### **MEET THE TEACHERS**



#### TASH MOYNIHAN: KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

Tash is a passionate Early Childhood Educator with 12 years of experience in the education system. Her journey began as a Teaching Assistant, and for the past eight years, she has been grateful to have had the opportunity to nurture young minds as an Early Childhood Educa-

tor. Tash deeply values the early years as a time for children to foster a sense of wonder, curiosity, and an enduring love of learning. She believes in supporting the whole child, integrating play-based learning into her teaching, while fostering a strong connection to nature and the natural environment. Tash is excited to have joined MRIS this year, relocating from Perth to a setting on Wadandi land that reflects and aligns with her personal teaching philosophy.

### DOMANIE DAVIES : PRE-PRIMARY TEACHER.

Domanie completed her Bachelor of Education in 2006 and has since taught students from Kindergarten to Year 7 across metropolitan and regional Western Australia. She has experience as both a classroom teacher and a specialist in Dance, Drama, Sport, and Indonesian.



As a mother of two primary schoolaged children, Domanie deeply understands the importance of fostering resilience and selfefficacy in young learners. She integrates social-emotional learning, designs inviting learning spaces, and has a nurturing and empathetic approach to help students feel valued, empowered, and a true sense of belonging.

# 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 our administration team for more information.

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# 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 playbased 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.