Dear Parents, Friends and Carers,

Mr Jackson on Leave
Mr Jackson will be on leave for the remainder of the term and will return to school on Monday 28th April. I will be Acting Principal in the meantime and will be doing my very best to ensure the school runs as smoothly as possible in his absence.

Class Redistribution
After very careful consideration, we have restructured some of our middle primary classes in order to improve our student to teacher ratios and maximise opportunities for student learning to occur.
Parents of students directly involved in these changes have been contacted and we have endeavoured to keep student numbers to between 23-27 in each class. We have been pleased with the moves so far and we will continue to implement whole school initiatives and collaborative planning between teachers to support these initiatives.

2013 NAPLAN Results
Recently, the My School website published the 2013 NAPLAN results for around 10,000 schools across Australia.
When compared to Karratha schools, we ranked 1st or 2nd highest in every NAPLAN test except for Year 7 Spelling in which we ranked 3rd. Millars Well PS achieved the Australian Average for almost all tests and scored above the Australian Average in Year 3 Writing. It was outstanding to see our results across all NAPLAN years consistently rise since 2011.
We are always reviewing our teaching practises and analysing our academic data and have recently been identified as a school demonstrating high achievement and high progress when compared to similar schools across the state.
I am very pleased I can share this exciting news with our school community and would like to thank our dedicated teachers and supportive parents for the work you do. This has certainly been a very successful partnership.

2014 NAPLAN
Students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will be participating in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) again this year from Tuesday 13th May until Thursday 15th May. An information pamphlet has been sent home to parents of students in these years. If you do not wish for your child to participate, you must apply for an exemption in writing before Friday 11th April. Please speak with your child’s teacher if you have any concerns.

Industrial Strike Action on Tuesday 1st April
The State School Teacher's Union, CPSU/CSA and United Voice have announced a community day of action next Tuesday. This is in response to this year’s State Budget for public schools and to ensure further funding reductions are not made in next year’s State Budget. On Thursday, I have been asked to advise my Regional Executive Director as to how many staff will be attending the industrial action. At this time, it appears we may have enough staff on site to offer adequate student supervision for the day however there will be a modified teaching program in place.

ANZAC Day Assembly Thursday 10th April
On Thursday 10th April at 9am we will be having an ANZAC Day Assembly. Special guest, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Smith, the Commanding Officer from the Pilbara Regiment will be in attendance. The theme we have chosen for the assembly is ‘Respect’ and we invite all school community members to attend. Students who are members of service clubs such as Scouts or Brownies may wear their uniforms for the assembly if they wish.

Social Media
Recently we became aware of students from our school using social media applications in highly inappropriate ways. Explicit language, sexualised conversations and online bullying were some of the complaints we received. Teachers were also very concerned about the number of students who appeared tired and unable to concentrate during lessons as a result of late night electronics use.
Although it can be difficult for us to monitor this from school, we are very committed to supporting parents and carers where possible. If you would like to prevent your child/children from downloading Kik or other adult oriented apps, it is possible to adjust the App Rating restrictions on iPods, iPads or iPhones to prevent your child/children from downloading these programs.
For more information, please go to: http://www.bewebsmart.com/internet-safety/is-kik-okay-for-kids/

Kind regards,
Erin Smith
Acting Principal
Our next assembly will be held on Thursday, 27 March and will be hosted by Miss Garstone’s TA 11 class. The assembly will commence at 8.25am in the covered area. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

HARMONY DAY

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Harmony Day. We raised $281.80 which will go towards our sponsored World Vision children.

VALUE FOCUS - PERSISTENCE

Over the next four weeks at school we will be focussing on Persistence which means trying hard and not giving up when something feels like it’s too difficult to do.

Examples of Persistent Behaviour are:

- Continuing to try even when school work is hard
- Not being distracted by others
- Checking my work when I’m finished to make sure it’s correct
- Completing assignments on time

Habits of the Mind to Help You Be Persistent

I Can Do It means thinking that even when my work is hard, I can still do it.

Giving Effort means thinking that the harder I try, the better my success will be.

Working Tough means thinking that to be successful, I sometimes have to do things that are not easy or fun.

SCHOOL NURSE UPDATE - HEAD LICE

As I travel around my schools in Karratha I hear the same cries of frustration from parents trying to keep head lice at bay. I am sure you have heard about various treatments but the Health Dept recommends the 10 day hair conditioner treatment. Why…? No insecticide is guaranteed to kill all eggs. Eggs not killed will hatch 7 – 10 days after being laid. The use of insecticides can lead to adverse reactions. So often I hear parents say “but I have done the treatment and I still can’t get rid of them…..”

Let’s do some trouble shooting:

- Did the treatment cover the 10 day hatching cycle of the eggs?
- Was hair conditioner applied to dry hair, not wet?
- Was sufficient hair conditioner applied to saturate the hair?
- Was a metal fine-tooth ‘nit’ comb used?
- Were as many eggs as possible removed every day?
- Was the process repeated every one to two days over a 10 day period?
- Were there checks done for head lice reinfection once a week for at least 4 weeks after completion of the 10 day treatment?
- Were the combings examined for adult head lice (indicating reinfection) over the 10 day period?
- Were checks made of all other household members and close contacts?

Let’s get the facts right on head lice - they are not dangerous, they don’t carry disease and they are not a sign of poor hygiene. What we want to avoid is the itchiness which leads to scratching which can lead to a break down of the skin which can lead to risk of skin infections.

Information sheets on Head Lice and Treatment are available at the School office. For further assistance contact me

Shelley Paterson (School Health Nurse)
shelley.paterson@health.wa.gov.au
Telephone: 9143 2251
We have had a very warm start to the year and I would like to remind all students to bring a water bottle to school as it is very important to stay hydrated in this weather.

A big thank you to Skateboarding Australia for coming to the school at the start of the month to run a clinic for the year 2 & 3 students. Unfortunately not all students could participate in the clinic as time was short, however those that took part showed off some natural talent on four wheels.

Years 4-7 students have started practicing the sports that will be played at the Winter Carnival in Week 8 of Term 2. Here at the sports desk we are extremely grateful to Camerin and Emma Coles who have put their hands up to help out with T-Ball on Friday afternoons. This is a great help and the students have loved to learn new skills from them both. If you are interested in helping, please contact the office for further info.

Remember to Slip, Slop, Slap, have fun, and encourage your mates to run faster, jump higher and reach their goals, whatever they may be.

Mr Mark Simpson  
Physical Education Specialist

EASTER RAFFLE
The P&C is once again running the Annual Easter Egg Raffle. It would be greatly appreciated if each child could donate an egg or other Easter item. Donations may be left in the front office until Friday, 4 April. These will be used to make up Easter Baskets with every classroom having a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize. Please return money and ticket butts with your child’s name and TA clearly marked to the front office by Monday, 7 April. We ask that children do not door knock to sell tickets but encourage them to ask family and friends instead for support. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday, 10 April. If you have leftover tickets or are unable to sell your tickets please return to the front office. Your help in this fundraising event is appreciated.

HEADLICE
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.
We have recently noticed large amounts of rubbish in and around our school. Earlier this week, we decided to trial two initiatives to help reduce our school waste and the amount rubbish on the ground.

Firstly, we have asked all students to sit in the junior undercovered area for the first 10 minutes of lunch. This has minimised the amount of rubbish spread between both undercovered areas.

Secondly, we have begun to teach students how to use the correct waste bins. We now have four bins for students to use. A general waste bin for plastics, a recycling bin for paper, a fruit scraps bin for our worms and a food scraps bin for the compost.

Already we have seen vast improvements in the cleanliness of our school and are so proud of the way the students are putting their rubbish in the correct bins. After three days, students already knew the correct bins in which to place their rubbish!!

Aryan Singh and Mitchell Fischer (2014 Environmental Prefects)
1-2-3 Magic™ and Emotion Coaching
To help parents manage difficult behaviour in 2 - 12 yo

A humorous look at parenting, a serious look at discipline!

3 WORKSHOP OPTIONS AVAILABLE
Karratha Family Centre, Cnr Balmoral & Warrambie Rd, (opposite BP)

Workshop 1: 2 x 3 hr sessions
Wed 2nd & 9th April, 9.15am to 12.15pm.
CRECHE AVAILABLE $15 per family.
Register online at www.trybooking.com/EJPG

Workshop 2: 3 x 2.15 hr sessions
Mon 31st March, Wed 2nd & Wed 9th April, 7 - 9.15pm
Register online at www.trybooking.com/EJPJ

Workshop 3: 3 x 2.15 hr sessions
Tue 1st, Thurs 3rd & Thurs 10th April, 7 to 9.15pm.
Register online at www.trybooking.com/EJPN

You will learn:
- The two approaches to parenting.
- How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
- How to handle the 6 kinds of testing and manipulation.
- 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour.
- How to control obnoxious behaviour.
- How to show empathy while developing emotional intelligence in your child.
- How to strengthen the relationship with your child.

Cost $40 pp OR $60 for a couple
Parent workbook included. Tea and coffee provided.

What people are saying...
- An end to the yelling and arguing!
- It saved our lives
- Simple, sane, effective
- What a relief to come across a program that preserves the dignity of the child, maintains the self control of both the parent and the child and is actually easy to remember at those times when memory is the first thing to go
- I realised quickly that 1-2-3 Magic can be a magnificent preventative measure that any parent can use to avoid raising a child, who later on down the line needs excessive discipline or grows out of control.

Book online by following the link for the course you wish to register for
OR
Contact Bess or Monica at LINK
link_karratha@bigpond.com
ph: 9144 2150  mob: 0400 100 446
## APRIL 2014
### HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES
1-5pm at KARRATHA LEISUREPLEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>MONDAY 14</td>
<td>WET AND WILD FUN DAY</td>
<td>Come along and join the fun in the pool! Cool off and relax with a swim,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td></td>
<td>laugh with friends on the splash pad, challenge yourself on the aqua run</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and play some relay games in the pool! Enjoy a sausage sizzle for lunch!</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>TUESDAY 15</td>
<td>WHEELIE FUN DAY</td>
<td>Bring your bike or scooter today and challenge yourself through a variety of</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td></td>
<td>obstacle courses! DON’T FORGET YOUR HELMET AND SAFETY GEAR! Make your own</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>licence plate!</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY 16</td>
<td>YOUTH SHED INDOOR PLAY + LASER TAG DAY</td>
<td>Let's head on down to the Youth Shed today for some indoor play, rock wall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td></td>
<td>fun and extreme Laser Tag! ($5 Surcharge) Drop off and pick up at the</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Youth Shed. Don’t forget to wear closed in shoes and socks! $5 Surcharge</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>THURSDAY 17</td>
<td>RECYCLE ME EASTER DAY!</td>
<td>Bring along your own recycled materials to make your own outrageous Easter</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td></td>
<td>hat and show it off during our hat parade! Play some fun group games and</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>enjoy some more craft activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>FRIDAY 18</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>MONDAY 20</td>
<td>EASTER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>TUESDAY 21</td>
<td>TABLOID SPORTS AND TIE DYE DAY</td>
<td>Today we will set out stations with activities like ten pin bowling, Quoits,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td></td>
<td>Blindfold challenges, hoop throwing and much more! Bring along your own</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>white shirt to tie dye!</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY 22</td>
<td>MOVIE DAY</td>
<td>Relax and enjoy an afternoon of group games, craft and a screening of the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td></td>
<td>movie Planes (and popcorn too!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>THURSDAY 23</td>
<td>HOLIDAY DISCO AND KARAOKE</td>
<td>Come dressed in your favourite holiday clothes, dance the afternoon away</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td></td>
<td>and belt out a tune at karaoke! Bring along a NUT FREE plate of yummy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(healthy!) food to share with everyone.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>FRIDAY 24</td>
<td>ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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**Enrolments open Friday 21 March 2014**

Children must be aged 6 to 12 years to be eligible for enrolment.

Forms are available from reception or www.karrathaleisureplex.com.au
Registration

From 12 March 2014 – 28 April 2014
Online Registration at www.karrathanetballassociation.wa.netball.com.au
Price: $65
Starting: Tuesday 6 May 2014
Time: 3.30pm – 4.15pm
Where: Lesuireplex Outside courts

Any questions contact Alicia at kna.nsg@gmail.com
HELPERS REQUIRED