PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

CARITAS FUNDRAISING
Thank you to the students, staff and families for supporting the annual Caritas Appeal. This year we raised $610. Thank you Mr Muto for coordinating the Caritas fundraising this term.

INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Congratulations to our Interschool Swimming Squad who put in an outstanding effort at the recent Interschool Swimming Carnival. Our students won the Aggregate Shield and came second out of all the school who participated in the carnival. A huge achievement. I would like to express my appreciation to the school captains who showed great leadership skills on the day. The results the students achieved at the carnival are a reflection of the hard work, expertise and dedication of Mr Rob Debowski who generously made time before school to train the team. Thank you Rob. We are very blessed to have Rob in our school.

STAFFING UPDATE
We wish Mrs Sue Pantano a wonderful break during Term 2 while she is on long service leave. Miss Vittoria Brennan has been appointed as the Year 2B teacher for Term 2.

CHANGE OF UNIFORM
A reminder that the students commence wearing their winter uniform from the first day of Term 2 and there will be a 2 week grace period for change over of uniforms.

ICAS COMPETITION
Parents at the beginning of 2016 it was decided that the school would discontinue participating in the ICAS Competition. This was done for the following reasons:

- Teachers find ICAS disruptive to classroom teaching and planned programs: it requires students to be absent from the regular classroom lessons for extended periods of time. If a child undertakes several of the ICAS tests, this can mean a number of hours out of class over a term.
- ICAS costs the school money to administer: the school needs to pay a relief teacher to release a member of staff from their regular duties to supervise and direct the students during test times; staff must undertake other administrative duties around advertising, payment, timing, availability of suitable testing rooms and the distribution of materials and results.
- Through NAPLAN and our school-based standardized testing we already have a number of tests that help us assess student progress.
- As only a small percentage of students in Upper Primary undertake the ICAS, it is not a useful source of data for teachers to monitor progress, nor does it link tests to show progress or student growth.
- The ICAS tests are not based on the Western Australian Curriculum and results may prove an unreliable indicator of student achievement as they do not allow for the differences in sequencing and content of the curriculum between Australian States.
- Through YEP (Yidarra Extension Program), which was established in 2015, we offer students a number of educational opportunities beyond the standard curriculum, including spelling, writing and maths competitions.
- ICAS, does not provide a rich and stimulating learning experience. The full and broad school curriculum requires that we select high quality and comprehensive learning opportunities for our students.
- ICAS can offer students who do well, opportunities for rewards through medals, certificates and recognition, however, the limited cohort of children who undertake ICAS in Australian schools does not reflect achievement against a standard year group or known cohort.

With regard to parents organizing for students to complete ICAS themselves, unfortunately this is not possible. According to the ICAS website: “Entry to ICAS is school-based only. EAA is unable to accept requests from parents to enroll their child into an ICAS subject unless the child is schooled in a registered home school. This restriction would be to ensure that all the tests are conducted in as standardized an environment as possible.

I hope this helps to clarify our position with regard to ICAS going forward. It was not a decision taken lightly by the school, but was agreed upon by staff.

TERM DATES
The students will return to school on Tuesday 26th April after the holidays. We wish all of our staff and students a well-deserved holiday and we look forward to your safe return to school in Term 2.

God bless,
Carmel Costin
Principal
P&F NEWS

P&F MEETING
The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27 April in the Library at 7.30pm. As always everyone is welcome!

THE ENTERTAINMENT BOOK IS BACK!!
See page 4 for more details.

CAR PARK RAFFLE TERM 2 2016
This has now been extended to Term 2 and will be drawn on Tuesday, 26 April. If you have not purchased your ticket, please drop off by no later than 8.40am in the office.

FOOTY TIPPING

ROUND 2 RESULTS
This week Ben Grant was the overall winner with 9 correct tips! Very impressive for the first round Ben.
The winners per category:
- Kindy-Year 2 - Alexander P (1B) $15
- Year 3-6 - Riley A (4B) $15
- Adult - Bruce Johnson $20

PE NEWS

CPSSA INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL
On Tuesday 5 April Yidarra competed at the CPSSA Swimming Carnival held at Rockingham Aquatic Centre. All the students' hard work has paid off! Overall Yidarra came 2nd to St Bernadette’s (three stream school) and we won the Aggregate Shield which is the best school based on student’s numbers! It was a wonderful day filled with many outstanding achievements.

Congratulations go to:
- Ethan D in Year 6 who placed first in all his races and was awarded Champion Boy for Year 6.
- Cooper B in Year 4 who placed first in all his races and was awarded Champion Boy for Year 4.
- Captains Ethan D, Jasymne B and Mairead C.
- To all other swimmers and reserves who gave it their all, both in the pool and on the side lines.

All students should be extremely proud of themselves as I am so proud of you and all your efforts.

ROB DEBOWSKI
PE Teacher

GARDEN CLUB
This is an open invitation to parents, friends, and students who will be interested in an afternoon Garden Club right here at Yidarra.

We have some great vegetable beds outside the Junior Atrium in need of some love and care.
Garden experience is not required, just enthusiasm!

Please email Frances Simmons frances_peta83@hotmail.com for further information, or leave your details at the front office.

LEEMING DENTIST SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLOSURE
In a DENTAL EMERGENCY please phone the following clinics:
- Monday 11 April - Friday 15 April, 8am-4pm, please phone Caralee DTC on : 9337 6818
- Monday 18 April - Friday 22 April, 8am-4pm, please phone Beaconsfield DTC on : 9335 8758

For afterhours Emergencies please phone : 9325 3452
2016 INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
LITERACY AND NUMERACY 2016

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment of all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students are expected to participate in the testing. They will be assessed in language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation), writing, reading and numeracy.

What will be tested?
The content of each test is informed by the Australian Curriculum (English and Mathematics).

Language Conventions: students identify and correct spelling errors and answer questions on aspects of grammar and punctuation.

Writing: students write a text in response to a given stimulus. They are assessed on the quality and organisation of ideas, structuring of sentences and use of correct spelling and punctuation.

Reading: students read a number of short texts and answer questions to show understanding of the texts.

Numeracy: Number and Algebra; Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.

The NAPLAN tests are designed to complement the regular assessments made by teachers throughout the year.

What are the benefits of NAPLAN?
The test results provide a snapshot of a student’s achievement in comparison to all students of the same year level across the country. They assist teachers to better identify students who require additional support or enrichment. Students and parents can use individual results to discuss achievements with teachers. The tests allow the progress of each student to be monitored over time.

The results support schools to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs. State and territory departments of education gain information to help them evaluate programs and allocate resources.

Who administers the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or the principal.

When will the tests be held?
The tests are scheduled for the mornings of Tuesday 10 May, Wednesday 11 May and Thursday 12 May 2016. All schools across Australia must complete the tests on the same day. The times shown below are student working times. Additional time is allocated for instructions.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year group</th>
<th>Tuesday 10 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 May</th>
<th>Thursday 12 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Language Conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy 45 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Language Conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Language Conventions 45 minutes Writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 60 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy Calculator allowed 40 minutes Non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Language Conventions 45 minutes Writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy Calculator allowed 40 minutes Non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
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Can I help my child prepare for the tests?
The provision of comprehensive teaching and learning programs is the best preparation that schools can provide for their students. Schools will ensure students are familiar with the format, language, response types and time constraints of the tests.

Sample questions can be accessed at nap.edu.au/plan/hta-tests.html on the national NAPLAN website.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.

What additional support can schools provide to enable students to participate?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN. Students with disability or who have a temporary injury will be provided with assistance during the tests as specified in the National Protocols for Test Administration.

Formal exemptions may be granted for students with disability, or who have recently arrived in Australia and are from a non-English-speaking background.

Parents also have the right to withdraw their child from the tests. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, you must sign a parent or carer consent form. Please contact your school principal for more information.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
Your child’s NAPLAN report will be issued through your school in mid-August. The report will be accompanied by an information brochure. All students’ individual results are strictly confidential.

If you have not received your child’s report, please contact the school.

Where can I get more information?
You can get more information on the NAPLAN testing process by:

- contacting your child’s school
- accessing the NAPLAN website and the MySchool website http://edu.au myschool.edu.au
- accessing the School Curriculum and Standards Authority website scsa.wa.edu.au/Internet/Item_R100/NAPLAN
- phoning the office of your child’s sector or system Public Schools (including PSS): 9442 4061 Catholic Schools: 8136 5302 Non-Government Independent Schools: 9441 1678
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<th>200+ Casual Dining Offers!</th>
<th>250+ Takeaway and Attraction Offers!</th>
<th>2,000+ Retail and Travel Offers!</th>
<th>30+ Dining and Attraction Offers in Bali!</th>
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Name: ________________________________________________________________ Phone: __________________________ Email: ________________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________ State: __________________________ Postcode: __________________________

Payment (please circle) Cash Mastercard Visa Cheque (cheques payable to Yidarra P&F)

Credit Card number: __________ / __________ / __________ / __________ Expiry date: _______ / _______ CVV*: _______

Cardholder’s name: __________________________________________________________ Signature: __________________________

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