

MEET THE TEACHERS

HELEN EWING : KINDERGARTEN TEACHER.
Helen graduated from Curtin University with a Diploma of Teaching in Early Childhood Education in 1981. She taught with the Education Department in Derby, Carnarvon and Perth before being transferred to the Margaret River Community Kindergarten in 1986. In 1999 Helen completed a Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood. Helen is a mum to three children and has taught at MRIS since 1995 .



ANN MURRAY : PRE-PRIMARY TEACHER.
Ann has lived in Margaret River since 2005 and is a mum to two energetic boys. Ann graduated from Curtin University in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts). In 2001 Ann completed her Graduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education. Ann taught Kindergarten and Pre-primary in Esperance for four years before joining MRIS in 2007.



THE SUCCESS OF MRIS ...

Is strengthened by an ongoing family-school partnership.

Children develop faster during the first five years than at any other stage of their lives. In these critical early years, they are not only establishing the basic foundations for physical, cognitive, social and emotional development, but they are also forming beliefs, attitudes and behavior patterns that influence how they view themselves and the world in which they live.



Please contact Jane or Melissa for more information.

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MARGARET RIVER

IndependentSCHOOL
Sharing the Learning Journey

KINDERGARTEN AND PRE-PRIMARY



WHERE CHILDREN
EXPERIENCE A FRIENDLY,
POSITIVE AND FLEXIBLE
LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

OUR SCHOOL'S PHILOSOPHY

- All children should be given the opportunity to experience success at a level appropriate to them within a supportive environment.
- Each child's self concept (ideas, attitudes and feelings) should be acknowledged through meaningful connections.
- Children have opportunities for open ended, modelled and purposefully framed play. Children must be given time and space to be.



HOW DO CHILDREN LEARN?

CHILDREN LEARN THROUGH PLAY!

Children need to explore, experiment, discover, improvise, create, question, construct and discuss.

Children's learning is a result of active participation with guidance and support from families and teachers.

"Pre-schoolers are interested in trying new tasks, assuming responsibility for themselves and materials, playing with others and discovering what they can do with the help of adults. They also pretend play as one way to make choices and decisions that increase their sense of autonomy, competence and master the social and cultural world in which they live." **(Erikson)**

"Children have an increased ability to think symbolically and conceptually about objects and people outside their environment, which is evident through children's increasing use of language and imaginative play." **(Piaget)**

"Learning and teaching should not stand on opposite banks and just watch the river flow by. Instead, they should embark together on a journey down the water. Through an active reciprocal exchange, teaching can strengthen learning how to learn." **(Loris Malaguzzi)**

WHAT WILL CHILDREN LEARN?

Through the use of the Early Years Learning Framework of Australia and the Australian Curriculum, learning opportunities are planned to maximise children's potential.

At Margaret River Independent School Kindergarten and Pre-primary we provide a play-based curriculum as well as explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy skills.

Social and emotional competency is a crucial factor in academic success. We support this through the Early Childhood Virtues Program (Rainbow Catcher) and the PATHS program.

The Virtues and Values program includes cooperation, persistence, respect and helpfulness. It helps to guide children in times of change and uncertainty. Virtues and Values are building blocks to a happy and successful life. They teach respect and love for our world.

PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) is a program that aims to develop self-control, positive self-esteem, emotional awareness and problem-solving skills.