Electronic Payment of Voluntary Contributions - can be made to BSB: 066-109 Account #: 00900114 using the narration ‘fees and your child’s full name’.

From the Principal’s Desk
We wish to thank the many staff and volunteers involved in the co-curricular offerings available to our students and families in Term 2.

Activities such as Run Club, Jump Jam, Interschool Sport Training and the Parent Information Session provide a fantastic opportunity for families to connect with other members of our school community and promote a positive attitude to learning and participation. We encourage all families to participate in these activities.

Last Chance - School Photo Order Forms Due Tomorrow
Midland Photographers will visit the school on Monday May 16th (Kindy Red and PP-6) and Tuesday May 17th (Kindy Blue and Green).

If you wish to purchase photos your order envelopes must be completed and returned with full payment to the school office by tomorrow, Wednesday 11th of May.

Interschool Winter Sport Competition
Caversham Primary School will again be competing in the Interschool Winter Sports competition. Teams will compete in Football, Soccer and Netball. Games commence at 1.15pm and students will return to school by 3pm.

Fixtures -
Round 1 - Friday 27th of May  Caversham v Woodbridge @ Caversham Primary School
Round 2 - Friday 10th June  Caversham v Herne Hill @ Herne Hill Primary School
Round 3 - Friday 17th June  Caversham v Lockridge @ Caversham Primary School

Training sessions are being conducted by supervising staff and volunteers. Training session details and permission slips were sent home with participants last week. Permission slips and information for travel to and from the away fixture will be sent home shortly. A charge of $3.00 is required to assist with the cost of the bus.

PEAC Testing Year 4
The Department of Education has postponed the scheduled Year 4 Term 2 Primary Extension and Challenge (PEAC) test. A new assessment process is being developed. Identification of students to participate in PEAC in Year 5, 2017 will take place later in the school year.

Parent Information Session – Reading (Kindy-Yr2)
A parent information session will be held on Wednesday the 25th of May from 9am to 10.20am in the Library. We encourage all parents with children from Kindy to Year 2 to attend the session.

The session will be hosted by Mrs Jain and Ms Matthis and will provide valuable information to assist parents to support their child/ren in the learning areas of reading and reading comprehension.

Please complete the RSVP slip below and return to the office by Friday the 20th of May. Morning tea will be provided. Supervision will be provided for younger siblings. Please RSVP to assist us with catering and supervision requirements.

RSVP Parent Information Session – Reading (K-Yr2) 25th May 2016
I will be attending the Parent Information Session on Wednesday the 25th of May 2016 at 9am in the Library.

Parent Name - _____________________________ My Child’s Name - _____________________________ Room - _____
Absentee Letters

Parents of students with unexplained absences are reminded to please complete and return to your child’s classroom teacher the follow-up letter sent home with your child last week. Accurate recording of student attendance is crucial.

To get the most out of a good education, children need to go to school every day. School attendance has a major influence on educational outcomes. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve better results at school and are more likely to complete their schooling. Missing an average of ten days of school a term adds up to missing two full years of schooling by the end of Year 10.

Autism Awareness Week

To highlight Autism Awareness Week (2\textsuperscript{nd} April - Friday 8\textsuperscript{th} of April), students in Years 5 and 6 participated in an information session presented by Autism Awareness of Western Australia representative, Kelly Milne. Awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorder is growing, most likely many families would be familiar with the world wide ‘Light it Up Blue’ campaign on the news recently.

Following are some commonly held beliefs about ASD which are untrue -

\textit{Myth: ASD is a behavioural or mental health issue}
\textbf{The Facts:} ASD is a developmental disorder. In children with ASD, the brain develops differently to typically developing children, affecting many areas of development. No two children with ASD are the same but research has shown, with some children, there are marked differences to their typically developing peers in brain size and connectivity at certain stages of development.

\textit{Myth: All people with ASD have the same skills and difficulties}
\textbf{The Facts:} Although people with ASD share difficulties in the core areas of social-communication and restricted and restrictive behaviours and sensory processing, every person with ASD is unique and has different abilities and interests. Many positive characteristics are common in people with ASD such as the ability to focus intently on detail and learn about topics of interest.

\textit{Myth: Children with ASD are more aggressive than their peers}
\textbf{The Facts:} As with other children there are those with ASD who may shout or hit out when they are distressed, but this is certainly not the case for all children. When it does occur, this challenging behaviour is often related to a lack of alternative skills, or difficulties coping in the sensory environment, regulating emotions or communicating needs. In some cases a child with ASD may show interest in the reactions of other people who are hurt or upset, but the child may not understand what these emotions mean. Challenging behaviours are often a communication of last resort. It is rare for a child with ASD to intentionally cause harm to another person.

\textit{Myth: People with ASD do not experience the full range of emotions}
\textbf{The Facts:} People with ASD may have difficulty expressing emotions, or may express them in a different way. Children with ASD experience the full range of emotions. It is common for people with ASD to have difficulty recognizing and interpreting the emotions of others which can lead to misunderstanding when others assume they know how another person is feeling.

Children with ASD can build skills and learn to respond to other people in ways that are more typical or expected. Children with ASD can and do show physical affection but often on their own terms. For some children, typical means of showing affection are more difficult, such as maintaining eye gaze and physical contact.

\textit{Myth: ASD is caused by parenting style}
\textbf{The Facts:} ASD is not caused by parents. We do not yet know the causes of ASD definitely; however, the research that has been conducted does not support the view that parenting style can cause ASD. It is likely that there are several causes including brain development and genetic factors.

Because of difficulties with sensory processing and communication, some children with ASD respond negatively to some typical parenting behaviours, such as touch and hugs, and may require direct communication in order to understand others. When parents adapt their behaviour to respond to their child’s needs it may appear unusual to others, but it is important not to assume that the parenting style is causing the child’s difficulties.

\textit{Myth: The incidence of ASD is rapidly increasing}
\textbf{The Facts:} The way ASD is diagnosed has changed; we now recognize a wider range of characteristics as forming part of the autism spectrum. It is likely that many children who have an ASD diagnosis today would not have met the diagnostic criteria if they were assessed against our previous definitions of Autism. Also, as awareness increases, parents and professionals are better able to identify early signs of ASD and are more likely to seek an ASD assessment. There is not enough evidence at this stage to say that the incidence of ASD is increasing.
**Kids Matter - This Term’s Focus: Self Awareness**

Friendly Schools Plus is a program designed to help all members of the school community, to the development and maintenance of a friendly and safe school culture. The Program will be taught by the classroom teachers and will cover the following areas - **Self Awareness**, Social Awareness, Self-management, Responsible decision-making and Relationship skills.

This program provides a variety of whole-school initiatives to increase understanding and awareness of bullying; increase communication about bullying; promote adaptive responses to bullying; promote peer and adult support for students who are bullied; and promote peer as well as adult discouragement of bullying behaviour.

The program also addresses research evidence suggesting that the development of resilience, positive self-esteem, empathy, cooperation, friendship skills, social skills, self-management skills, decision making, emotional management and conflict resolution can help to protect people from the harmful effects of bullying, as well as helping them to build positive peer relationships.

**This term the classes will be looking at Self Awareness providing students with skills to help recognise and understand their feelings, while valuing their strengths and abilities. This involves;**

- Being able to identify what we are feeling
- Understanding why we might feel a certain way
- Recognising and having confidence to use our strengths and abilities

**Honour Certificates**

Congratulations to our honour certificate recipients.

**School Banking**

I representative from the Commonwealth Bank School Banking Program will be attending assembly on **Monday the 23rd of May 2016**.

School Banking Co-ordinator, Fiona Daddow and the representative from the Commonwealth Bank will be available immediately after assembly in the Library to assist parents with opening an account. If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child please bring along your current driver’s licence or another form of photo identification.

**“Active Kids are Smarter Kids”**

**National Walk Safely to School Day**

National Walk Safely to School Day is on Friday 20 May 2016. Now is the 17th year where all primary children and the community are encouraged to commute safely.

As Australian children are becoming less active we are seeking ways to incorporate exercise into daily routines. Our school will support walking safely to school on 20th May, organised Run Club twice a week before school, Jump Jam Club twice a week during lunch as well as regular PE classes.

Please support your child and join us in walking safely to school on Friday 20th May. Some people may find the distance from home to be daunting; we suggest driving some of the way before parking then walking the rest of the distance. Teach your child the importance of exercise and safety!

**Reminder - School Development Day, 3rd June 2016**

A quick reminder for parents/guardians that Friday the 3rd of June is a School Development Day for Caversham Primary School. Students do not attend school on this day. This coincides with the Western Australia Day public holiday, providing families with a 4-day long weekend.
**Reminder Hills Discovery Excursion – 19th May 2016**

Our Pre Primary-Yr 6 excursion on the 19th of May to the Hills Discovery Centre integrates WA Curriculum learning requirements and also highlights this year’s theme of National Reconciliation Week 2016;

A reminder that excursion permission slips and payment are due. Please send them in to your classroom teacher promptly.

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**Kiara College Year 5/6 Parent Information Sessions**

Kiara College is hosting parent information sessions for parents of students in Years 5 and 6.

**Tuesday 17th May 2016**

Session 1: 9.30-10.30am  
Session 2: 12 noon - 1pm  
Session 3: 3.30-4.30pm

**Wednesday 24th May 2016**

Session 1: 9.30-10.30am  
Session 2: 12 noon - 1pm  
Session 3: 3.30-4.30pm

Light refreshments served

Location: Staffroom, Kiara College, 368 Benara Road, Kiara.

**Further Enquiries:**

Richard, Kardol@education.wa.edu.au  
or call (08) 9378 0200