Dear Parents and Caregivers

Once again we’ve reached the end of another busy term and hasn’t it been busy! We’ve celebrated Literacy and Numeracy Week, Book Week, 120 Days of School, hosted our Open Night and ECE Father’s Day Barbeque and we’ve held two brilliant athletics carnivals. It is no wonder students, parents and teachers are ready for the holidays.

New Uniform Proposal - Over the years, there has been a lot of discussion surrounding the practicality of our current school uniform and a genuine desire from a significant majority of our school community to consider an alternative design. After a lengthy consultation and design process, we received samples of our new uniform concept and through the P & C Facebook site, sought your feedback. From 68 survey respondents, we received the following results:

- 95% liked the proposed faction uniform or felt indifferent about the change.
- 90% liked the proposed school uniform or felt indifferent about the change.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the survey. If you have been unable to access the survey through our Facebook page, you can still visit: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NZH9SSC

Our School Council met this week to discuss the proposed uniform and have endorsed the change. At this stage we aim to have the new uniform available next year and will plan for a gradual transition period.

Interschool Sports Carnival - On Friday, 11th October, Millars Well PS hosted the Interschool Athletics Carnival. The carnival was another great day and the competition was fierce. In the end, Millars Well PS performed remarkably considering the size of our school and placed second overall. Our sincere thanks to all families for your support at the event and congratulations to students who represented our school. Congratulations also to Mrs Fazzolari who did an outstanding job at organising two very successful carnivals this term!

Karratha Young Writers Competition - Recently the Karratha Literacy Network organised a writing competition. Most schools in the Karratha Network contributed to the competition and organisers received over 500 entries. The calibre of the competition was very high and I am pleased to announce that we had two finalists. Congratulations to Lachlan Wheals (Year 2) and Trey Kittle (Year 3) who were both finalists.

Holiday Attendance - Whilst we understand a desire for families to commence school holidays early, please note this significantly impacts our whole-school attendance data and disrupts teaching and learning routines. It is therefore not school policy to encourage families to take holidays during term time and these absences will be recorded as unauthorised. Today (the last day of Term 3), 33% of students were absent from school. As a courtesy, we ask that parents and carers formally notify the school principal in advance and in writing if you intend to withdraw your children from school for this reason.

Return Dates – Term 4 - Parents please note that students return to school on Tuesday, 13th October. Staff will be involved in Professional Learning on the Monday.

Student Numbers in 2016 - The time has come for us to begin preparations for 2016. If your family are not returning next year, can you please notify the school as soon as possible so that we can anticipate student numbers and possible classroom and staffing requirements.

Many Thanks - Finally, as I will be commence maternity leave as of the end of Term 3. I would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to our school community for your support throughout the year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as principal at Millars Well and have mixed emotions about leaving. I hope to see friends and families around the place and will call in to introduce our new addition next term.

Kind regards,
Erin van der Sluys
Principal

SPECIAL EVENTS TO NOTE

- FIRST DAY FOR STUDENTS TERM 4 - TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER
- WALK OVER OCTOBER - WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER
- SCIENCE ASSEMBLY - THURSDAY, 22 OCTOBER
- P&C DISCO - FRIDAY, 23 OCTOBER
- IN TERM SWIMMING - MONDAY, 26 OCTOBER TO FRIDAY, 6 NOVEMBER
- HALLOWEEN DRESS UP DAY - FRIDAY, 30 OCTOBER
- TA16 ASSEMBLY - THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER
- YEAR 6 NEXT STEP CONFERENCE - THURSDAY, 19 NOVEMBER
- YEAR 6 CAMP - MONDAY, 23 - FRIDAY, 27 NOVEMBER
ASSEMBLY

Our next assembly will be held on Thursday, 22 October and will be hosted by Mr Maxwell’s Science class. The assembly will commence at 8.25am in the undercover area. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

CERTIFICATES OF EXCELLENCE


P&C UPDATE

Millars Mess

Don’t forget you can order lunch online with Our Online Canteen. Sign up at https://www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au. Once registered and you have an account you will be able to select Millars Well P.S, add your child/children, credit and this will allow you to order from the canteen.

Sushi will no longer be running in term four due to the lack of interest. Thank you to everyone who ordered and enjoyed their sushi this term. We would like to send a big thank you to our hard working volunteers for picking up the sushi and delivering it to our classrooms each Tuesday. Your time and effort is very much appreciated.

Keep an eye out for the new menu that will be coming soon for term four!

Rebecca is always looking for volunteers to help in the canteen. If you are able to help next term term, please let Rebecca know via the P&C Facebook page as well as putting your name down on the roster that can be found on the page Millars Well Primary School Parents and Citizens Association. The roster is the post at the top of the page. Thankyou to all our awesome parent volunteers who have helped this term. Our canteen would not be able to run without you.

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who participated in the plate fundraiser. The pictures all looked wonderful and we will let everyone know when the plates arrive.

Disco

Millars Well P&C are pleased to announce a whole school disco is to be held on Friday the 23rd of October in the school assembly area. Kindy through to year 6 are invited to attend. Parents are more than welcome to stay and join in the fun. We recommend parents of Kindy students attend the disco with their children as it may become overwhelming for some. Please see the attached flyer for more information. If you are able to assist in anyway please let us know by contacting Aimy Baxter on 0412049669 or Mel Garbin on 0419134964.

Next Meeting

The next P&C meeting is on Tuesday the 27th of October at 7.00pm in the staff room. We would like to have as many people there as possible. An agenda will be available closer to the date.

We hope everyone has a safe and relaxing holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone in term four.

MWPS P&C

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Monday, 12 October is a School Development Day. STUDENTS DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL. Staff will be involved in programs that will enhance their professional skills. Term 4 commences for students on Tuesday, 13 October.

CLASS PLACEMENT REQUESTS 2016

We will soon be considering class structures for 2016. Our role is to ensure that children are placed in classes that best suit their needs and allow them to develop to their full potential. One of the things that have been a great tradition in the school has been the input that parents have had to this process. If you have a perspective on your child’s placement for next year, you are invited to submit this in writing and please address it to:

The Principal
Private and Confidential
Class Placement 2016

Please understand that teachers spend many hours creating classes to ensure there is a balance in regard to class dynamics and abilities. We therefore ask that if you make a request it is based on the specific needs or issues pertaining to your child. Additionally we request that you do not specifically ask for particular teachers. There is always the possibility of staff turnover. We will try wherever we can to take parent information and student needs into consideration.
**ARE YOU MOVING?**

If you know that you will be leaving town before the commencement of the new school year (February 1, 2016), or that your child(ren) won’t be attending Millars Well PS next year, please advise us at the office as soon as possible. This helps us with the planning of classes and determining staffing levels.

**JUNIOR CRICKET VISITS MWPS**

Last Wednesday the West Pilbara Junior Cricket Association in conjunction with the Perth Scorchers held an information session with the classes at Millars Well.

The students were shown a video with highlights of the T20 Big Bash and heard about a new program called Milo T20 Blast.

It’s a fun new way for kids aged 7-12 to start learning about how to play an action packed version of cricket. Many posters, pencil cases and balls were given out to the eager crowd.

**YOUNG WRITERS COMPETITION**

Last Thursday afternoon, two Millars Well students were invited to an afternoon tea awards ceremony at the Ibis Styles Hotel. The ceremony was to award prizes for the Karratha Young Writers Competition for 2015.

Every student wrote a "Tall Tale of a typical weekend in Karratha". Only the best made it to the judging stage and only the top 4 for each category received an invite to the afternoon.

After having some awesome food it was time for the awards. Lachlan Wheals came 4th out of 175 finalists in the Year 1/2 category. Trey Kittle came 3rd out of 130 finalists in the Year 3/4 category. Both boys won a Smiggle backpack filled with Smiggle stationery.

**FROM THE SPORTS DESK**

Our 2015 Faction Carnival was yet another example of the fantastic sportsmanship and camaraderie that we have here at Millars Well Primary school. Dressed brightly in their Faction colours, the students participated in various running races as well as a range of team games that they have been practising throughout the term. Well done to the Rosemary Rebels who were the winning Faction again this year and to all of the students who were awarded Champion medallions and Runner up champion medallions for their year groups. The talent was tremendous and was matched only by the great support and encouragement they offered their friends. Finally, a big thank you to the students, teachers and the wonderful parents who helped to make this year’s carnival a fantastic day!
Interschool Carnival

Representing Millars Well Primary School at the West Pilbara Interschool Athletics Carnival, hosted by Millars Well Primary and Tambrey Primary, was done so with the upmost of pride and determination by those students selected from Years 1-6. Starting in Wickham with the Jumps and Throws Carnival, Millars Well showed just how hard they have been working to develop and enhance their skills, with a number of students winning or placing well in their events.

This continued on into the Athletics carnival where Millars Well PS were awarded the Handicap Shield for the most improved performance as well being placed second overall in the competition to Baynton West who were named the Champion school for this year’s carnival. A special mention to Jayda Viti who won the Senior Girls Interschool champion and Kayd Cooper-Gibson who won the Interschool Junior boy Champion. Well done to all of the students and teachers involved, we all had such a wonderful day!

Mrs Fazzolari
Physical Education Teacher

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

The Karratha School Dental Therapy Centre will be Closed for the School Holidays and will re-open on Monday 12th October, 2015. In the event of an emergency in this time please contact:

- Your local Private Dentist
- The Hedland General Dental Centre on 9172 2223.

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**DISCO**

Millars Well Primary School P&C presents

**FRIDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2015**

6PM – 8PM

Millars Well Primary School (Undercover Area)

Kindy to Year 6

* Parents are recommended to stay with kindy children attending the disco

**TICKETS**

$10

ENTRY

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

DRINK

ICE-CREAM

**A workshop for Parents/Carers**

Date
Tuesday, 27th October
(6.30pm – 8.00pm)

VENUE
Welcome Lotteries House
7 Morse Court Karratha

**Facilitators**

- Alissa Ansell - Senior Health Promotion Officer
- Pilbara Population Health
- Tamita Nessien - Pilbara Aboriginal Consultant
- School Drug Education & Road Aware SDERA
- Natalie Sarfield - Area Manager
- Mission Australia Pilbara Community Alcohol and Other Drugs Service

**THE WORKSHOP WILL COVER THE FOLLOWING:**

- What are the trends?
- Addressing the issues – how are our young people being supported?
- As aparent/carer, how can I support my child – focus on evidence
- Parents/carers as role models;
- Further information and support for parents and children.

**To book your place follow this link**


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