

MERRIWA NEWS

**KINDY
FIRST**



**DAY
2021**

Breakfast Club
Every day from
8am



Alternating
Junior and Senior

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to a new year at Merriwa!

We are grateful to you for sending your children so well prepared for the first day.... we know how much it takes to organise all the new school bags, lunchboxes, pencils, shoes and uniforms. Thank you !

Here are the classes for 2021

Year Level	Teachers	Location
Kindergarten	Mrs Liddelow and Ms Stuart—Hill	Room 3
Pre-Primary	Mrs Thompson and Miss Ortlepp	Room 1
Pre-Primary	Mrs Hollie and Ms Nguyen	Room 2
Year 1	Mrs Duffill	Room 6
Year 1	Miss Purcell	Room 7
Year 2	Mrs Dorney	Room 11
Year 2	Mrs Avins and Mrs Hogan	Room 9
Year 3	Mrs Barr	Room 12
Year 3	Mrs Rock and Mr Sanders	Room 13
Year 4	Mrs Zainudin and Mrs Zoccali	Room 21
Year 4	Ms Phillips	Room 22
Year 5	Mr Collins	Room 16
Year 5	Mrs Ebert and Mrs Leonard	Room 18
Year 6	Mrs Perkins and Mrs Pledge	Room 15
Year 6	Mrs Mc Kenzie	Room 17
Science	Ms Leonard	Room 14
Music	Mrs Prior	Music Rm
Phys Ed	Mr Allan	
Italian	Mrs Zoccali	Room 20
Computing	Mr Bownes	Computer Lab

Kind regards
Sue Waterhouse
Principal

Year 6
Swimming
*Yanchep National
Lagoon Beach
Swimming Lessons
during Term 1
Week 6 & 7*

*Pre Primary to
Year 5
Term 3
Week 3 & 4*

*School Photos
Week 9*



*Public Holiday
Labour Day
Monday 1st
March*

VISIT
[www.merriwaps.
wa.edu.au](http://www.merriwaps.wa.edu.au)
To see our
Website

Merriwa ESC

What an interesting start we have had to our school year. Thank you to our families for your patience and understanding, and your efforts in preparing your child by using the social stories over the break. Our classes are running smoothly and students have settled quickly into the rhythm and routines of the day. It is wonderful to see happy faces and proud students as I walk through the Centre.

Our school has grown with 65 enrolled students occupying 9 classes this year, with additional staff to support their learning needs. The new transportable building has been installed alongside room 30, near the Dental Clinic. We look forward to a busy and productive year.

Here is an outline of the MESC staff:

Room	Teacher	Education Assistant
Kindy, Rm 31	Miss Amy McInerney	Mrs Kris Irving, Mrs Katrina Sebastian, Mrs Trilby Hartley, Mrs Emma Algie
PrePrimary Rm 30	Mrs Sharon Hogan	Mrs Karen Tate, Ms Ash Whittle and Ms Agnes Wozniak
PrePrimary to Yr 1, Rm 26	Ms Rosie O'Garr	Mrs Nicola Brennan, Mrs Tana Burton and Mrs Krishna Hubbard
Yr 1 to Yr 2, Rm 27	Miss Brittany Jarvis	Mrs Alison Tilbury, Mrs Annette Pezzano and Miss Monique Pieterse
Yr 2, Rm 28	Miss Holly Jaap	Ms Jess Wood and Kristen Disley
Yr 2 to Yr 3, Rm 23	Mrs Hannah Poulter	Mrs Erika Hanekom and Ms Lisa Ashton
Yr 3 to Yr 4, Rm 24	Ms Caity Hawker	Ms Kerrie Harris, Mrs Lucy Malins and Mrs Nuria Harris
Yr 3 to Yr 5, Rm 25	Ms Emily Hall	Mrs Janette Rudd and Sarah Taylor
Senior Class, Rm 29	Ms Jenn Warhurst	Ms Kelsey Harris and Mrs Donelle Willshire

Teachers providing additional support:

Mrs Peta Tait: Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs Gill Gore: Monday on Friday.

Mrs Beth Reiger: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Mrs Rae-Ellen Hawker will facilitate the Music and Movement program each Thursday.

Mrs Jayde Hahnel will continue to manage our Sensory Program and Engine Room now in Room 6a.

Our focus continues to be on the development of emergent literacy and numeracy, effective communication, and to support our students with self-management while developing independence. Our STEM (Science, Technology and Engineering, and Maths) and Protective Behaviours programs continue to be an important aspect of our curriculum delivery. Staff have designed programs and learning activities and I look forward to seeing the results over the course of the year.

You will be given an opportunity to meet with the classroom teacher early this term to discuss your goals for your child and to have an input into their education plan. Please take advantage of this opportunity so that we can continue to work closely with you.

Our Year 6 students have delivered their speech to peers in the hope of being elected to join the primary school student councillors for 2021. Our ESC student leaders will be announced at next week's assembly. Congratulations to Michael and Ryan who took the time to prepare their speech.

Please use the Dojo app for daily contact with your child's class. This has proven to be a quite efficient method to communicate, particularly if you are not able to meet with the teacher regularly. Many of you will have joined Class Dojo and we also have an ESC group for whole school news. Please download the app and join our group if you have not already done so. See your classroom teacher for more information.

It is very important that the school is contacted if your child is away. A phone call or a note in the communication book allows us to comply with the Department requirements. I appreciate that children get sick and will need to stay at home until they are no longer contagious, a medical certificate is required if children are absent for more than 2 days. Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring your child is well when attending school, particularly during these uncertain times with the pandemic still an issue in our country.

We thank you for your patience, care and consideration at school drop off and pick up each day. It can be quite congested at the gates and we value your support to ensure our kids are safe at these busy times.

Karen Macri
Principal, ESC

Keeping Ourselves Safe—COVID –19 Update for 2021

I thank you for your partnership and support as we navigate this new normal together. As always, the health and safety of your children, your families and our staff has been at the centre of all we do.

- ◆ *In accordance with instructions we have received from the Department of Education Western Australia, parents can come onto the school grounds for drop off and pick up.*
- ◆ *However, the increase in independence and resilience in your children is not something that we want to lose.*
- ◆ *Therefore, we offer you the same service at the gates. You are welcome to drop off and pick up your children at the gates. Our staff will ensure that they are looked after.*

GATES		
Kindy & Pre Primary met by staff at the oval gates.	8.00 a.m.	8.40 a.m.
Parents drop off lunches and forgotten items at oval gates.	10.30 a.m.	10.40 a.m.
Kindy & Pre Primary brought by staff to the oval gates.	2.30 p.m.	3.00 p.m.
All other students can enter and exit through any gate.		

- ◆ *The gates will continue to be locked throughout the day, and if you need to organise a meeting with your child's teacher, just call the front office or send your child's teacher a note to organise this.*
- *If you choose to bring your child onto the school grounds, we request that you wait at the flagpole area with your child between 8.00 a.m. and 8.20 a. m.*
- *Playgrounds will be cleaned once per day and will be out of use before and after school.*
- *Visitors onto the school grounds must adhere to physical distancing of 1 adult per two square metres on the School site.*
- *Therefore, parents will not be admitted into classrooms yet.*
- *All children and staff will continue to wash their hands and use sanitiser throughout the day.*
- *The extra team of COVID—19 cleaners will continue to clean our school throughout the day.*
- ◆ *Assemblies will be held separately for Junior and Senior students.*
- ◆ *The staff car park gates will be locked.*
- ◆ *The students from the Education Support Centre will be picked up by the bus at the kiss and ride on the oval side at **2.15 p.m.** Please do not use this kiss and ride during this time, as the bus has priority.*

We look forward to a happy and safe year together.

*Mrs Sue Waterhouse
Principal.*

NEWSLETTER RAFFLE

I have read newsletter I Parent signature _____

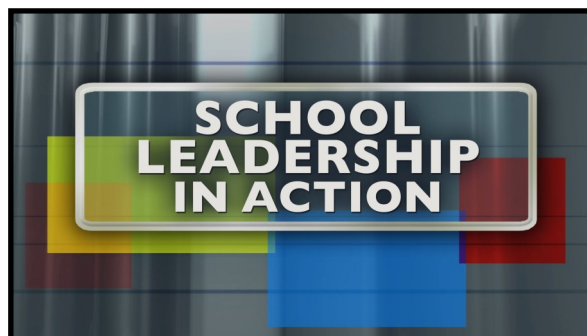
Child's Name _____ Room No. _____

Student Leadership Elections

At Merriwa we encourage our senior students to stand for the positions of Head Boy and Head Girl, councillors and Faction Captains and Vice Captains.

The students present a speech to the Year 4–6 students, and then this is voted upon by the students.

We wish all nominees good luck and thank every one of them for standing for leadership positions at Merriwa.



Graduation Awards 2020

We are proud to acknowledge the following students from last year, who were awarded the following awards.



<i>Dux Award</i>	<i>Nathon Hamon</i>
<i>Citizenship Award</i>	<i>Sophie Williams & Cristopher Vaz</i>
<i>Principal's Award</i>	<i>Angela Harp</i>
<i>Excellence Award</i>	<i>Kato Mackie</i>
<i>Endeavour Award</i>	<i>Jeremiah Kori</i>
<i>Elna McKimmie Award</i>	<i>Ruby Scott</i>
<i>Butler Respect Award</i>	<i>Elbra Shlaimoun & Zuleika Zavazal</i>
<i>Clarkson Award</i>	<i>Alicia Cooper & Connor Ferguson</i>
<i>Aboriginal Award</i>	<i>Rocco Sabbioni</i>

Buildings and Upgrades

Over the holidays we have been busy!

- ♦ A new demountable classroom has been installed for the Early Childhood in the ESC
- ♦ The pre-primary toilets have been refurbished
- ♦ A new path, including amazing student NAIDOC Day artwork, has been installed in the vegetable garden.
- ♦ Block out blinds have been installed throughout the school.