event aims to encourage more young Australians to read and enjoy books. Merriwa Primary School and Merriwa Educational Support Centre participated in the 15th National Simultaneous Storytime event on the 27th of May. The book featured was *The Brothers Quibble* by Aaron Blabey, published by Penguin Random House Australia – an amusing, rhyming picture book about how an older brother reacts to the arrival of a brand new baby brother. Mayor Tracey Roberts from the City of Wanneroo was a welcomed visitor attending the event and read the story with the year two children at Merriwa Primary. She commented on the joy of reading to children, feeling privileged to be a part of this national event. “the biggest National Simultaneous Storytime ever! Over 3,010 schools, libraries, childcare centres, preschools and communities across Australia participate with over 500,000 adults and children taking part.”
Rooms 11, 12 & 13 visit to Buckingham House