From the Principal’s Desk……

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Swimming Lessons

We are looking forward to taking your children to the Joondalup Arena Swimming lessons. These begin on 31st August and we encourage all children to go. Places are filling fast, so please send in your forms and money as soon as you can. If you need to discuss payment options, the ladies in the office are happy to help you.

Children from the ESC have the option of attending hydrotherapy at Butler College or swimming lessons at Arena Joondalup. We are grateful to Butler College for generously sharing the facilities with us.

Book Week

Due to swimming lessons, we have decided to move our Character Parade to Term 4! This gives families time to get their costumes organised over the school holidays. The parade will be on Friday 30th October, which is Week Three of next term. We look forward to seeing you all dressed up then.

Thank you for our Zumba and AFL Fundraising!

We are currently running extra sport sessions during lunch times for both the junior and senior children. These are proving very popular and it is great to see the children having such a good time during a fitness session with the trained instructors.

We are very grateful to the parents who sent along cupcakes for the cupcake stall which is helping to fund these lessons, so that they can be free for students. We raised over $150 which was a fantastic effort and we thank Ms Brazil, Ms Jones and our parent helpers. There will be more cupcake stalls soon.

Learning Journey

We are making a change to our Learning Journey this year. Our school will be open on Wednesday 23rd September from 2.40 to 5.00 p.m. so that families can visit your child’s classroom and have a look around the music, science and Italian rooms. You are also welcome to visit the Education Support Centre and see the fantastic programs that are run there.

We will also be having a robotics display, sausage sizzle, face-painting and local community stalls, so come along and join in the fun.

Please note, if you need to have an in-depth talk with your child’s teacher, please could you make an appointment at a different time, so that we can preserve your child’s privacy.

Term 4 Starting Date

Next term the children return to school on Monday 12th October as there is no Professional Development Day.

Support Our Choir!

The Merriwa students will be performing at the University of WA on Monday 31st August from 7.30 p.m. The choir has worked so hard with Mrs Prior and we are really proud of them. Please support us by coming along on the night….tickets can be purchased from Mrs Prior in the music room.

Staffing Change to Room 21

Mrs Mair has gone on leave for the rest of the year, and we welcome Mrs Nelson as classroom teacher. Mrs Nelson was already teaching Room 21 on Mondays, and this will ensure a smooth transition for the class.

Kind regards

Mrs Sue Waterhouse
From the Principal…Merriwa ESC…

Several staff and their families worked on our Outdoor Learning Area in a Busy Bee last weekend and the results are fabulous! The staff and students extend a huge thank you for the wonderful support. We look forward to the next stage which will further enhance the ESC facilities.

Our Hydrotherapy program has begun. Students are enjoying the freedom and therapy that water play provides. We cannot run this program without the dedication and support of our fabulous EAs who ensure that the children can actively participate. Thank you to the staff who have agreed to get into the water with the children.

Swimming: Don’t forget to get your swimming forms and $50 fee in to ensure a place in the program. Selected students will attend lessons during weeks 7 and 8.

Upcoming events for your diary:
- Hydrotherapy sessions each Wednesday to the end of term for selected students
- Swimming lessons for selected students from 31st August to 11th September
- ESC Interschool Carnival—combined education support schools athletics—Tuesday 8th September
- Merriwa PS Faction Athletics Carnival—Thursday 17th September
- AQWA excursion Tuesday 22nd September
- Learning Journey—come and see the work your child has been doing this term—Wednesday 23rd September

ESC Sports Carnival: This big event is on again in 2 weeks time. There is an opportunity to order a special lunch for the day, please look out for the order form with the information package coming to you soon.

AQWA: All students in the ESC will be invited to the Aquarium in Hillarys at the end of term. Information and permission notes will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Congratulations to all certificate winners at this week’s assembly!

Mrs Karen Macri
Principal
ESC

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<td>Tyson Pansini, Ajok Maker</td>
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<td>William Vokes, Samuel Baraka, Auguston-Leshay Waaka</td>
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<td>Charlotte Hutchins, Rocco Sambioni</td>
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<td>Charlee Taylor, Liam Griffiths</td>
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<td>Tyler Verbakel, Nathan Hamon</td>
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<td>Leighton Matthew, Ruhullah Akbari</td>
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<td>Lateisha Hodgkinson, Toby Monaghan</td>
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<td>Sophiema Van de Niewenhuyzen, Alex Stevens</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ciaralee Lingman, Abbie Reynolds</td>
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<td>Josiah Pietersen, Thomas Gleeson, Jacobe Muscara, Jasmine Fernando</td>
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Year 1, Room 9 read Uno's Garden by Graeme Base and learned how the environment can be changed by our actions. We loved the weird and wonderful animals and created and wrote about our own crazy creatures.
Hi there, Kate the School Chaplain here. I have been working at the school since Easter and I am feeling very at home here. This is a very special school community and your kids are gorgeous. Breakfast Club is up and running again and it is going really well. We have had some generous donations from St Mary’s Outreach and Merriwa IGA, Merriwa Bakers Delight and Foodbank help us each week. We need more volunteers though so we can run Breakfast Club every weekday. My main role so far has been pastoral care to the children but I am here for the staff and school community too. If there is anyone who wants to catch up you can call the front office, leave a message and I will give you a call. I work every Monday, Thursday and Friday.

Kind Regards
Kate Raynor

Congratulations to Karen Macri who has been nominated for the WA Primary School Leader of the Year Award

On Tuesday morning Violet, Mackayla, Riley and Brennan helped Mrs. Ebert to build the telescope. We were able to work as a team and got it built quite quickly. We are now looking forward to using it to view the sky!

Kurlangas Aboriginal Playgroup
This term at playgroup we will be learning about the colours **red**, **green**, **blue** and **yellow**. To help the children learn and recognise these colours we will be doing a variety of fun activities and art and craft experiences such as red cellophane windows, green caterpillars, blue toy car painting, and yellow sand gluing, coloured play dough, just to name a few!
For our babies, there will be tummy time (to strengthen their back and neck muscles), push and pull toys, some wonderful books to look at and songs to sing.
Playgroup is **FREE**, and held every Tuesday at Merriwa Primary School during term times between 10.00-1.00pm, for Aboriginal children up to 5yrs of age and their carers. Between 12 and 1pm, there will be an adult art table set up, where the adults can do painting and craft work.
A morning tea of fresh fruit is provided for the children, and tea, coffee and biscuits for the adults. You do not need to have a child attending this school to attend.
Hope to see you there!
**ABORIGINAL EARLY YEARS TEAM.**

NAPLAN REPORTS
The year 3 and year 5 NAPLAN reports for 2015 have been sent home today with this newsletter. Please make an appointment with your child’s teacher if you would like to discuss your child’s progress.

Parking Around Schools
Schools are notoriously bad for parking during the peak drop off and pick up times, morning and afternoon. Our school is no different. Recently concerns have been raised about parents using the Kiss and Drop zone on Greyhound Drive. Some parents are using it as parking bay while they walk their child/ren into class. This causes congestion and parents forced to double park to drop their children off. The safety of our children is the number one priority when deciding where to park. Please consider the safety of all children when deciding where to park. Included in the Newsletter is a School Parking Guide from the City of Wanneroo.