

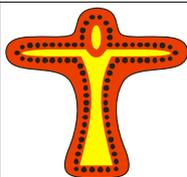
Mukuru – June/July 2017

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## ABORIGINAL CATHOLIC MINISTRY ARCHDIOCESE OF PERTH, WA

*“Helping our mob grow in faith and culture”*



**Mukuru: Cold and wet time of the year (fertility season) June - July**

Mukuru sees the coldest and wettest time of the year come into full swing.



Traditionally, this was a good time of the year to move back inland from the coast as the winds turned to the west and south bringing the cold weather, rains and occasionally snow on the peaks of the Stirling and Porongurup Ranges.

As the waterways and catchments started to fill, people were able to move about their country with ease and thus their food sources changed from sea, estuarine and lake foods to those of the lands in particular the grazing animals such as the kangaroo. As well as a food source, animals provided people with many other things. For example, 'Yongar' or kangaroos not only provided meat but also 'bookas' (animal skin cloaks that were used as the nights became much cooler). Nothing was left; even the bones and sinews were used in the manufacturing of bookas and for hunting tools such as spears.

Mukuru is also a time for a lot of animals to be pairing up in preparation for breeding in the coming season. If you look carefully, you might now see pairs of 'Wardongs' (ravens) flying together. You also notice these pairs not making the

usual 'ark ark arrrrrk' that these birds are well known for when flying solo. Upon the lakes and rivers of the South West, you'll also start to see a large influx of the Black Swan or 'Mali' as they too prepare to nest and breed.



Flowers that will start to emerge include the blues and purples of the Blueberry Lilly (*Dianella revoluta*) and the Purple Flags (*Patersonia occidentalis*). As the season

comes to a close, you should also start to notice the white flowers of the weeping peppermint (*Agonis flexuosa*) as the blues start to make way for the white and cream flowers of Djillba.



*Information taken from  
www.bom.gov.au*

# Our Catholic Faith and our Aboriginal Culture

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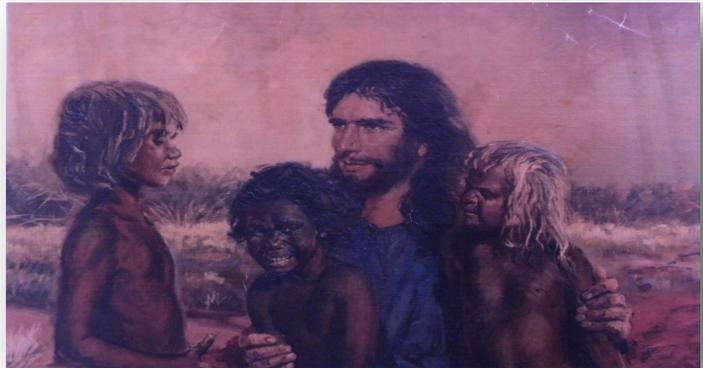
## **Luke 18:15-17 (NIV)**

### **The Little Children and Jesus**

<sup>15</sup> People brought their children to Jesus to lay his hand on them. Jesus' disciples saw them and told them off because they did that,

<sup>16</sup> but Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them, because people like these children, they own the Kingdom of Heaven.

<sup>17</sup> Remember! The person who does not accept the Kingdom of Heaven like a child, he will not go in."



### **Noongar WARDA KWABBA LUKE-ANG The Good News Translation taken from Warda kwabba Luke-Ang**

15. Moorta kanga baalapang koorlangka Jesus-ak maar-barrang baalapany Jesus-ang ngoodjara djinang baalapang narla baalap don alidja.

16. Yalga Jesus mira koorlangka baalak kidji waangki, "Yoowal-koorl-oola koorlangkany nganyak kidji yoowart nganitj baalapany, narla moorta nidia-nidja koorlangka-mokiny, baalap kadak Boodjer Boolanga-Yira Djelyibiny.

17. Barrang-dwangka! Moort ngiyan, yoowart barrang Boodjer Boolanga-Yira Djelyibiny koorlang-mokiny, baal yoowart boorda-bwora-koorl.

### **Noongar Words for Inclusion in Mass & Prayer**

**Father-** Yirra Maaman

**Son-** Ngank

**Holy-** Kwobadak

**Spirit-** Wirn



**Our Languages  
Matter**

**2-9 JULY 2017**

**Lord Hear Our Prayer-** Yirra Birdiah  
dwangkiny ngaala waankiny

# Gospel Reflection

## **Reflection on Luke 18: 15-17 from Bradley Barbuto (ATA Brighton Catholic Primary School)**

I have just returned from a Conference in Broome with Aboriginal Teaching Assistants ( ATA's ) from all over the state. It was a chance to gather and discuss the way forward for Aboriginal Education in Catholic Education. A great time for a reflection on what Jesus told the disciples in relation to children. Unless you are to become like these children you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.

The innocence of children is a mighty thing. I see it with my own four children. The two youngest ones have an innocence as they are still learning right from wrong. We are all born in Gods image and baptised and born again into our community and sinless state. It is only as we grow and allow bad or negative influences to take over our thinking that we stray away from God. My children thought that the reason why Jesus said that you had to be like little children is because most little children are good and innocent, humble and open to learning. They say things that we might not say because we are older. They say it because they don't know any different.

My youngest son innocently asked an African friend of ours why he was so black. My 8 and 10 year old were horrified and said that was a rude question. However my 2 year old asked as he wasn't judging he just wanted to know. Our friend answered the question with no issue. This was just a child who came with no judgement and no hatred. An innocence and love that showed no boundaries. I replied that you too are black my son. He looked at his skin he looked at our friend and then he just accepted that we are the same. Same same but different.

As an educator in Cathed I feel it is important to teach our children that God loves us even if we are different. He made us different for a reason. This way we are all special. If we can educate our children and they learn, then generations ahead will be much better off as we will all be like the little children Jesus spoke of.

*Bradley is a proud Wiradjuri Man from the Riverina area of NSW*



# An Aboriginal Reflection

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As Aboriginal people we have a deep respect for the creation stories of the communities we come from and for many years have seen the interweaving of these stories with our Biblical creation stories. Below are some reflections taken from the South West Land and Sea Council Noongar Knowledge Website about the Noongar Dreaming. <https://www.noongarculture.org.au/spirituality/>

On August the 13th we will be hosting a conversation on Indigenous Spirituality with Noel Nannup and in on September the 24th we will spend a day at Kings Park to learn about the Noongar sacredness of place, creation and our links with our Catholic faith.

If you would like to read more about Aboriginal Spirituality and our Catholic Faith visit the NATSICC website- <http://www.natsicc.org.au/natsicc-resources.html>

## **The Nyitting or Dreaming**

The *Nyitting* or Dreaming means ‘cold,’ ‘cold time’ or ‘ancestral times.’ Noongar people know it as the Creation time. It is the time before time when spirits rose from the earth and descended from the sky to create the land forms and all living things. *Nyitting* stories laid down the lore for social and moral order and established cultural patterns and customs. Our Noongar Elders have the ability to comprehend the knowledge and to maintain it in an unchanging way. Noongar creation stories can vary from region to region but they are part of the connection between all living things.



# An Aboriginal Reflection Cont.

## The Waugal or Great Serpent-like Dreamtime Spirit

### Noongar Words

<i>waugal</i>	serpent
<i>bilya/beeliar</i>	– river
<i>pinjar</i>	– swamp/lake
<i>ngamma</i>	– waterhole
<i>babanginy</i>	– lightning

*Waugal* or *waug* means soul, spirit or breath.

The *Waugal* is the major spirit for Noongar people and central to our beliefs and customs. *Waugal* has many different spellings, including *Waakal*, *Wagyl*, *Wawgal*, *Waugal*, *Woggal* and *Waagal*. The *Waugal* is a snake or rainbow serpent recognised by Noongar as the giver of life, maintaining all fresh water sources. It was the *Waugal* that made Noongar people custodians of the land.

Noongar people believe that the *Waugal* dominates the earth and the sky and makes the *koondarnangor* (thunder), *babanginy* (lightning) and *boroong* (rain). During the *Nyitting*, it created the fresh waterways such as the *bilya/beelier* (river), *pinjar* (swamps, lakes) and *ngamma* (waterhole). The Darling Scarp represents the body of the *Waugal*, which created the curves and contours of the hills and gullies.

As the *Waugal* slithered over the land, its track shaped the sand dunes, its body scoured out the course of the rivers, where it occasionally stopped for a rest, and created bays and lakes.

The *Waugal* rose up from *Ga-ra-katta* (Mt. Eliza at the foot of Kings Park), and formed the *Derbarl Yerrigan* and the *Djarlgarro Beelier* (the Swan and Canning rivers). It also created other waterways and landforms around Perth and the south-west of Western Australia. The *Waugal* also joins up with wetlands such as Herdsman Lake and Lake Monger, and resides deep beneath underground springs *Information sourced from <https://www.noongarculture.org.au/spirituality/>*



# Catholic Education Office of WA

## **Introduction to the Aboriginal Education Team**

The Aboriginal Education Team supports Western Australian Catholic schools to improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal students, while acknowledging, respecting and reflecting Aboriginal peoples' histories and cultures, including our unique values, languages, and spirituality, for the betterment of all students.



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION**  
OFFICE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Aboriginal Education Team strives to ensure Aboriginal students have equitable access and participation in the Catholic schooling process, and every opportunity to achieve educational outcomes equal to those of their non-Aboriginal peers.

### **Team Leader:**

**Sharon Davis:** Sharon Bardi, Gija woman with a drive for Aboriginal education and a passion for Aboriginal English. Sharon is the current Team Leader of Aboriginal Education at Catholic Education Western Australia, working to strengthen Aboriginal education across the system, and enhance the Catholic education experience for Aboriginal students, families and communities.

### **Perth Consultants**

**Kylie Agale:** Kylie is a Ngarluma woman, and as an Aboriginal Education Consultant for the Archdiocese of Perth, provides support across 113 school from Perth to Kalgoorlie, and from Moora to Rockingham.

**Katie Oriti:** Katie Oriti has been a member of the Aboriginal Education Team since 2005, supporting the integration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures into the curriculum for all Australian students.



**Aboriginal Teaching Assistants:** Many schools have Aboriginal staff employed to support Aboriginal students, promote a respect for Aboriginal culture in schools and develop relationships with community.

## **Would you like to send your child to a Catholic School?**

Catholic Education is committed to increasing knowledge and understanding of the history, culture and experience of Aboriginal people as the first peoples of Australia within Catholic Schools. They also have policies to support Aboriginal students to be given enrolment preference wherever possible and practicable.

# Catholic Education Office of WA

## **GECKOS/Reconciliation in schools**

Catholic Education WA is committed to *Growing Enriched Cultural Knowledge in Our Schools* and so GECKOS is the acronym for CEWA's Aboriginal Education Curriculum and resources including the Guest Presenter Program. This is in line with the Western Australian Curriculum, which makes learning about Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures a priority, a *Cross Curriculum Priority*. Each WA Catholic school has a GECKOS Coordinator to coordinate the integration of the priority but ultimately it is the responsibility of all staff.

Catholic Education WA recognises the importance of bringing Aboriginal voices into the classroom and demonstrates its commitment by reimbursing schools for employing presenters/performers/speakers through the GECKOS Guest Presenters Program. This is not just for NAIDOC or Reconciliation Week, but throughout the year.

Many WA Catholic schools demonstrate their commitment to Reconciliation by entering projects for the annual PALS Reconciliation Awards funded by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs. In 2016 Mater Dei College won the overall Troy Cook Award for their project "Resilience" and John XXIII College were runners up in the Aboriginal Language and History category.

<https://www.daa.wa.gov.au/community-development/pals/2016-award-winners/>

CEWA schools are well represented at the National Sorry Day event at Wellington Square every year running activities for other students as well as participating.

<http://www.recwa.org.au/upcoming-events>



The Catholic Education Office launched its Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in 2016 and schools are encouraged to do the same with guidance from *Narragunnawali : Reconciliation in Schools and Early Learning*.

<https://www.reconciliation.org.au/narragunnawali/>

## **Aboriginal Families as First Educators (AFaFE) Playgroup**

The Aboriginal Families as First Educators (AFaFE) Program offers parents and guardians of Indigenous children (from birth to four) opportunity to attend ear-intervention playgroups in their local community. The playgroups integrate the Abecedarian Approach Australian (3a) which has been shown to provide long lasting benefits into adulthood. Playgroup staff work with parents as their child's first teacher by assisting parents completing the activities.

The playgroups are currently available in 14 locations around the state from the South West, Metropolitan area, Mid-West and the Kimberley with plans to expand



# Message Sticks, Plaques & ATSI Sunday 2nd July

## ACM Message Sticks

In Aboriginal communities, the message stick is a traditional communication tool, to pass on important messages between tribes, through symbols that communicate a story. ACM has begun to create message sticks that the wider Catholic community can purchase and then this Message Stick is given to the community from Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Perth, in the spirit of reconciliation where we come together in Christ to learn about each other's culture in communion with Christ



Each message stick has been smoked by a Noongar Aboriginal Catholic Elder and blessed by our Aboriginal Catholic Chaplain. Each message stick will be slightly different however will contain the following images:

- ◆ Aboriginal Symbol for Trinity (3 persons in one)
- ◆ People gathering around to listen, learn and share with each other
- ◆ Your parish's symbol/logo (must be email to ACM)
- ◆ A symbol local to your area or the Waagal to connect to Aboriginal Spirituality



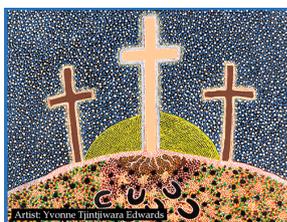
## Aboriginal Plaques

Small and Large Acknowledgement Plaques can also be purchased through the ACM Office. The use of such plaques on entrances to homes and other buildings, in classrooms, lecture halls, seminar rooms or libraries, and in churches or chapels, serve to remind Australians of the presence of the Aboriginal people in our land millennia before the making of the Australian colonies and the Australian nation.

Message Sticks and Plaque can be ordered by contact the ACM office on [acm@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:acm@perthcatholic.org.au)

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday: 2nd of July

All Parishes will have received a resource kit from NATISCC to help you prepare for Aboriginal Sunday. ACM has also sent out some extra Liturgy Notes to support you to make this a great day. If you would like more information please contact the office.



Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Celebration 2 July 2017

Full resources to help you celebrate this significant day available here

# Meet our ACM Team

## **Pastoral Worker: Donna Ryder**

I am one of ten children, born in New Norcia which is also where I went to school, at Salvado College. I moved down to Perth once I had finished school, however I soon left and went to live in Albany for 2 years, Meekatharra for 1 year then Broome for 5 years, finally coming back home to Perth. In that time, I had various jobs working at refuges, Children's programs, health, mining and Admin and I have now been at the ACM for the past 4 years.

I am a Pastoral Assistant who also helps Aboriginal people find funds for funerals. I attend hospital visits as well as visit community members in their homes. I also help run the sacrament program as well as help organise weekly mass services and our Clontarf Faith Yarns. I am also starting a women's healing group and do lots of odd jobs and admin around the office.

I like the fact I work for the church, I know the core boundaries and values of the church and how I relate to those core values. I love meeting new people and I learnt that when working with Aboriginal people we all need support, so I like to help guide them towards their right path.



# What's Been Happening for the Past Months?

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## **What's been happening in the last few months?**

The last few months have been great with new projects starting such as our new young women's group, Young Yorga's, an Aboriginal AA group, our first Children's Day and the running of our first Cultural Immersion Program and Liturgy Workshop. We also held a Picnic Mass, Clontarf Faith Yarns and Mass, continued our weekly hospital visitations, home visitations and other Pastoral ministries. The team also attended a variety of Reconciliation Week events. We have been blessed to a Murdoch University Internship student as well as an Aboriginal high school trainees and Curtin Aboriginal leadership student begin their work placements with us. In the next few months we will be starting the Aboriginal Youth Committee.

### **Children's Day**

On Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> of April during the school holidays the ACM Office was full of children and their families for our inaugural Children's Day. We were treated with Noongar Story Telling and dancing from Olman Walley and the Little Doorum Dancers, we shared about our faith, the true message of Easter, song the Aboriginal Our Father and did lots of art activities, Sumo Suits and much more. It is hoped that these Children's Days will become a regular school holiday activity. The next one is planned for Wednesday July the 12<sup>th</sup>.



# What's Been Happening for the Past Months?

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## **Clontarf Faith Yarns:**

We are continuing our regular Faith Yarns at 330pm, followed by Mass at 445pm and then Dinner with the Clontarf students on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month during school term. In March our volunteer Brendan shared about Aboriginal Spirituality, in May Sister Francis spoke about the Annunciation and June's session was continued to yarn about faith and culture. The next session is on Sunday August the 20th.

## **Catholic Cultural Immersion/Awareness Program**

On March the 25th we held our first Catholic Cultural Awareness/ Immersion Program where members of the Catholic Community learnt about the strength, order and importance of Aboriginal culture here in Australia. We looked at the impact of



the fracturing of order since Settlement, the movements towards Reconciliation and the role of the Church as a community and as individuals to bring about change. We are looking forward to more of this in the future!

On the 27th of May we ran a workshop in conjunction with the Centre for Liturgy to support Parishes to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday. Many Parishes will be doing this on Sunday the



## **2nd of July!**

## **Young Yorga's:**

We have begun hosting Friday Young Yorga's Yarning Group/Morning Tea. It is a place for women to come together to connect, share and be inspired for the busy lives that many lead. Each month has a theme and so far we have had a ball. The next morning tea is on July the 28th.



# Upcoming ACM Events and Special Days

## **Yarning about Faith and Culture followed by Mass**

Come join us in yarning with the Aboriginal community about our faith and culture. Each month we will get a different guest presenter. This yarning will be followed by Mass with the Clontarf Aboriginal College students. 285 Manning Rd Waterford.



**20th Aug, 17th Sept, 15th Oct, 19th Nov, Faith Yarns at 3.30, Mass at 4.45 and then dinner at 5.45pm.**

## **What's Coming Up:**

- ⇒ End of NAIDOC Mass Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 445pm at St Mary's Cathedral (no 11am Mass)
- ⇒ Aboriginal Sunday Mass at Embleton 10am on 2nd of July (no 11am Mass)
- ⇒ Aboriginal AA Group– Mondays 11-12
- ⇒ Young Yorga's Group– July the 28th 10am-12pm
- ⇒ Aboriginal Spirituality Workshop– Sunday the 13th of August 11am Mass, lunch and 1230-2pm workshop with Dr Noel Nannup.
- ⇒ ACM Children's Day– Wednesday the 12th of July 11am-2pm Holy Trinity Embleton, 8 Burnett St Embleton.
- ⇒ Clontarf Faith Yarns- Sunday the 20th of August (no 11am Mass)
- ⇒ Aboriginal Youth Committee Workshop Day– Saturday the 21st of July, get in contact if you are keen.
- ⇒ Aboriginal Mental Health Course– Date TBC



# Upcoming ACM Events and Special Days

ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

ALL WELCOME



## Healing in One Spirit

### Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous

Monday 11-12 noon

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

5 Baker Ave, Highgate

WA 6000

*Light Refreshments Provided*

**ALL WELCOME**

Meetings start on 19th June 2017

*Alcoholics Anonymous*

*(08) 9325 3566*

*24 Hours, 7 Days a week*



# Upcoming ACM Events and Special Days



**ABORIGINAL  
CATHOLIC  
MINISTRY**



## **KOORLANGKA'S DAY**

A day for children (6 years old and above) to learn more about their culture and faith whilst having fun!

There will be fun activities alongside yarning about our faith and culture.

To help with catering and activities, it would be great if you could call Vicky on 9328 7529 or 0412 529656, or via email to [acm@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:acm@perthcatholic.org.au), to let us know if you will be attending.

**FUN | FAITH | CULTURE**

**WEDNESDAY 12 JULY  
11am-2pm**

**Holy Trinity Catholic Church  
8 Burnett Street, Embleton**

Lunch  
provided.



**Our Languages  
Matter**

**2-9 JULY 2017**

# Upcoming ACM Events and Special Days

# 2017 NAIDOC WEEK

Sunday, 9 July  
at St Mary's Cathedral

**4.45pm**

Smoking Ceremony

**5.00pm**

Mass celebrated by Bishop Don Sproston

**6.00pm**

Dinner

Come celebrate the end of NAIDOC Week 2017 with a Mass with the Aboriginal Catholic Community.  
For more information, or to arrange transport, contact the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry  
Team on **93287529, 0412529656** or **acm@perthcatholic.org.au**



**THREE CROSSES** by **YVONNE TJINTJIWARA EDWARDS** Language: Pitjantjatjara | Country: Ooldea, Yalata, Southwest South Australia

Born on her traditional country near Ooldea, SA, after the closure of the United Aborigines' Mission (UAM) in 1952, Yvonne and her family were forcibly removed eastward in care of the Lutheran missionaries, eventually settling at Yalata, while their traditional country was taken over for the British Nuclear Test Series 1953-1963. Yvonne, a devout Christian, when asked to do a painting for the Reconciliation service at St David's Anglican Church, Burnside, SA. The work has since been featured on the cover of the Guardian paper of the Anglican Diocese of Adelaide and it hangs permanently in St David's Churchw. *Used with permission - Christobel Mattingly*



# Upcoming ACM Events and Special Days

## What is Veritas?

VERITAS is Latin for TRUTH

Veritas is the annual gathering of Catholic young people, ages 13-30, presented by the Catholic Youth Network and Catholic Youth Ministry Perth supported by the Catholic Bishops of Western Australia. It exists as a conference and festival, which aims to provide young people in Western Australia with an opportunity to deepen their faith and their relationship with Jesus in three days of festivities including live bands, dynamic speakers, youth rallies, faith expos, liturgy, and workshops.

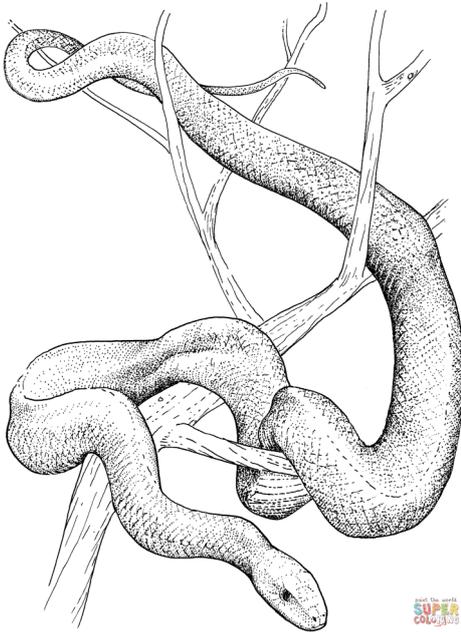
Veritas 2017 will take place from Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017 at the exciting new venue, The University of Notre Dame in Fremantle. This year's festival will feature special guest, musician, speaker, and x-factor contestant Fr Rob Galea as well as many other vibrant local speakers, artists, and groups.

There will be a Welcome to Country and the final Mass will celebrate Aboriginal land Torres Strait Islander Sunday!

We hope to get a group of Aboriginal young people along. So if you are interested email [Vicky.burrows@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:Vicky.burrows@perthcatholic.org.au)



# KIDS CORNER



SUPER  
COLORS

- Q. What is the end of everything?  
A. The letter G.
- Q. What starts with a P and ends with an E and has thousands of letters?  
A. The Post Office!
- Q. How do you know when a dumb person has been on the computer?  
A. There's white-out all over the screen.
- Q. Why do cows wear bells?  
A. Because their horns don't work!
- Q. What letter of the alphabet has the most water?  
A. The letter C!
- Q. Which letter of the alphabet has the most people in it?  
A. Q (queue).
- Q. Why did the surfer wear a baseball mitt?  
A. He wanted to catch a wave.
- Q. What day has day in it but isn't Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday?  
A. Today!
- Q. What can you put in a freezer that's hot and will always come out hot?  
A. Hot sauce.
- Q. What do you call a rabbit with the sniffles?  
A. A runny bunny.

