Dear Parents, Friends and Carers,

Principal 2015
Mrs van der Sluys (aka Ms Smith) has been selected to lead the school in 2015 during my period of leave. I know she will build upon the great work being done in our school and she will be seeking opportunities to enhance and improve the way we all work together. I congratulate her on her successful appointment and welcome her into the Principal position at Millars Well Primary School.

Campers are Back
Welcome back Year 6 and Year 7 from their Coral Bay Camp. I have been told that they had a wonderful time and really enjoyed their camp. Thank you to our staff: Mr Maxwell, Mrs Neeson, Mrs van der Sluys, Mr Steeghs and Mr Vassiliou (parent helper). Your support and organisation ensured everyone had a great time.

Busy Week
We are in for a super busy time this week with lots happening around our school. On Wednesday our Pre Primary and Kindy staff will meet and greet new parents for 2015. We hope you can join us in the morning at 8.45am to discuss the 2015 program.
Thursday the 4th is our Pre Primary assembly and we hope you can join us.
Friday the 5th we host our parent helper morning tea and thank those parents that have worked closely with the school this year. Please come along for morning tea and join staff in our staffroom at 10.20am.
Also on Friday 5th we have the Art Sale from 5-6pm in TA 1 and TA2 wet areas where student art work will be displayed. Come and view these fine pieces and purchase your child’s art. All proceeds will go towards the fundraising fund for the Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal and the Salvation Army.

Principal’s Message
My last day this year will be on Wednesday, 10th December, and Mrs Erin van der Sluys will be Acting Principal for the remainder of this year and continuing into 2015. It is most unfortunate that I will not be able to attend the final presentation of the year and I will certainly miss school and our fantastic kids.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the support that parents have given to our school this year and the commitment shown by a very hard working and caring group on our P and C. Our President, Mrs Karen Hancock has worked tirelessly this year pulling together the challenges of the Canteen and Uniform shop and supporting our school. It has been great that we now have some new faces and a bigger group involved as we head towards 2015. Thank you Mrs Fiona Byrne for taking on the role as Secretary and for also working with Ms Aimy Baxter in the Uniform Shop.

I have always felt very privileged to be leading Millars Well Primary School and in recent years can really say I have seen staff and students work closely together achieving greater success. I am going to really miss school while, even though its work, it is something I really enjoy. I know you will continue to work closely together as a community seeking to achieve each and everyone’s full potential.

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable break over the holidays.

Kind regards
Weston Jackson
Principal
ASSEMBLY

Our next assembly will be held on Thursday, 4 December and will be hosted by the Pre Primary classes. The assembly will commence at 8.25am in the covered area. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

Congratulations to the following students in being recognised at our last assembly for their hard work and endeavour: Tyrell Ware, Aurora Shaw, Georgia Eversden, Jett Bonney, Travis Murray, Alyssa Cooper, Jorja Maccan, Annastacia Austin, Troy Ridley, Mathew Bassett, Trey Kittle, Addison de Smid, Aden Dolman, Aussie Maluka, Lochlon Moody, Kasidi Pearce, Jacob Adams, Mikhaela Acebes, Daymon Tuthill, Rhylis Hohepa, Brady Wallace and Oliver Kot. Science Award – Ely Anderson. Physical Education – Jaslyn Boona and Cody Bailey. Well done!

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.

IMPORTANT DATES 2015

The 2015 school dates are provided for your information:

School office opens – Tuesday 27th January
Staff commence – Thursday 29th January
Students commence – Monday 2nd February
Uniform Room open – Thursday 29th and Friday 30th January from 8.30-10.30 am

PRESENTATION NIGHT

Classes are busily preparing their items for our Presentation Night which is on Wednesday, 10 December commencing at 6.00pm at the Walkington Amphitheatre. The evening will consist of a variety of class performances, Year 6/7 graduation ceremony and individual book prize awards. Awards will be distributed to students from each class in the categories of 1x Achievement and 1 x Endeavour. Split classes will issue an Achievement Award to one student in each year level, and 1 Endeavour Award.

To ensure the best possible atmosphere, we would like to remind parents and students of the following information:

Strictly no smoking, no alcohol and no pets
Students should bring a small pillow or towel to sit on.
Student seating and walkways will be roped off and early arrivals are asked to leave these areas free.
An area will be left free for parents to be able to take photos of Award Winners.
A program and seating plan will be sent home later this week with students.

CONTRIBUTIONS & CHARGES 2015

Included with this newsletter is the schedule of school contributions and charges for 2015. This is for information purposes only and we will send a payment envelope home to all families early next year. 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. School contribution charges have remained unchanged since 2008 and will increase in 2015 to $60.00 per child.

PARENT HELPER MORNING TEA

We like to show our appreciation of the support given to the students and the school by our parent helpers through hosting a Thank You Morning Tea. This will be held on Friday, 5 December at 10.20am in the Staff Room. Invitations have been sent out to parents who have helped in the school this year. No matter how hard we try, we inevitably miss one or two parents with our invitation. Should you be expecting an invitation and one has not arrived, please let the office staff know so that this oversight can be rectified.
The P&C would like to remind everyone that the canteen is open every Wednesday and Friday this term. A big thankyou to our volunteers who have been coming in to help Li, it has been very much appreciated.

The uniform shop is open every Tuesday from 8.00-8.45am. If you need uniforms you can fill out a form and leave it at the front office or come in on a Tuesday morning. The uniform shop will be open right up to week 10 of this term.

This Friday the 5th of December, the school is having an Art Show from 5-6pm. The P&C are going to have a sausage sizzle to raise money for the school. If you are interested in buying a sausage and drink deal for $4 please let your classroom teacher know. The P&C would like to know numbers for catering purposes.

We are also looking for volunteers to cook the sausages starting from 4.45pm on Friday. If anyone has a large esky that we could borrow for drinks, it would be appreciated as well. It would be great if the eskys could be dropped off at the school on Friday morning. If you are able to help at all, please put your name down at the front office and we will be in contact with you. Thank you for your support.

**SCHOOL NURSE UPDATE**

**Immunisation Clinics**

Please note the new location for immunisation clinics are now at the Pam Buchanan Centre (Opposite Baynton West Primary School). This is a free service. Please call Population Health on 91432221 for appointments.  

Tuesday: booked clinic 0830 – 10:30am and 1:00 – 3:30pm. 

Friday: walk in clinic 0830 – 11:30am (no appointment needed).

**KARRATHA SCHOOL DENTAL THERAPY**

The Karratha School Dental Therapy Centre will be closed from Friday 19th December, 2014, and will be reopening on Monday 2nd February, 2015.

All children entering into High School for 2015 will continue to be offered dental treatment with the Karratha Dental Therapy Centre, situated at the Karratha Primary School, through to the conclusion of Year 11. Please ensure home addresses are current as dental appointments will be sent home. Phone number: 91431666.

**NEW PREFECTS**

Congratulations to our new Prefects: 

Prefect Leaders - Isabelle Chapman and Cohen Hancock  
Sport & Recreation Prefect - Dakoda Moore  
Environmental Prefect - Oliver Kot  
Community Development Prefects - Mya Kjellgren and Nadia Steeghs

Congratulations to the new prefects on their first successful assembly. You have already shown leadership, maturity and the ability to handle responsibility. Thank you to all the year 5 students who helped run the school while the year 6/7's were on camp. You are all amazing.

**THE GIFT OF GIVING UPDATE**

Millars Well Primary School has been busy fund-raising all term for the Kmart Wishing Tree and Christmas Hampers, which will be donated to the Salvation Army.

Captain Mitchell from the Salvation Army attended a school assembly to talk to the children about the families who will benefit from their generous gifts. It was wonderful to have Captain Mitchell visit our school and explain the importance of giving at Christmas and how much it means to other people.

We are extremely overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community, which has helped us raise over $3000 to go towards our Christmas Appeal. On Monday the 8th of December, students will be participating in an excursion to the Karratha City Shopping Centre to purchase goods for hampers or gifts for the Wishing Tree. A big thank you to the parents, staff and most of all, the students at Millars Well Primary School for this amazing effort.

We would love as many parent helpers as possible to assist us on our excursion on Monday the 8th of December. A note has been sent home with a volunteer slip, if you can help please fill out the slip and return it to school.

Sally O'Donoghue
From the 24th to the 28th of November, the year 6/7’s were enjoying themselves on camp. During the trip the big bus broke down and the coaster drove on to Fortescue Roadhouse which was 20kms down the road. Meanwhile the larger bus stayed out in the heat for an hour and a half while waiting for the rescue bus to arrive.

That night we played spotlight near Fletcher’s hill at the end of Coral Bay.

On Tuesday we were split into 3 different groups and were sent out to do our daily activities. The activities included Drift Snorkel, Glass Bottom Boat and for many the highlight of the trip, ‘Big Boat’, (where we saw Eagle Rays, Manta Rays, swarms of fish, and for a lucky few, a small Reef Shark!) We came back to the camp grounds before going to the beach for a swim and some beach cricket. After dinner the year 6/7’s listened to a talk about the coral reef with a biologist called Fraser. He talked about how the eco-system works around the Ningaloo and Great Barrier reefs as well as how the many marine life affect the health of the reef.

The next day we swapped activities. After lunch we went sand boarding and everyone had a great time going down the hill on the boards. After dinner we went and played Barricades, (Spotlight with furniture scattered around to hide behind).

On Thursday everyone went out for our last activities for the Camp. Once we had lunch we went out for our last swim in Coral Bay as well as some fish feeding. We then did the ‘Coral Bay Race’ to see what group (of five or six people) could do all 20 activities they were assigned to do the fastest (under 1 hour). That night we did a quiz about what had happened during our time at Coral Bay.

On Friday we said our goodbyes and thankyou’s to Kane, (the NRA Camp coordinator) and left for the bus trip back.

Everyone had an amazing time!

By Olivia, Ben, Jackson, Ethan and Kevin

- The sand boarding was great! Most fun I’ve had in a long time.  
  Jackson Inglis
- I really enjoyed going to camp with all of my great friends.  
  Sarah Featherstone
- I loved going on the big boat because we went snorkelling and saw dolphins.  
  Regita Maluka
- My favourite part of being in Coral Bay was when we went drift snorkelling. The coral was amazing and the water was crystal blue – I honestly could do it all over again!  
  Kamryn Ware
- I loved going on the big boat. We got to do backflips and bombies off the boat.  
  Georgina Pritchard
- My favourite part of camp was when we went sandboarding because we got to go down a really big hill. It was entertaining because heaps of people were falling off.  
  Fionn Neeson
- My favourite was seeing all the spectacular corals on the Ningaloo Reef. Breanna and I swam with a baby turtle for almost half an hour.  
  Chloe Falkingham
- My favourite part was the Great Coral Bay Race because we had a really fun time to find information on Coral Bay and revising our knowledge about the bay.  
  Ben Simpson
- My favourite part was hanging out with my friends and flipping off the board.  
  Jaksen Crowe St-Jack