



MARGARET RIVER

Independent SCHOOL

EST. 1982 AS NYINDAMURRA FAMILY SCHOOL

MRIS Matters

Our School's Weekly Newsletter — Distributed Fridays

2021 MRIS IQ Focus = Rigour

2021 EQ focus = Compassionate Communication

Week 1/10

Term 1

5 February, 2021

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends, “Kaya” & RU OK?

Welcome to ALL,

School will commence on Monday 8 February. We trust you are all well and excited about attending for week 2.

We are delighted to welcome some new staff members and some new positions.

- Skye Robertson is our new Visual Arts teacher
- Amy Johnstone is joining Year 1 with Skye
- Murray Stevenson is our Kindy teacher while Helen has LWP for the year
- Marie Carre is returning after many years away as TA for the Pre Primary
- Jacqueline Ashworth is our new Youth Worker
- Todd Exell is our new IMS Manager
- Our new Chaplain is still to be confirmed

Love Wendy

Virtue of the Week: Responsibility

You are practising this when you

- Take your agreements seriously
- Respond ably by doing things to the best of your ability
- Are willing to do your part
- Admit mistakes without making excuses
- Are willing to make amends
- Give your best to whatever you do

Weekly Wisdom

“Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood” ... Helen Keller

Wadandi Word Of The Week

“Kaartdijin” which means “knowledge”

Parenting Ideas

“Succeeding at the parenting long game”

<https://www.parentingideas.com.au/blog/parenting-long-game/>

Covid-19 Phase 4 at MRIS

As the south west returns to pre-lockdown conditions tonight, we would like to confirm that all students are expected to attend school. This means that students are either:

- at school
- unwell and should stay at home
- medically referred to learn from home, or
- recorded as absent if they do not attend.

Physical distancing measures still apply, including one adult per two square metres and maintaining 1.5 metres between adults, where possible.

Parents/carers and visitors may access school sites upon signing in at the office, with physical distancing and good hygiene practices applied.

The safety of our students and staff is our number one priority. Our school will continue to have cleaning staff working throughout the day to ensure all high-use areas, such as benchtops, desks, doorknobs, taps and handrails, are regularly cleaned and surfaces disinfected.

Good hygiene practices will be promoted and maintained. Students and staff are encouraged to wash their hands as often as possible.

Current national medical advice confirms that the two square metre rule and the 1.5 metre distancing between students during classroom activities is not required.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this unusual time.

Teaching Staff for 2021

Our Teaching staff are looking forward to day 1.

Our classes are as follows;

Little Indies: Helen Ewing with Liz Horsey

Kindy: Murray Stevenson with Noela Garland

Pre Primary: Shaunna Kilcullen with Marie Carre (Ann is on LSL and Raine is on LWP)

Year 1: Skye Robertson and Amy Johnstone with Julie Jones

Year 2: Kate Appleton and Amanda Mas with Janine Harrold and Kate O Hara

Year 3: Kate Cawse

Year 4: Sara Walker with Jacki Connew and Belinda Heussenstamm

Year 5: Jacob Horsey with Troy Robinson

Year 6: Laura Nicholls with Jasmin Luttrell and Belinda

School News

Thank You

To Cass for giving teachers the Noongar Season information for Bunuru (Feb/March).

To Roger for all the grounds work over the break - it is greatly appreciated.

Quiet Achievers

The wonderful families who came to our Busy Bee to get the school looking so good for the start of the school year Thank you.

EQ & IQ for 2021

Every year the teaching staff choose an Emotional Quotient focus and an Intelligence Quotient focus for deliberation, discovery and delivery. This year we have chosen EQ = Compassionate Communication and IQ = Rigour.

DEVELOPING THE IQ – Intelligence quotient - the hard skills – How well we do our job -about learning and asking questions

DEVELOPING THE EQ – Emotional Intelligence - soft skills –All about RELATIONSHIPS - feelings are OK ...we need to talk about them and give them a label... have limits for acceptable behaviour.

New bus service from Augusta

A new bus route has been given to the families living south of the school. Starting in Augusta the bus will pick up students from their homes and head north through Karridale and on to MRIS. This is a wonderful service to our school and our southern families as children have had to be driven to school in the past.

Augusta Bus driven by Lloyd Shepherdson

Wilderness Bus driven by Pamela McIntosh

West #2 Bus driven by Sandy Swan

Prevelly Bus driven by Ian Seaton

Mindfulness at MRIS

Last year we undertook to have a mindfulness session every day in our classrooms. With our parents Danelle and Aisling supporting our teachers and using the Smiling Mind app the initiative was introduced. The teaching staff have voted to continue the practice for 2021 which is a wonderful outcome with so much evidence supporting the benefits of such a habit.

The whole school is also guided in another MINDFUL practice called the 3Bs. This is simply a focus on the 3 breaths. 1st is for a just the breath, 2nd is a focus on a virtue that is needed or loved and the 3rd breath is for what we are grateful for. We have been doing this with our students for many years now and at the whole school meeting students regularly request to be guided through this quick and easy practice .. Try it at home and let us know how it goes for you.

School Dates & Info

School Calendar

Mon 8 Feb: Students commence

Frid 12 Feb: All fee statements sent out

Mon 8 Feb: Welcome to new Kindy and school parents session

Mon 8 Feb: Year 1 parent Literacy Workshop 9.15 in our Library

Tues 9 Feb: Welcome to Kindy parents session

Wed 10 Feb: Little Indies Taster, 9:15 at School

Week 6,7,8,9 : STEP course Thursdays 1-3pm. All welcome.

GB News

Welcome to the new school year. I am sure everyone is very pleased, that with the South West returning to pre lockdown conditions as of Fri 5 Feb at 6pm, MRIS will be open for business as usual from Monday 8 Feb. Remember if you are visiting the School to sign in, maintain hygiene protocols and social distancing.

A lot of work has been completed on the carpark and entrance over the last month, with the remaining work to be completed in the next couple of weeks. Meanwhile please take care while using the space and be aware that we now have four buses delivering and collecting students including one from Augusta.

MRIS Strategic Plan 2021-2025 I am pleased to present our new five year strategic plan that the GB, management team and staff have developed over the last 6 months. Our Vision, Mission, Philosophy, Values and Virtues remain consistent with only minor revisions. With achieving the targeted single stream classes and 160 students we now move from a growth to consolidation phase. The focus of our Strategic Goals & Strategic Priorities have been refined to reflect this. You are encouraged to read this document - available on our School Stream App or from the front office.

Jessica Worrall (MRIS Chairperson)