CAROLs NIGHT
Come and be Merry!

Thursday 12th December

5.30 – 6.30 pm  Sausage Sizzle or BYO Picnic
7.00pm  Carol’s Night commences
9.00pm  Finish [approximate]

LAST DAY OF TERM
Assembly at 12.30pm
Students dismissed at 1.00pm
**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

We are coming to the end of another year. I would like to thank all the staff, parents and students for their assistance and support during this year at Milgate Primary School and we look forward to working with you all in 2014 as we continue with enhanced initiatives in curriculum, learning programs and ICT. We are looking forward to continuing with the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program across the school. The IB PYP has been very successful this year and the learning has been engaging and challenging for students leading to fantastic learning outcomes.

In 2014 all students in Years 3 - 6 will have iPads to be used as a tool in their learning and this will enhance the learning program. There will be a bank of other iPads in the school that other classes will have access to in addition to other learning technologies. Milgate Primary School is a great school of academic excellence providing many opportunities for student learning and extracurricular activities.

Thank you to the staff who have worked exceptionally hard as a team to provide the best teaching and learning program for the students in a caring environment which caters for all students’ individual needs. Thank you also to the parents with whom we work in partnership for the education of your children. Many parents have assisted the school in numerous ways such as classroom helpers, working bees, class representatives, Parents and Friends, school council, excursions, camps, events, etc. and we appreciate your time and valuable help which has enhanced the school and the students’ learning.

Congratulations to all students for an outstanding year of many achievements both within the classroom, school, sport and wider community, of which they can all be proud. As the Year 6 students leave Milgate we thank them all for their contributions and leadership in the school and wish them all the best in their future education and careers. We hope they come back to visit us.

**CAROLS NIGHT – THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER AT 7PM**

On Thursday night at 7pm it will be the Milgate Carols Night. All year levels and the staff will be performing a song on the night. Come along and join with the community to enjoy a night of singing and performances. There will also be a sausage sizzle on the night from 5:30pm - 6:30pm.

**YEAR 6 GRADUATION**

The Year 6 students have been practising and preparing for their graduation on Tuesday 17 December. This will be a great celebration of their years at Primary school.

**ASSEMBLIES AND LAST DAY OF TERM**

On the last day of the term, Friday 20 December, at 12:30pm there will be an assembly to farewell the Year 6 students. All students will be dismissed at 1:00pm after the assembly. Parents are welcome to come and join in this last assembly for the year.

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**DIARY DATES 2013 ** Full list of dates available on the school’s website**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 4</th>
<th>MONDAY 7 OCTOBER – FRIDAY 20 DECEMBER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu 12 Dec</td>
<td>Carols Night [7.00pm]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 13 Dec</td>
<td>Whole School - End of Year Celebrations/Excursions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 16 Dec</td>
<td>Reports and Portfolios sent home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 17 Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 – Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 19 Dec</td>
<td>Meet new teacher and class for 2014 [10.15am]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20 Dec</td>
<td>Assembly – farewell our Year 6 students [12.30pm]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20 Dec</td>
<td>Last Day [early dismissal 1pm]</td>
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FEES AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS
A reminder to parents that all fees are to be paid and student books / supplies collected before the end of the year so students will have their materials for the start of 2014. They need bring their complete student supply pack and all contents to school on the first day of school next year. If parents are financially having difficulty paying the full amount, a payment plan can be devised if you contact the school office.

FAMILIES LEAVING THE SCHOOL
There are a number of families who have their last child in Year 6 this year and this will be their last year at Milgate Primary School. Other families are leaving the school as they have relocated to a new area. Some of these families have had a long association with the school over a number of years and have contributed to the school in numerous ways and we thank them for that. To all students and families leaving the school, we wish you all the best for your future studies and ventures. Please feel free to come back and visit us.

STAFFING
The following staff will be leaving Milgate Primary school at the end of this year: Julie Austin, Alex Gaythorpe, Penelope Kolovos to Glen Waverley PS, Renee Waters to Bayswater North PS and Judy Hearn will be on leave in Term 1. We thank each of these staff members for their contributions to Milgate Primary School over the years and wish them all the best in the future. In 2014 Susan Prentice will be returning and Samantha Elhanna will be returning to Milgate PS from Family Leave.

Staffing for 2014 will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Carly Jones, Julie Parker, Melissa Turner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Lyn Sanders, Paola Mancini, Samantha Elhanna, Sarah Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Linda Hill, Sue Lloyd,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Ana Kostidis, Marilyn Houghton / Kirsty Wright, Trina Williamson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>David Mander, Kim Brabham / Judy Gallagher, Gail Ashworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Ange Alexandrou / James Will, Claire Harvey-Beavis, Krissy Wong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Fiona Bashford, Jasmine Cergol, Karlie Gooding / Ping Nixon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialists</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Judy Gallagher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAL</td>
<td>Sharon Harrison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extension / Intervention</td>
<td>Marilyn Houghton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Ping Nixon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Jenny Batten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>James Will</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Staff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>Janine Caudry, Ann Rowlands, Kristy Hourmouzis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integration / Teacher</td>
<td>Catherine Noel, Karen Jensen, Pam Kemp, Paula</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aides</td>
<td>Botha, Penny McNaughton, Sabrina Foster, Susan Prentice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Technician</td>
<td>Karen Jensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT Technician</td>
<td>Quang Nguyen, Mitch Ryan</td>
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Students will go to their new classes for 2014 to meet their teachers on Thursday 19 December.

RETURN TO SCHOOL IN 2014
School resumes for Year 1 – 6 students on Wednesday 29 January and Preps on Thursday 30 January 2014.

CURRICULUM DAY / PUPIL FREE DAY – FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2014
Each year schools have four curriculum / pupil free days. All schools have the first day of the year (Tuesday 28 January) as a curriculum day. Milgate PS will also have a curriculum / pupil free day on Friday 21 February. On these days there will be no school for students as the teachers will be participating in professional learning.
STUDENT REPORTS
The teachers have been very busy writing student reports over the last few weeks and these will be sent home to parents on Monday 16 December along with student portfolios. Thank you to the staff for the preparation time, commitment and care they have given to reports and the continued learning program for your children.

SCHOOL REVIEW AND SELF EVALUATION
Milgate Primary School review took place on Thursday 28 November with an independent reviewer, Martin Winfield, school council president, school leadership team and relevant staff. The review process also involved two Principal peer reviewers: Heather Hopcroft (Principal of Laburnum PS) and Belinda Jones (Principal of Albany Rise PS). The review was very successful and a time to celebrate the excellent continuous improvement in student learning achievements over the last four years. The reviewer and peer principals commended Milgate for the curriculum development and consistency of approaches across the school, the improvements in student learning outcomes, the integration of technology into the learning program, the student wellbeing improvements / approaches, etc. The reviewer has written a report which includes future recommendations which were discussed on the day. A new four year strategic plan will be written at the beginning of 2014 incorporating the recommendations from the review.

All schools have a four year strategic plan that provides direction in the areas of: Student Learning, Student Engagement and Wellbeing, Student Pathways and Transitions. Every 4 years, schools have a school review to assess the four year strategic plan. This provides an opportunity for the school to reflect on student outcomes and key improvement strategies, as well as focusing on what the school can do in the future to continue to improve. This ensures ongoing improvement. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the student achievements and improvements in learning over the four years. From 2014, there will be a weekly communication to parents with links to relevant school articles. This will replace the fortnightly WHAM and instructions for accessing this will be sent home at the beginning of 2014 or can be found on our website.

Debbie Mierisch
Principal

ARE YOU TRAVELLING OR MOVING IN 2013/2014?
If your family is travelling overseas and your child won’t be in attendance at Milgate at the start of the school year in 2014, please notify the Office either by email milgate.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or by writing a note. We require the student’s full name, current grade, last day at Milgate and returning date to Milgate.

If your family is moving interstate or overseas and your child will be attending another school, please notify the Office as soon as possible with your child’s full name, current grade, last day at Milgate and the name of the school they will be attending.

IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR PREP?

We are still accepting Prep Enrolments for 2014.

Interested parents are invited to book a school tour with our Principal - Debbie Mierisch or Assistant Principal - Mark Roberts. For sibling enrolments please come by the Office for an enrolment form or download it from our school website.
MILGATE ANNUAL CAROLS NIGHT 2013
‘CHRISTMAS FAVOURITES’

THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER 7PM

Students – Remember:
- Bring a rug or cushion to sit on
- Wear school uniform
- Add a decoration such as a Santa hat, Christmas earrings or Christmas T-shirt

5.30PM – 6.30PM Picnic time --- BYO food and drink
Please note: this is an Alcohol free event!

BBQ sausages available to purchase!

CHRISTMAS favourites - PROGRAM

CHOIR: One Child | One Little Candle | Do You Hear What I Hear?
ALL: O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL
PLAYGROUP: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star | Go Santa Go
PREPS: I Want A Hippopotamus For Christmas | AWAY IN A MANGER
MANDARIN ITEM: We Wish you a Merry Christmas
YEAR 1: Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer | SILENT NIGHT
YEAR 2: Up On The House Top | JOY TO THE WORLD
YEAR 3: It’s The Most Wonderful Time Of the Year | DECK THE HALLS
YEAR 4: The Christmas Song | THE FIRST NOWELL
YEAR 5: Have Yourself a Very Merry Christmas | WE THREE KINGS
YEAR 6: JINGLE BELL ROCK | Happy Christmas War is Over
STAFF: Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree
RAFFLE
ALL: WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
DEBBIE MIERISCH TO CONTINUE AS PRINCIPAL
For those who have been connected with Milgate will be aware that Debbie Mierisch has been our Principal over the last five years. However, some of you may not be aware that, to ensure that all schools continue to get the best outcomes for our children, The Department of Education conducts a review of all school principals on a five year rolling cycle.

I am pleased to advise you Debbie will be reappointed as the Principal of Milgate Primary School for a further five year term from Term 2, 2014.

The review process considered multiple School stakeholders, including the Regional Director of Education for the North East Victoria Region and myself as the Milgate School Council President. The outcome is that Debbie is regarded as hard working, diligent and is highly thought of internally and by her peers for her achievements at Milgate (some of which include our academic results, technology integration into education, improved student, parent and teacher engagement and support of both educational and welfare improvement programs such as International Baccalaureate® (IB) Primary Years Programme and Creating a Safe Supportive Environment (CASSE)).

I am sure the review outcome is of no surprise to anyone who has worked with Debbie and seen her impact at all levels in the school community. I would like to acknowledge, congratulate and thank Debbie for her hard work and look forward to further years of excellent outcomes for Milgate.

Mike Trenery
School Council President

CASSE: CREATING A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

CASSE AWARDS
Sourav G For always thinking of his peers and including others.
Sophia B For including someone in her playground game.
Petra E For being supportive when people were experiencing difficulties.
Justin B For being supportive of those around him and thinking of their needs over his own.

Gail Ashworth
CASSE Facilitator

Library Books

Just a reminder to please return all library books before the end of the year!

Thank you.
An amazing experience at Milgate is how everyone encourages each other to face their fears, and how everyone cooperates with each other.
By Andrew C 6JC

Milgate has been a big part of my life and will be in my heart forever. It has been an experience I will never forget.
By Carissa M 6KG

Year 6 has been a tremendous joyride! It has helped me understand and give me perspective on High School and has also been a huge learning curve.
By Renton W 6KG

Milgate is a great school because the teachers are kind, funny and they are so awesome, words can't explain how lucky I am to be in a school like Milgate.
By Emily E 6FB

My time at Milgate has taught me many things and has left me with many great memories. Milgate has been an unforgettable place.
By Alana K 6JC
A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY
We are delighted to announce that through the various fundraising and community building events in 2013, we have raised enough money to resurface the prep courtyard over the school holiday period! While we still have a little raffle money to count, as at 11/12/13 this year we have collectively raised:

$ 17,413!

Thank you to all the parents, students, teacher and volunteers who have contributed along the way.

‘GREASE’ MOVIE NIGHT – TERM 1, 2014
Start planning your 50’s costume and practice singing the Grease movie tunes – we’re off to the Balwyn Cinemas in March 2014 for our Sing-a-long Grease night! There will be prizes for the best dressed adult and child and some fantastic raffles will be drawn on the night. Stay tuned for more details!!

BE A PART OF P&F IN 2014!!
We have some wonderful things planned for P&F next year and we are hoping to attract lots of new members to our small but mighty group! We start the year with an AGM where members are elected into roles. However, it’s important to note that the P&F is very happy to accommodate people for as little or as much time as they can volunteer throughout the year.

Typically we meet a couple of times each term and we then form smaller groups to work together on making individual events happen. Perhaps you would like to work on the school disco, or you may like to help co-ordinate the Mother’s Day and Father’s Day stalls?

We’re also looking at creating a beautiful school cookbook and holding a night market in 2014, which will both need lots of parent input to help them come to fruition.

If you’re interested in helping with any of these we’d love to see you come along to our AGM/first meeting on Thursday 20th February at 9am in the staff room, after school drop off. Potential P&F members don’t need to feel pressure to be in a formal role - we value all parent input and ideas and need many hands to make light work. Hope to see you on the 20th February!

Angela Eichler
P&F President – milgate pf@gmail.com
Milgate Primary School | 12th Dec 2013
Coordinator: Ann Gardner

This week at After School Care...

It’s been quite exciting this week for those children interested in craft. We’ve been doing Christmas activities every day, including bon bons, foam Xmas trees, paper maché decorations, stained glass windows and Christmas tree cones.

The new Wii is proving to be a continual activity for all ages, with Laura being kind enough to bring her Singstar CD to Before School Care.

For some children, cooking is a number one activity and this week we’ve had banana smoothies and Chocolate Footy Balls.

My $5 purchase at an Op Shop of Hungry Hippos has been a good find with kids playing it every day and having fun. Of course we’ve been encouraging lots of language and talking and cooperation around it. New games of Connect 4, Guess Who and Chess have been a hit too.

Big changes happening in our physical area with brand new shelves erected this week, cupboards cleaned out, craft sorted and old toys thrown out. We will be getting new tubs so our storage room will be full of easily accessible toys, games and sports for the children to choose. This is also in preparation for our busy Holiday Program which starts on the 6th Jan 2014. We always say there are about 300 possible activities to choose from so a child should never be bored.

All the craft is now in one place in the cupboards in the foyer area, so we aim to have an organised craft activity or free choice craft available every session.

Our Journal is full of photos I’ve taken each week and our planning. We are encouraging the children to add artwork or comments to the book, but we’d love parents to comment too.

As the year ends, we are providing quiet areas for tired children as we’ve noticed a few have been busy with family activities.

Please contact Camp Australia asap if your child is not going to be here in 2014.

Holiday Club starts 6th Jan and I will be coordinating it for the 3 weeks. For further information visit our website:


Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday and Christmas. Looking forward to seeing the children in 2014 including all new Preps. Update to come overnight.

Before School Care operates from 7 – 8.45am (we supply breakfast) and After School Care operates from 3.30 – 6pm where we supply afternoon tea and do cooking a few times a week.

Ann
Co-ordinator [Camp Australia]

Milgate OSHC – 9841 9985