PRINCIPAL’S PERSPECTIVE

Last Saturday we had a very successful Open Morning at Milgate PS. There were a large number of prospective parents visiting the school who have children currently at preschool who will be starting school next year or in 2018. There were a number of areas of the school that parents visited and the children participated in activities taking home a show bag of what they had done including a floating balloon.

In the different areas teachers talked to the parents about the school curriculum and programs Milgate offers. There was an amazing excitement as the children visited the areas and the parents were very impressed with the school and the learning. Thank you to all the teachers who were here on Saturday morning to assist on the day.

NAPLAN

This week the Year 3 and 5 students have been participating in the NAPLAN national testing and they have been well prepared for this. The results will be available later in the year and sent home to parents.

EDUCATION WEEK

Next week we are looking forward to Education Week with Open Morning and Night, and Grandparents / Special Friends day. We hope to see many parents / family / friends visiting Milgate during the week to see the excellent learning and programs. See further details on Page 2.

YEAR 3 | EXCURSION – Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Last Thursday, our Year 3 students were lucky enough to attend a performance by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra at Hamer Hall, Arts Centre. The interactive concert gave students the opportunity to experience classical music in a magical acoustic setting, become familiar with the different orchestral sections and even perform some body percussion with the orchestra. Thank you to our Performing Arts teacher, Jenny Ferris, for organising such an exciting and memorable excursion for our students.

Yours sincerely,
Debbie Mierisch | Principal
Karlie Gooding | Assistant Principal
YEAR 4 | EXCURSION - GEOCACHE
Thursday 5 May
Last week our Year 4 students set out on their mission to be explorers. They headed off to Westerfolds Park and began their Geocaching adventure. Their group leaders led them using navigational devices to find hidden treasures. If you would like to know more about Geocaching ask a Year 4 student or check out www.geocaching.com.au.

WORKING BEE | This Sunday
9.30 – 11.30am
We hope to see you there.
EDUCATION WEEK
All across Victoria, Primary and Secondary schools will celebrate Education Week from 16-20th May. Education Week is a fantastic way to celebrate the outstanding and innovative teaching and learning that is happening at Milgate. All members of the school community are encouraged to be a part of the many exciting activities and events organised for the week. This year our theme for Education Week is simply, ‘Happy’. 

Tuesday 17 May
Open Morning 9.30-10.30am
Parents, friends and families can visit students in the classrooms. New and prospective parents are invited to come and explore the exciting learning that takes place.

Open Night 6.00-8.00pm
Open Night is a great opportunity for students to show off their creativity and curiosity to family and friends! Visit different classrooms and explore what it means to be ‘Happy’, for different cultures across the world. Buskers will also perform throughout the night.

Buskers will also perform throughout the evening:
5.30pm Sausage Sizzle
6.15pm Mandarin Performance [Foundation students]
7.45pm Milgate Choir

Book Fair 6.00-8.00pm [Library]
The Book Fair will be in full swing again this year! Come along and delve into the enormous selection of books available for purchase.

Wednesday 18 May
Grandparents & Special Friends Day 12.00-1.00pm
Grandparents and special friends are invited to come and visit students in their classrooms and share lunch together in the school yard.
If Grandparents are unsure how to find the right classroom, please just come to the Office [off Landscape Drive] and our School Leaders will be pleased to show you the way.

Book Fair 1.00 - 2.00pm | 3.30 – 4.30pm [Library]
The Book Fair will also be open at these times for any Grandparents, parents or special friends to purchase from the enormous selection of wonderful books available.

Friday 20 May
Favourite Book Character Day
The Junior School Council have organised a free dress day where students are to dress up as their favourite character from a book! Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation on the day with all donations going to our sponsor child, Binod.

SPORTING NEWS
Manningham Division Tennis
On Friday 6 May Jayden O (6DM) competed at the Manningham Division Tennis Competition at Serpell Tennis Club. Jayden played extremely well and was a great credit to Milgate PS. At the end of the day Jayden placed 3rd and is the first reserve for Eastern Regional Tennis. Well done Jayden

Walk Safely to School Day | Friday 20 May
This is an annual event aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of children and young people, and creating a sustainable environment in which regular physical activity can take place.

Children up to 10 years old should hold an adult’s hand when crossing the road and Walk Safely to School Day asks everyone accompanying their child to help foster the vital road-crossing skills they will need as they become mature adults.

Walking to school not only helps build an understanding of our state’s public transport system it will help reduce our young people’s future dependence on cars as a way of getting around and create regular walking habits at a young age.

It would be terrific to see as many Milgate students as possible get involved in this event.

CAMP | YEARS 3 & 4
This week I sent out offers to a number of Parent Helpers for the Yr. 3 & 4 Camp in Term 3. If you haven’t heard from me, then at this stage my staffing is organised for this camp and if I require any more parent helpers I will be in contact with those people I already have on my Parent Helpers list. Thanks again for everyone’s support in making our program so fantastic.

Entertainment Books
The new edition 2016 Entertainment Books are now on sale. This is a great fundraiser for Milgate as every book sold brings $13 to the school. Fill out the form on Compass and send it to school with your payment or buy your book at the Office.
Allergy and anaphylaxis basics

What are food allergies? A food allergy is an immune system response to a food protein that the body mistakenly believes is harmful. When the individual eats food containing that protein, the immune system releases massive amounts of chemicals, triggering symptoms that can affect a person’s breathing, gastrointestinal tract, skin and/or heart.

It is estimated that up to 2% of Australian adults and 1 in 10 infants aged 12 months are now food allergic and some of them will experience a life-threatening allergic reaction (anaphylaxis). Approximately 10 people die from anaphylactic reactions each year in Australia.

A severe allergic reaction usually occurs within 20 minutes to 2 hours of exposure to the trigger and if left untreated, can be fatal. Eating a small amount of food can trigger anaphylaxis and playing with toys or touching hands that have been contaminated by the food can cause a mild to moderate allergic reaction.

What are the main causes? There are nine foods that account for 90% of allergic reactions: peanuts, tree nuts (walnuts, almonds, cashews, pistachios, pecans etc.) fish, shellfish, eggs, milk, sesame, soy and wheat.

The other 10% are triggered by foods such as kiwi fruit, banana, chicken, mustard and celery. Peanuts are the leading cause of fatal food induced anaphylactic reactions. Currently, there is no cure for food allergy. Avoidance of the food is the only way to prevent a reaction.

Why is it important to know about anaphylaxis? Avoidance of known allergens is crucial in the management of anaphylaxis. Schools need to work with parents/guardians and children to minimise a child’s exposure to known allergens and reduce stigma, bullying and teasing that may result for some children. Knowledge of severe allergies will assist staff and students to better understand how to help children who are at risk of anaphylaxis.

How can anaphylaxis be prevented? The key to the prevention of anaphylaxis is:

✔ knowledge of children who are at risk,
✔ awareness of known allergens, and
✔ avoidance of exposure to known allergens

Some children wear a medical warning bracelet to indicate allergies.

How can I help? If your child suffers from any allergy, please inform the school and complete an Allergy Action Plan. If your child does not suffer from any allergy, please be aware that we have many students with this life threatening condition. Since avoidance is the only way to prevent a reaction, please consider other students when sending food to school, particularly by refraining from sending nut-containing foods.