



Millars Well
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Friendship and Achievement

Community Newsletter

Issue No.8

45 Gawthorne Drive,
Millars Well, Karratha 6714

Upcoming Events

3rd Dec – Graduation Event
6pm

5th Dec – Presentation
Night 6pm

12th Dec - Reports go
home

13th Dec - Last day of Term

29th Jan - Office open

4th Feb 2018 – Students
Return



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Principal's Message

As we near the end of 2018 I'm sure you will be reflecting upon the year, thinking of holidays and perhaps making plans for 2019. That's also what we have been doing at school. It's surprising how quickly the year seems to go by, especially when you are nearly at the end of it.

Staff have been finalising reports, setting goals and priorities for 2019, while also planning student placements and classes. There is a lot to be done.

We have seen many achievements and amazing things this year, we are fortunate to have so many wonderful students who are all individuals and make great contributions to our school.

We would like to thank our parents and community groups for their support and have acknowledged them at our annual parent helper morning tea on Friday 30th.

Year 6 Graduation Evening

Year 6 students have their graduation evening tonight at the Leisureplex. This is always a great night celebrated with families. There will be a few speeches and a review of years gone by.

My special thanks to both Mrs McLaren and Ms Johansson for their teaching this year, to support staff and the many parents who have assisted with this event and others throughout the year including camp fundraising. Your help has been really appreciated.

Presentation Night

Wednesday 5th December is the school's presentation evening starting at 6.00pm and concluding around 8.30pm. There will be class items and teacher awards. Special guests and sponsors will be a part of ceremonies on the evening. We have invited a coffee van and ice cream van to attend for your convenience.

School Review Findings

At the beginning of this term our school took part in a new School Review process which all WA schools will do. The process involves providing evidence about school operations and performance. Much of the information provided is available as data but another aspect is provided by meeting with and talking to staff, parents and our community during a planned visit.

The Director of Public School Accountability and a Principal reviewer led the process and they have recently returned the report which has been validated by the Executive Director of Schools.

We received good feedback and I've attached some of the comments that were made in the report. I sincerely thank those that were involved in interviews and our students, parents and staff for the contribution they make in our school.

School Review Findings cont:

The review is focused on the following areas of school performance: relationships and partnerships; learning environment; leadership; use of resources; teaching quality; and student achievement and progress.

The school demonstrates effective practice in creating the conditions required for student success. Parents and staff spoke highly of Millars Well Primary School and express the view that it is the school of choice in Karratha.

A culture of empathy and inclusivity is evident. There is school-wide commitment to providing additional assistance to students at educational and behavioural risk.

As one of the older schools in Karratha, Millars Well Primary School takes pride in presenting an inviting school environment with manicured gardens. The school makes a concerted effort to ensure that the families and visitors feel welcome.

The leadership team is cohesive and supportive of staff and students. Teachers are content working at Millars Well Primary School and support each other personally and professionally.

Millars Well Primary School has achieved consistently high system data results. This review forms a very important part of our school reporting process.

P & C and School Council

We are grateful for our parents involved in P&C and School Council. In addition to providing a service of the canteen, uniform shop and special events, these members also act as advocates for our school. This is sometimes overlooked as it doesn't involve raising money or delivering a service but simply supporting and being behind our school is one of the most valuable things you can do as a parent. This has really helped with the completion of our school fence providing improved safety and security, and the feedback about planned facilities such as the mental health building and Men's shed, crossing guard, road safety and access to grants and funds.

Well done and thank you for being involved and for your support. We will need your continued support in 2019.

Contributions and Charges 2019

Included with this newsletter is the schedule of school contributions and charges for 2019. This is for information purposes only. We will send a payment envelope home to all families early next year or you may pay whilst ordering your booklists through West School Supplies. Please note that costs quoted in the area of optional activities are set at a maximum level and many of the program costs will be less than the quoted amount. School contribution charges have remained unchanged and are \$60.00 per child.

Presentation Night

Classes are busily preparing their items for our Presentation Night which is on Wednesday 5th December commencing at 6.00pm behind the Senior block. A program was sent home last week.

To ensure the best possible atmosphere we would like to remind parents 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 marked and early arrivals are asked to leave these areas free.
- Children must remain with their class group until the conclusion of the evening.

Term Dates 2019

Dates gazetted for primary students in public schools in Western Australia are below. These dates do not include school development ('pupil free') days. Schools will schedule 3 days where students do not attend. All students in Years PP-6 will start their first day of the 2019 school year on Monday 4th February.

Semester 1	
Term 1	Monday 4 February – Friday 12 April
Break	Saturday 13 April - Sunday 28 April
Term 2	Monday 29 April - Friday 5 July
Break	Saturday 6 July - Sunday 21 July
Semester 2	
Term 3	Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September
Break	Saturday 28 September - Sunday 13 October
Term 4	Monday 14 October – Thursday 19 December

Library News

Our second book fair for the year was held in the Library during week 6 this term. A massive thank you goes out to all who supported it. This is a very worthwhile event to continue holding and it's a real pleasure to see the student's enthusiasm and anticipation of the fair.

Over \$1400 worth of books and novelties was sold, resulting in Scholastic giving us \$493 worth of new resources for the library.

I'm often asking students for book suggestions and recommendations, so it's great to be able to provide more of what they want and see the excitement when they arrive! Thank you to those who have supported this, and our book clubs throughout the year.

With the end of year approaching, please keep an eye out for any library books at home. All student's current loans **MUST** be returned to the library by week 9. Remind children to look in all those obvious places...under beds, in your cars, in their school bags and in their classrooms. It can be easy to put these away amongst your own books too.

Enjoy safe and happy holidays and Merry Christmas from the library.

Karen Roach, Library Officer

Karratha School Dental Therapy Centre

The Karratha School Dental Therapy Centre will be closed for the School Holidays and reopening on Monday, February 4th 2019. In the event of an Emergency during this time, please call either:

Port Hedland General Dental Clinic
PH: 9172 2223
Or

Your local Dentist

Years 7 to 11 will continue to be offered Free Dental treatment with the School Dental Health Services located in the Dental Therapy Centres attached to Karratha Primary School and Baynton West Primary School during school terms. Please ensure your addresses are current at your clinic.

2019 Booklists

School Book Lists have been sent home and are on booklist.westschoolsupplies.com.au. All you need to do is go online, view the list, make any changes you like, and then submit your order. It's that simple.

Follow these easy steps:

Visit booklist.westschoolsupplies.com.au

- Enter School Code: MILBT1
- Enter Password: MIL449
- Please select School Year: e.g. YEAR 5
- Click 'Display My List' and follow the prompts
- Families with multiple orders must be processed and paid for individually and will only be required to pay one Delivery Fee with your first order, for subsequent orders please select 'Additional Child'.

To ensure family orders are delivered together, enter the WEO Reference Number of additional orders in the comments box on the 'Order Confirmation' page.

ORDER ONLINE BEFORE FRIDAY, 4th JANUARY 2019 TO ENSURE DELIVERY PRIOR TO SCHOOL COMMENCING.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open on Friday, 1st February 10:30am-12pm and Saturday, 2nd February 2pm-4pm before school commences in 2019.

Canteen Closed

The canteen will be closed the last week of term from Monday, 10th – Thursday, 13th December.

P&C News

I would firstly like to start off by thanking everyone who has been involved in the P&C this year.

Everyone who has taken time to attend meetings, thank you very much. We cannot stress enough how important meeting attendance is. All our good intentions and plans go to waste if we cannot make a quorum of 10 P&C members to vote on whatever the matter at hand happens to be.

P&C News cont.

Be it buying a new fridge or how to run a raffle. All decisions are made at P&C meetings. To become a member, you simply must attend a meeting, fill in a membership form and pay a \$1 membership fee. This is one off and covers you for the entire year.

Unfortunately, due to low meeting attendance this year, we were unable to fundraise as much as we hoped. BUT next year will be different. We have a big goal. The school needs to replace the concertina doors in the classrooms. This is a huge expense! The P&C has set aside a \$20,000 donation to get things started and we would love, and we need, your support in making this happen. It is an essential upgrade to the classrooms and the goal is to make it happen one class at a time.

Don't fear the P&C or the thought of fundraising. Not all jobs are big ones. There will be plenty of opportunities to help in a big way by doing something that won't take up too much of your time.

A few ideas we have for next year include raffles and dress up days. Those are easy.....so keep your eye on the Facebook page and the newsletter as we will be calling out for helpers when we plan on having a bake sale, a sausage sizzle and maybe even a stall at FeNaCING! Who knows? So, let's remember that "more hands make light work".

I'd like to thank all the parents who have supported our fund-raising efforts throughout the year. There is no point in a raffle if no one is buying tickets! So, thank you and we hope you will keep supporting the P&C in next year's fundraising efforts.

I would like to thank the vital members of the P&C:

- Vice President **Tash Regan**, who also co-runs the uniform shop.
- **Donna Scott**, our Treasurer. It is a BIG job. Thank you for all your hard work Donna.
- **Josie Kittle** who has been a wonderful Secretary this year.
- **Kylie Bayliss** who, along with Tash, runs the uniform shop. These two ladies put a lot of voluntary hours into providing this service to the school. Thank you, Kylie and Tash, we appreciate what a big job you have!
- Fiona Byrne, thank you for always attending meetings and of course, letting us in!

I would also like to thank **Rebecca Scolari**, our wonderful canteen manager. The canteen is another service provided by the P&C and would not be available to the school without a P&C. Thank you Bec for all your hard work you put into the canteen. Also, a big thank you to **Tracey Reynolds** for being a part of the canteen team and helping things run as smooth as they do. I know the kids all appreciate your friendly faces and all the delicious food you provide.

Thank you so much to the parent helpers who put their time and effort into events such as the Easter raffle and the Mother's and Father's Day stalls. None of it would be possible without volunteers. Special thanks to **Monique Vos** and **Bel Jones** who put a lot of time into organising the Easter raffle.

That's it for 2018

First meeting for next year will be the AGM held on Wednesday, 20th February, at 7pm in the staffroom. This is where all positions are open, and you can come and nominate for any of the positions you feel suited. The emphasis next year will be on fundraising, so we need a fundraising committee. It would be wonderful if someone with knowledge of grant applications join us. To reiterate, we need people in seats. Please support the P&C by attending meetings.

Thank you!

Nolene Holmes
P&C President



Transitioning from primary to secondary school is an exciting time for kids. Learning how to travel independently on public transport is one of many new experiences students will face.

If you have a child heading to high school next year, use the Get on Board website to help get them started using Transperth.

Visit www.getonboard.transperth.wa.gov.au to find out more!

Loose Parts and Transient Art in Kindy

As we approach Christmas, the Kindy students have been creating festive artworks with loose parts.

Loose parts are a regular feature in our early childhood classrooms. Loose parts are any kind of open-ended material (natural or synthetic) that can be moved, rotated, stacked, sorted, combined, taken apart and re-assembled in endless ways. The Theory of Loose Parts was developed in the 1970's by the architect Simon Nicholson. He believed that all children are creative and innovative and that this creativity and innovation should be nurtured in all (Maxwell, 2016).

The term 'transient art' encompasses the creative side to using loose parts. Transient art, by its name and nature, is 'art that's moveable'. Put simply, it's the use of lots of materials to create a picture, pattern or structure; a process of creating with loose parts with no permanent end product (Keeley, 2016).

When children are involved in creating transient art they discover multiple ways to manipulate, explore, experiment and combine materials. They design and redesign and take apart and put back together their designs until they're happy with what they have achieved. The focus for learning is on the process of thinking and rethinking, rather than on the end product. Photos are used to document the child's hard work and creativity.

Loose parts and transient art supports learning across the curriculum:

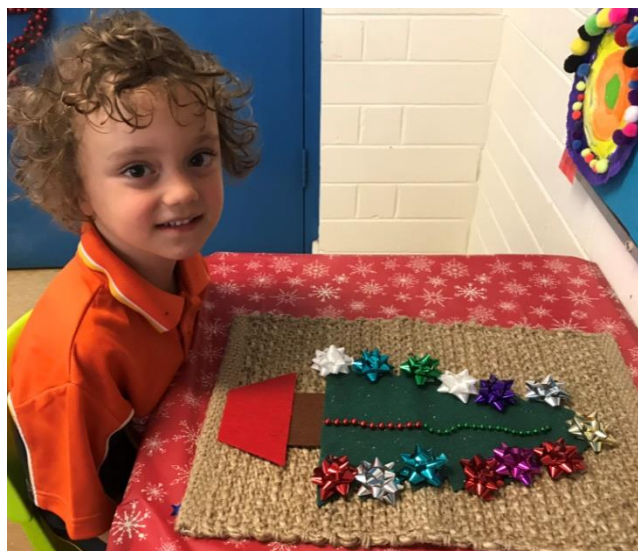
Arts - develop creativity and imagination. Represent ideas, feelings and experiences in creative ways. Explore and experiment with form, shape, colour, line, texture, contrast and patterns in art works.

Mathematics – engage with shape, size, patterns, symmetry, lines, positional language, counting, sorting and classifying, combining and separating, one-to-one correspondence, space, language of measurement.

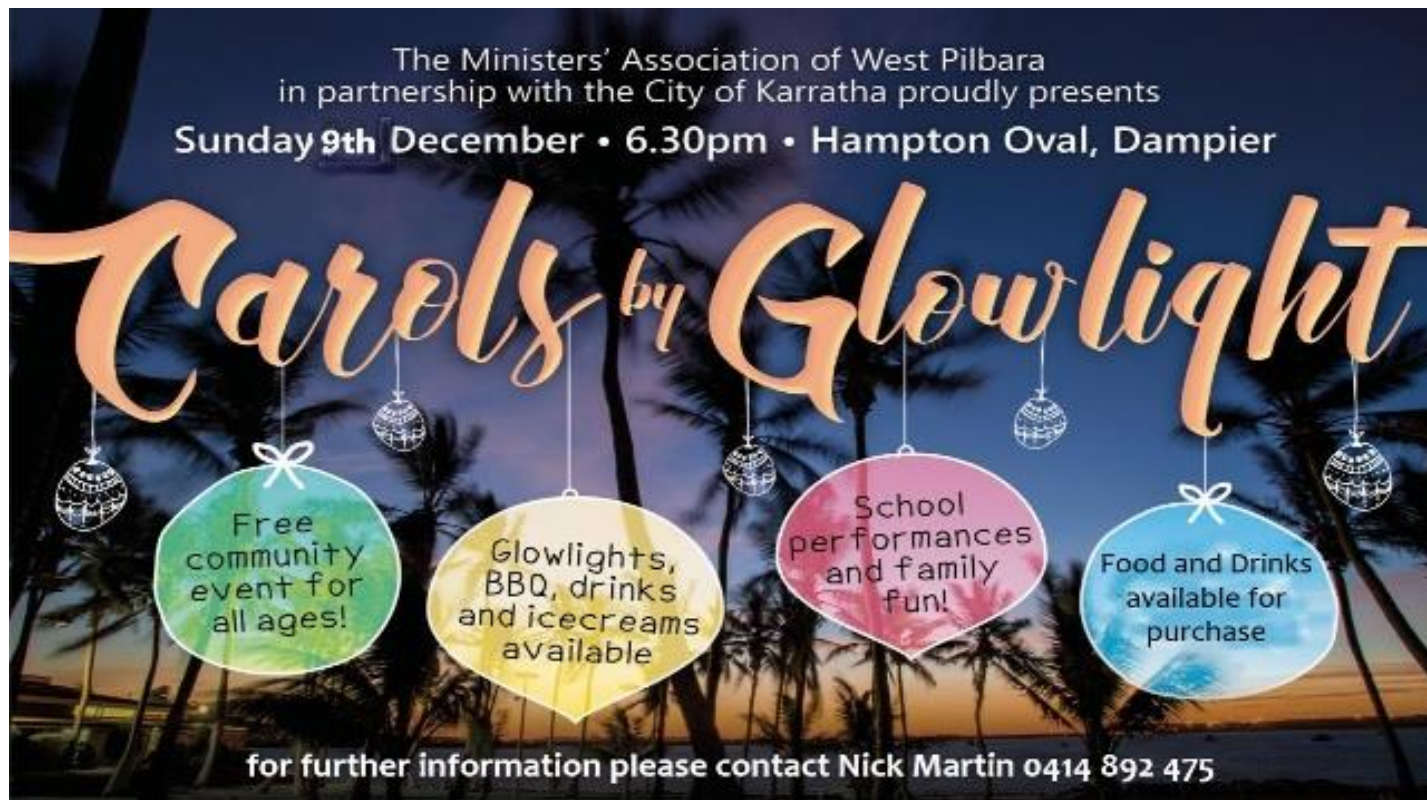
Language – develop vocabulary as they describe the process, objects and materials they have used. Tell stories as they make connections between loose parts and personal experiences.

Scientific concepts – express curiosity and wonder about materials. Examine and describe the physical properties of a range of materials.

Physical development – develop fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination.



The Millars Well Years 1,2 and 3 students have been rehearsing two Christmas songs for the carol glow light evening at Dampier on Sunday 9th December 2019 at 6:30pm. Students will need to make their own way out there and back. This is not a compulsory event. More information will be sent home next week.



The Ministers' Association of West Pilbara
in partnership with the City of Karratha proudly presents
Sunday 9th December • 6.30pm • Hampton Oval, Dampier

Carols by Glowlight

Free community event for all ages!

Glowlights, BBQ, drinks and icecreams available

School performances and family fun!

Food and Drinks available for purchase

for further information please contact Nick Martin 0414 892 475



CHRISTMAS APPEAL

THANK GOD FOR THE SALVOS

Millars Well will be supporting the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal again this year. We would love it if families could support us by donating any of the following items:

Christmas Bon Bons

Christmas Puddings

Christmas Cake/ Fruit mince pies

Coffee/ Tea

Long life Custard

Long life Full Cream Milk

Fruit Juice

Cordial

Packets of Chips/Shapes

Breakfast Cereal

Non-alcoholic drinks

Tinned Ham

Tinned Vegetables

Items can be dropped into the office up until the 10th December!

All donations will go to families in need in the Pilbara.

LOTE Notes

Konnichiwa from Obrien Sensei,

Wow! We're in the last term! *Shinjirarenai!* (Unbelievable) Ummm. How about we talk about numbers and counting. So, just about everyone can count numbers to 10 in Nihongo. Some can count to 99 九十九, a few can count to 999 九百九十九 Crazy! But can we count things?? *Nihonjin* will count different things different ways.

If they are long things it's: *ippon, nihon, sanbon...*



little animals: *ippiki,*

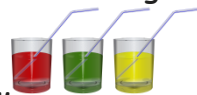
nihikki, sanbikki...



WHAAAAT??? Flat things: *ichimai, nimai, sanmai...*



a glass of something: *ippai, nihai, sanbai...*



Kampai! (That actually means

'cheers!') STOP!!



It's all too difficult. And there are so many more ways.

Yay!

But! Don't worry! There is also a general counting system.
wait to learn it! Here we go!

And I know you can't

1 thing	- <i>Hitostu</i>	Ten Things
2 things	- <i>Futastu</i>	
3 things	- <i>Mittsu</i>	
4 things	- <i>Yottsu</i>	
5 things	- <i>Itutsu</i>	
6 things	- <i>Muttsu</i>	
7 things	- <i>Nanatsu</i>	
8 things	- <i>Yattsu</i>	
9 things	- <i>Kokonotsu</i>	
10 things	- <i>Too (tor)</i>	

CYCLONE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Cyclone Watch/Warning:

Children are to attend school as per normal.

Blue Alert

In a blue alert the school will usually remain open.

If a Yellow Alert is predicted and likely to be declared at some time during the school day *the school will not open and children are to remain at home.*

If the school is to close, this information will be broadcasted via the following **local** radio stations. Emergency information is broadcasted at approximately ¼ past the hour. The frequency of the updates will depend on the type of cyclone alert. School closure will be broadcasted between 6.15am and 7.45am.

- ABC Radio (Official Broadcast)
- Spirit Radio (Unofficial Broadcast)

The closure advice will be repeated each morning until the decision to re-open the school is made by the DDG after discussion with the RED. Principals will then be notified that a school can reopen

School buses may be affected at this stage. Any change to the bus operation will be given on the radio at the above times.

PLEASE DO NOT RING THE SCHOOL. All information and updated reports relating to the warnings and school closure **ARE ISSUED ON THE RADIO**. Please keep yourself informed.

Yellow Alert

If a Yellow Alert is declared during a school day, the following will occur:

- **Yellow Alert before 12:00:** – students can be picked up immediately from their classroom. The school will close at lunch time. Students will not be sent home until collected by, or instructions are received from parents.
- **Yellow alert after 12:00:** – students can be picked up immediately from their classroom. The school will close at the usual time. Students will not be sent home until instructions are received from parents.
- **Yellow alert after 14:00:** - If a Yellow Alert is called at or after 2.00pm schools will generally be closed the following day. Please continue to listen to the radio to receive information as to when schools will open.

The above does not preclude immediate closure in extenuating circumstances and if deemed necessary by the Cyclone Committee.

Red Alert

The School will remain closed during a Red Alert.

- In the event that a Red Alert is proclaimed after 2.00pm, schools will remain closed the following day.
- In the event that a Red Alert is proclaimed after 2.00pm but subsequently cancelled, the Regional Executive Director in consultation with the Cyclone Committee has the discretion to ensure that schools open the following day.

AFTER THE CYCLONE

If a Red Alert is called after 2.00pm schools will generally be closed the following day to allow for assessment and repair of serious damage. Please continue to listen to the radio to receive information as to when schools will open.

Staff and students cannot return or enter school grounds until the school has been assessed and meets all safety and health standards

Please keep yourself informed via the radio, until all threats from the cyclone is past.