From the Principal’s Desk…..

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are always keen to compete in interschool sports carnivals and events. Recently we visited Clarkson Primary to compete in the local area athletics carnival and this week our girls’ football team played against Whitfords, Quinns Rock and Springfield.

Our teams always display good sportsmanship and great skills and we are proud of them. Well done especially to Daruka Deng (Champion Girl), Makanaka Mudzengi and Shanika Shea (Runner Up Champions), and Shanita Snowy for fairest and best footballer.

Music at Merriwa
We also are proud of the children who perform in the choir and ensembles. Next week we will be recording a Christmas Carol for Channel 9 and will be performing at the West Coast Festival at Joondalup Arena. Our drummers are practicing hard for the Christmas Concert on 17 December.

A special mention must be made to Andre Subih and his brothers who have made it through the first stage of auditions for Australia’s Got Talent.

STAR GAZING NIGHT
A big thank you to Professor David McKinnon for his kind support at our star gazing night. It was a fantastic evening.

Kind Regards
Mrs Sue Waterhouse
Principal
From the Principal … Merriwa ESC …

Hydrotherapy sessions recommenced this week for several students and will continue over seven weeks. Thank you to the parents/carers who completed the permission and medical forms as required. We have also begun our series of yoga classes to assist with teaching calming and stretching techniques. Our first two classes have been fun and the students have showed an interest by participating enthusiastically.

Our Year 6 students attended Butler College for their ‘transition to high school day’ and from all accounts, enjoyed the experience. This is an emotional and exciting time for our senior students and we wish them well with the transition. Also coming up for our Year 6 students are the day camp activities and later in the term, some dance classes in preparation for graduation day. I understand that this is an expensive time for families and urge parents/carers to get in touch if you require a payment plan to assist you with the costs involved.

Thank you to the families who ensured the children had a costume for the Book Parade—Super Hero theme. It was lovely to see our students participating in the parade. Also, well done to staff who took the time to dress up and join in the fun. We are looking forward to presenting our ESC assembly item. Students are engaged in rehearsals as often as we can manage. Please keep Friday 20th November free on your calendar and come along to our assembly.

Teachers have begun the process of assessment and reporting and will write student reports over the coming weeks. Reports will be sent home in the final week of term.

Unfortunately there have been some absences due to a gastro bug affecting two classes. Staff have been vigilant in disinfecting furniture and ensuring that the children wash their hands regularly to prevent the spread of infection. Please ensure that you keep sick children at home and remember to inform the office of any absences.

Mrs Karen Macri,
Principal ESC

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<tr>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>Rm</th>
<th>Student</th>
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<th>Rm</th>
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<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mya Denver, Scarlett Harris</td>
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<td>Ty- Rees Bolton</td>
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<td>PP</td>
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<td>Lily Cooper, Kaylee Butler</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Vivian Wang, Kassandra Loyd</td>
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<td>Lily Connery</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Emma Geyer, Imogen Harris</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cooper Cudby, Skye Polmeartagami</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Hayley Street, Deacon Mynard</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Chelsea Walker, Hamish Gluskie</td>
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<td>Jacob Planner, Trey Lewis</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Adrien Uwadia, Tenneson Cook</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Elijah Everett</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESC</td>
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<td>Violet Bennett, Georgia Hutchins</td>
<td>ESC</td>
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<td>Benjamin Butters</td>
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Each term all children with an attendance rate of 90% or above go into our regular attendance draw. Congratulations to the following winners:


Attendance has a major influence on your child’s academic progress. It helps your child link the learning pieces in a logical fashion. Missing days is like taking parts from a jigsaw. The more pieces that are removed, the less clear the picture becomes.

If your child is sick or misses a day through a personal family issue it is required that you inform the school. This can be done through a note, telephone call or speaking to your child’s teacher.

As part of our goal to reduce the amount of litter in the school grounds we are promoting Wednesday as a rubbish free day. Congratulations to the following students:

- Ada Trueland,
- Tenneson Cook
- Ciaralee Lingman

These students were picked from the raffle draw at Fridays school briefing.

Saver Plus
Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:
- School uniforms and text books
- Computers, laptops and tablets
- Excursions and camps
- Sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- Music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself. Last year 2 families received a $500 bonus for their children. Join now!

Contact Meagan Parry, your local Saver Plus Worker 9440 4147 / 0438 518 603 or Meagan.parry@thesmithfamily.com.au

HOMELESS MEN AND REFUGEES
As you know we are collecting items for the less fortunate. We have provided a list of necessities that would benefit those in need. Please put in a Christmas message of support.

- Small insect repellent
- Shaving cream
- Disposable razors
- Deodorant
- Soap in a zip lock bag
- Toothpaste and brush
- Comb
- Wet wipes
- Tissues
- Shampoo
- Thermal foil blanket
- Band aids
- Nail clippers
- Thongs size 10
- Cap or sun hat
- Small rain poncho
- Small torch batteries
- Small not pad and pen
- Wallet or purse
- Packet of non-melting lollies

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The choir students in Years 3 to 6 have been working incredibly hard for the Westcoast Songfest. They will be performing at the Joondalup Arena Thursday 5th November. The tickets are extremely limited and only available from the music room at a cost of $10 each.

Silver Threads are a brass band of 30 performers and we are fortunate enough to have them perform at Merriwa Primary. They will be entertaining the Pre-Primary to Year 5 students on Monday 16th November. The cost will be only one gold coin which is of great value for our students. Thank you to parents and carers for your ongoing support for the music program.

New Joondalup Autism Mum’s Group
Coffee Morning
Following the success of the Northern Suburbs Autism Mum’s Group, Developmental Disability WA are supporting a new group to start in the Joondalup area.

Clarke Library
27 Ocean Keys Boulevard
Clarke

Please join us for an informal coffee morning and meet other mum’s who understand how challenging life with autism can be.

Tuesday 3 November 2015
10.00am–11.00pm
(You can come later or leave earlier if you need to)

Miss Maude’s Morning tea provided

To RSVP—http://ddc.org.au/events-november/or contact mary.batterworth@ddc.org.au 9420 7230 (exc Wed)

For more information about the group contact the new group Coordinator Helen on 0413 123 615 or email at joondalupautism@gmail.com

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The Interschool Athletics Carnival was held at Clarkson Primary School on the 20th and 22nd of October. Merriwa Primary students put in a wonderful effort with the team finishing in third place overall. There were some outstanding achievements with the following students attaining individual success:

- Year 5 Girl Champion: Daruka Deng
- R/U Year 6 Champion Girl: Shaneka Shea
- R/U Year 5 Champion Boy: Makanaka Mudzengi
- R/U Year 3 Champion Girl: Aryelle Monoghan

Special mention must also be made of the Year 2 and 5 girls' teams who were outstanding in all their events. All Merriwa students who attended must be commended on their behaviour and sportsmanship.

Ms Leonard

On Wednesday 21st October we held our first Star Gazing night. Professor David McKinnon from ECU and Mr Ben Dawkins from Butler College came and brought their telescopes. About 150 people attended and a good night’s star gazing was had by all. We were able to view the moon and later in the evening Saturn and the star Alpha Centauri.

On Tuesday 27th October some of the Year 5 and 6 girls took part in the Docker's Cup girls’ football carnival held at McDonald Reserve in Padbury. Considering that only one of the girls had ever played a game of football before, the team played very well, improving with every game they played. At the conclusion of the carnival Merriwa was announced as the best tackling team in the competition.

All of the girls competed hard all day, with some of them surprising even themselves with their abilities. Congratulations to Shanita Snowy who took out the best player award and Lily Fox and Daruka Deng who also earned awards for their efforts.

Thank you to all of the girls who took part on the day, it was wonderful to see you enjoying yourselves so much and trying so hard when playing out of your comfort zone. Thanks also to Mr Sibosado, your assistance is always appreciated.

Ms Leonard

If your child is NOT returning to Merriwa Primary in 2016, please complete and return this form to the office as soon as possible. It is very important for planning 2016. If you have a class request for next year, please put this in writing to Mrs Waterhouse, marked confidential.

Child’s Name: ___________________________________________

Year/Room No.: ___________________________________________

New School: _____________________________________________