Dear Parents, Friends and Carers,

**NAPLAN** - Last week students in years 3, 5, and 7 took part in the National Assessment program in Literacy and Numeracy. These tests provide additional information about the progress and achievement of students. The results can add further information to teacher assessments that are made throughout the year. Parents will receive information about the results later this year once they have been marked. A big thank you to our staff for their work in managing the week of NAPLAN assessment.

**Speak up** - This week while visiting classes I have spoken with students about the importance of good communication; what to do if they identify a problem and actions they can take to help improve the situation. I encourage all students to speak up if they notice something happening that shouldn’t be. I have been impressed with the way in which our year 6 and 7 students are working through their final year of Primary schooling.

**Additional Activities** - The next few weeks are very busy in school and below is a synopsis of additional activities that are being provided for students, parents and staff.

**For parents** - **Transition for year 6**. The Principal of Karratha Senior High School is planning to meet with parents of year 6 students this Wednesday at 6.30pm to discuss the transition into the High School setting. Our network of Principals and staff have prepared a transition plan that will provide an ongoing opportunity for staff and students to become familiar with the High School during term 3 and term 4. Details regarding the Year 7 parent information session will be provided at a later date.

**For students** - **Recfishwest Excursion** - 28 students from TA16-TA8 attended the Recfishwest excursion on Monday 19th May. This has become a regular event and with the assistance of sponsors students are able to learn about fishing responsibly. Thank you to Woodside and Recfish West for providing this program.

**Walk Safely to School Day** (Tuesday 20th May) – Walk Safely to School Day last Friday was postponed due to the bad weather but it then was held on Tuesday 20th May with Izzy the dinosaur visiting the school at lunch time to deliver icy poles and prizes. There was also prize draw for students who rode and wore a helmet. Walking to school safely is an important safety message as well as a healthy lifestyle choice.

**Constable Care Incursion** - Students got to enjoy an early lunch on Tuesday so they could attend the Constable Care Incursion. The performance for Kin – Year 3 was titled “Surprise”: with the theme being about waste reduction and recycling. The performance for Years 4-7 was titled “Screen Name” and focussed on Cybersafety.

**Yirra Yaakin Incursion (Tuesday 27th May – Week 5)** - Yirra Yaakin (Yir-raarh Yaarh-kin) which means “Stand Tall” in Noongar language, is one of Australia’s leading Aboriginal performing arts organisations producing award-winning, world-class theatre that is exciting, entertaining, educational, authentic and culturally appropriate. Their stories have reached 13 countries in 5 continents and won awards for theatre, governance and partnerships, including a prestigious Sidney Myer Award for its record of facilitating Indigenous artistic programs. These performances are free.

**Professional learning for Staff** - This Week Ms Vidler and Mrs Burnside will attend Professional Development in Perth learning more about English as an Additional Language or Dialect and how to effectively implement identification and teaching strategies in the classroom. Next week Ms Smith and Mr Maxwell will take part in ICT Peer coaching training. This learning is important in supporting other staff in school with ongoing information and improved practises in teaching in the area of ICT.

**Week 5 Staff Meeting and Moderation PD** (Tuesday 27th May) - We have regular staff meetings after school and in week 5 our meeting will focus upon Literacy Moderation at Millars Well PS on Tuesday 27th May. The session will run from 3:30-4:30pm. Staff from other schools will also join us on that day and moderate upon shared writing samples.

**PUBLIC EDUCATION BUDGET INFOGRAPHIC INCLUDED ON SCHOOL WEBSITES** - The Government has just released the State Budget 2014-15 including the budget for the Department of Education. Details are on the Government’s website [http://www.treasury.wa.gov.au/cms/budget-summary.aspx](http://www.treasury.wa.gov.au/cms/budget-summary.aspx). The State Government will spend $4.58 billion on primary and secondary school education in 2014-15, an increase of $187.7 million or 4.3% on 2013-14. While there is a requirement to maintain teacher numbers in 2013-14, the Budget provides for an additional 550 teachers in 2015. The Department of Treasury has provided a Budget info graphic depicting the public education budget for 2014-15 which is Our school community can access information on the public education budget by using the hyperlink on our website: [http://millarswellps.wa.edu.au/](http://millarswellps.wa.edu.au/)

Kind regards,

Weston Jackson
Principal
Our next assembly will be held on Thursday, 22 May and will be hosted by Ms Pearson’s TA 10 class. The assembly will commence at 8.25am in the covered area. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

**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.

**Western Australia Day**

WA Day, (previously Foundation Day) is a public holiday in Western Australia and is celebrated each year in many different and special ways. The day marks a significant date in the history of Western Australia for on 1 June, 1829 the State’s first European free settlers, men, women and children, completed their long sea journey from Britain to the Swan River Colony. They arrived on board the Parmelia under the command of Captain James Stirling and had their first view of mainland Western Australia. Although wintry conditions prevented them from stepping ashore on the mainland until sometime later, Foundation Day has since been recognised on this date. Foundation Day, officially June 1, but celebrated on the first Monday in June, is a public holiday in Western Australia. Accordingly, school will be closed for the day on Monday, 2 June.

**Kindy & Pre Primary Enrolments 2015**

Government schools are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten and Pre Primary students for the 2015 school year. Parents are advised to contact local schools to make an application and to receive further details about enrolment procedures. Birth certificates, immunisation records and proof of address must be presented on application. Detailed information regarding the enrolment process is available on the application form and at the education department website [http://www.det.wa.edu.au](http://www.det.wa.edu.au).

The deadline for applications is Friday, 25 July 2014. An application for a Kindergarten or Pre Primary place can be made at ONE SCHOOL ONLY. All current Kindy students MUST reapply for enrolment next year.

**Indigenous Literacy Foundation**

Last year Millars Well PS hosted The Great Book Swap to raise much needed funds for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. They have been responsible for actively assisting rural and remote communities by providing high quality literature, at no cost, for school students across Australia. Millars Well PS were delighted last week when we received 3 boxes filled with brand new literature for our library and classrooms! We will once again be hosting The Great Book Swap later in the year, so we ask you to hang onto any good books that you would like to swap with others. Keep watching this space for further details...

Tania Neeson

**Current Year 7 Students Entering High School in 2015**

Karratha Senior High School has been working collaboratively with all the public primary schools in the Karratha Network over the past 12 months to ensure we make this transition to high school as smooth as possible. A parent information evening will be held to provide information to parents and caregivers.

WHERE: KARRATHA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

WHEN: TUESDAY 24 JUNE 2014

TIME: 6.30pm Tuesday, 24 June commencing at 6.30pm in the library area of Karratha SHS.
Thanks everyone for great Issue 3 Book Club orders, the items should arrive this week.

I will be running our regular May Book Fair in the Library during Week 5 from Monday 26th through to Friday 30th May. There will be a display of books and novelties set up and you are welcome to come in and browse anytime during the week. Purchases can be made with made with me on Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 8am-3pm, by cash, cheque or credit card. Our school receives a very generous percentage of the total sales in new books for the Library, so we really appreciate your support. I hope to see you in the Library during the Book Fair.

Robyn Rayson, Library Officer

We are less than three weeks away from the running of the Adidas School Fun Run. Students have been encouraged to log on to the School Fun Run website and register a student page at schoolfunrun.com.au/students. Once they have registered, a link will be sent through to the nominated email address and this link can then be passed on to family and friends to donate towards the Fun Run - manual donations are still available using the pamphlet that was handed out. The money raised will go towards the student's classroom and allow them to choose some cool prizes!

Students have also been practising for the school cross country, we will be having three different courses this year with the year 1-3's running 1km, the 4-5's running two, and the year 6-7's completing a 3km course. Until next time, act like a Millars student and keep running!!

Mark Simpson, Physical Education Teacher

What a fantastic turnout we had for Walk Safely to School Day!! We had a huge percentage of students either walk or ride to school.

Thank you very much to Lynelle Fozard from SDERA, (School Drug Education and Road Aware). SDERA supported the day by providing our participating students with icy poles at lunch and bringing Izzy along for a visit.

28 students from TA16 -TA8 attended the Recfishwest excursion on Monday 19th May. We had a fantastic strike rate with a large variety of fish caught. We saw several stingrays, an octopus and Delkin Bown caught the fish of the day. A big thank you to Paul and James from Recfish for their help and expertise and Woodside for donating the transport. Thanks also to Mrs Dunne, Mrs Jan and Miss Smith for assisting on the day.
Children invited their mothers to join them for a morning of relaxation and pampering for Mother’s Day. The children thoroughly enjoyed styling their Mum’s hair, painting their nails with many different colours and painting portraits. The children then treated their Mum’s to morning tea. Many laughs were shared and lots of fun was had by all.