Welcome to the first newsletter for 2015!

2015 has begun very smoothly with a large number of new students and their families welcomed into the Milpera community. With the move of Year 7 to high school, the Junior Secondary section of our school has grown dramatically in numbers and has spread out from B Block and surrounds into other parts of the school. Our talented and flexible staff and volunteers have welcomed the new students and made them feel safe and supported.

We have also welcomed a large number of students near the start of their journey into the English language. There are now a record number of classes at the Beginners and Post-Beginners level. We thank both the teacher aides and volunteers who help provide the intensive help crucial to success at this level of learning.

This term the school was a busy place. We have had a full program of swimming, a Stanley River Camp, boys and girls soccer matches against Yeronga and celebrated both International Women’s and Harmony Days. Of course, our core business has also taken place in the classrooms, the Library, the Maths, HOW and SAR Support rooms, the HEAL centre and the various offices of our counselling and support staff.

I congratulate our students on their engagement in the learning process.

I wish all members of the school community a safe and refreshing Easter break. See you next term!

Best wishes,

Tom Beck
(Principal)

Congratulations Mr. Gabriel Ukuno:
“2015 New Australian of the Year”!

At the 68th Australia Day dinner, Mr Gabriel Ukuno, formerly Milpera SHS Community Liaison Officer and now based at Yeronga SHS, was appointed the “2015 New Australian of the Year” in recognition of his wonderful work with the settlement, support, education and enrichment of the African community.

Photo: Ms Helen Byrne, Deputy Principal, Milpera SHS, Mr Gabriel Ukuno, & Mr Tom Beck, Principal
Milpera’s International Women’s Day Celebrations

On International Women’s Day we celebrate the achievements of women all over the world. This year’s theme was “Make it Happen”. On Wednesday a number of teachers and students attended the UN Women’s International Women’s Day Breakfast at the Convention Centre, and enjoyed the inspiring messages of the speakers. On Friday for our school celebration, we listened to presentations from inspiring women including Milpera graduates, culminating in a surprise parade of Somali student dancers and a circus stilt walker (Tanya from HEAL). The girls then participated in a variety of fun workshops, such as Nia dancing, Soccer, Yoga, Cooking, Bead-making, Fingernail art, and Henna painting.

Healthy Spaghetti Bolognese Recipe by Room 12

- 2 large onions
- 5 garlic cloves
- 3 large carrots
- 2 heads of broccoli
- 1 large can of tomatoes
- basil
- 800gm of mince
- tomato paste

Dice carrot, onion and garlic
Heat oil, Fry carrot, onion and garlic
Add mince – cook
Add diced broccoli – cook
Add large can of tomatoes
Add tomato paste, basil, ½ teaspoon sugar
Cook (simmer) 45 mins.

For the Pasta: Boil water, Add spaghetti
Cook 9-12 minutes
Serve with parmesan cheese

Queen’s Park Excursion Room 5

Recently room 5 students went to Queen’s Park by School bus to learn about animals. First we looked at animals and classified them into reptiles, mammals and birds. Next we went to the playground (below) and ate morning tea. Later we went to the Japanese Garden. I thought it was an interesting, fun and tiring day. I liked playing on the flying fox. It was so funny. Written By Aluat, Rm 5

Healthy Spaghetti Sauce Recipe tested by Room 12!

Harmony Day Barbecue

Our principal, Mr Beck and helpers cooked delicious sausages for the whole school on Harmony Day. Art students helped Ms Trujillo and Miss Chi create brilliant signage with handprints, to hang on the stage.

Lego Comes to Life!

This term Room 22 students have been creating stories using our school’s new Lego packs and software. These are the steps we took to make the narratives. Firstly, we made Lego characters and vehicles, following the instructions in the manual. Next, we created a setting for our stories, such as a city or a home. After that, we wrote our interesting stories together, then took photos of different scenes to match all the parts of the story. Finally, we used the Lego Story Starter software on the laptops to make our animated narratives!

by Ms Kristina Glasziou & Room 22

“Help-our-Writing”

In Room 13, Help-our-Writing volunteer tutors support the students with learning the structure of an Information Report. Researching facts, note taking, writing a first draft, editing and presenting an Information Report on “Whales” are some of the valuable skills embedded in this teaching and learning process.

Written by Ms Anna Andersen and Ms Catherine Nash, program coordinators

Stanley River Camp: Rooms 21 & 15

On the 11th March 2015, Room 21 and room 15 went to camp at the Stanley River EEC. The students were invited to learn how to canoe. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to be there and to learn something new about canoeing and how we work as a team. On the first day we took a P.F.D (life jacket) and paddle, and then we went to a cove for a practice lesson.

On the second day we woke up at 6am and had breakfast and then we got ourselves-ready to go to the lake. We had a long journey. We got tired and wet, but it was an amazing time because my teacher was on my boat too. The lake was beautiful and we saw kangaroos and the highlight was visiting an indigenous sacred site. In the evening we had fun watching a movie together. On the third day we made damper in a camp oven and painted boomerangs. It was a lovely time together. The camp was amazing I wish I could go again with my friends. We now know each other very well.

Written by: Salma Khaleel, Room 21

Poppies Project for Anzac Day

Milpera Art Students have all made an individual poppy to contribute to the “5000 Poppy Project” that will take place in Federation Square in Melbourne this year, commemorating 100 years of Anzac events throughout Australia. Thanks to the efforts of so many volunteers Australia-wide, the project will now total about 200,000 crafted poppies, stretching one kilometre. By Ms Carmen Aquilina & Ms Liana Trujillo

Ice Bags: A Big “Thank You” to Aaron from Room 7, who has been busily using the sewing machine to sew ice pack bags to cover the ice packs, so Milpera students can use them in a more hygienic way.
Juniors’ Progress: Room 11

This term Room 11 have studied about food, the body, feelings, classroom objects, telling the time and personal information. We have also learnt about the tuckshop and shopping. We practise speaking and buying food. By Room 11

Seniors’ Progress: Room 16

This is our classroom. The posters are on the wall. The maps are on the noticeboard. We use computers. They are on the tables. We sit next to our classmates. Volunteers help us. They sit beside us. We take photos. By Room 16

Fiery Milpera Soccer Fanatics

The junior boys and combined junior and senior girls’ Milpera soccer teams have been training fiercely for their games against arch rivals, Yeronga. Mr Luca Stefani has been coaching and drilling the junior boys team. The boys have been learning amazing skills and techniques from his expert coaching. Mr Luca has been pleased with the regular attendance and enthusiasm shown by the boys.

The combined junior and senior girls team have a core group of talented and determined players. They have been coached by Mr Ryan and have been working hard on improving their teamwork and soccer skills.

Both the boys and girls have shown great effort despite some training sessions being held in 35° heat. We all hope that their hard work will lead to a resounding Milpera victory against Yeronga!! Written by Mr. Ryan

Student Services Help in Block “N”

Our school Youth Health nurse, Ms Kirsten Anstey, and Student Counsellor and Student Welfare Worker, Mr Paul Toon, work from Student Services Block “N”, at the front of the school. Ms Kirsten (Tuesdays and alternating Wednesdays and Thursdays) can provide health information about: healthy eating, growth and development, feeling unhappy or stressed, relationships, sexual health, smoking, alcohol, drugs, personal and family problems.

Mr Paul Toon (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday), directly supports students with the challenges and opportunities they encounter during their transition into Australian society.

Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary Meets Room 6

In March, Room 6 students visited Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary. They learned a lot about Australian animals and enjoyed touching a koala, python and guinea pig, as well as sheep, sheep dogs and goats. They also liked feeding the kangaroos and the Rainbow Lorikeets. They all agreed that the excursion was a lot of fun. By Room 6

Milpera State High School
English Language Preparation Centre
2 Parker St
Chelmer 4068
Phone: 07 3270 3222
admin@milperashs.eq.edu.au
www.milperashs.eq.edu.au