Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to week 5 - Half way through the term.

As we celebrate Book Week this week I was thrilled to see so many families supporting and enjoying shared reading with their children; at school on Monday afternoon and last night in the library. All classes have enjoyed the art activities in the Library with Mrs Karen Pink and many students have taken the opportunity to take part in the library scavenger hunt, Guess the Reader competition, colouring competition and the video competition. This Friday will be the dress up parade and I encourage all students to get involved and have some fun. The theme is **Australia – Story Country**

In week 7 this term we will be having an enrolment census audit. This means that our enrolment data and documentation will be scrutinised by the department. I thought I would have a quick look at how we are travelling with attendance this term for the first four weeks. Our current data indicates that we have had 20 days of term 3, not including this week; there have been 481 recorded late arrivals, 586.5 absences with 194.5 of those absences being unexplained. The student day starts at 8.45am, the classes are open from 8.35am and I would like to encourage all families to have children in classrooms on time to begin the school day as it sets them up to be successful learners. Whenever a student is away we require a written reason which gets documented in roll books. We are mandated to record lateness and absences; these are also reported to you in the mid-year and end of year reports.

Next week year 3, 5 and 7 children will bring home their NAPLAN results. Please make contact with your child’s classroom teacher if there are concerns you would like to raise. I would like to take this opportunity to also remind families that the NAPLAN results are only a small part of the assessment and reporting we undertake at Mulga Street Primary School and that your child’s teacher will be able to assist you with ideas on how to help your child at home.

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>26th August</td>
<td>9am Dress Up Day Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Sept</td>
<td>2pm Assembly Yr 4/5 &amp; LC 14 &amp; LC15</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th Sept</td>
<td>Music is Fun Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th Sept</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th Sept</td>
<td>6pm Finance Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th Sept</td>
<td>7pm Governing Council Meeting</td>
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<td>30th Sept</td>
<td>End of term</td>
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**PUPIL FREE DAY – 12th SEPTEMBER**

Please note the proposed Pupil Free Day is confirmed but the date has changed to Monday 12th September.

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**LEARNING FOR LIFE**

Questions for you to ponder this week. How do you perceive failure? Do you like to fail? What do you feel like when you fail? How do you react when you fail at something? Do you fear failure?

We are finding that many children have a perception that failure is a bad thing. It is not a bad thing! It is an opportunity to learn. We all fell over when we began to walk, many times probably, but with positive encouragement and help we all learnt how to do it. We practised and practised until it became automatic. We don't even think about it now. This is how we want children to learn at school but somewhere on their learning journey many have learnt that failure is a bad thing and something to be ashamed of. We need to celebrate failure and encourage children to develop some academic resilience and persist.

Check out this video from the founder of Spanx.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=duExsPQoq5k

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**POSTING OF CHILDREN’S IMAGES ON INTERNET**

Whilst we want you to have memories of your children and encourage you to take those videos on your mobile device I would like to remind all families you need permission to post images of other peoples’ children on the internet. If all families could be aware of this and have these conversations with their
children as well; as they also need to seek permission to post images of other children online.

**Mulga Street Primary School**

**BANK DETAILS**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT AS OF OCTOBER 2015**

**THE SCHOOL’S NEW BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS HAVE CHANGED**

*Account Name:* Mulga Street Primary School Council Inc  
*Account Number:* 10362131  
*Bank:* Commonwealth Bank of Australia  
*BSB:* 065-504

**CLASS PLACEMENT 2017**

At the end of this term and over the first five weeks of Term 4, we begin the task of placing children into classes for 2017.

Many factors are taken into consideration by teachers - placement with friends; splitting children who do not work well together or who are too dependent on one another; gender balance; a balance within a class of academic abilities; children with special needs and behaviour issues, etc. 

Staff spend considerable time during the staff meetings to organise students in class groups. Once classes are finalised, then teachers are assigned to classes. This may not occur until the end of Term 4 or until the January holidays, if staff are not appointed until that time.

If parents believe they have information, **based on educational needs**, which will help with their child's placement, please put this information in a letter addressed to the Principal, marked 'Confidential'.

We cannot promise to meet every request; however the information will be taken into consideration.

I remind parents that this process is **NOT** about selecting class teachers but rather information to be considered. Ultimately we need to trust teachers, as the professionals, to make the most informed decisions about students' placement.

**All requests need to be received, in writing, at the school no later than Friday, September 30th**

It is essential that we know as soon as possible of any future enrolments for the Children's Centre and school ie: Reception children, children moving into the area, so these children can be included in future class placements.

We would also appreciate knowing if any families are planning to leave Mulga Street at the end of 2016 so these children are not included in our numbers for 2017 classes.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

*Household Batteries/Car Batteries* can be recycled by dropping them off to South East Battery Service 120 Penola Road.

*Ink Cartridges*, our school works with the "Close the Loop" program by collecting then recycling used ink cartridges. You are welcome to place your used cartridges in our collection boxes located in our front office.

*Old/Used Towels/TeaTowels* if you have old/used towels/teatowels which we could use as cleaning/drying cloths please bag up and leave at the front office. We use them to support our waste minimisation programs (ie food scrap to compost collection)

Gail Lewis

**SCOLIOSIS AUSTRALIA**

Scoliosis (spinal curvature) is an important health problem for adolescent girls and 25 per thousand are at risk of developing a significant curve. Three girls per thousand require active treatment (spinal brace or surgery). Because in the early stages the condition is most often asymptomatic, screen in the age range 11-13 years is a sound preventative health measure.

When school screening for scoliosis was abandoned the self-detection program was introduced as a practical alternative. The self detection brochure is available to download or view and can be accessed directly via a link on the Scoliosis Australia home page at www.scoliosis-australia.org

**LEARNING HUB CONCERT**

Main building learning hub concert tickets will go on sale September 5th from the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre. The following information applies to ticket sales:

- Box office hours for phone and counter sales are Monday to Friday 12.30pm to 4.30pm.
- The box office is open 1 hour prior to the advertised performance commencement time.
- Internet sales will commence at 9am on the day tickets go on sale.
- Please note that transaction fees apply: $2 online, $3.50 phone and counter sales, per transaction.

Safety, Trust, Respect
Each morning teachers are required to complete daily lateness and absentees in their roll book. I thought it was important for parents to have some understanding of the times and requirements involved in this process.

**Lateness/absenteeism**

**Lateness** - A child arriving to class after 8:45am is to be marked as late in the roll book, however will **not** be required to sign in at the Front Office.

**Sign in sheet** - A child arriving after 9:00am is marked as late in the roll book and is required to sign in at the Front Office.

**Morning absent** - A child arriving to class after 10:45am is to be marked as a morning absence in the roll book.

**Afternoon absent** - A child leaving class after 12 noon and not returning to school is to be marked as an afternoon absence in the roll book.

**Early departure** - A child leaving class after 2:30pm and not returning to school is to be marked as an early departure in the roll book.

Thanks

James Egan (School Counsellor)

**Parent club news**

Parent club are seeking donations for the sports day raffle. Non-perishable grocery, snack food hamper items or vouchers would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped into the front office.

A fundraising BBQ will be held at Coles on the morning of 24th September 9am - 5pm. If you are able to donate some time to help out on the day please contact the front office or Bec Radford on 0447036606.

**Shared reading night**

We had a fantastic turn out of around 140 children and their families for our shared reading night as part of our book week celebrations. Jess and Tim from Star FM were our guest readers. It was lovely to see so many people young and old share the joy of reading!!

**Canteen news**

**Special Lunch**

**Tuesday September 6th**

**Name:** __________________________

**Class teacher:** __________________

**Dippy Dog & Dixie Cup**

- □ Sauce □ No Sauce
- $5.00

**2 x Dippy Dogs & Dixie Cup**

- □ Sauce □ No Sauce
- $6.50

Orders & money are to be returned to the canteen by Friday September 2nd **before 1pm**

*No late orders can be accepted*
Reading and Writing in LH3A

Reading and Writing in Foundation is learned through many different approaches. Through explicit teaching, children learn the mechanics of reading and writing like phonics and punctuation. We also read many stories to investigate the literary side of reading and writing. We explore the works of different authors, look at the things they do “on purpose” to connect with their audience. Through Bookmaking, children explore being an author and learn to transfer these skills.

The Zoo Zoo
By Sara

Who is there?
By Teagan

Shakur, Sam and Hunter enjoy working collaboratively; sharing ideas and helping each other draw and write.

Students even experiment with punctuation when writing on whiteboards.
"We put in an ellipsis because if it was a book we would turn the page to see the surprise!"

Safety, Trust, Respect