Congratulations to our Award winners this week. It has been very pleasing to see so many students receive Principal, Music and Art Awards to celebrate their achievements. Positive Behaviour Awards and wrist bands were awarded to students for being Respectful this week. Please encourage your child to wear their Positive Behaviour wristbands. Thank you to Rivers and Jaime-Lee for helping to run the assembly on Tuesday with so many certificates to read and hand out.

Darren Jones, our Wellbeing Co-ordinator, meets regularly with teachers and education support staff to implement the third year of Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS). Darren is supported by a SWPBS team of teachers who meet regularly to promote SWPBS throughout the school. New staff to the school will complete training for SWPBS with the completion of online modules.

“Mildura Specialist School aims to provide a safe, respectful and inclusive learning environment, with a focus on developing individual responsibility and student social and academic growth.”

On Monday 22 February teachers attended a training day for the new Victorian Curriculum which will replace AusVELS in 2017. Other schools from the district were invited to attend. The day was very informative with teachers learning about the structure of the curriculum and how assessment tools can be used for targeted teaching. Teachers are currently finalising Individual Learning Plans using the new curriculum. This year curriculum codes will be included in Individual Learning Plans.

Teams are organising family get togethers. We hope to see you there. Please come along to meet other families and staff.

Marg Curran
Principal
MULTI SENSORY NEWS

This term students in Multisensory have been working on their topic of "All About Me". Activities have included painting, with students using their hands and feet to paint with. This has been a lot of fun for students, but created a lot of mess for staff!! Students have also made choices about the paint colour and objects to paint with. Students have been exposed to a range of scents; including rosewater, lemon, vanilla and chocolate. Vanilla was a standout favorite amongst students, while Jaffa was the least popular.

In Circle Time, students have been choosing friends to say "good morning" to. Some students are able to verbalise their choice, some have picked up a photo of their friend, while others simply looked at the person. This has allowed students to participate and engage in Circle Time.

EARLY YEARS NEWS

In Early Years we have been practicing being respectful and staying safe. Students have been demonstrating their understanding by following instructions, looking after equipment and using it safely. We have been looking at members of our families and their roles and responsibilities.

Just a reminder, Preps will be staying at school for whole days starting March 1.

Annabel and Jayda using the play equipment safely.

LOWER MIDDLE YEARS

In Lower Middles we have been learning about our universe. Room 7 compared the size of the planets and used fruit to look at how different they are. If Jupiter was the size of a watermelon our Earth would be as small as a cherry tomato!! We enjoyed eating the fruit after we'd finished. We also compared the sizes of people in our class. Nathaniel is the tallest and Lachlan is the shortest.
**UPPER MIDDLE YEARS**

Upper Middle Years ILS Room have been working on their Independent Living Skills over the last few weeks. They are learning to sweep, hang out the washing, cook their lunch and make the bed. Each Room is also preparing for our Family Night on March 17. We are hoping to see lots of families for a fun picnic evening.

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**LATER YEARS NEWS**

Thank you again to all the families who are attending the Student Support Group meetings and making plans for this year and beyond. Teachers are now busy learning about the new Victorian Curriculum, using this to write Individual Learning Plans and completing Term Planners for exciting learning opportunities. VCAL students are busy organising the Family Fun Night which will be held at Irymple Lawn Bowls Club on Thursday 17 March. Please put this date in your diaries. Planning for this event is completed during Personal Development Skills, Numeracy and Literacy, with students working towards a great event and some outcomes for their modules. The Personal and Applied Learning (PAL) class has been working together to prepare nutritious lunches. This week they made fried rice. Vocational and Applied Learning (VAL) students are integrating into programs across Later Years; three assisted with Canteen last Friday. Well done to Ben who was ‘Aussie of the Month’ for February. Matty on the mower during Horticulture, Lauren preparing coffee during Café, Nick E flexing muscles at gym and Angus eating his fried rice.

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**Student Representative Council SRC News**

As part of Harmony Month in March we are planning a special day on 21 March 2016 which is Harmony Day. Students will be asked to dress in orange or to represent a country/culture. Classes will take part in games and activities organized by SRC and also by class teachers. The purpose of the day is to come together in peace and celebrate our diversity. Students are investigating applying for a grant to purchase new bike racks. It would be great if more students rode to school. We will also be using the racks to make the school bikes more conveniently accessible for classes partaking in Bike Riding Classes or fitness sessions using the school bikes. Each week we do a co-operative activity or a discussion on being a leader of our school.

Students made the letters of SRC

Rivers and Nathan answering questions such as “Who are great leaders?” and “What have I done as a leader this week?”
Next term our school will be focusing on learning about being Respectful. Each classroom will have a number of lessons they will be teaching with rewards for students following our school values. During assemblies some students will receive certificates and wrist bands. If your child has a wrist band they are encouraged to wear them to school as there is a competition running for students spotted wearing the bands. We hope these four students enjoy their Inflatable world vouchers and we look forward to seeing everyone continuing to wear their wrist bands.

Attached is a reward chart that many teachers are using in their classroom which may be suitable for home. It also shows the language students are hearing at school.
## OUR SWP PBS
School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

### VALUES

#### BE RESPECTFUL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>Icon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Be on time</td>
<td>Clock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use kind words</td>
<td>Arrow to self</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow class rules</td>
<td>People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use an inside voice</td>
<td>Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Look after equipment</td>
<td>Classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep personal space</td>
<td>Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow instructions</td>
<td>Communication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Be Healthy Be Active

Breakfast Popsicles

Ingredients

Yoghurt (vanilla)
Fruit, thin sliced (I used kiwi, strawberries and blueberries) canned fruit or oranges and lemons

Directions
Add a little yogurt to mould, slide fruit slices down the sides if you want them to show and look pretty. Add more yogurt and them more fruit until mould is full.
Note: You can also chop your fruit into small pieces and combine it with the yogurt- then pour into moulds and freeze. Remove from mould and serve with granola if desired.

PRIVATE CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

If you transport your child to and from school by private car and reside over 4.8km from the school, you are entitled to apply for Conveyance Allowance. Applications for the first instalment close on 4 March 2016. Please call into the office to fill out a form.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUNDS (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) commenced in 2015 for four years and will provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. $125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students, with $225 per year paid for eligible secondary school students. A special consideration eligibility category also exists. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student.

CSEF applications are open for 2016. If you are eligible for the CSEF please call into the office to complete a form as soon as possible.
SCHOOL REMINDERS

PAYMENTS
School fees, camps, excursion and cooking costs etc. can be paid to our Bank Account, details are:
Commonwealth Bank
BSB: 063 557
Account No: 10080861
Please enter the name of student and activity you are paying for.
Thank you

EXCURSIONS
All excursions can be paid by instalments, either at the school office or online through the school account. See above for details for the school bank account.
Please ensure all relevant forms are signed and returned with payment before the due date.

MEDICAL
At Mildura Specialist School we have children who have an anaphylactic reaction to nuts, eggs, seafood and kiwi fruit in the school. Please be mindful of this fact when preparing your child’s lunch or snacks.

MEDICATION
In the interests of safe practice, medication must be brought to the office in its original packaging by an adult and paper work completed to authorise school personnel to administer it.

Please note: Students are not to transport medication to school.

HEADLICE
As a school community, we share the responsibility to control and manage head lice infections. Head lice have been around for many thousands of years and cannot be eradicated. Supporting each other to minimize their spread is vital.
It is important to check your child’s head regularly with conditioner and comb even when you don’t think your child has head lice.

CANTEN NEWS
The canteen will operate each Friday; orders must be completed and returned to school no later than Tuesday morning of that week.
Order forms are available to download and print from the MSS website.
All lunch orders must be in on Tuesday mornings.
Students process these orders: Tally money, give change, and place orders independently to meet their VCAL outcomes.
We are unable to process late orders.
Thanks for your co-operation
Paul Trevaskis

UNIFORMS
Our school uniforms are now supplied by LASER SIGN & PRINT and are available from 3 Andriske Crt Mildura. Contact person is Darran Seaman, phone: 03 5021 1129 mob: 0429 437 858
For all other enquiries for uniforms please contact the school.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARER CONCERNS
If you have a concern with any aspect of your child’s education, please contact the Office (5021 3311). They will:
1. Put you in touch with the appropriate person
2. Help organise a meeting with the appropriate person.
It is important that your concerns are addressed as quickly as possible.
We now have a suggestion box in the front office if you wish to make use of this. All ideas are welcome.
SCHOOL REMINDERS

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Parents/Carers please take note of Parent Pick Up times.
Early Years and Lower Middle Years: 2:45 – 3:00 pm
Upper Middle Years and Later Years: 3:00 pm
This is to help ease congestion on Deakin Ave and for safety of cars and students.

STUDENT ABSENCES
If your child is absent from school could you please notify by one of the following means:
• Phone: 5021 3311
• Medical certificate
• Appointment notification
• A signed and dated note with student full name

Music awards

COMMUNITY NEWS

PACS – Parents and Carers Support Group, Sunraysia
Supports Parents and Carers of Children with a diagnosed Disability. Get together in a casual and supportive environment to share experiences, have a cuppa and a chat.
The group meets regularly, for coffee, lunch or a family dinner.
For details visit our Facebook page or website.
www.facebook.com/pages/Parents-and-Carers-Support
PACS-Group-Sunraysia-Inc
For further information contact—0419 892 730 (Julie)
Come along and join us for a cuppa and a chat.