

MERRIWA

FREE

Ringer

Issue 11
Thursday June 4, 2020

WHAT'S INSIDE



**Student's learn the value
of a good breakfast**


Pest Alert
Termite Solutions

Are Termites
eating your home?

(02) 6884 7557



Termites
Spiders
Rodents
Cockroaches
Ants

Merriwa Ringer Welcomes Its Newest Sponsor for 2020

Tartan Electrical and Maintenance is a local business run by Brendan Moore. Brendan began his career in 2006 as an apprentice electrician at O'Donnell Griffin in Newcastle.

In 2012 he made the transition into the mining industry where he worked for the next seven years before starting his own business.

Tartan Electrical and Maintenance offers a comprehensive range of electrical needs, in residential, commercial and industrial areas. This includes minor repairs to new builds and renovations, pumps, appliances, indoor/outdoor lighting and more.

Brendan is currently completing the 'Back to the Grid' solar course which includes installations and maintenance of solar systems.



Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre
 (PO Box 96) 43 Bow St, Merriwa NSW 2329
 Ph: 0265 482 083
merriwapreschool@tpg.com.au

Merriwa Pre-School
 For children 2 – 5 years

Activity Centre
 For children attending Kindergarten to Year 6
 After School Care and Vacation Care

Cassilis Public School

Principal:
 Mrs Katie Burgess

Coolah Road Ph: 63761009
 Cassilis NSW 2329 Fax: 63761005
cassilis-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au

NEW COVID-19 HELPLINE AND ONLINE SERVICES LAUNCHED

(02) 6207 7244

For updates, visit covid19.act.gov.au

Merriwa Central School

Phone: 6548 2119

merriwa-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au

St Joseph's Primary School Merriwa

Empowering and challenging students to become lifelong learners

All enquiries welcome

Principal - Ashley Borg
 Ph 6548 2035

P&F President - Andrew Luke
 Ph 6548 2993

MCSF&C
 MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION

President: Julie Llewelyn
 Vice Presidents: Hollie Hunt and Keirra Hourn
 Secretary: Talitha Sawley
 Treasurer: Emma Douglas
 Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm at Merriwa RSL Club

SANDY HOLLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL

Telephone 02 6547 4521 Fax 02 6547 4450
 Email: sandyhollo-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Ringer Deadline!

Please remember to place your articles and advertisements into the **Merriwa Ringer** by Mondays, at 12.00 noon



Merriwa Central School

Deputy Principal's Report

TELL THEM FROM ME

In 2020 Merriwa Central School students from Year 4 to Year 12 will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. More than 6,300 schools in Australia and around the world have used Tell Them From Me to survey 5.4 million students. Capturing the voices of our students will help improve how we do things at our school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 15th June and 3rd July 2020 (this has been moved as a result of COVID-19). Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey will be sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>.

Sharon Kenaly
Deputy Principal

Primary

Last week we celebrated the 20th year of National Simultaneous Story time, along with thousands of others across the country. On May 27 at 11.00am, hundreds of schools and thousands of students shared the same story Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas. The students read the story and participated in literacy activities from the book. The chicken from last term's science unit, Lucky, also came to visit.

This week we are recognising National Reconciliation Week (May 27-June 3). National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The dates for National Reconciliation Week remain the same each year; May 27 to June 3. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. (From reconciliation.org.au)

Please check your children's belongings have their name on them. There are an increasing number of jumpers being handed in after recess and lunch with no names on them. It would be fantastic to be able to return them to their owners.

CLASS OF THE WEEK

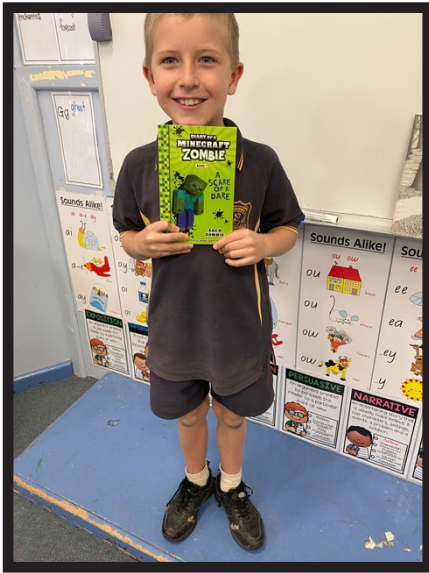
Year 5/6 are the Class of the Week this week for being mature and responsible school leaders.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

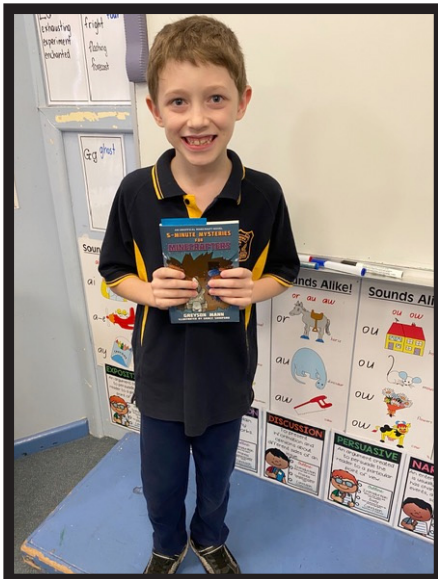
Year 5/6 - Hallie Milgate - Amazing commitment to her education both at school and during blended learning.



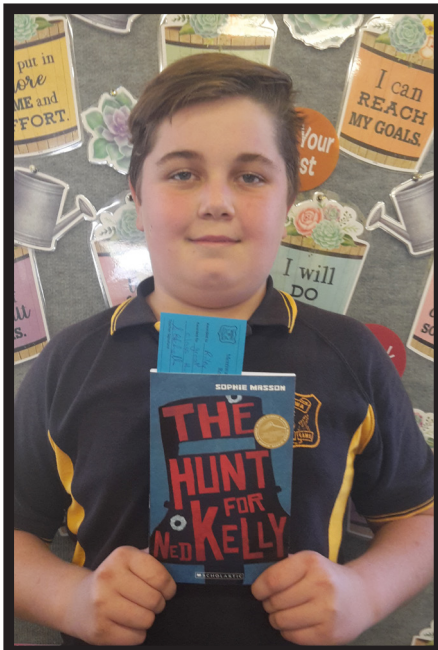
**Library Award –
Charlie Cook**



**Year 2/3 -
Daniel Olsen** – demonstrating maturity at school and having a fantastic first week back after blended learning.

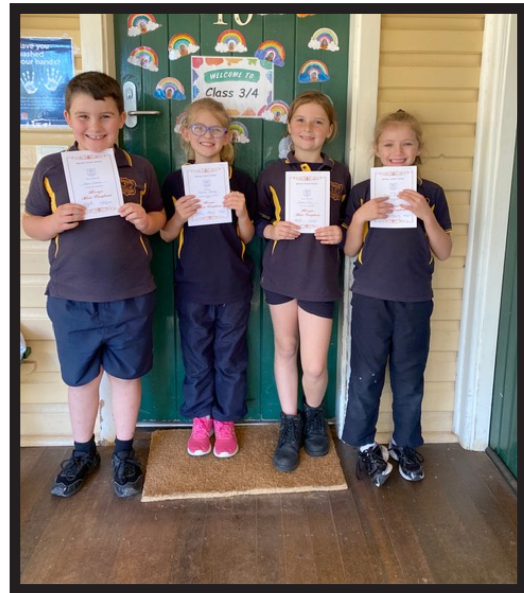


**Year 4/5 Riley
Bristow**



BRONZE AWARD WINNERS

Year 3/4 - Oscar Swan, Tiarne Dening, Hazel Chin, Aubree Oldham



Year 3/4 - Paige Walker – For always giving

100% effort in all that she does and her willingness to assist her peers. A pleasure to teach every day.



**Jenna North
Relieving Assistant
Principal**

Primary Canteen

Primary Canteen will reopen Tuesday June 9 and continue every Monday until the end of term.

Changes for canteen at this time are:

- Recess and lunch orders only. Class baskets will be collected from the canteen for these orders
- There will be no "buying" from the canteen for recess or lunch

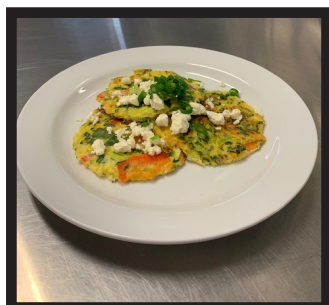
In Term 3 canteen will operate on Mondays and Fridays with normal ordering any purchasing at the counter.

Jill Carrall

Secondary

HOSPITALITY – KITCHEN OPERATIONS

The past couple of months have seen a new style of teaching across NSW, with students learning from home and conducting online lessons through 'Zoom'. While it has been challenging for both students and teachers alike, the students should be congratulated for remaining focused and completing their work packs. However students in Year 12 Hospitality have been working hard recently in the kitchen to complete their units of competencies this semester. Students have been creating a range of coffees to industry standard and most recently a range of appetisers, salads and sandwiches.



INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY - TIMBER

Year 12 Industrial Technology Timber students have been working hard on their major projects since returning to school. The practical and portfolio component have been given a two week extension for submission. The new due date is August 27, 2020.

The students have been constructing the joints and frames for their project and will strive to complete them on time. Have a look at the progress photos.



Matt Dean
Head Teacher VET

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

JAKE WILLIAMS - YEAR 10

FAVOURITE SUBJECT: PDHPE – I really enjoy getting out and doing practical lessons

BEST PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT: I got top marks in maths

CAREER ASPIRATIONS: Truck driver

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Touch Footy

YEAR ADVISOR COMMENT: Since returning to school, Jake has shown an exemplary pride towards his classwork. I have had multiple staff members comment on how well he has been performing in class. He is often going above and beyond by requesting extra work if he completes his set work and seeking feedback constantly. Jake's attitude towards his learning and overall well-mannered nature has resulted in him getting a much deserved student of the week.

Lachlan Vaughan - Year Advisor



HOMework CLUB

Homework Club its back! Buckle up and book your places because we are expecting students to queue up for more time with the experts. Staff are ready to go and looking forward to helping your child achieve their best with their assignments and study. Same format as last term on Thursday afternoons from 3.30pm to 4.30pm in the Secondary Library. Rest assured that hygiene will be paramount, with hand sanitiser available at the door and wipes used at the end of each session to ensure surfaces are clean. Students who attend get a Blue Slip in addition to professional tuition with our committed staff. We look forward to seeing you there.

Daniel Berzsenyi
Coordinator

CAREER NEWS

Taronga Zoo Student photo Competition

Different Themes and deadline dates.

There is always wildlife around us, even at home. With the many healing properties nature has to offer, we are challenging students to a photo competition to capture the natural beauty around their homes.

The Wild Snaps photo competition has now reopened! Students can now continue to enter the competition with fortnightly changing themes, proudly supported by QBE Insurance.

Show us your best wildlife or nature photo! School students from Kindergarten to Year 12 are invited to enter the Wild Snaps photo competition, to encourage students to be wild explorers.

<https://taronga.org.au/education/digital-programs-online-resources/wild-snaps>

Bright Awards: Closes November 16

The Bright Awards is a celebration of students in Years 10, 11 and 12 across Australia who are bringing their creative craft to life. Designed to highlight emerging young creative talent and brought to you by Billy Blue College of Design at Torrens University Australia.

This is a chance to have your work recognised by industry professionals working in the field. If you're just starting out, had a couple of years of practice or really proud of your major work this competition is for you.

The Bright Awards are designed to highlight emerging talent across Australia, with winners

for 2020 receiving a \$1,000 prize and \$3,000 for their schools.

<https://brightawards.com.au/>

ACMF National Song Writing Competition: Closes 3 August

\$10,000 prizes ! Every year, every student from every school across Australia is invited to put pen to paper and enter their original song for a chance to win prize-money that can be allocated towards musical equipment and tuition. 75% of Australian public schools do not have dedicated music teachers. In 2002, singer-songwriter, Don Spencer, OAM, founded the ACMF to address the needs of children who were not getting the benefits of music education.

<http://acmf.com.au/national-songwriting-competition/>

Interior Decoration Workshop: July 7 and 8

Over two fun, creative days, you will learn how to put together a full interior decoration scheme for a living space in your own home including planning your layout, selecting furniture, furnishings and lighting. You will explore the theory behind creating a dynamic colour scheme and create a sample board to showcase your ideas.

Looking for an online alternative? Try our Design Your Living Space Masterclass with our partner at Interior Design Online here.

<https://sydneydesignschool.com.au/workshop/>

The best Australian universities to study health services and support

A career in health services and support is a rewarding experience as it makes a big difference in people's lives. Whether it's a position as a dental assistant, anaesthetist or carer, there are plenty of job opportunities in health services, as it's one of the fastest-growing industries.

Find the Australian universities' specific strengths, offering insight to support and guide decision-making when choosing a university. View the rankings in terms of how each university performs overall, or you can narrow down by field of study and state.

We looked at which universities with undergraduate health services and support degrees performed best in full time employment, teaching quality and graduate salary.

<https://www.australiancareersservice.com.au/industry-news/the-best-universities-to-study->

health-services-and-support

University of Newcastle – Engineering Jobs of the Future June 9. 5.30pm

For students, parents and teachers who want to know more about the jobs of the future and the role of engineers in tackling the world's biggest problems.

- How Engineering fields are adapting and changing
- How University of Newcastle Engineering degrees will prepare you for the future of work
- What it's like studying Engineering - through the eyes of a current student
- How University of Newcastle Engineers are responding to the COVID-19 crisis.

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/events/future-students/jobs-of-the-future-engineering>

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<https://www.australiancareersservice.com.au/industry-news/the-best-universities-to-study-health-services-and-support>

University of Canberra English Proficiency for Nursing and Midwifery Degrees

English proficiency requirements have increased for Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced) and Bachelor of Midwifery courses due to changes made by the Nursing and Midwifery board. Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Board Students who wish to apply to Nursing and Midwifery courses will now be

required to show they meet the primary language requirements. Read further information here.

<https://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards/English-language-skills.aspx>

Angliss Hospitality Course Chat Goes Virtual

Got students or graduates who want to know more about studying at Angliss in July? One on one course consultations are now available online to prospective students. Speak to course advisors about course options, fees, scholarships and the newly-adapted delivery structure to enforce social distancing policies. Course chats can be booked via:

<https://www.angliss.edu.au/study-with-us/meet-us/>

Kenvale College of Hospitality, Cookery and Events - Talk to our Course Advisors

Curious about hospitality, Cookery or Event management or what paid work and study means? Book a video/phone call meeting with a course advisor and find out what Kenvale has to offer?

<https://kenvale.edu.au/course-advisor/>

Automotive Apprenticeship Vacancies

Apprenticeships Are Us has over 50 automotive apprenticeship vacancies across all of Sydney and surrounding suburbs. Light Vehicle Mechanic, Heavy Vehicle Mechanic, Motorcycle Mechanic, Panel Beater, Spray Painter, Parts Interpreter. Contact Apprenticeships Are Us on 02 9891 6900 or career@apprus.com.au Follow our Facebook page for constant updates - @apprenticeshipsrus

Permanent Firefighter Recruitment 2020

Get ready to apply on July 24

The 2020 Candidate Information Pack, FAQs and Interview Preparation Guide are now available.

View key dates and information session updates.

Please join us on Facebook for regular updates or sign up below to receive information via email.

<https://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/page.php?id=2>

If you have any further career enquiries please contact me at school.

**Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor**



St Joseph's Primary School

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

After what has seemed an absolutely eternity to both staff and students alike, we are finally back together in a full-time capacity.

I can not begin to tell you all how excited this makes our staff and myself feel. It certainly has had the feel of a "real school" over the last three weeks, post all the Home Learning and abridged versions of school.

Once again, we, as a staff of St Joseph's thank all our families for the dedication to home learning initiatives, the support of our staff and the school in general.

I am sure you will all agree, we have all learned a lot from the experience of not having school in its most traditional form.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY REMINDER

A reminder to all families that Monday June 8 will be a Public Holiday due to the Queen's Birthday Long Weekend.

WELLBEING WEEK

Wellbeing Week once again proved to be an absolute hit!

From STEM activities with Mrs Collins and Mrs McLaren, to Bingo with Miss Love and Miss Rodwell, music with Mrs Peebles, our "Nude Food" day on Tuesday, which left the school with less than ten pieces of rubbish in bins for the day and to top it all off, our Pyjama Day on Thursday with Mrs Ninness organising the Hot Chocolate as a treat for students, this week continues to evolve into something that both students and staff all look forward to.

Thank you to all the staff and students for making the week so enjoyable.

The benefits of improving our wellbeing are well documented. Students who are happier are also more productive and ready to learn, which in turn has terrific benefits for student achievement, which is, overall, what St Joseph's is striving for in our School Improvement Plan.

I strongly encourage all parents to participate in the Character Strength survey, in order to better understand the character strengths and the language which we use at school for awards

and in speaking with students. <https://www.viacharacter.org/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2Fsurvey%2Fsurveys%2Fquestions%2F13835343>



CELEBRATING PENTECOST

May 31 saw the official "birthday" of the Catholic Church around the world.

Pentecost is the day that the church was born. Christ was crucified, rose again, spent thirty days with His disciples, then ascended to heaven. Pentecost immediately followed. For two millennia,

Christians have been celebrating the church's birthday with joy and exuberance. Pentecost Sunday takes place 40 days after Easter Sunday. Originally, Pentecost was a Jewish holiday what was held 50 days after Passover as one of the major Jewish feasts.

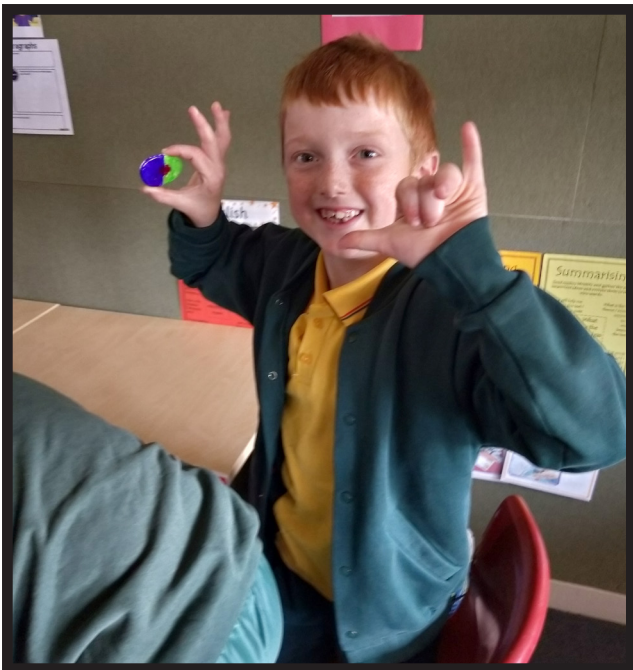
RECONCILIATION WEEK

This week sees the continuation of Reconciliation Week, with National Sorry Day last Tuesday, seen as a precursor to the week.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The dates for NRW remain the same each year; May 27 to June 3. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



COVID-19 SUPPORT

Are you an Upper Hunter resident who has lost income because of COVID-19?

We are here to help with financial assistance in a practical way.

Please call 02 6542 3555 or knock on the door at the QEII Muswellbrook



ATHLETICS SKILLS

During the last week, students have been looking into athletics skills, which would normally be in preparation for the Athletics Carnival.

This year, we will need to do things a little bit differently, but we will also be holding an athletics carnival of sorts.

We will be in touch with families shortly with arrangements.



ENROLMENTS

If you know of any family who wishes to see the great work we do at St Joseph's, please promote us as much as you can. Your positive words in the community will be extremely beneficial.

For enquiries, email admin@merriwa.catholic.edu.au or Ashley.borg@mn.catholic.edu.au

FOR THE DIARY

- Monday June 8 – Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday)



WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award winners.

WEEK 5

Kindergarten - Callum Nicholls – for his consistent and diligent approach in all learning areas

Stage 1 - Tess Grocott – For her ability to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills by understanding what is an opinion and what is factual

Stage 2 - Lilly Towell – for her motivation and efforts to do her best within all areas of learning

Jeremiah Raines – for applying his strength of Judgment to his learning of persuasive texts by considering different points of view before making decisions

Stage 3 - Lula Peebles - for applying her strength of judgement in all aspects of school life, thinking of others and showing empathetic skills

Levi Hourn - for his application, confidence growth and improvement shown completing maths tasks

Principal's Awards - Jeff Turner – for his excellent STEM design during Wellbeing Week

Jeremiah Raines – for the enthusiasm he displays in all class activities.



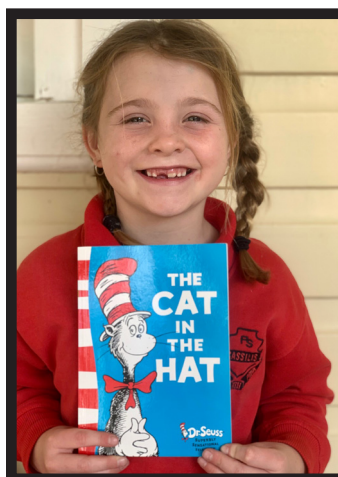
Mr Ashley Borg
Principal



HOW BEAUTIFUL IS OUR SCHOOL!



STUDENT OF THE WEEK- SKYLAH ANDERSON



Congratulations to Skylah who has earned the Student of the Week for her learning and behaviour last week. The staff discussed their choice and the following reasons were given. Skylah worked more independently last week and was willing to try parts of work with minimal support. She

kept herself very engaged and busy with learning. Mrs Gray commented how well Skylah read as all her practising is really showing! She was respectful and listened to all staff members all week. Skylah also listened to her peers when they were speaking.

Ms Eather said that she impressed her during music when she was working with Summer and when she was reading to Ms Eather she used

great expression.

During her IEP time, Mrs Nairne said that she showed a sound understanding of counting by 2's, 5's and 10's. For number, Skylah used MAB blocks to represent numbers in the hundreds and touching on thousands and showed perseverance with her writing.

Well done, Skylah. You should feel very proud of yourself.

BREAKFAST, THE MOST IMPORTANT MEAL OF THE DAY



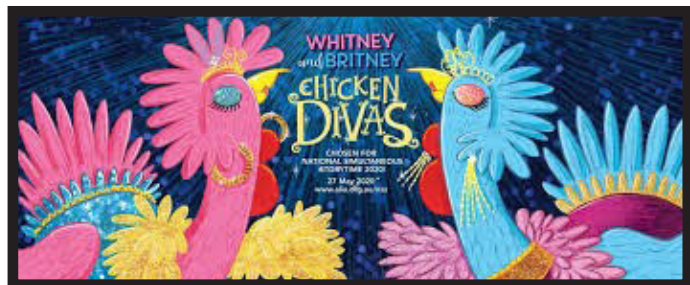
During last week's cooking lessons students discussed the importance of eating breakfast to help with concentration and great learning.

For their brunch, students made clever egg and ham muffins. All the students tried them and most plates

were empty. I know that Gordie even made this recipe two times over the weekend.



Sharing food at a table is a wonderful, social moment.



For National Simultaneous Reading last week, students listened to the wonderful story of Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas. This story was about two chickens who slept all day because at night they were singing and dancing performers!

Johnathan wrote:

Whitney and Britney should be allowed to sing because they are good and the crowd loves them.



Cooper disagreed and wrote:

Whitney and Britney should get another job so they can buy food during the day.

Our students showed some great creativity by constructing bird traps last week. Please note that no birds were of course hurt. We love our birds!

In Term 2 students are learning more about Athletics. This included jumping and throwing last Friday.





Cooper remembered and wrote:

I felt happy when dad and I chased the cows to the cattle yards to put tags in their ears.

Johnathan remembered and wrote:

I felt happy when dad and I kicked the football at the horse grounds. I will always remember this.

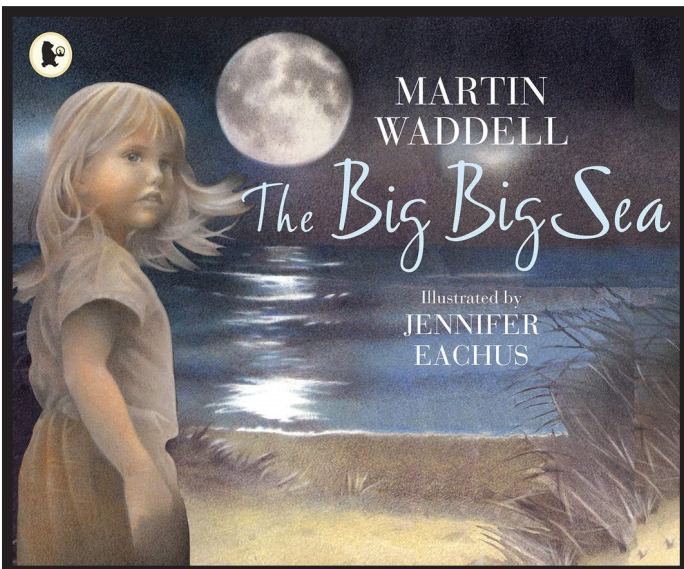
I hope that more great memories are made over this long weekend. Our kids love the time we spend with them.

Students in the McMaster Room wrote a persuasive piece of writing about the reasons why they want a certain pet. Our students completed the process that is required which meant this piece of writing took over a week to complete. They are currently busy typing up their stories ready for you to read in next week's newsletter.

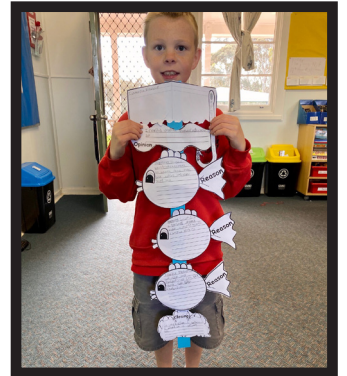
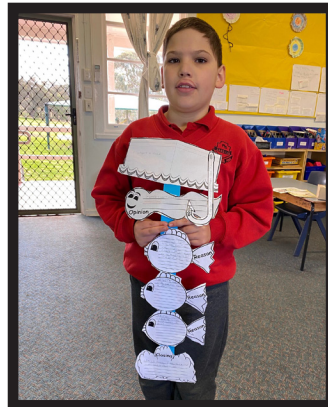


Thanks to Paul and Johnathan for shovelling the sand into the pit.

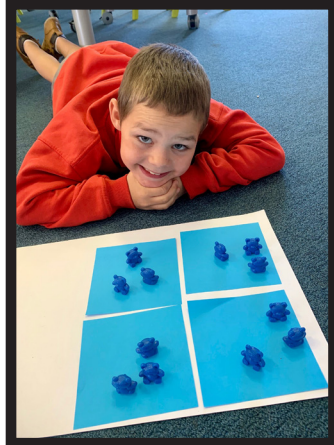
Making memories with your children is really important as they will always remember them!



The theme of this beautiful story is the importance of making memories for our children to remember. After reading the story, students then had a great discussion about the story to help them with their understanding and their writing.



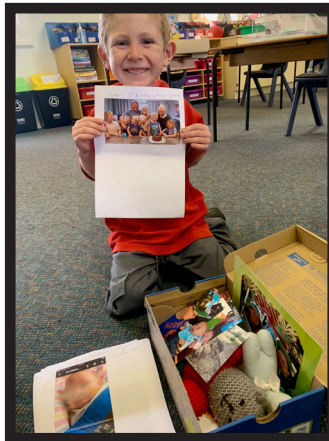
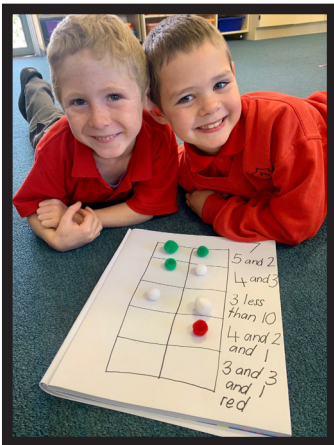
Lots of great maths practice in the Busby Room... sharing and counting.



MY LIFE IN A SHOEBOX

It was a wonderful moment yesterday listening to students show and talk about items that they brought in. Thank you to our families for supporting their children by helping them organise their

boxes. Our students are busy writing a short story about their items to share with you next week.



FUN IN THE PLAYGROUND



Katie Burgess
Principal



Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO

one place – welcome to Starting Blocks.

Starting Blocks is brought to you by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA). ACECQA is the national body, overseeing the implementation of the National Quality Framework (NQF).

This term has seen the cancellation of many of our clinicians that were scheduled to visit our service including STEPS our state wide vision screening and our podiatry screening which examines children's hips legs and feet. Science on the move has also been cancelled and our major excursion, which was to be a trip to the civic theatre in Newcastle to Bluey's big show has also been sadly cancelled as well.

This year we had a double session of bush kindy planned and although we have missed one we are hopeful that our next planned session will go ahead on August 20. We anticipate that Term 3 will see the rescheduling of many of our excursions and incursions and could possibly be a very busy term for staff and children.



We are also chugging along with our plan for Quality Improvement (QIP) for our service and part of that is our engagement with families. Which is one of the seven quality standards, as part of that we hope to educate and involve families in our service and the general provision of early childhood education and care through the Starting Blocks programme. At starting blocks .gov.au

Starting Blocks provides parents with information about early childhood education and care.



Starting blocks is a starting point to:

- learn about children's developmental milestones
- understand what to expect from an early childhood education and care service
- find services and learn about their quality ratings
- get tips on starting child care or preschool, and what can be done at home to encourage your child's learning and development.



Our aim is to provide you and your family with trusted information, all in

**Leah Folpp
Service Director**

Merriwa Ringer



Anglican News

Phone: 0429 996 769

TRINITY SUNDAY John 3:16-18

As a child I learnt about the Trinity in terms of three persons in one God – a short summary of a very complex history of debate about God, Jesus and Spirit. John's Gospel says this with much greater simplicity in the one word: 'love'. The very nature of God is to love – to reach out to another in relationship. In this conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus describes why he has come into the world; for love of us God gave the promise that those who receive this gift in faith will become children of God (John 1:12) which is this Gospel's way of describing salvation. This means of course that you and I are invited to be drawn into the very heart of God, to be drawn into the Trinity as part of God's own household.

Earlier in the conversation Jesus spoke to Nicodemus about being born again in water and Spirit – a phrase Nicodemus could not understand. The Johannine community understood that with the gift of the Spirit they were in a sense reborn into the family of God, able to call God 'Father' and each other sisters and brothers. If you want a living example of the Trinity look at a family where children participate in the life and love of their parents.

Today, as we celebrate the feast of the Trinity, we are not celebrating an esoteric doctrine from the past, we are celebrating a living relationship with God, in which we now participate. (From "Sundays Under the Southern Cross" by Mary Coloe PBVM).

Love and blessings,

Rev Pat Kirkby

Merriwa CWA

CWA and Hunter River Group is offering two educational grants to students living in their district.

Each year the Hunter River Group of the Country Women's Association (CWA) awards two educational grants for which any students residing in the boundaries of the Hunter River Group area can apply.

Bridie Moore from Merriwa being awarded the Hunter River Group Education Grant in 2018.

The two grants are:

The Hunter River Group Education Grant, valued at \$500.00, for a student entering Tertiary Education, whether it be University, TAFE or College. This Grant was originally established by the Diamond Jubilee Fund to provide financial assistance to a student in pursuing a chosen career.

The Jean Latham Education Grant - Year 11 students who are entering Year 12 and reside in the bounds of hunter river group. Value \$300.00

To be eligible to apply for these Grants, the student must meet the following criteria:

Reside in an area bounded by Murrurundi in the north, Merriwa in the west, Belmont in the south and Nelson Bay in the east.

Be Entering Tertiary Education

Demonstrate a need for financial assistance

Mature students may apply.

How do you apply?

Students need to apply through the branch closest to where they live regardless of where they go to school or work. Please contact the Branch Secretary for further information, and application forms.

Applications must be with your local branch before December 1, 2020.

If you live in the Merriwa area, but go to any of the following schools: Merriwa Central School, St Joseph's School, Aberdeen, Scone Grammer School or Scone High School, please contact Kim Clydsdale at kmclydsdale@gmail.com or 0265 482558 or 0421 910 658. If you send an email address I can then send you an application form.



Kim Clydsdale

Community Notice Board

Merriwa Non-Emergency Transport

Merriwa Non-Emergency Transport is operational to all destinations providing drivers are available.

Joy Hancock

Merriwa Rotary

ZOOMED OUT!

By the time this Ringer appears, Merriwa will have moved from our ZOOM meetings to regular, in person meetings. A meeting at Eat at 123, is scheduled for Tuesday June 2. Our thanks to Kylie for making this possible.

As our community moves out of lock-down mode, there are signs, in some ways, of things returning to normal. The unlocking of the gates of the Rotary Playground has resulted in cars pulling up there and families lunching...many having bought their food and drinks in Merriwa. The unmistakable sound of a swing that creaks is evidence to be heard, rather than seen, that children are now able to enjoy the delights of the playground.

Let us hope that our town will waken from the slumber caused by our having to deal with Covid 19 and be able to (safely) get back to normal.

Some details of the proposed expansion of the Merriwa Rotary Playground are available at our local Shire office, which will, hopefully, be able to unlock its doors shortly..

Mark Smith

Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre and Men's Shed

It finally appears that we are starting to get to the beginning of the end of a very long tunnel with Covid-19, the isolation and public distancing has certainly taken its toll on all of us although we can be thankful that our little town has been spared the ravages of the virus.

Our businesses have suffered including the Welcoming Centre, which closed its doors on the 20th of March – it was a very painful but necessary decision and has caused no end of worry for the committee.

Our income is totally dependent on our tourists – of which there were none – and it is imperative that we join the general trend to reopen as soon as possible. We have decided to wait for a few weeks to see what the virus will do once given more opportunities to spread, so until then we will remain shut, an opening date that could be possible is end of June 2020.

The income generated by the Centre forms an integral part of the wellbeing of our town – the Centre in the last 5 or 6 years has donated, contributed and supported organisations to the tune of over \$100,000 – not a mean feat for a “tourist shop”. We have become an important part of the town infrastructure, an important part of the tourist route and an important part of the town economy, so our opening must be planned carefully, not too early and not too late.

Our plan is to perhaps just open Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 10.00am to 2.00pm to start with – the way we started 16 years ago....we go back to the beginning!

The other side of the coin is that we need goods for sale, no use opening when “the shelves are bare”, so I ask each and every one of you who is into arts and crafts to consider joining our little organisation.

You will earn money and support the town – without the town support the Centre will be unable to operate.

We wish you all good health and a plentiful supply of hand lotion!

Edith Shipway

The Merriwa Community News is available to charity groups or non-funded, not for profit organisations and anyone wishing to advise of a special event (birthday/anniversary/etc). If you would like to make use of this free service, please contact us before 12.00noon on Mondays.

Business
Merriwa Newsagency
THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY

- Lisa Wilkinson on losing her Mum and how her loss has changed everything
- We are strong; six inspiring women prove that physical and emotional strength are ageless as they smash records and conquer goals
- The compassion cure. Anxiety has become an emotional pandemic and the world is desperate for a cure. A new wave of psychotherapists believe a good dose of old fashioned compassion might do the trick.

INSTYLE AUSTRALIA

- Lady Gaga; what she wants next might surprise you!
- Rewrite the rules; five ways to embrace fashion's new mood, plus how to eat your way to great skin
- A-Z guide to surviving and thriving this winter. Remain sane and make the most of your winter hibernation with our expert tips, no crafting required.

BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS

It's time to make your home snug and cosy with hot decorating ideas to keep the chill at bay. In this issue there is a big value offer of ravishing roses to fill your garden beds, plus slow and steady comfort food with nourishing one pot wonders. Pick up your copy today!

BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS CODE CRACKER

It's time for you puzzle customers to test your puzzle skills with Issue 14 of the Code Cracker!

OUTBACK MAGAZINE

Whether it's sharing a bottle of bubbly at the races or enjoying a hearty Coonawarra cab sav around a campfire on a winters night, Australians love wine! This issue raises their glasses to the fifth biggest agricultural industry from Margaret River WA to the Hunter NSW & the QLD Granite Belt to Tasmania, where there are 2500 wineries, generating about \$2.8 billion in export revenue & about the same in the domestic market. There is no doubt, Australia produce some of the world's best wine.

If you are a fan of the Diamond Dotz and are interested in framing your works of art, drop by to discuss frame sizing

A TWIGSEEDS MOMENT

Measure your days in moments, not minutes.

BEANIE BOO

My name is Cooper

I live a relaxing life of ease, hanging around in magical trees

My birthday is June 20

PHONECARDS: All cards are now available including Telstra, Optus and Vodafone. Cash and Eftpos only.

Leanne and Neville Hook and the newsXpress

Upper Hunter Shire Council

MERRIWA PARK PLANS ON DISPLAY

Draft designs for an extension to the Merriwa skate park and a new accessible toilet block and Driver Reviver annexe, have been put on display for community comment.

The improved skate park is planned to include a bowl hip, two spines, a roof top grind ledge, roll overs and roll in.

The toilet block will have four unisex toilets with basins, including an ambulant toilet and an accessible cubicle with baby change facilities.



The Driver Reviver annex will be relocated and will have a hand washing basin, security roller shutters and a covered outside aluminium bench seats and table.

The \$291,000 project is being undertaken by Upper Hunter Shire Council and is funded by the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF). It is one of 12 projects underway across the Shire.

The draft plans are available on Council's website under 'Hot Topics' www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

Residents are encouraged to provide written comment by June 5, 2020.

Online www.upperhunter.gov.au
email council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au



Council staff met last week with John and Elaine Sparrow, who have been working with a committee of young people since 2005 on improving the skate park facilities through the Merriwa Rotary Club.

mail PO Box 208, Scone NSW 2337.

NEW FEES FOR CASSILIS WASTE FACILITY

As of Saturday 30 May 2020, there will be fees for the disposal of waste at the Cassilis Waste Transfer Facility.

Fees for General Mixed Waste:

- \$15.50 for car/station wagon
- \$58.50 for van/ute/trailer (6x4, single axle)
- \$77.00 for dual axle trailer
- \$15.50 for mobile garbage bin

Please note: the facility will only accept payments by card/ EFTPOS.

Only general mixed waste up to the size of a dual axle trailer will be accepted, however Council is investigating the options to accept other waste including recycling in the future.

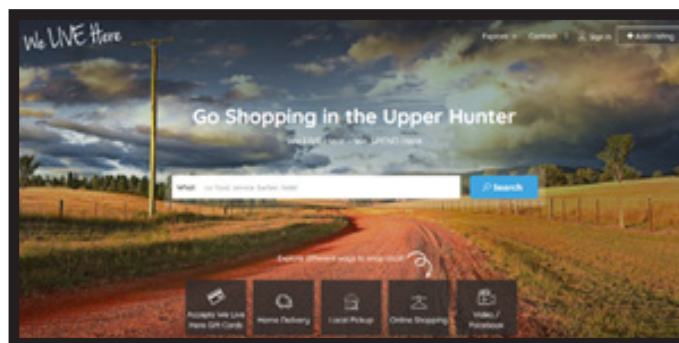
There has been a free waste service for the community of Cassilis and surrounding areas for a number of years. Unfortunately, incorrect use of the site, including illegally dumped waste, resulted in Council having to engage a contractor to supervise the facility in February 2020.

The decision to charge fees was made at the last ordinary Council meeting, after the proposal to change the services was put on public exhibition from March 4 to April 4 2020.

The fees are consistent with other waste management facilities throughout the Shire. The

facility will open Saturdays 10.00am to 2.00pm.

WE LIVE HERE, WE SPEND HERE



Upper Hunter Shire Council has launched a major initiative to support local businesses across our Shire with the 'We LIVE Here – We SPEND Here' 'buy local' shopping website designed for us to have a 'one-stop shop' directory for everything in the Upper Hunter. www.welivehereupperhunter.com.au is an extension of the 'We Live Here' buy local campaign.

We live here, we spend here is funded with \$100,000 from the Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Fund jointly funded under the Commonwealth/State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Get involved and visit the website at www.welivehereupperhunter.com.au.

Local Businesses - make sure you add your business to our free directory here www.welivehereupperhunter.com.au. You can also join our Facebook page We LIVE Here Upper Hunter - where business owners can communicate with other local businesses and Council's Business Services staff. Anyone needing support can contact Council's Business Services Team on 6540 1100.

Local residents - make the directory www.welivehereupperhunter.com.au the first stop for your shopping needs, shop local and support the businesses, the owners and their employees in your community.

NSW Government COVID-19 restrictions changed on June 1.

Please visit www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au for the details about changes to Council services.

**Steve McDonald
General Manager**

MDHA Inc.
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9.30 to 2.30 weekdays
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UPPER HUNTER offices

Merriwa 6548 2175 (Mon & Tues 9 - 4pm, Wed 9 - 3pm)

Scone 6540 2400 (Mon – Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm)

Singleton 6572 2944 (Mon – Fri 10.00am - 3.00pm)

Direct Local Contacts for:

DISTRICT VET 0427 322311

BIOSECURITY - PEST ANIMALS 0429 722944

For more information on our range of services visit our website

hunter.ils.nsw.gov.au



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Fax: 6542 5297

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BY APPOINTMENT
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Email: office@cgbllaw.com.au Web: www.cgbllaw.com.au

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6548 2042

Merriwa Pharmacy

Opening Hours

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Tuesday 9.00am - 5.30pm
Wednesday 9.00am - 5.30pm
Thursday 9.00am - 5.30pm
Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm
Saturday 9.00am - 12.00pm

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Treasurer: Leanne Hunt on 0487 761 253
Secretary: Larissa Hockings on 0429 412 772



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MCSP&C
MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL P&F ASSOCIATION

President: Julie Llewelyn
Vice Presidents: Hollie Hunt and Keirra Hourn
Secretary: Talitha Sawley
Treasurer: Emma Douglas
Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm at Merriwa RSL Club



Merriwa Anglican Parish Services
Holy Trinity Merriwa

9.00am Sundays
10.00am Fridays
Short Bible Study

Contact: **0429 996 769**

Rev'd Pat Kirkby - Local Priest



St Davids Uniting Church
Vennacher Street Merriwa

Service Times
1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays at 11.00am
3rd Sunday at 6.00pm

Peter Campbell - 6548 5126



Catholic Parish Merriwa & Cassilis

WEEKEND MASSES
St Anne's Merriwa
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - Sat 6.00pm
2nd & 4th Sunday - Sun 8.30am
St Joseph's Cassilis
2nd & 4th Sunday - 10.00am
Parish Priest - **6548 2086**
St Vincent de Paul - 6548 3092



Churches

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www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au



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Email: sandyhollo-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Cassilis Public School

Principal: Mrs Katie Burgess

Coolah Road Ph: 63761009
Cassilis NSW 2329 Fax: 63761005
cassilis-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au



Schools

Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre
(PO Box 96) 43 Bow St, Merriwa NSW 2329
Ph: 0265 482 083
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Telephone: 6548 3201



CWA
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159 Bettington Street

Visitors and new members are always welcome

Enquiries to:
President: Penelope Fenley
Phone: 6548 3060
Email: penelopecwa@inet.net.au
Secretary: Kim Clydsdale
Phone: 6548 2558
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 Thursday Night 7:00pm Bingo
 Friday 5:00pm - 7:00pm Happy Two Hours and Free raffles
 Saturday - **7.45pm** Monster raffles and members' badge draw
 Sunday: 5:00pm to 7:00pm meat voucher raffle and members' badge draw.

The Sporties Chinese/Australian Restaurant 6548 3228
 Dine in or Take Away. Banquets and Function catering available.
 Lunch Specials
 Lunch: Wednesday to Sunday.
 Dinner: Tuesday to Sunday




Rotary Club of Merriwa Inc
ROTARY
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Meets each Tuesday at the Merriwa Sports Club
7.00pm for 7.30pm
 4 x 4m Marquee for Hire
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 Rugby League Football Club
Merriwa Rugby League Football Club
 President: Ben Robins
 Vice President: David Martin
 Secretary: Gaynor Blackadder
 Treasurer/Publicity Officer: Jessyca Morgan

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 Marie Scott - Secretary
Tel: 0498 378 500



Clare Martin
 President 6548 2201
De Patterson
 Secretary 0416 194 501
Fiona Morgan
 Treasurer

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Merriwa Swimming Club

For swimmers of all abilities
 Season begins in Term 4
 President: Melissa Collins
 Registrar: Bronwyn Redgate
 Secretary: Sandy Wallings
merriwa.swimming.org.au

BBQ area and Kids Play area

Friday
 Raffles and 3 Members Badge Draws
Sunday
 Raffles
 Members Badge Draw between 11.30am & 1.30pm

Club: 6548 2157
Bistro: 6548 2295
 For the information of members and their guests.



President Andrew Constable
Secretary Fiona Morgan
Treasurer Kellie Porter

All enquires to the secretary 0418417186
 fionamorgan6@bigpond.com

MERRIWA RACES

April 24, 2021

Race Club President - Paul Frampton
 Contact - 0428 485 182
 Visit www.merriwaraceclub.com.au

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President: Jamie Edmonds 0428 308 010
 Secretary: Kellie Porter 0432 109 760
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October Long weekend 2020
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Merriwa Cricket Club

President: Jon Osmond 0428 714 648
 Vice President: Mark Fieldsend
 Secretary: James Armstrong 0412 926 525
 Treasurer: Mick Curteis - 0475 980 254

MERRIWA DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Have your voice heard on matters that affect the whole local community

Meets on 3rd Wednesdays at 6:00 PM Merriwa RSL
merriwaprogress@gmail.com

Clubs Merriwa RSL Club

Yes its back 'BEER ON TAP' dine in on Friday or Saturday nights and you can get that liquid gold flowing back in your system, give that stubby taste a good flush out.

Bookings are essential as we can only have 10 in this weekend and up to 20 next weekend until further notice.

Please don't forget we are open six nights a week in the bar for takeaway sales of beer, spirits, soft drink and pizza's, closed Sunday's and five nights in the bistro closed Sunday/Monday. And remember to use our home delivery service no need to venture out into the cold, just ring and place an order pay over the phone by card or cash on delivery.

Remember to keep an eye on our Facebook page and Merriwa Connect for daily menu updates.

Footy tipping competition resumes again this Thursday so please get your tips in before 7.30pm by calling 6548 2157, email: mwarslclub@bigpond.com or pop in during opening hours 5.00pm to 8.00pm.

Thank you to all our loyal supporters who have stayed with us through these trying times.

Matt Morgan

Merriwa Sports Club

Mondays - Happy Two Hours - 4.00pm to 6.00pm

Tuesdays - Rotary meets - 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Wednesdays - 6.00pm Bingo - prizes of club and meat vouchers. Raffle and Super 39 special prize

Fridays - Happy Two Hours - 6.00pm to 7.00pm, free raffle.

Saturdays - Monster Raffle. Tickets on sale at 6.45pm drawn 7.30pm, winners jackpot, dinner draw and Saturday Badge Draw.

Sundays - Members badge draw plus three raffles choice of \$25.00 meat or fuel vouchers.

BINGO

No bingo for the time being.

BOWLS

Casual bowls available.

GOLF

Casual Golf available. Donations in honesty box.

CHINESE SMORGASBORD RESTAURANT

NO SMORGASBORD FOR THE TIME BEING

Chinese will be open for takeaways.

For bookings and take away – 6548 3228.

WEEKEND RESULTS

Saturday Raffle - No RAFFLES FOR THE TIME BEING CLUB IS OPENING MONDAY JUNE 1

Restricted hours due to COVID 19 are as follows

Mondays 3.30pm till 6.00pm

Tuesday 3.30pm till 6.00pm

Wednesday 3.30pm till 6.00pm

Thursday 3.30pm till 6.00pm

Fridays 3.30pm till 8.00pm

Saturdays 12.00pm till 8.00pm

Sundays 3.30pm till 6.00pm.

Hours will be revised with relation of regulations.

We look forward to see you all again.

Des Snelgrove

Ringer Deadline!

Please remember to place your articles and advertisements into the

Merriwa Ringer

by Mondays, at 12.00 noon

Roma Station, Roma Road Merriwa

\$420,000.00 Negotiable



Located just 30 minutes from Merriwa, this 40 acre property is extremely developed. The land is mostly open, good quality grazing country with a small section of creek flats and is ideal for sheep, horses or cattle. Water is supplied via a fully equipped bore feeding to header tanks. Farm infrastructure includes a shearing shed and steel yards, cattle yards, 4 x 40ft storage containers with an awning, a 4 bay steel shed, workshop and hay shed, a double garage, chicken coup and 3 stables with day yards. There are 2 homes on the property, plus a granny flat. The first home has 2 large bedrooms, both with built in robes, a big modern kitchen with 900mm gas cooker and an open plan lounge with a combustion fire. At the rear of the home is a BBQ area. The

second home is the original homestead which is in need of major renovation. There is also a DA to extend the main house which is fully approved. This would make an ideal family getaway or permanent farm and is ready for your inspection!

1199 Cullingral Road, Merriwa

\$175,000.00

Fully fenced in new fencing, this is an ideal grazing block, while having some fun as a weekender. The country is mostly open with a slight rise. There is access to the river for fishing and swimming, and a new dam has been built. There is a cabin set on the block. Only 3 hours to Sydney this is an ideal weekend retreat!



3 Collins Street, Merriwa

\$55,000.00



1067sqm block. All services connected. Easy building site. Quality new homes. Excellent views. Close to all amenities.

Lot 1 Golden Highway, Sandy Hollow

\$120,000.00

Located in the peaceful village of Sandy Hollow, this flat 1 acre (4000sqm) block is ready to build on. All services are available including power and water at the boundary. The block is fenced on 3 sides and has established shade trees. The School, Pub and Shop are all in walking distance and it is only 30 minutes drive to Muswellbrook. Overlooking paddocks at the rear, this is a great spot to build your dream home.



VIEW AT www.jtsrealty.com.au

Hunter Local Lands Service

BIRDS CONNECT OUR WORLD - BIRD COMPETITION (9 MAY-9 JUNE 2020)

You can still join Hunter LLS "Birds Connect Our World" (May 9-June 9) Bird Competition any time up to June 5.

Register via this link: <https://hunterlls.wufoo.com/forms/birds-connect-our-world-bird-watching-competition/>

When you register you will receive an e-bird watch support pack.

You don't need to be an expert, just have a go.

To enter the competition you just need to complete at least one 20 minute 2 hectare bird watch at your place.

List the birds you saw into the Birdata app, and then (closer to the competition closing date) we'll ask you to complete a fun quiz, and upload your sightings.

Its free, its fun, and you don't have to leave your place to join in!

The more surveys you do, the more chance you have to win one of 28 great cash and birdy related prize packs.

Thanks to the many landholders in the Hunter region who have joined in so far! Happy birding.

This project is supported through funding from the Australian Government's Landcare Program.

Contact Carolyn Jenkinson at carolyn.jenkinson@lls.nsw.gov.au or on 0408 162 174 for more information or assistance.



Carolyn Jenkinson

Community Calendar

June	
Don't forget to let us know important moments in your community events calendar	

MCS in touch with our community



The **Merriwa Ringer**
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ALL MATERIAL DUE 12 noon MONDAYS

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