Dear Parents, Friends and Carers

**Census and Staffing** - Recently all WA schools completed their Census for 2014. We have 327 students and we will now be funded for the remainder of the year on this enrolment figure. We are staffed for 17.35 teachers across the school. This includes Kindy and Pre Primary teachers and school leadership positions. Most classes are currently near capacity and we will continue to accept enrolments from within our local intake area. We were unable to fill the Music teacher and LOTE (Japanese) positions this year but we have a specialist Science program delivered by Mrs Stott and Mrs Byrne, Art which is currently provided by Mrs Cannon and Physical Education by Mr Simpson.

**Class Meetings** - A big thank you to the parents that attended classroom meetings and found out more about class programs and support. These have been well attended in the last week. My sincere thanks to the staff that have been involved in these meetings who welcomed parents and enhanced relationships. If you think you may need further information, please do not hesitate to ask.

This link provides useful information about helping your child learn at school and covers the topics of - Before School, Starting School, Maths, Reading, Science, Writing and Spelling

**Guided Reading** - This week I have been involved in Guided Reading with TA 5, 6, 7 and 8. There have been several parents that have assisted in the mornings of Monday and Tuesday. Thank you. I really enjoyed the opportunity to work with the students in my groups and I felt that the deeper questioning and guided reading will improve each child’s understanding of text. This is the first time our senior classes have taken on this program in a shared way and has involved quite a bit of organisation to get under way.

**Staff Away** - I was asked a question recently about how do we manage staff absences. Staff will be away from school on occasions for a variety of reasons including, professional learning, personal illness, bereavement and even caring for a family member or sick child. These are important and usually unavoidable. The leave entitlement is covered within awards and general agreements. What is really important is what we do in the situation to maintain the teaching and learning program. All class teachers are required to maintain a file of current teaching information for any relief staff that are employed in their absence. This will include general and more specific information about the class, behaviour, special needs and medical conditions. Our Deputies review and brief incoming staff about their program for the day. Other staff also offer support and inform the relief person of any ongoing or joint program that some classes share. We seek to maintain a productive environment whilst there is an absence and work collaboratively to achieve this.

**Reading Eggs** - Reading Eggs is an online reading program that was used by the school last year in years PP - Year 3. We are intending to continue the program in 2014 but invite your feedback. For more information about the program, please visit http://readingeggs.com.au or contact the school on 9185 2400. Please provide feedback in the format below either by phone on 9185 2400 or email millarswell.ps @education.wa.edu.au:  

My children benefit from the program. agree - disagree  
I would like the program to continue. agree - disagree

**NAPLAN** - This year students in year 3, 5 and 7 take part in NAPLAN testing in term 2. It is an important milestone in standardised evaluations that take part in school. As a school we review our results of 2013 and plan targets for this year. The strategies are included in our National Literacy and Numeracy Partnership plan.

Below is a link for parent support
http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html

More specific information about NAPLAN: http://www.nap.edu.au/about/about.html

This week we will have a short assembly on Thursday 27th February and class merit certificates will be presented.

Warm regards  
Weston Jackson  
Principal
ASSEMBLY

Our first assembly will be held this Thursday, 27 February and will be hosted by Mrs Morgan's TA 16 class. The assembly will commence at 8.25am in the covered area. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Just a reminder that Monday, March 3 is a public holiday in Western Australia to celebrate the granting of the eight hour working day to West Australian workers. It is held on the first Monday in March and recognises the contributions that working people make to the prosperity of our great state. Accordingly, school will be closed and children will not attend.

VALUE FOCUS - CONFIDENCE

Confidence means .... feeling I can do it and not being afraid to make mistakes or to try something new.

Examples of Being Confident

- raising my hand to answer a hard question.
- doing hard work without asking for help.
- sharing a new idea with my teacher and class.
- saying “hello” and talking to someone new.

Habits of the mind to help my Confidence

Accepting myself means not thinking badly about myself when I make a mistake.

Taking Risks means thinking that it’s good to try something new even though I might not be able to do it.

Being Independent means thinking that it’s important for me to try new activities and to speak up.

SCHOOL NURSE UPDATE

ANAPHYLAXIS, what is it?

Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and can be life threatening. For people at risk, anaphylaxis occurs quickly after contact to the food, insect or medicine to which the person is allergic.

Schools and their staff are trained in the management of allergies and anaphylaxis. Parents are required to provide the school with up-to-date information and medication for students with known allergies and/or anaphylaxis.

How can all parents help with allergy awareness?

- Ensure your children wash their hands before or when entering the classroom at the start of the day. Washing hands after eating helps to reduce the risk of children being exposed to allergens.
- Avoid sending food to the classroom that could be harmful to a classmate known to have allergies
- Discourage your child from sharing of food at school
- Teach children to dispose of food rubbish carefully
- Be aware of products labelled as “may contain traces” of an allergen. These foods should not be given to a child known to be allergic to that allergen.

If you require any further information on allergies or anaphylaxis, please don’t hesitate to contact:

Shelley Paterson (School Health Nurse)
shelley.paterson@health.wa.gov.au
Telephone: 9143 2251

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

Just a reminder to all parents/carers that payment would be appreciated as soon as possible for school contributions. Contribution envelopes are available in the front office and we can now accept EFTPOS payments. Contributions are: $40.00 for one child; $75.00 for two children; $95.00 for three or more children, $20.00 P&C contribution; $1.00 P&C Family Membership Fee.

Please detach and return to: Millars Well Primary School, Gawthorne Drive, KARRATHA WA 6714.

Student name: ____________________________________________

☐ Please debit my ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard For the amount of $ ______________

Being for: ____________________________________________

Card Number: ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________ Expiry Date: ___ / ___

Cardholder Name: ____________________________________________ Cardholder Signature: ___________________
Two weeks ago, 23 students from years 6 and 7 presented to the upper primary school on why they should be chosen to lead their factions for 2014. The year 4-7 students voted for their three preferred captains. Each student put in a fantastic effort with their speeches and we had a very close result with all four factions. The students that will lead their factions this year are:

- Rosemary Rebels: Claudia Van der wel & Jai Jefferies
- Delambre Dragons: Ben Simpson & Regita Maluka
- Malus Magic: Jordan Mills & Jake Baker
- Legendre Lightning: Fionn Neeson & Jaksen Crowe-St Jack

Congratulations to the students that were successful, and a huge thanks to all students who had the courage to present in front of their peers. Great work!

In 2011, Rio Tinto and ToxFree formed a partnership to develop and trial a pilot recycling programme that provided six primary schools with the opportunity to recycle their rubbish at their own depot on the school grounds. Since its inception, Recycling Warriors has seen our local primary schools recycle 17.8 tonnes of rubbish!!

The wonderful news is that late last year, recognising the success of the programme, Rio Tinto and Toxfree signed a three year partnership to continue the Recycling Warriors programme within the schools already committed and expand the programme into the remaining primary schools, high schools and early learning centres.

I am pleased to provide Millars Well Primary School’s Recycling Warrior figures for 2013 – an amazing effort!!

Toni Salmon, Rio Tinto

Student Prefects and Faction Captains participated in the Leaders Day at Dampier Camp School last week. Millars Well joined six other schools around the region and gained a further understanding regarding what makes a good leader. The students were put through their paces in team building exercises as well as networking with students from other schools throughout the day.

We have some fantastic leaders that will be representing the school this year and I am sure that they will be able to put into practice some of the skills that they learnt on the day.

The Year 6s and 7s are excited to have begun their fundraising efforts for Camp and Graduation. On Fridays after school we will be selling Icy Poles and Killer Pythons outside the Pre-Primary classrooms. **Icy poles are $1 and killer pythons $2.**

Last Saturday evening a group of parents and students, along with Mr Maxwell and Mrs Neeson, set up a drinks stall at the Chinese New Year celebrations at St Luke’s College. The evening was a great success, raising almost $600. We would like to thank all families who contributed to the evening, either by volunteering their time and/or donating cool drinks and water. Thank you for your continued support and watch this space for future fundraising events!

Mrs Neeson & Mr Maxwell
Registration Day 2014:

Auskick (yr - 1/2/3) : yr - 3/4/5 : year - 6/7 : year - 8/9 & year - 10/11/12

The Dampier Sharks Football Club and its fully incorporated Junior Committee invite players of all age groups to join the club for the 2014 season.

Registrations will be held on

Sunday March 2nd at the Dampier Sports Club, Windy Ridge Oval

As well as

Sunday March 9th at the Leisureplex “Club Room”

Both will be held between 10.00am and 12.00pm.

Proof of age ID is essential, as requested by the association.

All players and families past & new made welcome.

To encourage new members from Karratha we are offering a free bus service on training nights to transport players from Karratha to Windy Ridge oval and then returning them after training finishes.

Simon Tocas
President Sharks Junior Football Club
Mobile: 0403 248 606
Email: aquaandcharters@bigpond.com

Karratha Little Athletics 2014 Registrations

to be held at:

Frank Butler Centre – Hunt Way, Bulgarra

Saturday March 1 & Saturday March 8 2014

9:30am to 11:00am

Registration Fee: $110 - includes 2014 club shirt (note: cash facilities only)

The 2014 season runs from May 2 to September 19 with a Training and Orientation night to be held on April 4 at 5.30pm.

In order to participate children must be aged between six and 17 years old by September 30, 2013.

For further information please contact Alexes Whitehouse or email secretary@karrathalittleathletics.org.au or visit https://www.facebook.com/groups/karrathalittleathletics/

Karratha KATS Junior Registration Day – Season 2014

NEW AND PAST PLAYERS WELCOME

Date: Sunday 9 March 2014

Time: 9am til 11am

Location: Karratha KATS Club Rooms

Kevin Richards Memorial Oval, Millars Well

Proof of age ID is essential, as requested by the association.

Karratha Districts Junior Soccer Association Inc.

2014 Soccer Season Signup and ‘Have A Go’

Dampier Junior Soccer Club Nickol Junior Soccer Club

Bulgarra Glory Junior Soccer Club Salt Junior Soccer Club

The 2014 season signup for all clubs will be at the Karratha Leisureplex clubrooms

(First car park on left)

On Saturday 22nd February 10.00am to 12.00 pm

Wednesday 26th February 5.00pm to 7.30pm

Fees U13 and U17 - $150 / U6 to U10 - $100 No Eftpos available

Children must turn 5 yrs before the 30 June 2014 to be eligible

New players must provide birth certificate

Uniform orders available from clubs Coaches and Referees wanted

Have-a-go activities are indoors and require non marking shoes

Karratha Auskick Centre

REGISTRATION DAY FOR:

- AFL AUSSIE RULES (Inflatable Yr 3 boys or girls)
- AFL ‘ALL GIRLS’ PROGRAM (Girls Yr 1 – 3)

Where: Saturday 15th March

Where: Frank Butler Centre, Bulgarra

Time: 9.00am – 10.30am

Registration forms available on the day or can be done on-line at aflaukick.com.au (Please print off and bring with you.)

All registrations must be accompanied by full payment.

This year’s fee is $70- per child (includes Auskick pack)

Further information contact

Steve 0439 736 729 or Louise 0439 736 769
JUNIOR COMMUNITY SPORTS EXPO
The FUTURECLUBS Club Development Program will be holding a Junior Community Sports Expo for primary school aged children to experience a number of junior sports.
Over the duration of the Expo groups of approximately 20 to 40 like aged participants will take part in a number of drills and games delivered by coaches, parents and players from various local sporting groups. The aim of the Expo is to give children the opportunity to try a number of sports with their parent’s involvement and to provide information on what sporting options are available in the community.

When: Friday 21 March, 2014  
Time: 4:30pm to 7:30pm  
Where: Bulgarra Oval, Hunt Way, Karratha  
Cost: Free

Spaces are limited. For a registration form please contact Sam King – Club Development Officer  
Shire of Roebourne Administration Office, Welcome Road  
Email: sam.king@roebourne.wa.gov.au  
Phone: 0427 132 786

Soroptimist International of Karratha and Districts are hosting an International Women’s Day Breakfast at the Ibis Styles on Saturday March 8th.

The Theme is “Inspiring Change” and we are hoping Women will join in the water aerobics for beginners 7.30am then breakfast at 8.45am followed by a walk up to “Join Me On The Bridge” in Sharpe Avenue. Cost is $30

Contact numbers for tickets from Shirley 0408 957 423 and Daphne 0400 448 777