FROM THE PRINCIPAL . .

Hello again and welcome to this fortnight’s news and congratulations to the students of Room 7 and to Ms Goodfield for presenting a lovely assembly last week. It was terrific to see the students explain the meaning behind some of our most iconic flags. Well done guys!

The assembly item also reminded me of the need to have the Australian, WA and Aboriginal flags displayed at all times in the undercover area and so to this end, I am currently arranging for quotes to create and install these flags/signs onto the wall above the canteen. I will keep you posted.

PRINCIPAL’S EMAIL ADDRESS

Thanks to those parents who called to notify me of a fault with my contact e-mail address at the top of this newsletter. I have been reliably informed by the IT support that the problem has been rectified and the address is now fully functional.

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

Today saw the school run our annual Public Speaking Competition, with students from Year 1 to 3 reciting poetry and students from Year 4 to 6 presenting a speech on a topic of their choice. Once again we saw some highly motivated students confidently taking to the stage to present their piece and they are all to be congratulated for their efforts.

As with every competition, there are always winners and in this case our two winners will go on to represent Mundaring at the Hills Education Community (HEC) Public Speaking Competition next Wednesday at Gidgegannup Primary School. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Junior Primary winner Georgia Ghouse and our Senior Primary winner Luis Parkinson on their excellent presentations today and wish them luck at Gidgegannup PS on Wednesday.

T20 CRICKET COMPETITION

As part of this year’s interschool sports program, the school will be entering two teams (10 boys & 10 girls) in a T20 Cricket Competition to be held at Glen Forrest Primary School on Tuesday 15th March. The teams will be coached and supported on the day by Mr Tinniswood and Ms Lorantas. Parent information and permission slips were sent home with team members last week.

PARENT PARKING ISSUES

Once again I am required to remind parents of the need to consider others and the safety of the children when driving and parking around the school. Some recent incidents that have been brought to my attention include:

- Parents using the Staff/Visitor car park as a student drop off and pick up point which is very dangerous to students and causes difficulties for the school staff. Parents using this car park are asked to stop this practice immediately.
- Parents parking across the driveways of neighbouring houses despite ‘No Parking’ signs. Neighbours have been advised to report these incidents to the local traffic warden who will follow up with the parents.
- Parents reversing out of parking bays near the bus bay without due care and consideration for others. This behaviour could very easily result in a child or parent being injured or worse. All parents using these parking bays are reminded to take extra care when reversing out of the bays.
- Parents using the Kiss and Drive facility inappropriately by parking in the K&D spots or cutting in while other parents are waiting in line. This facility is designed to allow the free flow of traffic and is reliant upon parents showing patience and consideration for others using the facility. To remind parents of the proper use of the Kiss & Drive, I have enclosed a brochure outlining the rationale and procedures to be used.

Parents are reminded that these actions put children at severe risk and if they continue I will have no choice but to report incidents to the local traffic warden and/or the police.
STAFF LONG SERVICE LEAVE
In an effort to reduce the amount of Long Service Leave (LSL) liability, the Department of Education has directed all Principals to ensure that staff members with outstanding LSL clear this leave by the end of 2016. In our school’s case, 17 teaching and non-teaching staff members have accrued a total of over 400 days LSL which must be taken this year.

While some of the planned leave relates to non-teaching staff, a significant portion relates to teaching staff which means that certain teachers will be taking up to a full term of LSL later in the year.

Parents of students affected by this leave will be notified in writing by the teachers and all efforts will be made to ensure the continuity of classroom teaching and learning programs by hiring relief staff who are known to the school and who have experience in the classrooms they will be working in.

SCHOOL COUNCIL VACANCY
The Mundaring Primary School Council is formed with the fundamental purpose of enabling parents and members of the community to engage in activities that are in the best interest of the students and that will enhance the education provided by the school.

The functions of the School Council include taking part in establishing and reviewing school priorities and general policy; financial planning; evaluating school performance; promoting the school in the community; and approving various charges and voluntary contributions. A detailed explanation of the role of the School Council is available in the Terms Of Reference found on the school’s website.

Due to a recent resignation from the School Council, I would like to call for expressions of interest from parents and/or caregivers to join the council this year. EOI must be made to the Principal in writing (e-mail or letter) by 3pm on Friday 18th March 2016.

In the case of more than one person expressing an interest in joining the council, a parent vote will be conducted as per the Terms of Reference on the website.

If you would like to know more about this role, please feel free to contact me at school.

PRINCIPAL’S LEAVE
Unfortunately I need to take two week’s sick leave from Thursday 10th March to have surgery on my knee but I do hope to be back on two feet for the Easter Hat Parade on Thursday 24th March.

During my absence, my Deputy Principal, Joy Hendrie will be taking over the Principal’s role.

Mr Paul Larkin
Principal

ALLERGY AWARE
No whole eggs or nut products at MPS please.

ASSEMBLY - 26 February 2016
Congratulations to our Honour Certificate recipients

PP  Emma Collins
    Abigail Parish

Yr 1  Tobias Anderson
    Dylan Maclean

Yr 2  Jack Hall
    Billy Schultz
    Brodie Miich

Yr 3  Micha Buckland
    Rose Barfield
    Airley George
    Nikolos Reynolds

Yr 4  Toby Mills
    Renae Brown
    Thomas Taylor
    Petey Murray-Brown

Yr 5  Blake Offer
    Bea Healy

Yr 6  Abegall Locke

Our next assembly on Friday 11 March will be coordinated by Room No 6.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE NEWS
Thank you to the Laker family for their donations. They are much appreciated!

Do you have any small cardboard boxes?

Room 17 would love them.

Early Childhood Centre Team

BANK DETAILS FOR MUNDARING PRIMARY
Parents, did you know that you can deposit your child/ren’s voluntary contributions or excursion charges directly into the school bank account?

Bendigo Bank-BSB # 633 000- A/c # 155 735616

Please use your child’s surname and Room No as the reference. Thank you.

Dianne Rhodes (Registrar)

SCHOOL PHOTOS will be taken on Monday 4 April for Kindy 19a and Tuesday 5 April for Kindy 19b - Yr 6.

Please have orders and full payment to the office by

P & C Easter Fundraiser Raffle

The P & C is organising the annual Easter Raffle which will be drawn at the Easter Assembly, Thursday 24 March.

We are putting out a call for donations of chocolates, Easter items and baskets. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

Tickets will be sent home on Friday 11 March and will need to be returned by Tuesday 22 March along with the money from sold tickets.

Any enquiries please contact Del Thompson on 0419 497071. Thank you for supporting your school.

THE UNIFORM SHOP is open 16 March - 3.00 - 3.30 pm.

Kelly Bertolini (0439 988376)

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Our old photocopier has given us many years of hard work. Unfortunately it is no longer working. If you are interested in acquiring it. Please see the office.