Dear Parents, Friends and Carers,

It has been an amazing fortnight. Teachers in Pre-Primary, Year One and Year Two have just completed assessing children using an on entry assessment tool. From this information teachers will develop tailored educational programs to meet individual needs. This has been a very important process and has involved the assistance of additional relief staff to complete the assessments.

Literacy and Numeracy Focus
On Thursday and Friday of this week Ms Butler, Miss Barker, Mrs Neeson, Mr Palmer and myself will attend professional learning and networking in Fremantle to gain further insight and knowledge around the Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Program. Our school is a participant in this program from 2012-2014. This means that in our school we receive additional funding to improve Literacy and Numeracy, and use targeted approaches with a view to improve student outcomes in this area. These are important goals not only in our school but also at a state and National level.

Canberra Visit
Last week I had the privilege of being a Western Australian Representative at the National Conversations with Principals, convened by the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR). Minister Garret participated in the conversations. Principals from a wider range of areas and contexts gave feedback on a variety of topical issues. This information will be used to shape future policy in Education. Senator Collins provided a very informative session on the new disability standards framework and implications for states and territories. Amongst the representatives present were Ms Leonie Clelland, Western Australia 2012 Principal of the Year. Ms Clelland was previously a colleague in Karratha.

Amazing Attendance
Students have been achieving amazing results with attendance and I wish to pass on my appreciation for your efforts. This week Ms Smith showed me our current attendance data. It was terrific. I have provided a letter to the various students who at present have attended 100% of the time and on Tuesday these students were also given an ice cream treat on their way home. The reward followed outstanding whole-school attendance with overall attendance rising to 93%. In particular, Mrs Cummins Year One students excelled with 16 students achieving 100% and a whole-class attendance of 97%. Indigenous boys across the school also had a brilliant start to the year with a whopping 92% attendance for the term so far. It is not always easy to be at school all the time and there will often be times when illness may keep a student away. We do appreciate the efforts that families make in supporting their child at school and in particular, attendance.

New Sand Pit
On Tuesday afternoon we had a surprise visit from a local contractor, Karratha Earth Moving. The company truck arrived with a nice load of clean fill sand for the Pre primary sandpit. With a great deal of skill and patience the truck was manoeuvred into the area where the fill was successfully tipped into the sandpit. The wonderful donation and gesture is certainly appreciated by us. In an interesting conversation with the driver it was revealed that he was once a student at Millars Well PS!

Census and Audit
On the 15th February WA schools completed a census that is used to audit the staffing levels within a school. As a result of the census and the audit our school is shown to be currently overstaged. During 2012 we regularly monitored projected enrolments into our school for 2013 and from those numbers, were allocated an estimated number of teaching staff. At the end of 2012 our enrolments were near 500 and indications were that we would begin 2013 with approximately 380 students, with an equivalent of 23 teachers. We began the year cautiously, with 22 teachers, but our census numbers were around 355. (Less than anticipated) This situation now needs to be addressed. The result of having less staff in our school inevitably will result in some realignment of teaching roles and the possible restructuring of classes.

It has been usual in the past for enrolment numbers to steadily rise at the beginning of the year and since the census we have had new families arrive. Each enrolment does count towards a formula that adds to the staffing allocation.
Our staffing will be resolved in the very near future and we will then move forward as required to make any necessary adjustments to the number and structure of classes. I understand that this will be a difficult time for our students and staff but can assure you that Millars Well will carefully consider everyone involved. During this time your continued support would be greatly appreciated.

Next Assembly
As a number of staff will be attending professional learning this week, our next assembly will be held on Thursday 21st March, with TA 9 as hosts.

School Council
Are you interested in nominating for a position on our school council? The school council endeavours to meet at least once each term to discuss and endorse the school plan, budget and review any proposed adjustment to things like school uniform, school policy and processes. The P and C president is a member of the school council. If you are interested in nominating for a position on our council or wish to enquire further please do not hesitate to drop in or call me.

Until the next assembly,
Warm regards
Weston Jackson
Principal

HEAD LICE

Please be advised that recently some children throughout the school have had head lice. As a precaution, please check your child’s hair and treat any infestation that you may find. Head lice are a constant issue and parents, teachers and children need to remain vigilant in order to detect them in their earliest stages to minimize the transmission to others. Thank you for your support and understanding.

VALUE FOCUS – ORGANISATION

Organisation means setting a goal to do your best in your school work, listening carefully to your teacher’s instructions, planning your time so that you are not rushed, having all your supplies ready and keeping track of your assignments’ due dates. A few kids seem naturally organised, but for the rest, organisation is a skill learned over time. With help and some practice, kids can develop an effective approach to getting tasks completed.

Examples of organised behaviour include:
- making sure you understand the teacher’s instructions before you begin work
- having all your school supplies ready at a neat desk
- recording your assignments and their due dates
- planning when you’re going to do your homework so that you have enough time

Positive Habits of the Mind that help develop a young person’s organisation include:

Setting Goals - thinking that setting a goal can help me to be more successful at a task.
Planning My Time - thinking about how long it will take me to do my schoolwork and planning enough time to get it done.

Not only is it practical to teach these skills, but knowing how to be more successful will help your child feel more competent and effective. Kids feel self-confident and proud when they’re able to accomplish their tasks and responsibilities and they have some extra free time to do what they’d like to do.

Winners of prizes for the Whole School Value Focus of GETTING ALONG,
Alice Brierley, Charlie Hancock, Anais Stott, Jemima Boonga, Maddi Dawson, Ben Simpson, Nikita Smith and Max Balding.

P&C NEWS

Hello Everyone,
I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new P&C members and also congratulate our new committee. It is great to see lots of new faces and hear great ideas. I would still love to encourage anyone and everyone to come down to our meetings, your input and support is invaluable. We would like to make this year all about the amazing community that we have here at Millars Well Primary School and as such we are hoping to start parent teacher morning teas and hope to see you all there. I would also like to encourage you to say Hi to any of our members around the school and feel free to bring up any ideas or concerns you may have.
Thank you so much. P&C President- Karen Hancock

“I thought someone should do something, then I realised that I was someone.” JF
Noelene and Mel in the Canteen have lots of exciting things coming up. They will be making Easter treats such as hot cross buns and will also be preparing goodies for Harmony Day. To keep up to date with what’s happening look out for the special’s board outside the canteen. We are now ordering off the new menu which was provided in the last newsletter. Don’t forget to use your best manners as they look for a deserving recipient for their special merit certificates.

**ASSEMBLY**

Our next assembly will be held Thursday, 21st March and will be hosted by Ms Pereira’s TA 9 class. The assembly will commence at 8.25am in the covered area. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

**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. Prizes will be drawn on Thursday 28th March. Your participation in this fun raising event is very much appreciated.

**HARMONY DAY**

Millars Well Primary School is recognising Harmony Day on Thursday 21st March. It’s all about community participation, inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone - celebrating the cultures that make Australia a great place to live. Everyone belongs! For a gold coin donation children will have the option of wearing multicultural dress that may be relevant to their culture (e.g. saris, Irish dress, Aussie clothes etc) or any rainbow colour. Money raised from this day will go to our overseas sponsorship programme with World Vision for our sponsor children, Lightness Lemuru Masarie, in Tanzania, and Harold Duran Huilcahuaman, in Peru.

**A message from Music**

Thank you from the Music Department for all the support we have received in collecting bottle tops. TA13 made some very effective "monkey chatterers" with them. It is an ongoing process however - so please keep them coming in! We also need tins that have plastic lids - such as Acta-Vite tins or hot chocolate tins for making instruments. Thank you again and please bring in anything you think might be of the slightest interest or ability to be reused.

Regards Romola Brennan

**SPORTS DESK**

**Butter Bean and Cauliflower Mash** (A delicious alternative to mash potatoes containing loads of fibre, protein and many other beneficial nutrients!)

**Ingredients (serves 4+)**
- 1x400g can of Butter Beans (drained and rinsed)
- 2 tbsp macadamia or olive oil
- 2 cloves crushed garlic or 1 heaped teaspoon of minced garlic
- 1 Cauliflower rinsed and chopped into small florets
- 2 tbsp Lemon juice (or just a good squirt!)
- Seasoning (salt, pepper or anything more adventurous!)

**Method**
1. Place cauliflower in the microwave safe container with a little water and cook until tender (try 5-6 minutes on high and check) Meanwhile heat the oil in a fry pan to a medium heat and add garlic and butter beans, frying until cauliflower is ready to add.
2. When cauliflower is cooked add to pan, season and add lemon juice. Cover the pan and fry together for a few minutes.
3. When cauliflower appears very soft use a potato masher or stick blender to combine ingredients until at a satisfactory mash consistency is achieved.
4. Voila! Enjoy as a sensational alternative to potatoes with any meal.

MWPS is a collaborative, safe, vibrant school focusing 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.
Bulgarra Glory Junior Soccer Club
2013 Junior Soccer Registrations
Boys and girls can register to play for Bulgarra Glory Junior Soccer Club at:
FRANK BUTLER COMMUNITY CENTRE
HUNT WAY, BULGARRA
SATURDAY 16TH MARCH, 11.30AM TO 1.30PM AND
TUESDAY 19TH MARCH, 4.30PM TO 6.30PM
Under 12's $100 registration fee and 13 & up $150 registration fee, to be paid on registration day. Cash only - no eftpos. Players must be 5 years old by June, to be eligible to play. Copy of child's birth certificate needs to be sighted for registration. Shorts and socks available to purchase/order at registration.
Volunteers and coaches needed.
Bulgarra Glory Junior Soccer Club is based at the KEC Oval, Bulgarra.
Enquires: Kristie - 0438 92 5370

SALT JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB will be holding PLAYER REGISTRATIONS at the Peg Creek Pavilion on Galbraith Road. In an effort to be available for as many people as possible we will be there:
Saturday 16th March 9am to 12pm
and
Wednesday 20th March 5pm to 7pm
Registration fees are $100 for u12's and $150 for 13's and up.
There will be samples of our new SUN SAFE uniforms to look at and try on.

Junior Community Sports Expo
Children in Years 1 to 7 are invited to experience a number of great sports at the Junior Community Sports Expo on Friday 22 March, 2013! Take part in drills and games delivered by coaches, parents and players from various local sporting groups and learn what's available in your community! For information and to register visit http://www.roebourne.wa.gov.au/club_dev.aspx or contact Shire of Roebourne Club Development Officer Sam King on 9186 8555 or sam.king@roebourne.wa.gov.au. Registrations close Sunday 17 March, 2013 and spaces are limited.
Sam King | Club Development Officer

KARRATHA AUSKICK CENTRE
REGISTRATION DAY FOR:
When: Saturday 16 March
Where: Frank Butler Community Centre, Hunt Way
Time: 9.00am – 10.00am
Registration forms available on the day
All registrations must be accompanied by full payment on the day. (Cash or Cheque only please)
This year’s fee is $70- per child (Includes Auskick pack)
Further information: Contact Tony Wear 0437901822

Karratha Netball Association will be holding their AGM on the 19th of March at 7pm at the Karratha RSL, Gawthorne Drive. Team nominations will be taken between 6.40&6.55pm (nom forms available on our website). Each and every team must have two representatives present at the AGM. One person cannot represent more than one team. Many important issues will be discussed at the AGM but we need our members to vote on a possible change of playing day for junior netball to Monday or to keep on a Tuesday. This issue has been raised my mothers whose daughters dance classes have moved to Tuesdays. Come along and have your say. If you’re unsure if your child will be able to play netball this year please make sure you still register your child’s interest as we will take late team nominations for junior teams only after the AGM. For more information, please visit our website at www.karrathanetball.asn.au. Hope to see you there!!!