The West Australian recently featured an article about the Under 10’s Midvale Junior Football Club from 1999. The team photo was the standard arrangement; the shorter boys squatting in the front row with a football front and centre and the taller boys standing in the back row with coaches behind. You might be thinking “What is so remarkable about that?” Amongst the arrangement of scruffy looking boys was Nic Naitanui at the age of nine. The West Australian had interviewed Nic’s childhood coaches. They commented that at the time they never would have picked Nic as the boy from that team who would go on to achieve great things in football. They said that there were other boys who had more natural talent than Nic but none of them were more persistent at training and playing to the best of their ability. This term the school will be focusing on PERSISTENCE as one of the keys to success in life. Persistence is revealed when students continue to stay engaged in frustrating or difficult work until it is completed. It is possible to learn the ‘habits of mind’ or ‘mind-set’ that enable children to become persistent. We will not be encouraging students to keep banging their head against the wall when the work is beyond the zone of their capabilities. We will be encouraging them to ‘keep at it’ or ‘work tough’ when the task is difficult or frustrating until it is completed. By being persistent a child is able to achieve their potential in all areas of their lives.