From the Principal's Desk……

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Naplan

Students in Years 3 and 5 will participate in NAPLAN testing from Tuesday next week. To prepare your child I advise that you encourage them to eat well and have enough sleep in the coming days. Although the NAPLAN results are not the only assessment data tool we use, the data is helpful to teachers and used as a tracking tool over time. It is important that students do not feel unnecessary anxiety and arrive to school on time.

Thank you

Recently Merriwa PS accepted donations from Merriwa Supa IGA towards providing basic ingredients for our Breakfast Club. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our local IGA for their kind generosity.

Thanks are also extended to Kate Raynor who has been working behind the scenes making links with community groups to support our school. We look forward to working with the Women's Shed who have agreed to assist with our gardening projects.

Our music teacher Rose Prior has received a gift voucher from Bunnings and will use these funds to create drums for a drumming therapy group.

To all of these generous groups, Merriwa schools thank you.

Garden:

How wonderful to see that our garden has been tidied and will soon be ready for planting. Thank you to our senior students for their hard work. The gardening committee has been working hard to prepare the garden beds and we should see works in progress before too long as classes prepare their allocated garden.

P&C Disco:

Don't forget the P&C Disney Disco this Friday night. Tickets can be purchased through the office or at the door. Students from Kindy to Year 2 can attend the 4.30 to 6pm session and students from Yr 3 to 6 from 6.30 to 8pm.

Happy Mother's Day

To all of our Mums, Grandmothers and women who care for the students at Merriwa, we wish you a Happy Mother's Day and trust you are acknowledged by your children. I know that several classes have been focussing on how important you are.

Grill'd

Don't forget that Grill'd, Ocean Keys will highlight Merriwa PS throughout May. Your support could help us win $300.

Kind regards

Mrs Karen Macri
Principal
Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you

A BIG thank you to IGA for their kind and generous contributions to our Breakfast Club. We are appreciative of their ongoing support.

Another BIG thank you to Bunnings for their donations to our Centre. Bunnings has donated items such as wind chimes, a barbecue and plants for our outdoor eating area. We are very appreciative of the effort that Mrs Amanda Montagnon has put into getting sponsorships for our Centre and the hard work that she has put into transforming our Sensory and Lifeskills Rooms.

Food Revolution Day

Friday May 15th is Food Revolution Day. Food Revolution Day is a global campaign that highlights the importance of educating children about healthy eating choices in a fun and engaging manner. Our school has registered to be a part of this important campaign. Students will watch Jamie Oliver make a simple recipe online and then participate in cooking healthy recipes and complete fun activities related to healthy eating and foods. For more information go to http://www.foodrevolutionday.com/ #UUvlgtWpFVxBByWV97

School Disco

We would love to see our students at the school disco this Friday night in their Disney costumes. The junior disco is on at 4.30-6pm and the senior disco is on at 6.30-8pm.

Christina Maunik-Sallie
Principal
ESC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>Rm</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>Rm</th>
<th>Student</th>
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<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Michael Fernando, Sariyah Pickett</td>
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<td>Jai Timu Baley, Chantelle Hood</td>
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<td>Pheonix Castle-Nepia, Jade Winsor</td>
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<td>Nikola Blagolevic, Kuch Manyang, Shakira Kennedy</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Brennan Jackson, Pia Broadhurst, Brandon Harp</td>
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<td>Hayley Blackmore, Chevy Hedland</td>
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<td>Judi Paul, Harry Hicks</td>
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<td>Royce Crawford, Cooper Corrigan</td>
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<td>Lemarion Chapman, Timothy Dick</td>
<td>ESC</td>
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<td>Ajok Chol, Josiah Pietersen</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Horeoka Rowlands, Preston Davis</td>
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“It is Important to be at school every day. Poor attendance patterns can start as early as Pre-Primary. It is important that from the first day of school parents set an expectation that their children will be at school every day. Missing an average of 10 days of school a term adds up to missing two full years of schooling by the end of Year 10.

Tips you can do to support school attendance.
Talk positively about attending school and learning.
Help your child get into a routine for getting ready to go to school stress-free.
Help your child to get ready for school in the morning.
Talk about the positive social aspects of the school environment; friends, favourite classes, favourite teachers.

As they get older
Talk with your teenager about their long term goals and dreams and how school can help them achieve their dreams.

At last week’s mini assembly we had our regular school attenders draw.
Congratulations to the winners. Please see photo.”

Next Week’s Activities

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>Celebrity Heads</td>
<td>Balloon Races</td>
<td>Uno Tournament</td>
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<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>The Colours Game</td>
<td>Making Sparkly Crowns</td>
<td>Paper Plate Dragons</td>
<td>Cotton Tip Painting</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Recycled Art</td>
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Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0434 517 166
Coordinator: Rachel Manship
Assistant: Caitlin Crawford
OSHClub Head Office: 08 9261 3200
All families must be enrolled to attend the program. Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program. Please note that there is a late fee for last-minute bookings so try and make your booking as soon as possible.

PEAC Testing for Year 4 Students.
Parents were notified in the last newsletter that the PEAC testing for Year 4 students will take place on Thursday the 28 and Friday 29 May.
This date has been brought forward one week to Thursday the 21 and Friday 22 May.

Food choices

In our modern society, very few children use up enough energy to take on the extra calories of ‘treat’ food and drinks. Children need fresh and nutritious food for every meal and snack. Every item of ‘treat’ food fills up the stomach and prevents children eating the food they need to grow strong, smart and healthy.

Provide wholegrain bread and cereals, fresh fruit, vegetables, lean meat and low fat dairy products. Offer treats such as biscuits, cake, chocolate, ice-cream, snack bars, chips etc, only on special occasions.

For food ideas, go to www.freshforkids.com.au

Community Health Nurse
North Coastal Zone
Child and Adolescent Community Health
SCHOOL HATS

With winter approaching this is a reminder that school hats are still required. Children must wear their hats at PE and sport activities, as well as recess and lunch. The school also strongly encourages children to wear their hats at fitness time but as it is early in the morning the UV ratings are low. Many parents cut the string tie from the hat as the hat can get caught while climbing on the play equipment.

Merriwa Primary School Parent Survey

Please find with this newsletter a copy of the 2015 parent survey. Each family with children at the school is invited to complete one survey and return it to the school office. All information is anonymous. Parents who would like a full list of the terms of reference for this survey can obtain a copy by enquiring at the office. The survey will close on the 4th June 2015. Thank you for completing the survey.