

FREE

MERRIWA

Ringer

Thursday December 10, 2020
Issue 34



WHAT'S INSIDE



Bronze for Paige


Pest Alert
Termite Solutions



Did you know that the recent rain
can cause higher Termite activity!
Have you had your House Inspected?

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A Walk Down Memory Lane

WITH JAMES CONSTABLE

THE MERRIWA PONY CLUB

Sgt. C.D. WILLIAMS



The move to organise horse sports, confined to events for young people was the brainchild of Sgt C D Williams. He said "We have our rodeos and other sports with horse events for adults, but very little provision is made for the juveniles". Sgt Williams called a public meeting, held in Merriwa at the School of Arts on 7th April 1945 with the aim to arrange a pony and athletic sports afternoon for children.

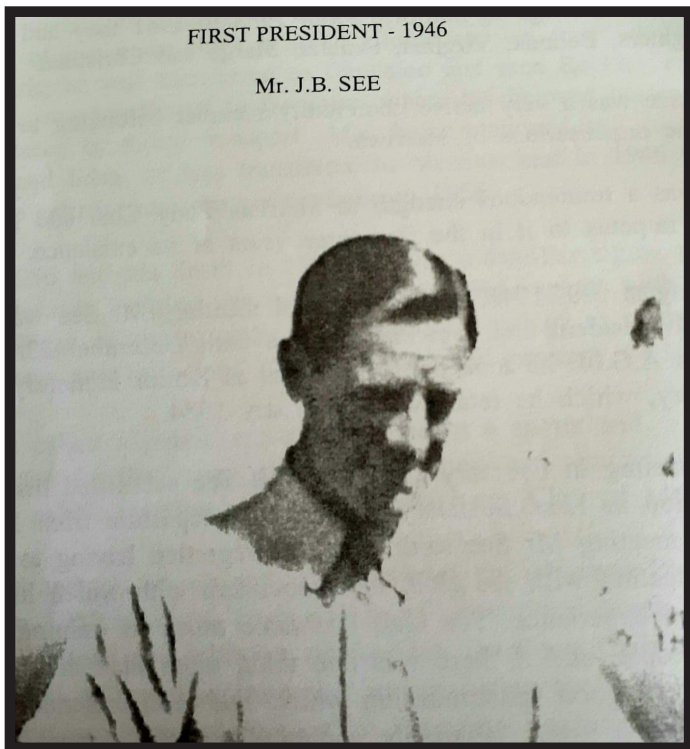
Those present were Sgt C D Williams, Messrs J R Telfer, T B MacFarlane, L A Whitelaw, E H Ell, C Smith, W J Thorpe and Mrs A V Budden. A

proposal by Sgt Williams that the sports be held under the auspices of the Merriwa Bushman's Carnival Association (which was formed in June 1944). It was decided that events be limited to children up to school leaving age of 15 years.

The first sports and athletic carnival was held on Saturday 19th May 1945 at the Merriwa Showground and was a success from the word go. Over 50 horses were entered in the various events and the carnival commenced with a parade from the Post Office to the Showground.

FIRST PRESIDENT - 1946

Mr. J.B. SEE



Continues page 20

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



President: Hollie Hunt
Vice Presidents: Nyssa Caban and Sarah Bidner
Secretary: Talitha Sawley
Treasurer: Emma Douglas
Fundraising Officer: Olivia Gear
Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm at Merriwa RSL Club

SANDY HOLLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL



Telephone Fax
02 6547 4521 02 6547 4450

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



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



Merriwa Central School

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded 'Student of the Week' in Week 5.

KINDERGARTEN

Kayden Milgate - Impressive spelling



YEAR 1

Isabella Campbell – Improvement in Fast Maths



YEAR 2/3

Max Hourn – Beautiful behaviour and excellent writing



YEAR 3/4

Hazel Chin – Striving hard in all areas



YEAR 4/5

Riley Bristow – Being respectful and responsible



Coming Events

DECEMBER	
Friday 11	Semester 2 reports issued, Kinder-Year 10
Tuesday 15	Rewards Activities - Out of Uniform
Wednesday 16	Last Day of Term

YEAR 5/6

Lilly Turner – Making positive and mature choices



GOLD AWARD

Jackson Goss, Ruby Kneeves, Taniel Roberts, Ella Pryor, Nicole Tudor, Kiaya Proctor



SILVER AWARD

Alby Caban, Ryder Rawlings, Hallie Milgate, Abigail Goodear



BRONZE AWARD



Darcy Clark, Mason Circosta

CLASS OF THE WEEK

Kindergarten - Being responsible students



BIBLE PRESENTATION

Last week was the final week of scripture for 2020. Aunty Barb and Mrs Wright came to our Friday afternoon assembly to present the year 6 students with their bibles and to wish all students a Merry Christmas.

Secondary

RUGBY LEAGUE GALA DAY

Last week on Tuesday November 24, I was lucky enough to take 11 Under 14's girls to a Rugby League Gala Day in Raymond Terrace. The morning started with nerves and excitement with the girls who were all at the school bright and early ready to go.

Our first game was against Rutherford Technology High School which was an extremely close game. A few mistakes from both teams early on meant that it was a slow start, but once Brooklyn Blackadder got her hands on the ball it was game over. Stepping and weaving through the opposition, she was able to score 3 tries. This game was also a standout for our brickwall in defence Ildiko Papp, making tackle after tackle. The final score was 20-12, which was an unfortunate defeat, but two late tries to Rutherford decided the match. Alyssa Carrall got close to crossing over in the corner to bring the score closer, but valiant defence from RTHS stopped her short.

Our next game was up against Kotara High School, and after seeing how easy Brooklyn and Ildiko made tackle football look, the other girls thought that they would try the same thing. Dakota Turner ran the ball with great intent and got ever so close to scoring. Isabella Blades-Garden also picked up from where she left off in game one with some big tackles and plenty of metres in attack. Makaylah Coles ran a few good runs after coming in from her wing, and made some excellent tackles to stop the break. However, there was one person who stood up above the rest though, and that was Savannah Marshall. Our secret weapon went on a tackling rampage, using her height to get underneath the opposition and get them to ground. The game finished 12-8, with Kotara High scoring a late try to seal the game. Brooklyn Blackadder: 2 Tries

Our last game of the day was up against Mount View High School. Battered, bruised and one player down, this was the girls toughest game. With one person on the bench, the girls all had to work exceptionally hard to try and stay in the game. Two early tries to Mount View had us immediately on the back foot, but some good running metres from Mia Jacobs and Ellie-Mai Whitby, lead to an Alyssa Carrall try in the corner, after she ran around the Mount View defence. Taylah Sait showed remarkable intent in defence making a number of quality tackles,



PRIMARY RINGER REPORT

The last few busy days of the 2020 school year are upon us. Tonight we have the Year 6 graduation dinner and tomorrow the primary campus presentation assembly. Next week is a short week, with students finishing on Wednesday. On Tuesday we have our final rewards activity for the year and can't wait to see the crazy hair styles and Christmas themed outfits.

Jenna North
Relieving Assistant Principal

which was backed up by some big runs in attack by Makayla Mobberly. In the end fatigue got the better of the girls, and they couldn't keep up with Mount View who had an abundance of reserves. Final score 4-28 to Mount View. Alyssa Carrall 1 try.

Overall, the girls held their heads high and represented the school excellently. The NRL staff on the day all commented on the sportsmanship and respect that the girls showed was outstanding. Our players of the day were Ildiko Papp and Brooklyn Blackadder, followed closely by Savannah Marshall.

Lachlan Vaughan
PDHPE Teacher



ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Due to Covid assemblies were not permitted so we have attached the list of awards the students have received at the final assembly for 2020.

YEAR 7

Riley Borradaile - English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Music, Mandatory Technology – Food

Mervyn Crane-Turner - Mathematics 7/8, Recognition of Service Year 7 SRC

Makayla Mobberley - Physical Development Health and Physical Education, Mandatory Technology – Engineering

Zane Smith - English 7/8

Makaylah Coles - Mandatory Technology – Timber, Recognition of Service Year 7 SRC

Carmella-Mae Willoughby - 12 years age

champion swimming

Toby Fairhall - 12 years age Champion swimming, ROAR Most improved student

Dylan McLennan - 13 years age champion swimming, one hundred percent attendance award

Savanaha Marshall - P and C Literacy Award, ROAR Most improved student.

YEAR 8

Damien Constable - English, LOTE

Jordyn-Lee Boromeo - English 7/8

Jye Byfield - Mathematics, 14 years age champion swimming, Upper Hunter Youth Council Award

Talisha Coles - Mathematics 7/8

Brooklyn Blackadder - Mandatory Technology – Timber, ROAR Student Athlete Award

Mia Jacobs - Science, Geography, History, Physical Development Health and Physical Education

Isabella Blades-Gardens - Visual Arts

Oceana Rawlings - Mandatory Technology - Food

Robert Keegan - Mandatory Technology – Engineering, Recognition of Service Year 8 SRC

Ellie-Mae Whitby - P and C Literacy Award

Dylan Keane - ROAR Players Player Award

Alyssa Carrall - Recognition of Service SRC Publicity Officer 2020, 13 years age champion swimming

YEAR 9

Josie Porter - English, Mathematics 5.2, Food Technology, Science, History, Physical Development Health and Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sports Studies, Photographic and Digital Media, 14 years age champion swimming

Dakota Turner - Upper Hunter Youth Council Award, Recognition of Service Year 9 SRC

Kaitlyn Smith - English 9/10

Aaron Hamson - Mathematics 5.1, 15 years age champion swimming

Brooke McLennan - Geography, Merriwa Central School 100% attendance award

Nikita Constable - Visual Arts

Jack Mobberley - Agriculture Technology, Wood Technology, Commerce

Shiane Peel - Metal Technology

Iidiko Papp - Child Studies, ROAR Players Player Award, Recognition of Service Year 9 SRC

Elsie Taylor-Stacey - Commerce

Jesse Watson - P and C Literacy Award

Jack Goodear - Recognition of Service Year 9 SRC

YEAR 10

Sharni Johnston - English, Science, History, Physical Development Health and Physical Education, Child Studies, Food Technology, Physical Activity and Sports Studies, Angus and Ivor Pebbles encouragement award for a student entering Stage 6 studies

Piper Cropper - English 9/10, 16 years age champion swimming

Tahli Gleeson - Mathematics 5.3, Agriculture Technology, Wood Technology, Metal Technology

Christian Beveridge - Mathematics 5.2, Geography, Hospitality, RAP Surveying award for aptitude in Mathematics and Geography

Charles Brazier - Mathematics 5.1

Tamika Drury - Photographic and Digital Media, ADF Future Innovators award, ADF Long Tan award for Leadership, P and C Literacy Award, Upper Hunter Youth Council Award, Recognition of Service SRC Secretary and Publicity Officer

Koda Cashen - SRC scholarship for a student entering Stage 6 studies, Upper Hunter Youth Council Award. Recognition of Service Year 10 SRC

YEAR 11

Kristy Walker - English Studies, Agriculture, Merriwa NSW Farmers Award for Agriculture

Harrison Amidy - English Standard, Mathematics Standard, Business Studies, Merriwa Central School Three C's award for Co-operation, Commitment, and Consistency, University of Newcastle Year 11 Excellence Award, Macquarie University Leaders and Achievers Award, ROAR Student Athlete Award, Where There's a Will Ambassador Award, Recognition of Service SRC Vice President 2020

Joanne Hamson - Visual Arts, Business Services, Where There's a Will Ambassador Award

Jonathon Keegan - Industrial Technology, Primary Industries, P and C Literacy Award

Hasan Papp - Modern History, Where There's a Will Ambassador Award

Abby Cooper - English Standard, Mathematics Advanced, Biology, Chemistry, Physical Development Health and Physical Education, University of Newcastle Year Excellence Award, Macquarie University Leaders and Achievers Award, Where There's a Will Ambassador Award, Recognition of Service Year 11 SRC, AGL Excellence in Maths and Science award

Stacey Loft - Metals and Engineering

Mackenzie Blackadder - 17 years age champion swimming

YEAR 12

Olivia McLean - English Standard, Modern History, Business Studies, Rotary award for Citizenship, ADF Long Tan Award for Leadership, ADF Future Innovators award, Newcastle University Vice Chancellors Award, University of New England Vice Chancellors Award, Reuben F Scarf Award, Michael Johnson State Goodwill and Leadership Award 2020, Caltex All Rounder Award, Recognition of Service SRC President 2020

John Hamson - Mathematics Standard 1, Metals and engineering, Primary Industries, Russells Earthmoving - VET student award, Recognition of Service SRC Treasurer 2020

Jackson Keane - Mathematics Standard 2, Business Services, Sport Leisure and Recreation, Barnaby Joyce - Community Service Award, 17 years age champion swimming, ROAR Graduate

Libby Towell - Biology, ROAR Graduate

Elly Blackadder - Chemistry, ROAR Graduate

Chloe English - Physical Development Health and Physical Education, ROAR Graduate

Liana Byfield - Visual Arts, Industrial Technology, Hospitality, P and C Literacy Award

Tylana Cox - English Studies

2019 Dux award - Chelsea Borradaile.

Congratulations to all our students who received awards.

Jane Hegarty
Awards Coordinator

CAREERS

Budding and Serious Photographers – This is a must site Nikon School of Australia

Events for every level and interest is here!

We cater for every level of photographic ability, whether you are a beginner, keen amateur or professional photographer. Our workshops are a mix of easy to understand theory and hands-on practical photography sessions. We specifically have small groups to ensure everyone can benefit from our expert instructors' knowledge. We cover everything photography related, from understanding your DSLR or Mirrorless camera and lenses, to image editing, location fashion shoots, photographing landscapes, wildlife photography and shooting videos. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/nikon-school-australia-26440725489>

Screenteens January School Holiday Workshop

January 19 to 21, 2021

Screenteens is Australia's leading program for young adults between 12 and 16 years old who are interested in developing their performance skills for Film and Television. Whether you've recently signed up to an agency, or you want to begin your journey into professional acting, this Holiday Workshop is the ideal platform to brush up on your acting skills for working in the Film and Television Industry.

The Screenteens Holiday Workshop provides

a fun, engaging and professional learning environment where young students will build a solid understanding of the acting industry. You'll become confident with your knowledge of the performance making process whilst making new friends in a social and creative setting. <https://screenwise.com.au/courses/screenteens-school-holiday-workshop-january-2021/>

Year 12, 11 and 10 - Head-start UCAT Preparation

December. 20 2 days. 10.00am to 6.00pm

Intensive Training UCAT Workshop. Parents are invited to Day 2 of the workshop (Pathways into Medicine and Medical Interviews). Ph: (02) 4367 0404 / mob: 0404 197 178 / 0412 439 115 / www.nie.edu.au / enquiries@nie.edu.au. <https://www.nie.edu.au/products-listing/product/216-simulated-ucat-day-workshop>

January 2021 UNSW The Scientia Challenge Program - Helping bright young minds thrive

The Scientia Challenge Program features a range of exciting workshops taught over three days designed for gifted and talented high school students in Years 7-10.

Developed and led by practising experts, the workshops follow a university-style investigative structure with intellectually-stimulating content. With the level of study aimed two years higher than the students' grade level, these dynamic workshops offer gifted students a rigorous and challenging program.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

JESSE WATSON

FAVOURITE SUBJECT: Maths, I enjoy learning new skills that will be applicable in later life

BEST PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT: Building a computer

CAREER ASPIRATIONS: Technology repairing

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Gaming

YEAR ADVISOR COMMENT: Jesse is a kind and pleasant young man who is very diligent in all his classes. This fantastic work ethic should see Jesse achieve his goal of working in IT support. Jesse has achieved fantastic marks this year in and is a pleasure to teach. Jesse is always happy to help and is a great role model for other students.

Ashleigh Golden - Year Advisor



The program is held at the UNSW Sydney Campus giving students exposure to university life to help reimagine their future study options and provide opportunities to meet potential role models and mentors. The program also offers a space for gifted students to meet like-minded peers with similar interests.

Registration now open: <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/education/professional-learning/gifted-education-research-resources-information-centre/scientia-challenge-years-7-10>

Free Job Trainer Courses at TAFE

If you have Year 11 students who are over 17 years and considering leaving school, JobTrainer can provide them with hundreds of fee-free* and low cost courses, all targeted at sectors identified as growth areas. Find out more: <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/jobtrainer>

What is TAFE Digital ? Browse our online courses

TAFE Digital is part of TAFE NSW, and is the largest online education provider in Australia. We combine the best of all previous TAFE NSW online platforms (OTEN, TAFENow and TAFE Online) to offer you current and industry relevant courses across the range of modern industries. Enjoy flexible learning to fit your lifestyle with online short courses, certificates, diplomas and degrees. <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/digital>

Auto Apprenticeship Vacancies

The positions indicated below are our current vacancies that we are recruiting for. If you are a job seeker looking for an immediate start to your automotive apprenticeship and you see an apprenticeship that is right for you, APPLY NOW and start an apprenticeship with us. Contact 02 9891 6900 or visit: <https://www.apprus.com.au/vacancies>

Future Electricians Note - Apprenticeships

The apprenticeship lasts for a total of 4 years. For the first three years, you will be required to work four days on site to gather on-the-job experience, and one day undertaking technical studies. The fourth year will consist of only on-the-job training. Call Ph: 9744 2754

<https://www.necatrainig.com.au/>

Register here: <https://www.necatrainig.com.au/electrical-apprentices/expression-of-interest/>

Endeavour College of Natural Health Transitioning to Higher Education

December 22. 5.30pm

If you're a high school student who is interested in a future in natural health, this webinar is for you. We'll cover everything you need to know about our courses, enrolling, fees as well as student life to equip you with the knowledge to smoothly transition into higher education.

https://www.endeavour.edu.au/events/transitioning-from-high-school-to-higher-education_2/

Make Your Move - Logistics Keeps the Nation Going - Current Job Opportunities

We live in a small, interconnected world. Almost everything we buy either comes from overseas or is made with products & equipment from somewhere else in the world. There's an army of people working behind the scenes in the International Trade, Transport & Logistics industry in Australia to keep the world moving. "MAKE YOUR MOVE" and help make it happen globally.

<https://www.mymv.org/job-search/>

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor

WANTED

HOUSE FOR RENT

3-4 Bedroom

From January 2021

School teacher's residence

Leave contact details at Merriwa
Central School Office on 6548 2119.



Cassilis Public School

They explored, played, shared, created, read, and saw the many things that make 'big school' pretty awesome.

2021 IS GOING TO BE A CHAMPION YEAR!



Tarsha, Digby and Levi completed a highly successful Early Birds transition to Cassilis.





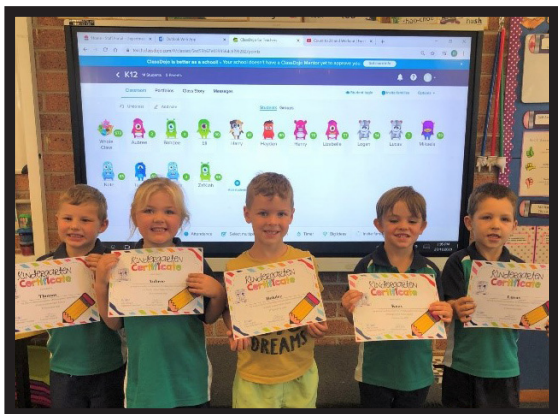
Katie Burgess
Principal



Sandy Hollow Public School

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Meet Thomas, Aubree, Bohdee, Knox and Lucas. These are our 2021 Kindergarten students. Last Friday was the final day of Kindergarten Orientation and the staff and students have had a wonderful 6 weeks getting to know them, as they prepare to join us for Kindergarten next year. The students were presented with a book, and a certificate on Friday and we look forward to having them at 'big school' next year.



Strength of the Week: Perspective

Being able to provide wise counsel to others; having ways of looking at the world that make sense to oneself/others.

This week's focus strength is 'Perspective'.

This week and over the next week we will be focusing on this strength. Students will be encouraged to look for it happening at school and staff will be looking for this strength in the way the children interact with each other. Our Character Strength Super Hero this week is Mikayla.

Perspective

Super Hero

Mikayla was chosen for this award because her approach to everything she does is becoming more mature.

Well done, Mikayla!



PRESENTATION NIGHT

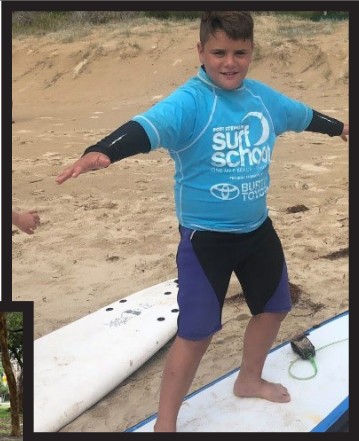
Our annual Presentation Night was held Thursday 3 December under the open air in our beautiful school grounds. We were thankful for glorious weather as we congratulated the students of SandyHollowPublicSchool on their achievements throughout the crazy year that was 2020! We also welcomed our new school leaders for 2021, and the students thanked the members of the school community for their contributions to the school this year. Congratulations to all students who received awards last night, thank you to all of our community members and parents for a fantastic 2020.





END OF YEAR EXCURSION

We had a fantastic day at One Mile Beach on Wednesday 2 December. Starting with surf lessons with Port Stephens Surf School. Then a quick lunch and a visit to the Port Stephens Koala Sanctuary. There were some very tired students (and teachers) on the bus on the way home!



AWARDS

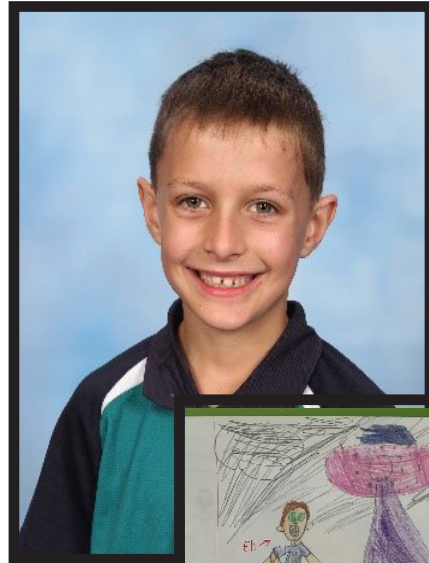
- **Attalica**– for excellent effort in Science.
- **Mya** - YCDI - Getting Along– for cooperating and working well with others.
- **Tanaya**– for her fantastic effort during spelling each day.
- **Logan** - YCDI - Getting Along - helping his peers when they need help.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

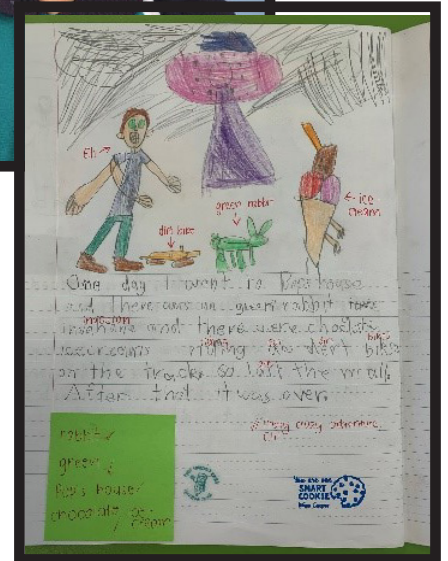


Taylan - Doing the Acknowledgement of Country well, and with pride at assemblies.

WORKERS OF THE WEEK



Eli - Worker of the Week



Zara- Worker of the Week



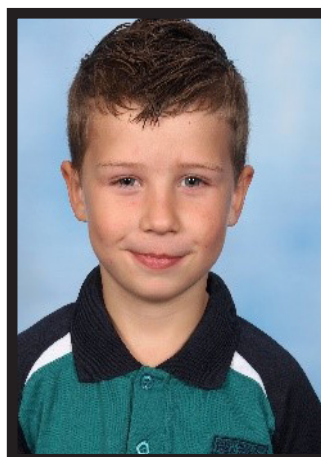
SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS

- Logan
- Hayden
- Taylan

Jane Fuiono
Relieving Principal

SPORTS PERSON OF THE WEEK

Hayden - Trying really hard to develop his kicking skills during Fundamental Movement Skills.





St Joseph's Primary School

Week 9 of Term 4 sees us at the end of the kinders' and Miss Brazier's first year at St Joseph's! And what a year it has been. It is also drawing closer to the time that we say farewell to the wonderfully bright and talented Mrs Hagley, who is soon starting an exciting chapter in her life as an Assistant Principal in Biloela. We wish her and the Hagley's all the best in their future endeavours.

Kinder have been very busy this term! The children performed beautifully in the school play, "The Year of Corona". They were fully committed to their part in the play and their dedication was evident in the final recording. Mrs Hagley and Miss Brazier couldn't be prouder!

In class, we have enjoyed choosing and listening to quality children's literature. Last week, each student chose a book from the library to bring to the classroom and every morning, Miss Brazier pulled a name out and that child's book was read to the class.

Kinder have also been applying themselves diligently to their writing and the effort has been clear in their work. The students were so proud of producing such excellent work that they asked to showcase it to the other classes and have it posted on Facebook. It is wonderful to see the children are so enthusiastic about reading and writing!

In Maths, we have continued with the play-based approach, which will be implemented again next year by Mrs Jackson and Miss Brazier. The children have thrived in a play-based learning environment and have enjoyed developing their numeracy skills through fun, movement and exploration.

We were fortunate enough to have Nicky teach us gymnastics this term. Kinder loved working on the mats and challenging themselves on the trampoline and the bars. They also worked on building resilience skills through role play, which has already been put into practice by most of Kinder. They have shown bravery and self-regulation when faced with a difficult moment and have encouraged each other to be resilient.

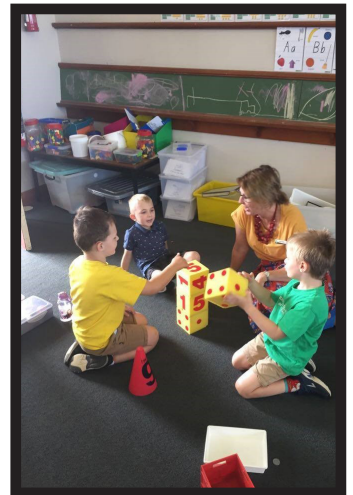
Kinder have shown that they prefer learning through doing so we have been learning about the nativity story through a performance. The students have been assigned roles and are

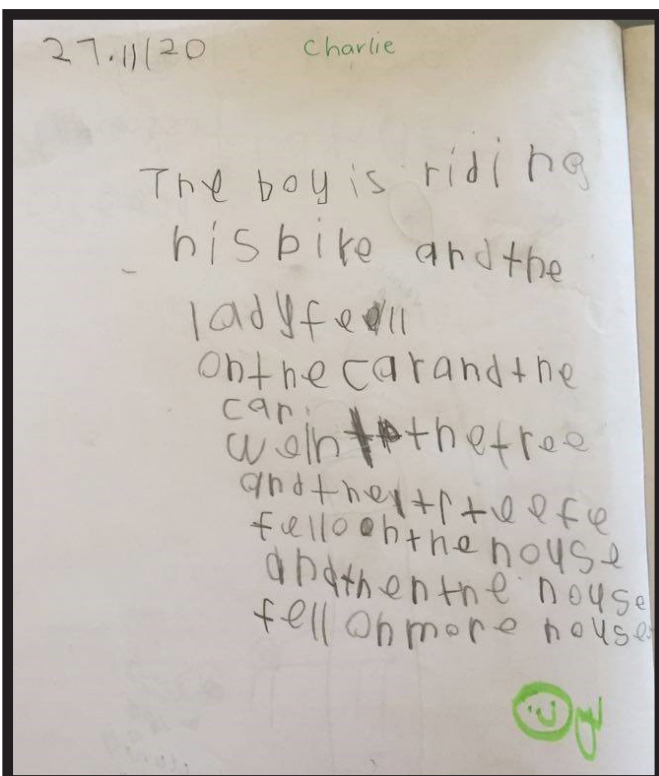
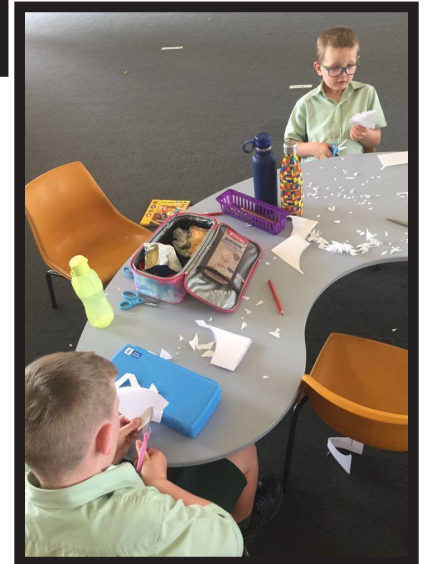
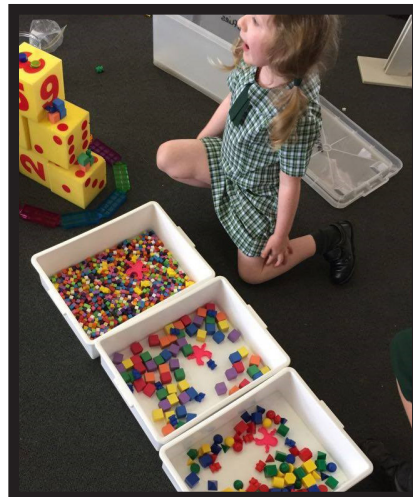
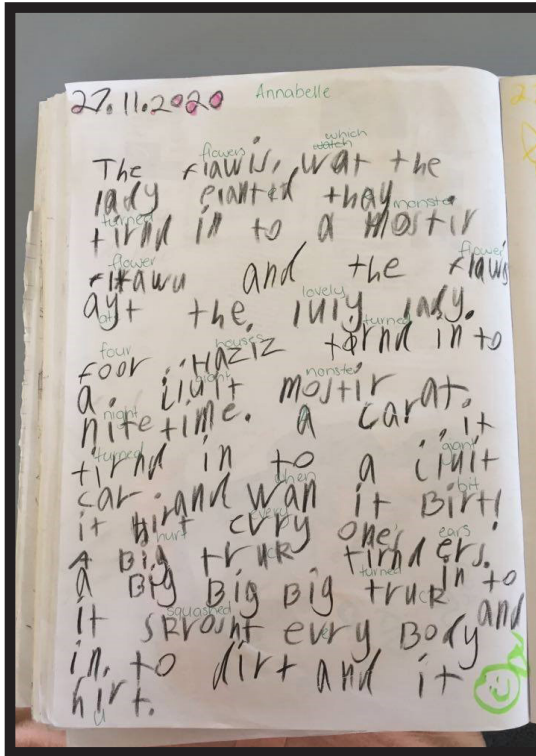
learning their cues and lines. Some have shown their creative side and started suggesting props and decorations that can add to the performance. We hope it will be ready for viewing by Week 10!

In art, we have been experimenting with different types of printmaking with Stage One. It has been surprisingly easy to make beautiful artworks. The children have loved seeing how their masterpieces turned out, each one was so unique! The links with instructions and resources for the printmaking techniques will be put on the school Facebook page for anyone who would like to have some artistic and creative fun in the holidays.

In our afternoons, Kinder have been indulging in their imagination in paper time. There have been some fantastic artworks made in these sessions, particularly many snowflakes after a crash course with Miss Brazier. Our classroom is filling up with the children's creativity and looking more and more ready for Christmas with each new snowflake. And much like real snowflakes, it has been lovely to see that every one of the children's snowflakes is completely different.

Colourful Kinder had their last transition session this week. They have been drawing impressive pictures with lots of detail and excellent use of colour and engaging in discussions about Christmas wishes and pets. We can't wait to see them again next year!





Georgia Brazier
Class Teacher

CJ and JM VERO and SONS
would like to wish everyone
a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy
2021.

Thank you to all of our Customers for
your valued support throughout 2020
which has been a difficult year for
everyone.

Des & Cathy Vero



JTS REALTY
A Family Business

Shop 1/17 Bridge Street
Muswellbrook NSW 2333
jtsrealty@rslcom.net.au
www.jtsrealty.com.au

Ph: 6541 5331
Fax: 6541 0330

1087 Cullingral Road, Merriwa

\$185,000.00



Fronting the Merriwa River and only 10 minutes to town, this is an ideal spot to build your dream home. The block is 12 acres with a dwelling entitlement. Power and phone are both available at the boundary. The property is fully fenced and is quality soil, perfect for growing vegies and planting some fruit trees. Swim and fish in the river, have a pony, this block offers a fantastic lifestyle.

NOTE: There is NO dwelling entitlement.

79 Vennacher Street, Merriwa

\$280,000.00

Situated on a large 1620sqm block with plenty of open space, this solid brick home is ideal for a young family. There are three big bedrooms all with built in robes and ceiling fans. The lounge is large and features R/C air conditioning. There is a second living area off the kitchen and an enclosed entertainment area at the rear with a second toilet. The kitchen presents in excellent condition with a breakfast bar and electric oven. Outside there is a single lock up garage and attached carport. The yard is big and flat with established trees. This home is in very good order and is ready for your inspection.



VIEW AT www.jtsrealty.com.au



Anglican News

Phone: 0429 996 769

REFLECTION - ADVENT 2 – Mark 1:108

Here we have the first written proclamation of the Gospel – the Good News of Jesus the Christ, the Son of God. Mark wastes no time in his announcement with a long introduction but instead immediately introduces John. Since the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls scholars now know that at this time there were some in Israel who had a strong sense that God's Kingdom was about to break into history. The community of Qumran by the Dead Sea lived with this expectation and they also practiced rituals of cleansing. While there is no evidence that John was part of this group, his message and the manner are similar. God's reign is coming. Prepare for it by seeking forgiveness.

Baptism, immersion in water, was a common Jewish practice as a way of purifying oneself before participating in major religious festivals. John applies this ritual to a desire for repentance as preparation for the coming Kingdom. John was remembered as a great and holy man of God. He too attracted disciples and even Jesus came to him seeking his baptism. These historical facts must have puzzled the early Christians, particularly if some of John's disciples were now part of the Jesus group. How were they to speak about John, recognizing his greatness while acknowledging that Jesus was even greater? In trying to understand John's role in Jesus' story, Mark looks back to the Jewish Scriptures and uses the prophets Malachi and Isaiah to clarify John's role is one of preparation for another greater figure who is on the way. (From "Sundays Under the Southern Cross" by Mary Coloe PBVM)

Love and blessings, from Rev Pat.

DIARY DATES

Christmas services at Holy Trinity Anglican Church Merriwa will be held:

Christmas Eve: 9.00pm

Christmas Day: 10.00am

Don't forget, Eucharist at Holy Trinity each Sunday at 9.00am.

Eucharist at Holy Trinity each Friday at 10.00am.

Rev Pat Kirkby

Merriwa Rotary

THE ROTARY PLAYGROUNDS AND SKATE BOWL

As the (very different) year of 2020 nears an end....and many of our Rotary members are engaged in the massive harvesting activity in our area, it might be a good time for an update on the Rotary Playgrounds.

A few days ago some innovative people ...non locals, I think, demonstrated a new activity, playing a game of what I might call "bare-handed tennis", using the low rise-hump in the bowl as their net, while they threw a lot of energy into winning points.

As well, two concrete bases are in place to accommodate picnic tables which, I understand, will be there for the ever-increasing numbers of people choosing to pull up in Merriwa to get their lunch and to use the park's facilities.

Easy, safe parking with plenty to occupy any accompanying children, as well as new toilet facilities are more and more making our town the place to stop, relax ..and shop.

These additions have been financed under a State government scheme.

As I mentioned in last week's Ringer.....if the new development could be extended to have sun protection similar to the existing Rotary built playground, it would greatly enhance the Skate Bowl.... (no harm in us pointing this out to the State authorities who control the money, I say).

Mark Smith



A Walk Down Memory Lane

Sgt Williams received many a congratulation throughout the day on his suggestion which prompted the day. There were three carnivals organised by Sgt Williams prior to the official formation of the Merriwa Pony Club. Those three days were just known as children's sports under the auspices of the Merriwa Bushman's Carnival Association.

On Saturday, 13th July, 1946, a meeting was held in the Merriwa School of Arts, called by Sgt C D Williams for the purpose of forming an organisation to carry on the childrens horse sports carnivals in the future. The reason for calling this meeting, Sgt Williams had received a promotion and was soon to move to Orange. He was keen that the carnivals should be continued and a committee formed to run them. Mr John See said that Sgt Williams had been more or less responsible for running the carnivals in the past and there was a fear, now that he was moving away, that they might lapse. They would like to see a committee formed to carry on the children's light horse and pony sports, draw up a constitution and decide on a name for the organisation. Those present at the meeting were Sgt C D Williams (who presided) Messrs J B See, G D Scales, J R Telfer, T B MacFarlane, L Tink, A A Henderson, A Brown, A S Rodgers, S J Hunt, E H Ell and W R Goddard. A provisional committee was appointed to draw up a constitution for the formation of an organisation on the 18th July 1946. Mr J B See (president) prepared a constitution to act as a basis of discussion and it was modelled on, to some extent, a constitution as developed for similar types of bodies under the RAS.

The next meeting was held on 3rd August 1946, the draft constitution prepared by the provisional committee, was, with a few minor amendments, adopted and provides that the organisation shall be known as the Merriwa Pony Club.

The election of office bearers are as follows President Mr J B See, Senior Vice President Mr G D Scales, Junior Vice President Master Doug Rodgers, Hon. Secretary Mr L A Whitelaw, Hon. Treasurer Mr E Hunt, Auditor Mr A J Spratt.

A committee of ten (seven senior members and three junior members.) They were A S Rodgers,

L Tink, G W Harcourt, R Gleeson, A Brown, S Hunt and J R Telfer.

Junior members were Peter Gleeson, Grant Harcourt and Tim Scales.

Photos 1 - Sergeant Charles Douglas Williams (Doug)

Photo 2 - Mr John B See.

Photo 3 - Mr John See with his daughters Belinda and Fenella.

Photo 4 - Procession of Merriwa Pony Club in Bettington Street, Merriwa, September 1947.

Information and photos courtesy of Elaine Sparrow book "Pony Club Merriwa 1946 - 1996"



1947 - Mr. J.B. SEE with daughters Belinda & Fenella



Community Notice Board

Can Assist Merriwa

**CHRISTMAS MEGA RAFFLE - DECEMBER
12
THIS SATURDAY!**

With just under two weeks until the draw which will be held at Merriwa Sports Club. With up to 50+ prizes up for grabs including toys for the little people, alchole packages for the big kids and a variety of surprise packs for everyone else, with 20 half ham thrown in just because it is Christmas. MC for the night is Peter Holland all the way from 2nm/fm. Tickets on sale from 4.30pm with a 6.30pm draw.

Marlene Rogers



Merriwa Senior Citizens

On Sunday December 20 we will be having a "Get Together" at the Merriwa RSL Club at 12 noon to welcome the members for lunch and "Christmas Cheer" is optional.

Covid restrictions will still apply.

Mary O'Neill

Hunter Medical Practice

We hope that everyone has a relaxing, safe Christmas. We hope everyone has a great break over the New Year, and that School Holidays are filled with fun and laughter.

Our offices will be closed from 25th December, reopening 4th January.

We are also closed from the 25th January and reopening on the 4th February.

As we are all celebrating Christmas and the end of 2020, please remain vigilant and covid-safe. Regularly clean hands, keep 1.5 metres from those around you.

If you have any symptoms, please get tested and isolate until the results come back. The people we miss the most, and those we are hoping to see over the next month are often those who are most vulnerable to catching Covid19- the elderly and the very young.

POSITION VACANT REGISTERED NURSES

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Enquiries: Kerri Cone, Manager Community Services on 02 6540 1141

Applications close 4pm Monday, 11 January 2021

Apply on Council's website



UPPERHUNTER.NSW.GOV.AU

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 National Creative Writing Competition closes at midnight December 11, 2020. There is still time to enter!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful customers. Thank you for choosing to shop at newsXpress Merriwa, it is very much appreciated. There is a great selection of gifts and more available, come in and browse.

THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY

- From a housing commission flat in western Sydney to the giddy heights of hosting her own morning TV show. Sarah Harris has never forgotten the simple things are what makes life and family happy
- Two women battled a firestorm to save the historic church and convent at Cobargo and they have concluded that "hope too is contagious"
- 150 ideas to make you merry, plus the finest festive feasts and gorgeous DIY decorations and stunning table settings
- An ode to joy; after the year that was 2020, how do you put the happy back into Christmas?

GRAZIER

- Resilience is one of the most defining characteristics of the Australian spirit, and while much of Australia is still in drought and recovering from fire, resilience is everywhere. As the twelve month anniversary of that Black Saturday approaches, Graziher revisits three of those fire ravaged properties to check in on the rebuilding process
- Heading North; it's funny how you can yearn for a place you have never been to, but is so tangible in your dreams. A quest to live and work in the Northern Territory began as just that... a dream, musing over toast and coffee
- Summer tailgate party; it's been a year hasn't it...starting with bushfires then Covid and the rest! Getting through, that is worth celebrating. So put the tailgates down and spend some time catching up and clink glasses to Christmas, good harvests and the coming of the new.

HUNTER AND COASTAL LIFESTYLE

The 100th Issue; special anniversary edition. The Hunter Hot 100, what to eat, see try and do! Six gorgeous homes you will love, wild and wonderful works by local artists and Newcastle Makers and Traders. Also in this issue 'Lorn Rose Farm', your all local gift guide and Hunter Wine Show winners.

REGIONAL LIFESTYLE SUMMER EDITION

- Showcasing the best of rural & regional New South Wales
- Snowy Valleys; Tumut, Talbingo, Adelong, Batlow, Tumbarumba, Tooma, Rosewood & Jingellic, after the fires.

A TWIGSEEDS MOMENT

On this beautiful day may everything you hope for come true.

BEANIE BOO

My name is Catcher.

At playing tag I can't be beat and when I win I want a treat.

My birthday is March 16.

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

Leanne and Neville Hook and the newsXpress

Ringer Deadline!

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



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**DEC. 12, 2020 • OPENS AT 4 PM
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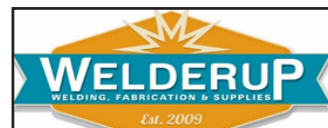
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WEEKEND MASSES

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2nd & 4th Sunday - Sun 8.30am

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Enquiries to:

President: Penelope Fenley

Phone: 6548 3060

Email: penelopecwa@inet.net.au

Secretary: Kim Clydsdale

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Saturday - **7.45pm** Monster raffles and members' badge draw
Sunday: 5:00pm to 7:00pm meat voucher raffle and members' badge draw.

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Sunday
Raffles
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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
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fionamorgan6@bigpond.com

MERRIWA RACES

April 24, 2021

Race Club President - Paul Frampton

Contact - 0428 485 182

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October Long weekend 2020

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Vice President: Mark Fieldsend
Secretary: James Armstrong 0412 926 525
Treasurer: Mick Curteis - 0475 980 254

MERRIWA DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Get involved in influencing decisions on matters that affect the whole local community

Meets on Third Wednesday every month at 6.00pm Merriwa RSL

merriwaprogress@gmail.com



Clubs/Sports

Merriwa RSL Club

This Sunday November 29, we will see the return of the Merriwa RSL Clubs Sunday raffle. Ticket sales will start from 11.45am and the raffle will commence at 12.30pm.

Saturday's \$5.00 schooners and house spirits 6.00pm till 10.00pm.

Sunday's \$4.00 schooners 11.30am – 12.30pm

Wednesday's \$6.00 pint night

Friday's 5.30pm – 7.30pm \$5.00 schooners and house spirits.

Our current hours of trade are;

Bar – Monday to Wednesday 11.30am – 9.30pm
Thursday 11.30am – 10.00pm
Friday 11.00am – 11.30pm
Saturday 11.00am – 11.00pm
Sunday 11.00am – 4.00pm

Bistro – Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday 6.00pm – 8.00pm
Thursday/Friday/Saturday 12 noon – 2.00pm/6.00pm – 8.00pm
Sunday 12 noon – 2.00pm

The BBQ area is now open and the club can take bookings for up to 30 people.

Please remember to digitally sign in upon entry.

Matt Morgan

Merriwa Sports Club

BINGO

No bingo for the time being.

BOWLS

Casual Bowls available.

Twilight bowls held every Friday Night. Starting at 5.30pm, \$5.00 per person.

GOLF

Casual Golf available. Donations in honesty box.

RESTAURANT

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For bookings and take away – 0460 817 606

WEEKEND RESULTS

Saturday Raffle - Saturday Raffles, tickets on sale from 6.30pm, draw starts at 7.30pm, limited prizes due to covid and social distancing.

CLUBS OPENING HOURS

Mondays 3.30pm till 6.00pm
Tuesday 3.30pm till 8.30pm
Wednesday 3.30pm till 8.00pm
Thursday 3.30pm till 8.00pm
Fridays 3.30pm till 8.30pm
Saturdays 12.00pm till 8.30pm
Sundays 12.00pm till 8.00pm.

Just a reminder that everyone has to supply contact details when entering the club premises.

Saturday December 12, 2020, there will be no meat raffles as we are hosting the Can Assist Monster Christmas Raffle with tickets on sale at 4.00pm.

Brendan Cowell

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Merriwa Pony Club

Merriwa Pony Club riders had an absolute blast at the Murrurundi Junior Mini King of the Ranges event last month.

This event is a condensed version of the senior King of the Ranges held in Murrurundi every February and is designed to encourage young riders to develop their horsemanship skills with the view to one day take part in the senior event. With events such as whip cracking, bareback, stock rider and a very creative obstacle course to negotiate, the young riders were certainly challenged!

There were so many memorable moments, for some of the littlies a trip to the pool was high on the priority list! For others the thrill of cracking all the targets in the whip crack (without accidentally cracking themselves, their horse or their judge!), negotiating the tricky bareback course complete with jumps, bridge and some 'horse monster' walk over obstacles. For many the mini cross country obstacle course was a stand out with riders needing to muster plenty of skill and precision to successfully complete the water obstacle, flag workout, bell, jumps and bridge.

The Murrurundi Pony Club are to be commended on putting on such a unique event which was as much fun to watch as it was to ride.

Congratulations to our fabulous riders– Nicole Martin who took out champion for 15-17, Jorji Taaffe reserve. Darcy Taaffe took out champion 13-15, Ben Patterson was undefeated in the 11-13, Georgia Maben took out her age group with siblings Mitch and Maddie taking out reserve in their respective age groups. Nicko Anderson did a great job on his pops horse to take out champion and Isabelle Prior was on fire on her dad's horse (not anymore!) in her age group to take out reserve.

All in all a wonderful way to end our season. Bring on 2021!

Tash Taaffe





Merriwa Swimming Club

On Saturday December 5, four Swim club girls travelled to Singleton to compete in our first carnival for the season. Paige, Alyssa and Amy were all lucky enough to receive ribbons on the day placing in most events. Lula swam her heart out but was up against some tough competition.

Then on Sunday December 6, Paige and Alyssa travelled to Beresfield for a development meet. There they came up against some tough swimmers from Newcastle and surrounding areas. Both girls got placings in all their heats with Paige lucky enough to receive a bronze medal in Under 9's Butterfly.

Well done to all the girls in your carnivals on the weekend.



Olivia Gear

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Council administration offices and libraries close from 12:00pm 24 December 2020, re-opening 4 January 2021.

Waste Management Facilities

Scone will be closed Christmas, Boxing Day, 28 December and New Year's Day.

Aberdeen, Merriwa, Murrurundi and Cassilis will be closed Christmas, Boxing Day, 27-28 December and New Year's Day.

Visitor Information Centres

Scone and Merriwa will be closed on Christmas Day only.

Murrurundi will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Pools will be closed on Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Closing times will be adjusted to 5pm on Christmas and New Year's Eve.

Early Learning Centre will be closed from 24 December and resume normal operations 4 January 2021.

SOOSH will be closed from 24 December and resume normal operations 4 January 2021.

Emergencies regarding roads, bridges, water, sewerage, waste and animals and landfill - contact Council on 6540 1199.

Kerbside Waste and Recycling Collections

Christmas Day and New Year's Day collections will occur on the following Saturday's.

All other collections will be carried out on their normal days.

On behalf of Councillors and staff we wish you a Happy Christmas and a safe and joyful holiday season.



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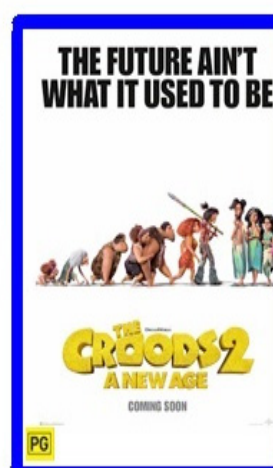
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