

Monti Connect

Newsletter

2026 - Term 2, Week 6

Important Dates

1 June	PUBLIC HOLIDAY
3 June	Yr 6 Our Patch Excursion
4 June	AP Get Growing Program
4 June	UP & AP Surfing
4 June	AP Tour for Current Parents
6 June	REVEG - Planting day at AP
10 June	Community Lunch at AP
21 June	AP Excursion to the Hangout
15 June	School Council Meeting - AGM - ALL WELCOME
18 June	AP Tour for Current Parents
19 June	KAIGI of the Arts and Mini Markets
Tues / Fri	Continued MP & UP Going Out Program
Week 9	Next Monti Connect newsletter published

Term Dates 2026:

Term 1 Student Dates: Monday 2/2/26 to Thursday 2/4/26
(10 weeks). Office open from Monday 19/1/26.

Public Holidays: Monday 2/3/26 (Labour Day), Friday 3/4/26 (Good Friday)
Pupil Free Days within term: none

Term 2 Student Dates: Tuesday 21/4/26 to Friday 26/6/26
(9 weeks).

Public Holidays: Monday 27/4/26 (ANZAC Day), Monday 1/6/26 (WA Day)
Pupil Free Days within term: Friday 15/5/26 (Official Reporting Day)

Term 3 Student Dates: Monday 20/7/26 to Friday 25/9/26
(10 weeks)

Public Holidays: none.
Pupil Free Days within term: none.

Term 4 Student Dates: Tuesday 13/10/26 to Thursday 10/12/26 (9 weeks). Office
open until 18/12/26.

Public Holidays: none.

Pupil Free Days within term: Friday 6/11/26 (Official Reporting Day).



We would like to acknowledge the Wadandi / Pibulmun Traditional Owners of this land on which we live, work and play, and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.



**Margaret River
Montessori**
SCHOOL | EST 1993

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Education in harmony with life



Monti Connect

Junior Primary News

Over the past few weeks, we have warmly welcomed several new children and their families into our Banksia and Marri classrooms. It has been lovely getting to know them as they settle into our Montessori community.

The children have been busy working with Jesse to plan our Noongar Season Wheel. In their Kin Groups, they carefully drafted the placement of their clay pieces before construction began. This collaborative project has encouraged planning, communication, creativity, and teamwork, and the children are excited to see their ideas gradually come to life.



We have also been extending our Practical Life curriculum outdoors by exploring seasonal vegetables and flowers, sowing seeds in punnets, and planting flowers in our planter pots. We have already enjoyed success with our snow peas and sugar snap peas and are eagerly awaiting the growth of broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, and more. Through caring for the seedlings and garden spaces, the children are developing patience, responsibility, and respect for their environment, often independently offering to water and care for the plants.



Monti Connect

Junior Primary News

Inside the classroom, our younger students have been refining their fine and gross motor skills through Practical Life activities such as pouring water, spooning grains, using tongs, and food preparation experiences like spreading avocado onto crackers. These purposeful activities help develop concentration, coordination, independence, and hand strength, while indirectly preparing the children for later work in writing, reading, and mathematics.

We were also fortunate to welcome visiting author and illustrator Renee Trembl as part of the Readers and Writers Festival. Renee shared the inspiration behind her picture books, read a story with the children, and guided them in drawing an amazing possum. The children thoroughly enjoyed this interactive experience and proudly applied their developing drawing skills. Keep an eye out for *This Little Joey* and *Goodnight, Joeys* at your local library, and ask your children to tell you about them.



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Middle Primary News

Over the last few weeks, the children have been wonderfully busy with a variety of experiences beyond their regular classroom work. Swimming lessons provided opportunity for confidence, perseverance and independence. The Book Fair brought much excitement and encouraged the children's love of literature, choice, and a great deal of conversation around books. We also enjoyed the Djeran Season Mia-Mia construction activity in our Kin Groups, where the children worked with their hands, collaborated, problem-solved, and considered how structures are made with purpose. This week, the dance incursion workshop offered another opportunity for movement, rhythm, coordination, and creative expression.



Our weekly Friday Practical Life sessions have also continued to be a much-loved part of the program. Throughout the term, the children rotate in small groups of six to prepare food for the class, and then carefully tidy and restore the environment afterwards. So far, we have enjoyed a variety of delicious foods, including gourmet pizzas, ham and cheese toasted sandwiches, Anzac biscuits, bliss balls, and more. In the Montessori environment, Practical Life is deeply important. It is through real, purposeful work that children develop independence, concentration, coordination, order, responsibility, and care for the community. These sessions are also a beautiful expression of grace and courtesy. The children practise planning together, sharing tasks, waiting their turn, preparing food safely, cleaning up, and taking pride in a job completed well.

Alongside this, our Going Out program has continued to develop, with a group of students working on the design of hi-vis vests for future excursions, which we hope to order from a local supplier. These experiences remind us that children grow not only through lessons, but through meaningful participation in the life of their community. When children are trusted with real responsibilities, they begin to see themselves as capable, useful, and connected contributors.

A little reminder – please remember that Thursday is our Library Day so if the Library Bags could be packed in their school bag that would be fantastic. Thank you for all of your ongoing support



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Upper Primary News



Our Upper Primary students had the privilege to meet a Veteran through our Going Out Program and decided to tell his story...

Brian's story

Brian Wally is 103 years old. He served in the Air Force for 3 ½ years. Brian was on his third mission when one of the plane's engines came flying off and the plane crashed down into the ocean with 5 members aboard. Brian was the only survivor. Brian was rescued by a German seaplane and was taken to a prisoner of war camp near Berlin for 3 years. When he returned to Wales, he got married and had 5 children. He now has 20 grandchildren and great grandchildren and 1 great great grandchild. He moved to Australia around 1959 and has lived here ever since. He worked as a farmer and in mineral exploration until retirement. He has been in Mirrambeena for 14 years and is the oldest person there.

FUN FACT

Brian joined the army 1 day before he turned 18 because his mum mixed up the dates of his and his sister's birthdays (2nd of July and 1st of October).

Thank you Sienna and Ivy for retelling Brian's story in your words.



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Upper Primary Incursion

Online Safety Chat

On Monday, May 25th, our Upper Primary students had the opportunity to attend a presentation by Anke Lasserre on the importance of online safety. Students were highly engaged throughout the session, eagerly answering questions and contributing to discussions. The presentation focused on practical ways to keep ourselves safe online, as well as how to respond if we witness bullying in messenger apps or other online spaces.

A big thank you to Anke for delivering such an informative and engaging presentation for our students!



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Adolescent Program News



Meeting in the Middle 2026

Last week, our Adolescent Program Coordinator, Katherine Shearer, travelled to Sydney to attend the annual Meeting in the Middle Montessori Adolescent conference. This year it was hosted by Northside Montessori School and Sydney Montessori School, Montessori adolescent educators attending from across Australasia.

This year's theme, Work, Dignity, and Belonging: Adolescent Contributions, explored the vital role meaningful work, student agency, and authentic community engagement play in adolescent education. Throughout the conference, educators shared innovative approaches to supporting young people as capable contributors within both their school communities and the wider world.

A central focus of the forum was how Montessori adolescent programs can create environments where young people develop a genuine sense of purpose, responsibility, and belonging. Conversations highlighted the importance of real-world learning experiences that allow adolescents to engage deeply with meaningful work while building confidence, independence, and social responsibility.

One particularly inspiring aspect of the conference was hearing how students at Northside Montessori have engaged in authentic projects connected to the Sustainable Development Goals and the international Montessori Model United Nations (MMUN) symposium. Student-led initiatives included supporting local food kitchens, producing documentaries exploring children's rights, and developing online resources to raise awareness about homelessness.




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Adolescent Program News

Newsletter

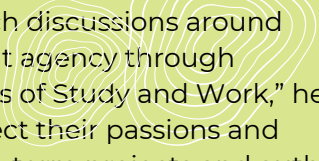
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These projects demonstrated the extraordinary potential of adolescents when they are trusted with real responsibility and opportunities to contribute meaningfully.

Another engaging session explored Production and Exchange, a core component of Montessori adolescent education. Students shared a range of ventures they had designed and developed themselves, including resin art, pottery, clothing items, and badge-making businesses. Beyond the products themselves, the emphasis was on developing financial literacy, collaboration, creativity, independence, and confidence through purposeful work and enterprise.


Adding to the authenticity of the experience, the conference itself was catered by these remarkable young people, showcasing not only their entrepreneurial skills and professionalism, but also the confidence and pride that emerge when adolescents are entrusted with meaningful responsibility.



There were also rich discussions around supporting student agency through personalised "Plans of Study and Work," helping adolescents connect their passions and interests with long-term projects and authentic learning pathways.

Staff are incredibly grateful to MRMS for supporting opportunities such as these, allowing connections with like-minded Montessori practitioners from across Australasia. Opportunities to share ideas, reflect on practice, and learn from other adolescent programs are invaluable as we continue strengthening authentic and meaningful learning experiences for young people within our own community.

The conference served as a powerful reminder that adolescents thrive when they are given trust, responsibility, and opportunities for genuine contribution. We look forward to bringing many of these ideas, conversations, and inspirations back into our program in the future.



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Adolescent Program News

Senior school students have been making strong progress on a range of meaningful projects. Of particular note is Harper's Social Action Project, which includes a community tree planting day planned for Saturday June 6, with the goal of planting 750 native trees across the school property as part of an ongoing revegetation effort.



COME PLANT A TREE

SATURDAY JUNE 6th at 1PM



OUR MONTESSORI
COMMUNITY IS COMING TOGETHER
TO PLANT 750 TREES ON OUR FARM

Families are welcome. Children to be supervised.
Community Engagement Hours can be claimed
for Parents.

Hot chocolate and brownies provided.
Bringing a plate to share would be amazing.
Please bring gloves, trowel, spade and a great attitude!



Please RSVP to School Admin
MontessoriAP@margmont.wa.edu.au



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METRICUP CAMPUS

62 HARMANS MILL ROAD METRICUP WA 6280
(08) 9757 2564



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Wellbeing News

Kin Group activity welcoming in Djeran...



The Djeran Kin Group Activity was a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together and celebrate the season. Our Kin groups, each named after one of the six Noongar seasons, gathered in their groups for this season. Djeran marks the beginning of cooler weather and the arrival of the rains as nature prepares for Makuru, making it the perfect season to explore shelter-building and connection to Country. Throughout the afternoon, students worked together within their Kin groups to learn about traditional Mia Mia construction. We were fortunate to have parent and guest speaker Ryan Brock join us for the afternoon, where he demonstrated to students how a Mia Mia is traditionally built using materials such as paperbark (bibool), balga fronds, and branches. Students then had the opportunity to put their learning into action, using teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving skills to create their own structures. Across the school grounds, six unique Mia Mias slowly took shape.



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Wellbeing News

Kin Group activity welcoming in Djeran...

The challenge was not simply to build a structure, but to create a Mia Mia large enough to fit someone inside and sturdy enough to withstand the coming rain. Each structure was then put to the test with a watering can to see just how waterproof it really was, bringing plenty of laughter, excitement, and cheering from students and staff alike. More than just a building activity, Djeran Day created an opportunity for students to connect across year levels, strengthen relationships within their Kin groups, learn new skills, and celebrate the meaning of the season together. Even better, our Mia Mias are still standing around the school grounds and have already become a much-loved addition to the playground.



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Art News

Junior Primary:

In Junior Primary art, we have been exploring texture using a variety of materials. The junior students have created an ocean landscape by using a sponge to create an ocean texture and three different shades of blue to give the illusion of depth. They then used PVA glue and sand to spread onto their land before decorating and gluing down colourful umbrellas for their bird's eye view seascape.



Middle Primary:

In Middle Primary, the students have used impressive determination and persistence to master a new stick weaving skill. The middle primary students collected two sticks, tying them together with string. They then began attempting a weaving pattern around the sticks with yarn, with many failed attempts. Despite this, every student continued to watch, listen and persist and has created a wonderful, colourful and unique piece of stick weaving art.



Upper Primary:

Upper Primary students have been learning about a self-taught 11year old artist called Alf Barbel Wit, known for his intuitive art full of shape, line and colour. Alf states that he starts with a line and sees where his feelings and intuition takes him. Students created the base of their artwork with a line, using colourful paint sticks using their intuition until their page was full. Once this was dry, they used POSCA paint pens to add a variety of line and dot details over the top.



The final result!



Monti Connect

French Language News

Football Fever is here!



Our primary students are enjoying a whole school "I spy" game looking out for Maple, Zayu and Clutch (The FIFA world cup mascots). Students are encouraged to use known French words like 'ici' (here), 'je vois' (I see) and 'regarde' (look) when they spot one of our soccer friends. They are on the move so keep your eyes peeled. Check out the bulletin board between Melaluca and Peppermint for more information.

'United' is a prominent theme in the World Cup - countries from around the world coming together in the shared language of soccer. Here at MRMS we are using it as an opportunity delve into the French Speaking countries of Canada and France.

This world event is a wonderful opportunity to match student interest enabling us to create 'compelling input' in the target language of French. Last week, MP students used chat mats with French colours, vocabulary, and basic language prompts to create Football inspired builds. They were then invited to present their builds in the target language. UP has been equally busy designing French/MRMS mascots and 'maillots' (team jerseys).

All students are participating in 'Musical Moments', a comprehensible input activity that has them listening, decoding, dancing and experiencing a French song. Students are learning the song 'Le coach' – perhaps another flash mob is in order?

In week 10 we will pull it all together for a fun French filled day of football with a shared refreshment (oranges and icy poles) and football inspired games on offer. Please reach out if you can assist on Thursday of the last week of term.

In our Adolescent program we are linking their work and study learning to their French learning journey. Students are selecting a way to present a simplified version of their projects in work and study in an accessible way for our Primary students who may visit the campus. Some students are extending this idea to independent French projects.

We were blessed last week to be able to have our Environmental Marine Areas crew participate in a Zoom call with a school in Bora Bora, Tahiti. This was a wonderful opportunity and all students involved are looking forward to continued dialogue.

We are also setting up some small group 'Chat/literacy groups' during our French lessons in the AP. With the support of Muriel, our lovely French speaking EA, we are hoping to provide students with pockets of conversational listening and speaking in the target language in a smaller group setting. We trialled this on Monday and it was well received by all.

Please reach out if you have any questions,
Alicia



Monti Connect

Physical Education News

Judo Clinic!



In Week 5 our primary students were visited by Cody and Estella from Judo WA. They wore brown and black belts respectively and showed us some incredible partner throws. They emphasised how important it is to keep your partner safe by hanging on to their arm as they fall, and also how slapping your whole arm on the crash mats can help cushion the fall. Students then practised throws on each other. It was great to see all students happily get involved and experience Judo for the first time. Thanks again Cody and Estella from @judowa for providing such a great experience!



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Physical Education News

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Margaret River Montessori Martial Arts Fitness Club



- Upper Primary–Years 4, 5 and 6.
- Every Tuesday for the rest of Term 2
(Hopefully, this will also run in Terms 3 and 4)
 - Start: 7:30am
 - Finish: 8:15am
- Meet in the MRMS Hall (Margaret River Campus)
- Breakfast of fruits served at 8:30am
- Parents can 'drop and go'
- Cost: \$5pp per session - \$25 for the rest of the term.
- Coaches: Finn Langlois, Oscar Chanin and Sean Allen
- Please email Olly to sign up: deputy@margmont.wa.edu.au

The Montessori Martial Arts Fitness Club will be a student headed organisation being overseen by Deputy Principal Olly Chanin.

The instructors of the classes will be Finn Langlois (Year 8) with Oscar Chanin (Year 9) as assistant who have both had experience teaching Martial Arts. Sean Allen, experienced martial arts instructor and mentor, will also be overseeing and helping to plan lessons.

Fees will cover the fruit breakfast and some new equipment.

Safe Cycling / Walking Routes to MRMS



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Primary School News

KiN Dance Workshop



This week Middle and Upper Primary were treated to an incursion from KiN Dance Workshop.

KiN is an immersive 60-minute dance-theatre work that tells the true story of a real multi-generational family of artists. Rooted in the ancient Indian traditions of Kathak and Mallakhamb and woven together with contemporary Australian performance, it enacts intergenerational learning in its most literal form: grandmother teaching daughter, daughter teaching son, the knowledge of the body and spirit passed on through practice, repetition, and love. The work asks questions that sit at the very heart of the Montessori tradition: How does knowledge pass from one generation to the next? What do we inherit from those who came before us? What does it mean to belong?

The interactive experience with the dance group gave the children an opportunity to actively participate, build confidence, and form meaningful connections with one another. Through movement, teamwork, and shared activities, the children engaged socially, expressed themselves creatively, and developed a strong sense of inclusion and community.

They will be dancing at the Heart this Saturday night! Tickets are still available!



Monti Connect

Celebrating Our Team's Outstanding Achievements



Going above and beyond!

Congratulations Mel – It has just been announced that Mel Britto, our Bush Babes Playgroup Facilitator, has been selected to present at the national Montessori conference -The MCSA Grassroots Conference in September in Adelaide (Theme: The Nature of Learning – Tread Lightly, Teach Boldly) in September this year. Her topic is *Two-Way Learning, in Kin Groups and on Country: Weaving Indigenous Ways of Knowing into the Montessori Tapestry*.

Congratulations Kath – Katherine Shearer, our Adolescent Program Coordinator, has been invited to apply and has been approved to participate in an 8 month course (one session per month all on Saturdays) on deepening Montessori educators' "Montessori Awareness Practice" (MAP) - Association Montessori Internationale has been developing this initiative, designed to strengthen self-awareness, reflection, and relational practice within Montessori teacher training. Emerging from research and pilot programs begun in 2019, MAP aims to complement AMI's technical and pedagogical excellence by providing practical tools that help adult learners deepen their understanding of themselves, their work with children, colleagues, and families, and Montessori's vision of the "New Adult." Following several successful pilot iterations, AMI is launching MAP 3.0 in 2026 for a small cohort of Trainers in Training, with the intention of gradually embedding this work within the wider AMI community of practice.

Congratulations!

Monti Connect

P & F Corner

We need you!

Hello wonderful Montessori community,

On Saturday August 22nd this year we will be hosting our very own quiz night in order to raise money for the AP school camps.

Further information regarding this will be sent in the coming days.

At the moment we are seeking your assistance to fulfill some key roles which will of course count towards engagement hours.

- Donations Coordinator - someone to coordinate the donations coming in for the quiz night which may involve collection/drop off/collation of donations
- 3-4 people to assist to set up on the night (chairs, tables, hampers, bar etc)
- 3 scorers for the night
- A scribe for the whiteboard on the night
- 2 people on the bar -RSA required
- 3 people on tickets including raffles
- "Action team" - 2 people on the night to take payments, provide tokens and cash handling

If you have the time/capacity to take on one of these roles we would be very grateful!

Please let us know as soon as you can by contacting Nicky on 0432 795 296 or by emailing at hellonickynolan@gmail.com

P & F Meeting Schedule

Term 2 - Online Teams Meeting Tuesday 2nd June at 7pm

Term 2 - AGM Monday June 15th 6pm

Term 3 - Meeting at Primary Campus Monday 27th July at 2pm

- Online Teams Meeting Mon 31st August at 7pm

If you think you can help or like to attend then please get in touch with Nats at pfsecretarymontessori@gmail.com or 0428094585.

An invitation from JP Mentors

Nicola and Kate from JP would love to invite all Marri and Bankisa families to join us on Wednesday June 3rd after school for a relaxed play and early dinner at Doust's Corner.

A great chance for the kids to play together and for parents to catch up in an easy, casual way. Everyone welcome — bring the whole crew! 😊

Please CHECK the lost property box as it is overflowing!



Monti Connect

Community News

Drum Kit For Sale!

Our primary school has recently upgraded its drum kit and is looking for a new home for its old one. It still works perfectly well.

If you are interested, please email Tony at music@margmont.wa.edu.au.

\$300

First in...



Private Piano Lessons available

Contact Elodie elodiepianostudio@gmail.com for availability

An intimate Sunday afternoon of music featuring Kevin McDonald - guitar/banjo/double bass and Asha Henfry - flute/voice, with special guest Kate Amelia - fiddle/voice.

Blending pop, irish, country, jazz and bossa nova, the trio will take audiences on a journey through timeless melodies, improvisation and soulful rhythms. From delicate acoustic moments to vibrant Latin-inspired grooves, this concert celebrates the beauty of connection, spontaneity and musical storytelling in an intimate setting.

Tea, coffee and cake served at interval by the church committee for a gold coin donation. Proceeds to go towards the church. Tickets \$30 & Under 13s \$15

Live in Concert
ASHA HENFRY & KEVIN McDONALD
 WITH SPECIAL GUEST KATE AMELIA ON FIDDLE

3PM,
 SUNDAY
 14th JUNE

ANGLICAN CHURCH,
 47 ALLNUT TCE, AUGUSTA

TICKETS \$30
 TRYBOOKING.COM/DMFEI
 OR CONTACT
 ASHA - 0408 959 950
 ASHAHENFRY@GMAIL.COM

Monti Connect

A Final Thought...

As we move through the middle of Term Two, it has been wonderful to see so many meaningful learning experiences unfolding across our classrooms. The children have shown curiosity, independence, creativity, and joy in their daily work and discoveries. There is still much to look forward to this term, with many exciting experiences, projects, and opportunities for learning and growth planned in the weeks ahead. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's Montessori journey.



Let's keep in touch!



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"Within the child lies the fate of the future." – Maria Montessori



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