Milpera Volunteer News ~ September 2013

The goal of this bulletin is to share timely news, dates, and happenings about and concerning the Milpera State High School community. If you have received this document in error and/or you wish to unsubscribe, please email mmclos@eq.edu.au

Diary Dates

- Thursday 19th September - Exit ceremony. All welcome!
- Friday 20th September - Last day of Term 3
- Tuesday 8th October - Return for Term 4
- Monday 21st October – Pupil Free Day – NO VOLUNTEERS
- FHEAL Launch – Saturday 2nd November
- Volunteer Morning Tea – Wednesday 6th November
- Volunteer Christmas Lunch – Friday 6th December – 12.30pm
- Last day for volunteers – Tuesday 10th December
- Thursday 12th December – Exit ceremony – Term 4

News from Milpera!

Art News

Pottery work by Milpera students, under the guidance of our creative and enthusiastic art teacher, Liana Trujillo, will be on display from September 2013 to January 2014 in the Queensland Museum coffee shop. Make sure you look out for it if you are visiting the museum over this period.

Library Refurbishment

Milpera is taking the opportunity to redesign the library to cater for the different needs of students in this technological age. With most classrooms now featuring computers and many students now having access to laptops, there is no need for fixed computer rooms. The library needs rather to be a flexible learning space for both students and staff. It will be interesting to see how the working party, made up of teachers, redesigns this space.

Gym Opening

On Wednesday 10 July, a new gym for students was opened. The gym is situated in the open learning area located between Room 23 and the Volunteer’s room. Our entrepreneurial sports teachers, Jonathon and Emily, sourced equipment from eBay as well as seeking donations. Many students have asked for help in joining gyms and accessing fitness equipment and we are hoping this meets the needs of these and other students. As the connection
between physical activity and mental health is well documented, we hope that this initiative results in benefits for many of our students.

**Cooks in the Kitchen**

A group of students signed up to attend cooking classes with teacher, Sonya Neville, every Wednesday afternoon after school. It is hoped that these students come away with the knowledge that cooking healthy and delicious meals and snacks need not be expensive or difficult. It certainly looks as if all the students enjoyed themselves in the kitchen!

**Science Week**

During the week 12 to 16 August Milpera celebrated Science Week with a variety of activities to engage students and encourage their interest in Science. Julie Peel organised the students to race mousetrap vehicles on the tennis court, compete in an ‘egg drop’ from the second story of B Block, launch rockets on the tennis court and suck hard boiled eggs into bottles (I wonder how they got them out?). The library was the scene of Lego building at lunch times as well as being the home to a display of Australian native animals by the library staff. All in all, a successful week of fun and learning!

**HPE Week**

Not to be outdone by the science teachers, our energetic HPE teachers, Jonathon and Emily, organised a week of physical activity to celebrate HPE week from September 2 to 6. Students were involved in a circuit challenge, footy toss, juggling, hooping and skipping tournaments and Touch rugby. A competition to name the new school gym and to design a logo for it, kept creative students busy as well.

**Ekka**

On Friday 10 August, the whole school went on excursion to the Ekka accompanied by their teachers and teacher aides. Our students visited the various animal displays and produce pavilions and marvelled at the rides in
sideshow alley. The students enjoyed this opportunity to learn whilst also having fun with their classmates.

**Surf Safety Program**

Surf safety was on the agenda again for all exiting classes on 27th August. It was great to see students fully engaged in listening to this important information that may one day save their lives.

**FHEAL Launch**

You are invited to celebrate the launch of the new FHEAL charity! Come along and enjoy art, music, live entertainment and a silent auction at our inaugural event, helping FHEAL to support refugee well-being through the provision of art therapy and music therapy. The launch will take place at Milpera on Saturday 2 November from 7pm til 9.30 pm. Tickets are available from the office at Milpera for $40.00 which includes a complimentary drink and finger food.

**Signing In**

When you arrive at school, please remember to sign on in the Volunteer Sign In Register in the Volunteer Room or in Room 13 (For SAR and HOW volunteers). This is a very important measure for your safety to ensure that you are covered by Public Liability Insurance whilst you are at Milpera.

**Fire Evacuation Plan**

There is a fire evacuation plan displayed near the door in every classroom. If there is a fire, or a drill, please follow this plan as directed by the teacher. If you are with a class, you will go with them to the school oval. Once at the oval, please look for the volunteer sign which will be behind the classes and assemble there, so that you can be accounted for.

**Volunteer Christmas Lunch**

Following the success of last year’s Christmas lunch, we have rebooked the same venue for our celebration this year on **Friday 6th December at 12.30pm**. Further details will be provided as the day draws closer. Please keep the date free, if possible.
With thanks

Thank you so much to the many volunteers who brought in warm clothes and blankets over the winter. Hopefully many of our students enjoyed warm nights as a result. Thank you also to the volunteers who have donated sporting equipment and children’s clothes for some of our students’ families.