



MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

*Valuing individual potential - achieving personal best*

Term 3 Week 10, 2022

## Principals Report

As Term 3 comes to a close we mark the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. Regardless of ones views on a republic, most recognise the Queens lifetime of service and the stability that she has provided Commonwealth countries, such as Australia. The Prime Minister has announced a public holiday on Thursday, 22 September as a day of mourning. As a result, the school will be non-operational.

## Farewell to Year 12



Our Year 12 of 2022 completed their last days of secondary education this week with a Farewell Assembly, to be followed by a Farewell Dinner at the School of Arts Hall. The last two years of their schooling has been a turbulent time with constant changes due to the pandemic and learning from home. Thank you to Mr Vaughan Year 12 Year Adviser who has supported the students during this time, and Ms Golden and Year 11 students who have organised the Farewell Dinner. These events mark significant milestones on the lives of our students as they prepare for the HSC exams and life beyond school.

## Welcome new students 2023

As Year 12 finish we start preparing for the new school year, and the next cohort of students. This week a parent information session was held for Kindergarten students for 2023. They will start Kindergarten Orientation early next Term with Miss Lisen Olsson our Kindergarten teacher for 2023.

A parent information session will be held for Year 7 2023 early next Term, with their transition days to follow shortly after. The Year Adviser for Year 7 next year is Ms Laura Wenzel.

## Rewards Activities

Last week primary and secondary students participated in a range of rewards activities as part of our Positive Behaviour for Learning program. Our rewards activities are designed to recognised positive student behaviours throughout the Term. Primary students travelled around the world with some fun activities based on country studies undertaken in the classroom, and secondary students travelled to Newcastle for some physical activity at Revolution Sports Park.



## Staff Appointments

In recent weeks we have had a number of staff permanently appointed to our school. Some will be familiar to many parents. Ms Karen Bush has been appointed to a part-time school administration officer position following merit selection. Ms Emma Garbellini has been appointed to the role of Assistant Principal Curriculum and Instruction following the transfer of Mrs Sevil to Scone Public School. Mr Jacob McGrath Year 4/5 has been appointed to a permanent classroom teacher position in primary. And lastly Ms Laura Woodward has been appointed to fill the vacant HSIE position following Mr Buchans departure.

Lastly enjoy the school holidays when they arrive and stay safe. School resumes for all students Monday, 10 October.

**Darren Noonan**  
Principal

## Primary News

### Little Sprouts Day

Merriwa Central School was delighted to host our Little Sprouts Community Reading Day for the first time in three years on Friday, 26 August and what a tremendous day it was. We were joined by St Josephs, Sandy Hollow Public, Merriwa Preschool and many children who are not yet attending school.

It is always a very special day that promotes the importance of reading and it is made possible by the continued support of our generous community. Thank you to all of the businesses that welcomed us into their stores and read to everyone. Thank you to our volunteer readers; Barbara Campbell, Maree Wright, Lorraine Hood and Ron Campbell.

A huge thank you to the dedicated and charitable CWA ladies who baked 800 cookies so that each child would have a delicious morning tea. And thank you to Miss Freeth and her hospitality students for cooking everyone a sausage sizzle for lunch.

Our last thank you is to all of the children, teachers, parents and carers who joined us on the day, it was terrific to see all of the children

wandering about the town in their remarkable costumes! We look forward to doing it all again next year.



**Merriwa Central School**  
*presents*  
**Little Sprouts 2022**  
Community Reading Day



### Best Dressed Competition

Seeds	Seeds	Early Stage One	Stage One
			
<b>Aubrey Webb</b>	<b>Owen Moore</b>	<b>Frankie Train Lachlan Wilkinson</b>	<b>Kiari Taylor Zaklah Bobolos</b>
Stage Two	Stage Three	Adults	Business
			
<b>Claire Bidner Braith Hunt</b>	<b>Tlarnee Denig Kaylee McLean Rylan Neale Jase Whitby</b>	<b>Sarah Roberts Kelly Elliot</b>	<b>Merriwa Library</b>



**Merriwa Central School**  
*presents*  
**Little Sprouts 2022**  
Community Reading Day



### Colouring Competition Winners

**Seeds**

1st: Issy Casben    2nd: Michaela Latrobe    3rd: Florence Raines

		
<b>Infants</b>	<b>Primary</b>	
1st: Cooper James 2nd: Charlie Constable 3rd: Katie Williams	1st: Kiaya Proctor 2nd: Max Houm & Lilly Martin 3rd: Alesha Wright	

## Kindergarten Transition 2023

Kindergarten Transition for our 2023 students begins in Week 2 of Term 4 on the 18 October. The first session will run from 9.00am to 11.00am. Parents and carers can drop their child and their bag at the classroom in the morning and children will need to be collected at 11.00am. Children are asked to wear sensible clothing and enclosed shoes. They will need to bring some fruit, a hat and a water bottle.



## PBL Celebration Day

On Wednesday, 7 September students from K-6 had a PBL Celebration Day to reward and acknowledge their positive behaviour. Classes made marvellous, colourful posters all about our PBL values 'Respect', 'Safe' and 'Learner' and they are displayed on our PBL wall in the primary foyer. The whole school then raced against each other in groups to be the first to find all of the clues and solve all of the riddles. To top off a wonderful day, students enjoyed a hot dog picnic with poppers and zooper doopers as a special treat. Well done to our primary students for being such safe and respectful learners!



### Transition Dates and Times

- Tuesday 20 September 10.00am-11.00am - Parent Information Session
- Tuesday 18 October 9.00am-11.00am
- Tuesday 25 October 9.00am-11.00am
- Tuesday 1 November 9.00am-11.30pm
- Tuesday 8 November 9.00am-1.00pm
- Tuesday 15 November 9.00am-1.35pm
- Tuesday 22 November 9.00am-2.00pm
- Tuesday 29 November 9.00am-3.00pm
- Tuesday 6 December – Post Transition Meetings for Parents



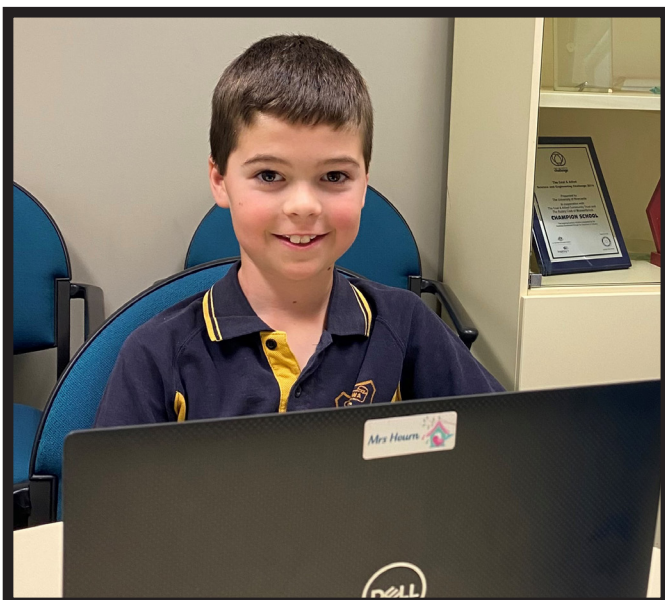


### Merriwa Springtime Show

Students from K-6 collaborated to create a vibrant, eye-catching display at this year's Merriwa Springtime Show. Each student carefully illustrated a miniature version of themselves and they were all added to the colourful landscape. Primary's artwork was surrounded by outstanding creations from secondary art students making an impressive exhibit for all to see.

### NSW Premier's Spelling Bee Regional Finals

Congratulations to Max Hourn and Ashton Marchese for proudly representing our school via zoom conference in the Senior Premier's Spelling Bee Regional Final on Tuesday, 30 August. They both did a fantastic job competing against some very talented spellers from the Hunter region. Ashton made it through to the second round for his stage on some very difficult words and Max made it all the way through to the fifth round out of seven rounds in total. Well done on a great effort boys.



It was terrific to see entries from students in many different categories including art, cooking and craft. Every student entered an artwork and the walls were full of amazing pieces from throughout the school year. Congratulations to the many students who received prizes and recommendations, we are very proud of your achievements!





**Keirra Hourn**  
Relieving Assistant Principal - Infants

### Grandparents Day



On Friday, 28 October 2022, Kindergarten to Year 6 students will host Grandparents Day at the primary campus and all grandparents and family members are warmly invited to attend.

The celebrations will begin with our K-6 assembly commencing at 10.15am. Following our assembly there will be a morning tea provided for our special guests, supplied and run by our P&C. Any donations of slices would be appreciated.

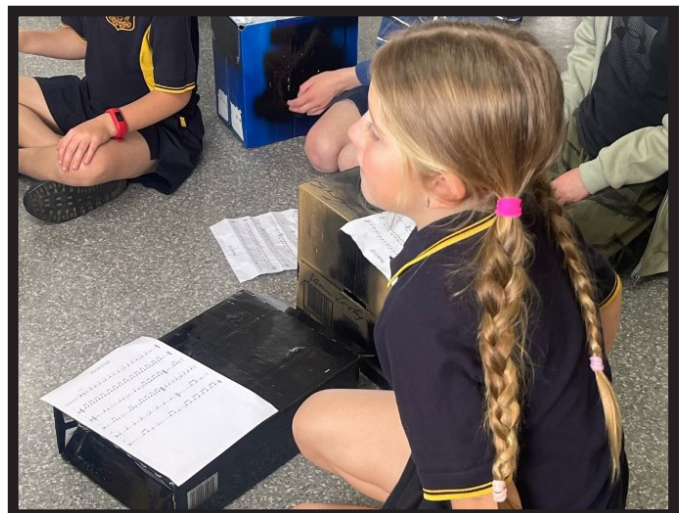
There will be open classrooms between 11.30am and 12.00pm. Our Grandparents Day will conclude at 12.00pm.

If you have any questions please contact the school. We hope to see you there!

**Isabelle Ticehurst**  
Grandparents Day Coordinator

### Kia Ora Youth Music Camp

In Week 8, 9 students from our Primary Choir attended the Upper Hunter Shire Kia Ora Youth Music Camp which was held over three days. The students spent the three days working and rehearsing with amazing tutors and conductors, in preparation for the final concert on Friday evening. The students also participated in Junk Percussion and Hip-Hop Dance electives. The camp allowed the students to develop their musical knowledge and performance skills as well as connect with students from various schools in our area.



## Didjeribone Performance

In week 8, we had the amazing Tjupurru, captivate students with his extraordinary live and interactive performance of the Didjeribone Show.

Adrian Fabila Tjupurrula is an internationally renowned didgeridoo player, and a proud descendant of the Djabera Djabera people of the Western Australian Kimberlies.

The performance was exceptional and all students from Kindergarten to Year 12 thoroughly enjoyed this cultural music experience, and learning about looping technology.



## Term 4 Primary 3-6 Excursion

In Week 8, students in Years 3-6 will be attending an excursion to Nobby's Beach. Students will participate in a Surf Fun Safe program. This program is a fun experience for the students to learn beach education. They will have options to participate in sand and water activities.

This program includes:

- Beach Walk (identification of hazards, rips, wave types and beach signage)
- Water Skills (wading, dolphin dives, negotiating the surf and catching waves)
- Surf Skills (use of body boards and nipper boards)
- Sun Protection
- Beach Games (beach soccer, volleyball, flags)

More information about this excursion will be provided early next Term.

**Talia Morgan**  
**Relieving Assistant Principal - Primary**

## Country of Study - Term 3 Rewards Day

What a wonderful day we had last Thursday celebrating Term 3 Rewards Day. Students and staff had a fun-filled day completing activities and cooking food from their Country of Study. Thank you to those who came to watch and supported classes as they paraded around and performed a class item.

**Sarah Roberts and Isabelle Ticehurst**  
**Term 3 Rewards Day Coordinators**





## K-6 Writing

It has been my pleasure to join teachers in classrooms to support students with their literacy and numeracy. This term we have had a strong focus on writing. It has been wonderful to see students across K-6 creating some impressive texts, including informative posters and PowerPoint presentations, poems, diary entries, recounts and persuasive texts. I have loved seeing improvements in our students' writing, as well as their enthusiasm toward tasks and the pride that they have shown in their work.

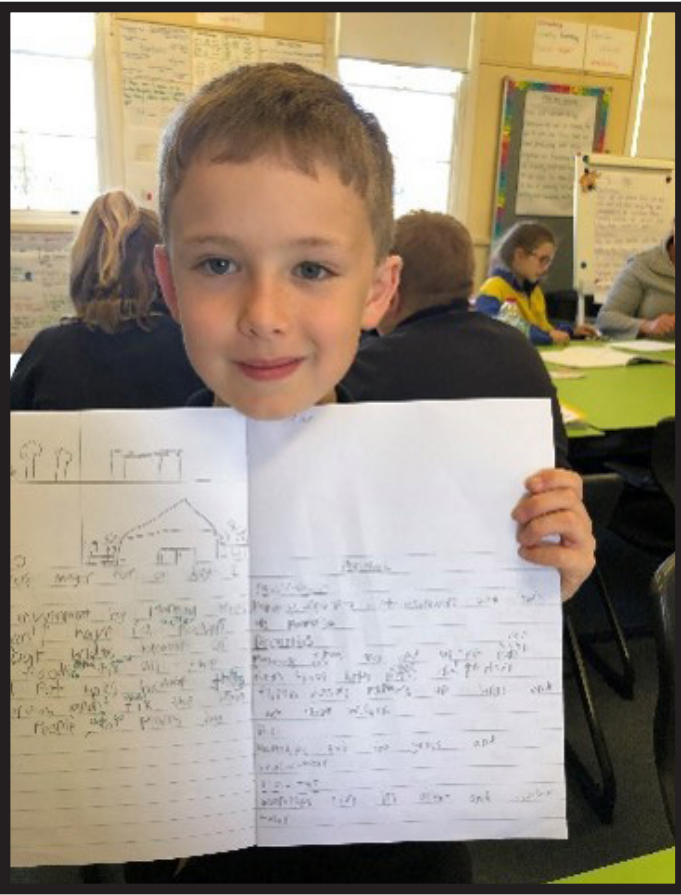


Nathan Smith, Oaklie Kirk and Lachlan Wilkinson,  
Kindergarten  
Response to story

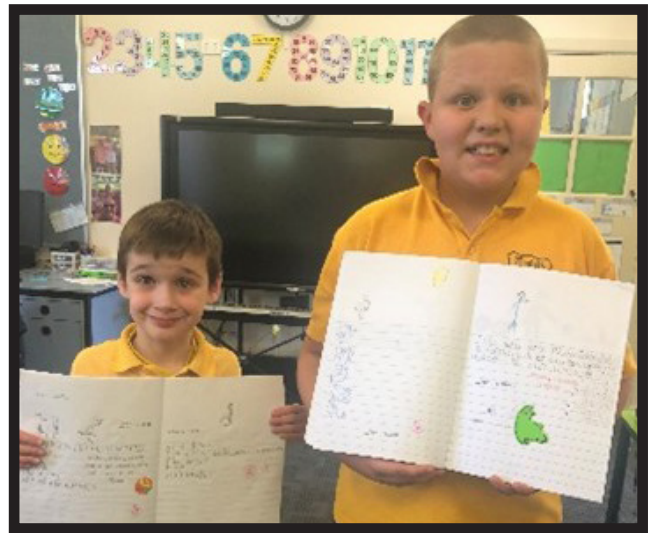


Sasha Wallace, Year 1  
Informative poster on Koalas

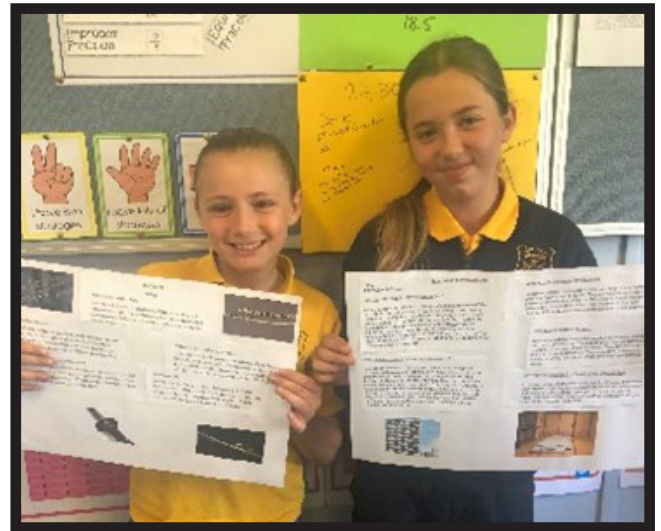




Nate Marchese, Year 2  
Information report



Fredrick Myers and Zane Walker, Bronze Class  
Creating lists



Aubree Oldham and Abby Bidner, Year 4/5  
Informative posters about Japan



Oliver Reid and Riley Tudor, Year 3/4  
Informative PowerPoint presentations



Year 6 students proudly displaying their writing  
about Aboriginal Dreaming stories

**Emma Garbellini Assistant Principal  
Curriculum and Instruction**



## Secondary News

### R U OK? Day



All students and staff participated in R U OK? Day. Reminding us all that everyday is the day to ask "are you ok?" and start a meaningful conversation whenever they spot the signs that someone they care about might be struggling.

We all also enjoyed a zooper dooper.



### Youth Engagement Officer Presentation

Senior Constable Lorraine Upward, Youth Engagement Officer from Hunter Youth Command visited our secondary student body to discuss issues that affect and implement teenagers. She is currently visiting all secondary schools in the Hunter Valley in delivering a program around making good choices, consequences and how decisions may impact upon your life. Students watched a video that interviewed NRL players and how decisions good and bad impacted upon their lives and careers.



Merriwa Central School just couldn't run without our amazing SASS staff. This includes Administration, working with our students in the classroom, supporting Science, the library and the general maintenance across our school farm, primary and secondary campuses.

THANK YOU for all you do for students and staff.

## Teen Mental Health



Students from Years 10 and 11 participated in Teen Mental Health training. They discussed what mental health was, what types of behaviours and personal comments to look out for, if they are concerned that someone they care about maybe experiencing mental health. Who they should go to for support. What they should say and actions they should take. A catch up training session will be held in Term 4 for students who were unable to undertake the course.



**Narelle Smith**  
Deputy Principal Student Wellbeing

## Merino Wether Challenge

Merriwa Central School participated in the NSW School Merino Wether Challenge 2022. Students received 6 merino wethers from Egelabra, Warren on 6 March. Students from Years 9-12 fed the wethers and taught them to lead on halters in preparation of the show. Students learnt about nutrition, husbandry practices such as drenching, condition scoring and judging. The sheep were kept at Merriwa Central school until judging on Tuesday, 23 August. Schools from across the state participated in the NSW School Merino Wether Challenge with 124 teams entered. Year 11 students selected the best team of 3 wethers and the sheep were placed in two teams (3 wethers in each team). Sheep were weighed, aged and a wool sample taken on arrival. Judging commenced on Tuesday and concluded on Wednesday. Sheep were judged for re-stocker value, wool value and carcass value. Merriwa competed with schools in the Tablelands. We placed third for carcass traits within the regional category and one team was called back to compete in the overall regions for carcass traits.

Results for the teams were as follows –

Class	Team A	Team B
Restocker	Equal 39 out of 124 teams	Equal 39 out of 124 teams
Wool	54 out of 124 teams	56 out of 124 teams
Carcass	19 out of 124 teams	12 out of 124 teams
Combined Value	22 out of 124 teams	17 out of 124 teams

Very few schools placed both teams in the top 25 and I was very proud that our results across the two teams of Merino sheep were so consistent. Congratulations to all the students and staff from Merriwa Central School involved. I would like to thank the organisers of the event and Ben Watts and his team from Egelabra. Also thanks to Forbes High School and Macintyre High School who assisted at the event.

**Sharon Kenaly**  
Deputy Principal



## SAVE THE DATE

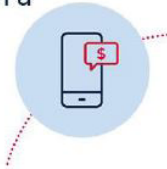
**Merriwa Central School  
P&C  
Ham Raffles  
Thursday 8 December  
at  
Merriwa RSL**

**Please come along and support our major fundraiser. Monies raised will purchase a new fresh fruit slushy machine for the secondary canteen and will also help us purchase primary Student of the Week Books for 2023.**

## How to Make a Payment Online -

A new **online payment page** is now live on our school website!

Access from a mobile, tablet or PC and in a language of your choice.



Go to Merriwa Central School Website  
<https://merriwa-c.schools.nsw.gov.au>

*Select make a payment*

**MAKE A PAYMENT**

**Have a safe  
&  
Happy Holiday  
Students K-12  
return**

**Monday, 10 October 2022**

## Support Faculty

### Gold Class

Students in the Gold class have been exploring the water cycle and the many uses of water in the world and the impact it has on humans. They built great dioramas with labels showing how water moves in the water cycle. They have also been enjoying the new MLD in their classroom; their favourite game being Fruit Ninja, lots of laughs, encouragement and support of each other throughout the game.

### Silver Class

Students in the Silver class have enjoyed moving lots of their lessons outside, this has been a great way to explore the water cycle through experiments, a nice way to create art and a way to try new strategies being learnt in the classroom.

### Bronze Class

The Bronze class enjoyed making head pieces to celebrate their country of exploration, with matching colourful shirts. They have been working hard in all their other subjects continuing to earn rewards like VIP chair for the day, whilst learning money skills around budgeting and making purchases!

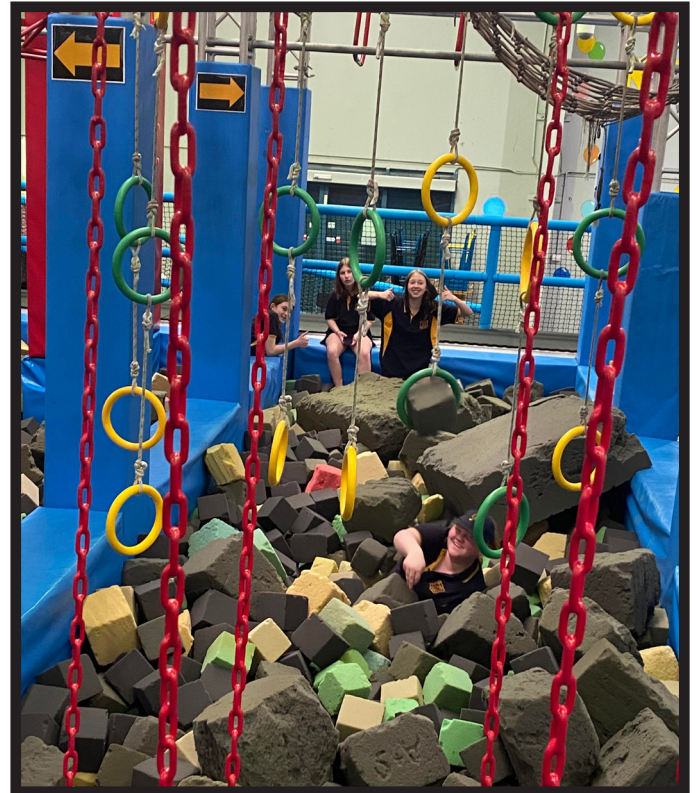
Work experience will soon be undertaken by senior students in support classes and as such there may be an opportunity for casual work as an SLSO, if this or other casual SLSO work may be of interest to you, please see Suzie Kirk in the Secondary office for more information.



**Elizabeth La Trobe**  
Head Teacher Support

## Rewards Day Term 3

On Thursday, 15 September the Secondary students had their Rewards Day at Revolution Sports Park in Newcastle. Students boarded the bus for a long bus ride, but it was worth it all in the end. Whether they bounced on the trampolines, ran into each other in bubble soccer or flew through the ninja warrior course, they all had a blast and enjoyed themselves thoroughly.



**Lachlan Vaughan**  
PDHPE Teacher  
Year 12 Advisor | Sports Coordinator |  
ROAR Coordinator

## Congratulations Tahli Gleeson



A huge congratulations to Tahli Gleeson on winning the 2022 NSW School Based Apprentice/ Trainee of the Year Award. Tahli attended the annual event at Town Hall in Sydney on Friday, 16 September. Tahli's employer, Maria Cameron from Local Land Services accompanied Tahli along with her Agriculture teacher and Careers Advisor. This is an incredible accomplishment and Tahli will now continue on to the National Awards in Adelaide towards the end of the year. We look forward to hearing about all that Tahli continues to achieve throughout her future.

### Merriwa Springtime Show – Visual Arts and Photography Entries

The work of all Merriwa Central School students was exhibited as part of the Merriwa Central School display at the Pavilion for the Merriwa Springtime Show. This display provided an opportunity for a range of works to be showcased across K-12. Students from the Secondary Campus (Year 8 to Year 11) also submitted individual works as part of the Art and Photography sections. A huge thank you to all students who participated by contributing work and congratulations to the following students who placed in their sections (listed below). We look forward to seeing student contributions next year.

#### Art

- Mia Jacobs - 1st in 16 years and under (contemporary/mixed media) and the Special Award for Photography

- Lara Ballantyne - 2nd in 16 years and under (contemporary/mixed media)
- Makaylah Coles - Highly Commended in 16 years and under (contemporary/mixed media)
- Kaelyn Rondel – 1st in 16 years and under (painting)
- Destiny Scarr – 2nd in 16 years and under (painting)
- Jordyn-Lee Boromeo – Highly Commended in 16 years and under (painting)

#### Photography

- Josie Porter - 1st and 2nd prize in 16 years and under (rural life) and the Special Award for Photography & Highly Commended in 16 years and under (rural life) and Commended in 16 years and under (rural life)
- Oceana Rawlings – 1st and 2nd prize in 16 years and under (nature photo)
- Kaylee Ballantyne – Commended in 16 years and under (nature photo)
- Kaylee Ballantyne – 1st prize in 16 years and under (digitally manipulated)
- Oceana Rawlings – 1st prize in 16 years and under (physical world)
- Elisha Drury – 1st and 2nd prize for 16 years and under (black and white – still life)
- Carmella-Mae Higgins – 1st prize in 16 years and under (candid shot)
- Lily Swan – 2nd prize in 16 years and under (candid shot)
- Thomas Amidy – Highly Commended in Open (candid shot)
- Carmella-Mae Higgins – Highly Commended in 16 years and under (candid shot)
- Lily Swan – Highly Commended in 16 years and under (candid shot) and Open (candid shot)
- Josie Porter – Commended in 16 years and under (candid shot)
- Makayla Mobberley – Commended in 16 years and under (candid shot)

Students are able to collect their awards from Miss Waters at school.

## Merriwa Gallery Exhibition

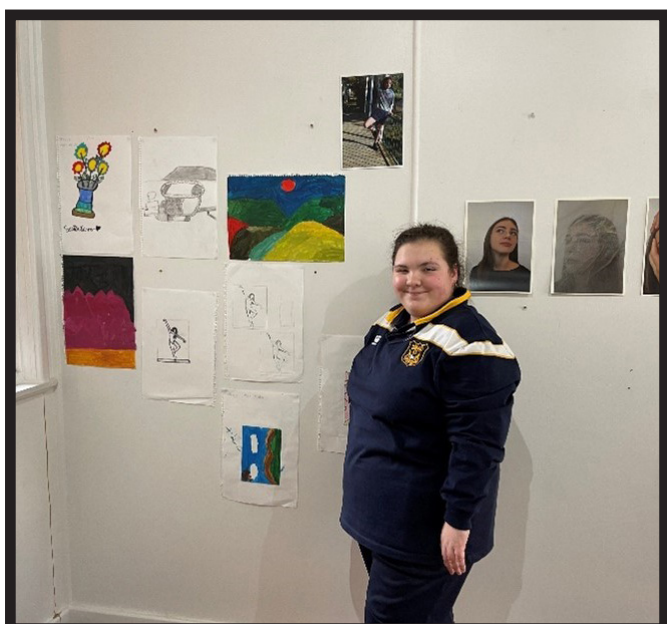
On Thursday, 9 September students across Years 9 to 11 participated in the curation of a Merriwa Central School (Secondary campus) gallery exhibition. Students walked their artmaking down to the Merriwa Gallery and all took part in hanging a collection of works that identified their “practice and process”. This was an incredible opportunity for students to engage in the gallery institution and explore where the next phase of their artmaking could go. Students displayed a range of works from their Visual Arts Process Diary experimentations, digital photographs and resolved artmaking explorations. This provided a tangible experience of what the gallery and exhibition space can look like to facilitate further complex and extended translations of their individual practices. A huge thank you to all students involved – feedback thus far has indicated a celebration and admiration by gallery entrants and the community continues to recognise the commitment and bravery of these students in exhibiting their work for public display.

Thank you to the following students.

Year 9: Riley Borradaile, Makaylah Coles, Carmella-Mae Higgins, Makayla Mobberley, Annabelle Orton, Lily Swan and Sanita Turner

Year 10: Elisha Drury, Mia Jacobs and Ellie-Mai Whitby

Year 11: Thomas Amidy, Hermyon-Lee Bradbury, Josie Porter and Elsie-Taylor Stacey



**Hannah Waters**  
**Visual Arts Teacher/Careers Advisor**

# SBAT VACANCY

SCHOOL BASED TRAINEESHIP NOW AVAILABLE  
FOR A YEAR 10 STUDENT

## HOSPITALITY STAFF at Denman Hotel

Completing Cert II

### Hospitality Kitchen Ops OR Food & Bev

School-based traineeships available both front and back of house. Offering students the opportunity to work in a busy pub, and develop skills across a range of tasks & settings.

Roles available:-

- **Front of House** - customer service, waiting tables, barista and & dessert preparation & plating.
- **Back of House** - kitchen, food prep, cooking, cleaning & dishwashing.

This opportunity will suit students who have completed Hospitality at school in year 10 or are planning on completing in year 11.

Students can apply for either Front or Back of house positions.

Additional shifts outside of school hours are available.

NOTE - this traineeship has ATAR eligibility.

To APPLY scan the QR code or contact SBAT Engagement officer Tracy on 0460 030 617 for more information.



# SBAT VACANCY

SCHOOL BASED TRAINEESHIP NOW AVAILABLE  
FOR A YEAR 10 STUDENT

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION & CARE TRAINEESHIP

### Denman Children's Centre DENMAN

Completing a Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care

Opportunity to work as a school-based traineeship at Denman Children's Centre. The centre provides care for children aged 6 weeks to school age.

Students will be required to complete work experience as part of the recruitment process. SBT training is delivered on line.

This traineeship is not ATAR eligible

To APPLY scan the QR code or contact SBAT Engagement officer Tracy on 0460 030 617 for more information.



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## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST


### PRIMARY CANTEEN COORDINATOR

Our wonderful volunteer Jill Carrall is stepping down at the end of this year after years of volunteering at Merriwa Central School. We truly appreciate all the hard work Jill has put in to providing nutritious and delicious meals for our students.

We are asking for expressions of interest in taking over the volunteer canteen coordinator position. Jill has generously offered to provide training throughout Term 4 for anyone interested in the position.

At the moment our Primary canteen runs on a Friday however next year we are happy to change days to suit interested applicants.

For further information on the position please email us at [merriwacentralschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au](mailto:merriwacentralschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au) or call Hollie on 0408175028



Don't forget to download our school's SkoolBag app to ensure that you are kept in the loop on:

- ✦ School newsletters
- ✦ Notices
- ✦ Events
- ✦ Cancellations
- ✦ Reminders
- ✦ ...and more!

**INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS** Just download the "SkoolBag" app on your phone, open the app and add our school!

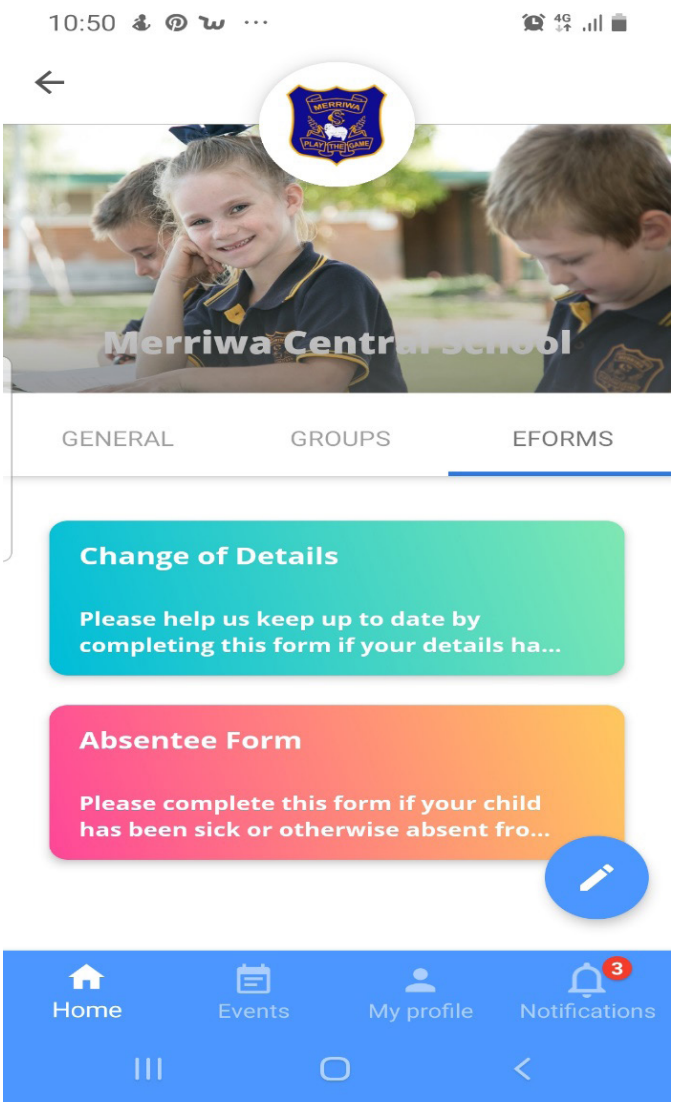
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### Skoolbag App

How to submit an Absentee Form or Change of Details Form - Click on the School Badge in the App - Click on the EFORMS tab.





Term Three	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday/ Sunday
September	10	Teen Mental Health  19	Kindergarten Transition Information Session 10.00am primary library  20	Year 12 Formal  Year 4/5 SRC Buddy Visit for Kindergarten 2023 at Merriwa Pre- School  21	Public Holiday  22	Last day of Term  23	24/25
Term Four	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday/ Sunday
October	1	Students and Staff return  10	  11	HSC Written exams start  12	  13	  14	15/16
October	2	  17	Kindergarten Transition 9.00am- 11.00am  18	  19	Get Smart Years 9/10 Girls at MCS Library  Year 7 2023 Orientation Information Evening 6.00pm Great Hall  20	  21	22/23
October	3	Year 9/10 Exams  24	Year 9/10 Exams  Kindergarten Transition 9.00am- 11.00am  Years 3,4 & 5 Check in Assessment  25	Year 9/10 Exams  Years 3,4 & 5 Check in Assessment  26	Year 9/10 Exams  Year 7 2023 Orientation Day  27	Year 9/10 Exams  Grandparents Day 10.15am at Primary  28	29/30
October/November	4	Year 7/8 Exams  31	Year 7/8 Exams  Kindergarten Transition 9.00am- 11.30am  P&C Meeting at Merriwa RSL 6.30pm  1	Year 7/8 Exams  2	Year 7/8 Exams  Year 7 2023 Orientation Day  3	Year 7/8 Exams  4	5/6
November	5	  7	Kindergarten Transition 9.00am- 1.00pm  8	  9	Year 7 2023 Orientation Day  10	  11	12/13