Dear Parents, Friends and Carers,

Congratulations to our magnificent P and C on their successful Annual General Meeting this week. The meeting was chaired by Mrs Catriona Steeghs (President) and once general business and reports had been made, all positions were quickly filled including executive and committee positions. A big thank you our outgoing team of P and C officers. They did remarkable things for our school during 2012. Mrs Karen Hancock is our new P and C President and Mr Mark Simpson Vice President. A warm welcome was extended to the members that were present. One item discussed was the development of a parent representative for each class. This would be helpful for parents and teachers in assisting with communications and class events. If you are interested in being a parent representative for your class please drop in and see me or discuss it with your class teacher.

During the P and C meeting the car park was discussed, and in particular the drop off and pick up area. This small area is only for drop off and pick up. The driver must remain with the car and not linger for more then 2 minutes. Cars must not queue in the drive way and congest further traffic that may lead to flows out onto the road. Please drive through and seek a car bay in the main car park, or choose to park in Teasdale car park or the Petries car park at the town end of the school. There is ample parking in this area and children only have a short walk across the footbridge near the new undercover area. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated. It has been great to see young children holding hands with parents whilst crossing on the car park. Please use crosswalks where available and be aware of moving vehicles. We want you to be safe. The next P and C meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th March at 7pm in the staffroom.

This has been a busy week with some expectance and uncertainty of where cyclone Rusty would cross the coast and if it would have an impact on us. It has been a relatively low key event for us in Karratha but a good opportunity to make sure we do have our cyclone communication tree ready and know at what point school will be closed. We observe notification from FESA and SES in conjunction with directives from our regional office. If you did not receive the cyclone information sheet for parents last week and are not sure of our procedures please ask for a copy from the office.

You may have noticed that our very popular bench that surrounds the palm tree at the front of our office area has been repaired. This bench was originally installed many years ago by Mr Doherty (previous Principal) Mr Poot (parent) and myself. It is good to see that it has become a popular spot for children and parents and that the repairs now make it useable for many more years.

Congratulations to my staff that have met with parents to discuss their programs and class expectations. For our year sevens planning has already commenced around their camp in term 3. Thank you for your support.

This week we have had several students visit the office proudly sharing their work that they have done, such as samples of writing, look cover write checks and maths. I am impressed by the pride children are showing and the way in which they are to talk about what they have done. It is amazing to hear some children describe how they have added numbers. Students have also shared the 10 a day maths problems they are doing. Many classes are doing 10 a day each day, as research has shown that this regular activity warms, and activates the brain for further learning throughout the day. Ask your child if they have to do 10 a day in their class.

I have been invited to attend Conversations with Principals in Canberra next Wednesday and Thursday as a Western Australian Representative and will be away from school. The Conversations with Principals is a Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations event where Principals from Government and non Government school across Australia workshop issues and directions in Education providing direct feedback to Federal government and the Minister for Education. Mr Palmer will be in charge at school during my absence.

Thankyou to parents who are using our SMS for reporting attendance and also to parents that have seen me early to indicate that they have a special event approaching and their children will not be at school. You support helps to monitor our attendance accurately and improve our targets.

Next week is a short week due to the public holiday on Monday for Labour Day – School will be closed on Monday.

Warm regards

Weston Jackson
Principal
SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are an important part of our school’s revenue and assist us to purchase resources such as text books and sporting equipment to enhance learning outcomes for your children. Please place cash/cheque in the envelope previously provided, clearly list student’s names and teaching areas and return the envelope to the front office. Your early attention to this is appreciated. A Contributions and Charges Schedule was sent home at the end of last year and is available in the front office if you did not receive one. Please note that costs quoted in the area of optional activities are set at a maximum level and many of the programme costs will be less than the quoted amount. Also note the sliding scale of the voluntary contribution for families (and that you can make payment by instalments if that suits your budget).

P&C CONTRIBUTIONS

Parents and Citizens Association have requested that each family make a contribution of $20.00 to assist them in their school support programmes (class incentives, sunscreen, trophies, medallions, book prizes and Concert Night venue costs). This year the P & C are offering parents the chance to become members by paying the $1.00 per person, through the school with their school contribution payments. Your financial support of our school is not only appreciated but is essential if we are to continue to provide those additional components that make Millars Well the great school that it is.

CYCLONE PROCEDURE

The annual cyclone season is upon us again. From an organisational point of view, the most difficult time is when a yellow alert is called during the school day. When Karratha goes on to yellow alert before 12.00 the school closes at lunch time. If the alert occurs at or after 14.00, school will generally be closed the following day. Please ensure you have a copy of the school’s Cyclone Procedure and read the information carefully. If you need clarification of this procedure or did not receive this information, please contact the office.

VALUE FOCUS – GETTING ALONG

Getting Along means…. Working well with classmates, solving problems with classmates without getting angry, and following the rules in my classroom. Getting Along means making responsible choices so that everyone’s rights are protected.

Examples of Getting Along
- Working well with my classmates.
- Listening and not interrupting when someone else is speaking.
- Talking rather than fighting when someone treats me unfairly.
- Not breaking important class or school rules.

Habits of the mind to help me get along
Being tolerant of others means not thinking that when someone is mean to me that he or she is a totally bad person.
Playing by the rules means thinking that by following the school rules, school will be a better place to live and learn.
Thinking first means thinking that when someone treats me badly, I need to think about the best way to act.

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our school P&C provides the Uniform Shop and Canteen, organises ways in which parents can share in the shaping and developing of school policies, raises funds to provide additional resources to benefit our children’s education and much more. For our new parents, the P&C is an effective way for you to get to know the school community and feel like you belong. For ‘old’ parents who have not yet tried the P&C, your experience as parents in the school is valued. The P&C welcomes your interest and membership, to share your views and to make the work light and fun.

The AGM was held in the school staffroom on Tuesday 26th February and there was great attendance of old and new faces. A big Thank you to all the parents who came along to support the new P&C. All positions were made vacant and the following parents have taken on these roles:

President - Mrs Karen Hancock, Vice President -Mr Mark Simpson, Secretary- Ms Belinda McCaig and Treasurer- Mrs Chantelle Smith, Uniform Shop -Siobhain Atkinson. Thank you very much to these dedicated parents as with out them there would be no uniform shop or canteen etc.

“I thought someone should do something, then I realised that I was someone.” JFK
Noelene and Mel have changed the menu which is included with this newsletter, it will take effect **Week Six March 11th** watch out for new items and also themed days they have planned. They will also be looking for children who are helpful or have great manners to present their fortnightly certificate to.

Two small changes they have implemented is that paper bags are now to be purchased at $1 for 10 bags and slushies are no longer required to be pre ordered with lunch. (except Kindy and Pre-Primary) Children simply go and purchase these themselves when they need during the recess and lunch breaks.

**Millars Well Uniform Room**

Welcome and thank you to Siobhain Atkinson who has kindly offered to take over the running of the Uniform shop. Siobhain will be needing help so if anyone has time to spare it would be greatly appreciated as it really needs two people to run smoothly. **The uniform shop is operating on Tuesdays from 8.00 - 9.00am.**

**Certificate of Merit**


**Easter Egg Raffle**

Millars Well Primary School P&C is once again holding the Easter Egg Raffle. It would be greatly appreciated if your child/children could donate an Easter egg. All children will bring home an information sheet and a book of five tickets to sell for $1 each. We ask that children do not door knock to sell their tickets but encourage them to ask family and friends.

If any families have any Easter baskets, gift bags, empty shoeboxes or cellophane they no longer require could you please drop them off to the office.

Each class will have a 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prize.

Your participation in this fun raising event is very much appreciated.

**Have you received the Schoolkids Bonus?**

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July. The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return.

Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

**A Message from Music**

Ms Brennan in the Music Room would appreciate donations of milk bottle lids for instrument making.

There is a box in the front office for their collection. Thank you.

MWPS is a collaborative, safe, vibrant school focussing on values, Literacy and Numeracy. All students are empowered to realise their full potential as happy, independent, responsible members of our rapidly changing society. In achieving this vision, parents are partners in the education of their children.
MATHLETICS

On behalf of the Millars Well School Community a huge thank you to the Smith Family Foundation for its very kind sponsorship of 250 student places for the Mathletics program for 2013.

All of your children from Pre-Primary through to Year 7 will have access to the on-line interactive numeracy program. Your child will have a student log on and password that they can use at school and home. Make time to discuss the program with your child’s teacher, as teachers have the ability to create an individual program that caters for your child’s developmental level. The program provides students with tasks and activities that cover all aspects of Numeracy. Enjoy the program and if you have questions please do not hesitate to ask your child’s teacher.

Gareth Palmer
Deputy Principal

Every newsletter we will be putting in a healthy recipe idea for you and your family to have a go at making. Please encourage your children to help with the cooking progress. If you have any healthy recipe ideas or photos of a meal you have made from the newsletter than please email them to sally.hebiton@education.wa.edu

Vegetable Rice Slice

4 Cups of Chopped Vegies
2 Cups of cooked brown rice
1 Tablespoon of oil
1 Tablespoon of margarine
1 Leek sliced and rinsed well
250g pumpkin, skinned and chopped
1/3 cup plain flour
2 Cups reduced fat milk
4 eggs lightly beaten
1/4 cup chopped parsley
1 tablespoon of dried mixed herbs
1 tablespoon of lemon juice
1 cup grated low fat tasty cheese

Lightly spray 23cm x 30cm baking dish with oil and pre heat oven to 180c. Scatter mixed vegetables and rice evenly over the base. Heat margarine in a large frypan and sauté leek and pumpkin until tender but not brown. Stir in flour and cook for 1 minute, stirring occasionally. Gradually stir in milk and cook until thickened. Remove frypan from heat and allow to cool for 5 minutes. Combine eggs, parsley, herbs, salt and pepper and stir into frypan. Pour over vegetables in baking dish and sprinkle with cheese on top. Bake in a moderate oven (180c) for 35-40 minutes or until set.

Let’s Introduce our New School Prefects!

The selection process for our Prefects has been completed and we now have nine wonderful year seven student leaders.

In week 2 of this term a large number of students presented a short speech to year 4-7 students and school staff. Staff and students from years 4-7 were then involved in a formal voting process and from this several students were invited to participate in an interview with Ms Smith and myself.

We are very pleased to announce that following nine students were successful in gaining a position as Prefect:

Maddison Dunne – Prefect Leader
Joelly Davey – Prefect Leader
Sean Ramage – Prefect Leader
Ben Hobart – Sport and Recreation
Roberto Fernandez – Sport and Recreation
Kahayla Walsh – Community Development
Sophia Butler – Community Development
Maddison Smith – Environment
Georgia Evans – Environment

The quality of the students that nominated themselves for prefect positions was exceptional and we congratulate and acknowledge all students on the manner in which they took part in this process.

Once again congratulations to the new Student Prefects and I look forward to working with them all this year in further building upon the successes of student leadership here at Millars Well for 2013.

Karratha Little Athletics

2013 Season Registrations

Time is valuable but time spent with your child is invaluable, so come and join us and become a part of the Karratha Little Athletics club.

Karratha: Saturday March 9, 9 am to 11 am
Frank Butler Centre, Bulgara
Dampier: Thursday March 7, 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Dampier Primary School
Wickham: Register at Karratha / Dampier

Note: Children need to be aged 6 to 17 years of age as of Sept 2012 to be eligible to train and become members of the club.

Season Details

Friday nights: May 10 to September 20
Competition nights held:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Karratha</th>
<th>5:15pm – 7:30pm</th>
<th>Bulgara Oval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dampier</td>
<td>4:30pm – 5:30pm</td>
<td>Dampier Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wickham</td>
<td>5:30pm – 7:00pm</td>
<td>Bulgara Oval</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Training nights held:

| Dampier | 4:30pm – 5:30pm | Dampier Primary School |
| Wickham | 5:30pm – 7:00pm | Bulgara Oval |

Volunteer Required

Additional Information:
Name: Megan Huskley
Phone: 0439 816 321
Email: Karratha_little_athletics@hotmail.com.au