Principal’s Message

NAPLAN for year 3 and 5 has come and gone and I sincerely thank the students and staff that were involved. We will use the data from these tests later this year to review the success of teaching programs and plan future directions and focus for learning. The results are also useful to identify any trends in achievement or gaps in learning.

Did you know that Friday 27th of May to Friday 3rd June is National Reconciliation Week? As Australians, we are all here, woven into this country. As part of our reconciliation journey there are truths to tell, stories to celebrate and relationships to grow. Reconciliation is at the heart of our nation’s future.

Successful days are built upon good beginnings and I am pleased to see the way students engage in Maths in their classrooms each morning. I have also enjoyed catching up with students each morning from 8.00am while on duty. Students meet in the covered area for some small ball games or catch up with friends before heading off to classes at 8.10am. Congratulations to those students that begin their day with a Math activity or some quiet reading. Everyday does matter and everyday builds upon the learning off the day before. Success is contagious and it’s important to value each step while children are young, developing positive habits and behaviour.

The Department of Education knows from research that Everyday Matters and provides the following information:

Regular attendance at school is vital to ensuring children receive a good education that gives them the best opportunities for future success. All school-aged children must go to and attend school every day - this is the law.

Did you know:

• Missing half a day of school each week equates to one month of missed learning per year.
• The attendance habits set by children when they first start school continue throughout their school life.
• If a child misses half a day of school each week between Pre-primary and Year 10, they would miss almost one full year of learning.
• Learning is cumulative. If children miss a day, it is harder for them to catch up because each day’s learning builds on the previous day.

Developing the habit of going to school every day is vitally important so children do not miss out on important ideas and skills they need for future learning.

Some lucky Mums got pampered for Mother’s Day in Early Childhood at MWPS.
You can help by arriving and collecting your children from school on time, making sure they get nutritious meals and enough sleep at night, and by making appointments with doctors, dentists and specialists after school or during school holidays. It is also important to take family holidays during school holidays and not during term.

If your child is unwell and unable to go to school, please let the school know as soon as possible. If they miss a day it is important for you to talk with your child’s teacher to find out how you can help them catch up.

Recently our P and C President Jessica Mitchell and I attended an information session regarding Independent Public Schools. Millars Well Primary School is a good school and we seek to build upon its success and explore the opportunities of becoming an Independent Public School. We have registered our interest and will be presented with more information about school readiness, the process, autonomy and governance.

The prospectus is available on the school website in quicklinks (http://www.education.wa.edu.au/home/detcms/navigation/about-us/programs-and-initiatives/independent-public-schools/). It details the four stages of information, development, selection and transition for school communities that wish to take advantage of this opportunity. It also includes available support, and obligations and accountability of Independent Public Schools.

Independent Public Schools, and the communities they serve, gain a powerful combination of local autonomy and central support to deliver high quality, tailored and distinctive education experiences. Students attending Independent Public Schools benefit from a curriculum and staffing structure that reflects their needs and can be changed in line with each local community’s evolution.

The decision to apply for Independent Public School status does not sit with the school principal or council alone; it is the role of the entire school community to be a part of the consultation process and collectively agree that being an Independent Public School will enable them to provide an even better education for their students. Members of the broader school community can support their school’s application by participating in meetings and surveys that are designed to assess community support.

Thank you for being an important part of our school community and caring about your child’s education.

Regards

**Weston Jackson**

Principal

**Library News**

A huge thanks to all the families, students and staff who supported our Book Fair in the Library recently. It was a huge success, around equal to the best takings ever for the May Fair. This was the 27th Book Fair I have organised at MWPS, so that is quite momentous! I sold $2900 worth of books, posters and items, which brings almost $900 worth of free beautiful new books into our Library. I also get to choose a stack of lovely new picture books for the ECE book shelf. I hope the students are enjoying their purchases, and the next Book Fair will be held in mid November.

**Robyn Rayson, Library Officer**

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**Nationally Consistent Collection of Data**

All schools in Australia, including Independent and Catholic schools, will participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability every year.

The Data Collection is an annual count of the number of students with disability receiving educational adjustments to support their participation in education on the same basis as students without disability.

All education agencies are now required under the Australian Education Regulation 2013, to provide information on a students’ level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education. Data will continue to be de-identified prior to its transfer and no student’s identity will be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education.

The collection of this information from states and territories will inform future policy and program planning in relation to students with disability.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Weston Jackson on 9185 2400 or the Western Australian Department of Education NCCD Helpline on 0477 741 598.

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**Kindergarten & Pre-Primary Enrolments 2017**

We are now taking applications for enrolments for children entering Kindergarten and Pre-Primary in 2017. Applications are to be made by no later than 3pm, Friday 22nd July, 2016.

Please note if your child is going to enter Pre Primary and resides in our local intake area, you do not need to make an application, however you will need to provide the school with proof of residence. If your child does not reside in our local intake area you are required to make an application.

To be eligible to enter Kindergarten (4 year old program) in a Government School in 2017, a child must turn four on or before the 30th June 2017. To be eligible to enter Pre-Primary (5 year old program) in 2017, a child must turn five on or before the 30th June 2017.

Please come to the Administration Office with a copy of the birth certificate, current immunisation details and proof of address and you will be provided with all the necessary paperwork.

An application for a Kindergarten/Pre-Primary place may be made at ONE SCHOOL ONLY.

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millarswellps.wa.edu.au
School Photos

The MSP photographer will be taking school photos on Monday, 13 June (Week 8, Term 2).

Please make sure that your child returns their completed MSP envelope to their class teacher at school on the scheduled photo day. Students should wear their school shirt or dress not their faction shirt. The schedule is below; please note that these are approximate times only.

Unfortunately due to student numbers we will only have one photo day. Kindy 2 students will have the opportunity to have their photo taken at 2.00pm.

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<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>11.25am</td>
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<td>8.45am</td>
<td>Kin 1</td>
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<td>PP2</td>
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<td>9.45am</td>
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Family Portraits will be taken on Monday, 13 June from 8.00am and 10.20am in the Music Room. Family Portrait envelopes are available from the office with prices starting from $30 for a value pack (various size options available). Don’t forget to book your spot.

National Walk Safely to School Day

On Friday the 20th of May, many of the wonderful students and parents of our school assisted in celebrating ‘National Walk Safely to School Day’. This initiative is aimed at encouraging Primary School children to walk and commute safely to school, promoting Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment. It was impressive to see so many of our students and parents supporting the day by choosing to walk and ensuring they did so safely. Adorned with their stickers and the enjoyment of eating fruit together in the undercover area, the celebration was a great way to start our day. Thank you for your continued support!

Letitia Fazzolari
Physical Education Teacher

P&C News

The P&C are still seeking a Secretary and more Fundraising committee members. If you are interested, please advise the front office and a P&C representative will contact you.

Our Online Canteen/Uniform

Did you know you can do your lunch orders online, and days in advance? And if you’re having trouble making it into our Uniform Shop on Wednesday mornings, then you can simply order them online too? Just go to ouronlinecanteen.com.au and sign up.

Fundraising

The next fundraising activity is a Bake Sale at Karratha City Shopping Centre tomorrow at 9.00am. We will need lots of home baked goodies and volunteers to help run the stall. Baked goods may be delivered to the stall near Coles tomorrow from 8.30am or phone Jessica 0407 195 660 to arrange drop off today. Money from fundraising will be put towards replacing the school’s Malus Magic Faction Carnival shade marquee.

J Mitchell
P&C President

TA 5 Olympics

TA5 kicked off the classroom assembly items for this term with Rio Olympic themed entertainment. The students in Years 4/5 worked hard to plan and practise their routines. Complete with interesting facts and the Olympic torch, the students put on quite a show demonstrating their magnificent skills in gymnastics, discus, archery, weight lifting and, the crowd favourite, synchronised swimming.

The students put a great deal of thought into each of their performances and it was fantastic to see their teamwork and dedication. Well done and congratulations on a memorable item - you guys sure did ‘go for gold’!
**Reading Blocks in Year 1/2**

This term the Year 1/2 teaching team are implementing reading blocks four days a week. Each reading block begins with a 3-5 minute warm-up of previously taught sounds and sight words.

The warm-up is followed by the teacher modelling reading with a focus on a particular skill or concept. The students then break into Literacy Centres where students practise the skills they have been developing in motivating, engaging activities whilst the teacher takes a guided reading group.

Parents have been providing fantastic support to the teachers and students through their participation at one of the classroom literacy centres. We ask to please continue to support reading in our school by helping out with a Literacy Centre whenever you can!
Mother’s Day Pampering in Early Childhood

During Weeks 2 and 3 the Early Childhood students celebrated Mother’s Day by inviting our mums in for an extra special pampering session. The Kindergarten and Pre-Primary students did their mums’ makeup, hair, nails and painted their portraits. Every class had a lot of fun and all of our mums looked beautiful.