Date Claimers:

**March 2016**
- Wed 23: Exit Parade
- Thurs 24: Last day of term 1
- Fri 25: Good Friday Easter holiday

**April 2016**
- Mon 11: First day of Term 2
- Tues 12: P & C mtg
- Mon 25: Anzac Day
- Wed 27-28: Toorkey Forest EEC

**May 2016**
- Mon 2: Labour Day holiday
- Fri 13: Boys to Men Day
- Mon 16: teachers’ Twilight PD
- Wed 18: Rail Safety
- Fri 20: Bris EEC
- Wed 25-27: Numinbah Camp
- Thurs 26: National “Sorry Day”

**June 2016**
- Tues 7: Science Show
- Tues 14: Bris EEC
- Thurs 23 Exit Parade
- 24 Last day of Term 1

**July 2016**
- Mon 11: First day of Term 3

Message from Ms Helen Byrne, Principal

During Term 1 Milpera SHS has welcomed 60 new students from these cultural groups. Thanks to all the teachers, teacher aides, students and volunteers who have welcomed them and assisted them to settle and learn. We hope they will enjoy learning English, and learning through English with other Milpera students during 2016. Next week we will say “Goodbye and Best Wishes” to 63 students who are exiting Milpera to continue their education at high school or TAFE.

At the beginning of Term 1 we also welcomed a new Acting Principal, Mr Glen Donald, to Milpera. Mr Donald has now moved to another position as Director of International Student Programs in Education Queensland International. We thank him for the work he did in the Milpera school community, and we wish him well in his new work.

During Term 1 there have been many events and learning opportunities for students as they settle and learn about building safe, successful and positive lives in Australia.

We celebrated the fact that Milpera students have been going to Roma Street Station each term for 10 years so that new students can learn how to keep safe and be considerate travellers on public transport in Brisbane. Thanks to Queensland Rail for their constant support to Milpera school community in providing this initiative.

This term we continued our swimming program, so that all students have had the opportunity to have 10 swimming lessons and can be safe around water, before they leave Milpera. We will continue this program because it is very important for newly arrived students and their families to have the skills to be water-safe.

Two classes have also had the opportunity for a 3 day camp at Stanley River Environmental Education Centre. This is a great opportunity for those students to learn English and to learn about the Australian environment through outdoor activities and teamwork.

_Helen Byrne (Acting Principal)_

**Photos:** International Women’s Day 2016 Girls’ activities

**ETHNICITY OF NEW STUDENTS**

- Ugandan
- Burmese
- Chinese
- South Sudanese
- Somali
- Lao
- Korean
- Japanese
- Indian
- Eritrean
- Ethiopian

_Ethnicity饼图_
International Women’s Day 2016 at Milpera

Our 2016 International Women’s Day celebrations were a great success, with girls’ workshops including venetian mask making, bead-making, henna designs, manicures, floral arrangements, vegetable stamping, pilates, yoga, rock wall climbing, cooking, and hat making!

Our inspirational speakers included Milpera graduates; Dream Philipda Phuwanitch and Masoumeh Ahmadi, (below).

Stanley River Exploration: Rooms 16 & 17

Rooms 16 and 17 went to the Stanley River Environmental Education Centre by bus, with Ms Hannigan, Ms Turner, and Mr Eddie. On the first afternoon we put on our life jackets and learnt to paddle the canoes. Three people paddled in each canoe, and two canoes were tied together, so we had to paddle together as a team. On the first night we went for a walk and looked up at the stars, and Mr Dave, the park ranger, told us the aboriginal legend about the three stars and the three brothers. On the second day we paddled all the way to the Jinibara Aboriginal special meeting place. The boys and the girls separated into two groups, and we learnt about Aboriginal traditional ways. We had lunch there and paddled back to camp. On the third day we stayed at camp and played team-building games and cooked damper. We had a great time, and we learnt that communicating and working as a team is the best strength that we can have. by Room 17

Celebrating 10 years of Rail Safety Training

Room 11 had a great time at Rail Safety Training. We learned a lot, like always stand behind the yellow line. It was also a special day, 10 years of Milpera students learning about Rail Safety. There was a cake and speeches. By Rm 11

Term 1 Successful Swimming Lessons!

Swimming lessons were the focus of this term’s HPE classes, which involved a whopping 100 lessons over 5 weeks for 10 Post Beginner and Secondary Prep 1 classes. A big “Thank You” to HPE teacher Mr Danny Parker, the dedicated staff at Dunlop Memorial Pool, and all the Milpera staff who facilitated these crucial steps in water safety for our students.
Toohey Forest Experiments with pond water quality

On Tuesday, Room 7 and Room 4 went to Toohey Forest by bus. We went there to learn about insects and water quality. Ms T showed us how to catch animals using a net in the pond. Then we caught so many toads in the pond. After that Ms T used a small computer that can show the oxygen level of the pond water, and the computer said that the oxygen level of the pond was low. Then she used the Turbidity measuring tube to see how clear the pond was. Everyone looked at the Tube to check if they could see the lines at the bottom of the tube. It said that the turbidity of the pond was 67, that means “high”. After lunch we examined the specimens that we had caught in the pond. We used a pipette and spoon to catch the animals in the tray and put them in the specimen tray or Zoo. Then we observed the animals by using a microscope. Next we drew the animals. Afterwards I felt tired but happy. The best part of the day was using the microscopes. **By: Charles Room 7**

### Water Quality Results from the Toohey Forest pond:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Level</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low quality water (poor)</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium quality water (average)</td>
<td>4-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High quality water (good)</td>
<td>7-10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Milpera’s Community Vegetable Garden

Autumn has arrived! March, April and May are our three months of autumn, and that means it’s time to be in the vegetable garden planting seeds. During February our students were busy tidying, weeding and mulching the garden beds. We have now planted seeds of climbing beans, bok choi, mizuna, tatsoi, silver beet, tomatoes and marigolds. It will be wonderful to now watch the seeds grow into plants of nourishing food. Our big compost bin continues to work at breaking down all the raw food scraps from the tuckshop to make a rich composted soil. The garden is a place of colour, growth, happiness and learning. Come have a look! **Written by Ms Liz Knight**

At Home in HEAL

The HEAL building is a place for students to visit at morning tea or lunchtime. A peaceful place; it has books, magazines, chess and drawing things to enjoy. If you want to run and jump and make a lot of noise, it’s not for you. If you would like a quiet place to play your music, spend time in the breaks, draw or talk, come on in. Bring your lunch.

Some lucky students also go to groups or see therapists in sessions in HEAL during class time. These sessions help us know ourselves better, manage our feelings well, and become better learners. This is all done with music and art therapy! Our therapists are Ms Cate, Ms Jane, Ms Kylie and Ms Veronica. Ms Katherine is also in HEAL this year, studying for University. Mr Abdul helps us all, students and therapists alike! **By Ms Jane Griffin, HEAL Coordinator**

Mt Coot-tha Views

This term, Room 6 students went on an excursion to Mt Coot-tha and the Botanic Gardens. At the lookout, they drew a picture of Brisbane city, the Brisbane River, mountain ranges and forests. After lunch by the lake in the Botanic Gardens, they visited the Japanese Gardens, the Tropical Dome and went on a rainforest walk to learn about how Aborigines use the trees, flowers and plants there. They learnt a lot and had a good time together. **Written by Ms Joy Fowler, Rm 6 English teacher**

Miss Kiki’s Word Parties

Award-winning writer Ms Kirsten Fogg, also called “Miss Kiki,” comes to the library as a volunteer every Wednesday lunchtime to run creative writing sessions that are fun for everyone. Miss Kiki helps the writers to turn their new words into a poem or reflection, focusing on pronunciation, rhyming words, spelling and just having a great time with the English language. Everyone is welcome!
Should Animals be kept in Cages?

Room 5 went to Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary to take a look at this issue. We thought animals should be kept in zoos for the following reasons:

- Zoos are interesting places to visit
- Animals have a safe place to live in a zoo
- You can learn about animals and how to take care of them
- Animals are easy to see in a zoo but hard to see in the wild.

Written by Room 5

Exploring the City

On Tuesday 16th February, Room 18 and Room 8 went on an excursion to the city. We visited Southbank, Roma Street Parklands, and Brisbane City. We went there to look and learn about the City. It was fantastic. By Rooms 18 & 8.

Somali Family Link Day Success

Our Somali Family Link morning was a great success with over 30 family members, Somali elders, representatives from MDA and TAFE joining us in discussing the important roles families play in creating success in their young person’s educational experience and beyond. Feedback from families suggest that there was much gained and particularly for some who were involved in classroom activities. Success in education is a partnership. Written by Ms Janelle Patterson

HPE lessons undercover

This summer on rainy or excessively hot days, sports lessons conducted undercover include hockey on wheels (see photo above, for Room 5 with HPE teacher Ms Hannah Turner), table tennis, and other fast-paced exciting team games.

"Autumn Free"

by James, Rm 5

F for friendly
R for respect
I for important
E for easy
N for nice
D for dancing
S for support