Dear Parents and Friends

Mr Leckie Retires
At tomorrow’s assembly we will officially farewell Mr Leckie into retirement. Whilst he will continue to do some teacher relief, his days of working permanently as a teacher 5 days per week have come to an end. Remarkably he has spent 38 years of his 40 year career at our school. This kind of service in a school is certainly difficult to describe in a way that adequately reflects his contribution to the children of our community. I know that of the many, many children, (some of these are now the grandchildren of those he has taught!), he has had contact with in his time there would be very few that don’t rate him very highly as a teacher.

Anyone who has been in one profession for such a long period will have seen some changes, teaching is no different. Evidence of Mr Leckie’s success as a teacher is to adapt and capitalise on these changes and continue to provide an effective program for his students. As a teacher of mostly older children he has also gone over and above in organising and participating in many camps and extra curricula activities. Without his willingness to take on these duties outside of his normal teaching role, the students involved would simply not have had these important learning opportunities.

I did ask some of our students who have recently been fortunate to have him as a class teacher to make some comments about him as a teacher – these are just a selection of the words used:

- Helpful, kind and organised
- Taught me how to be better organised and hardworking
- A true inspiration
- Kind and generous
- Will help anyone in need
- Likes sport and encourages people to be involved
- Balanced fun and learning

I hope that these words do give everyone an indication of his value as a teacher and the positive way he has influenced his students.

We will certainly miss his calm and steady presence in our school, will look forward to seeing him here doing some occasional relief teaching and wish him very well in this next phase of his life.

As has been advertised for some time now our assembly tomorrow will be an opportunity for parents and students to farewell him officially – I hope that you can be there.

New Way to Pay for Bus Travel in Albany
The Public Transport Authority is about to introduce SmartRider, a new electronic ticketing system in Albany. This is the same system that is now used in Perth and some other large regional centres. Smart Rider is a card that you can add value and recharge electronically and simply swipe whenever you board and travel by bus. The Smart Rider will automatically calculate the lowest fare for your journey. A SmartRider card does enable students to access the discounted 50c fare for students and can also be used in other areas like the Perth metropolitan area.

This new system will begin to operate on Monday 22 July. As I understand it though, there will be a period of grace where tickets can be purchased in the current way.

Applications for a SmartRider card can be obtained from our front office or be downloaded from the Transperth website www.transperth.wa.gov.au

Brochures from the Public Transport Authority with further information about this change are being sent home with this newsletter. The back page of today’s newsletter also contains similar information.

Alan Dowsett – Principal

Code of Behaviour

- Respect other people, their rights and their property.
- Be courteous.
- Let others learn.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated
Forthcoming Events
Mr Leckie’s Retirement Assembly  Fri 21 June
Eagles Cup vs Flinders Park PS  Tues 25 Jun
Interschool Cross Country  Thurs 27 Jun
Assembly  Fri 28 Jun
NAIDOC Week  1-5 July
Distribution of Reports  Fri 5 Jul
Last day of Term  Fri 5 Jul
Deadline for Applications for PP and K Programs 2014  Fri 26 July

Applications for Kindergarten and Pre-primary Programs in 2014
Applications for your child to be enrolled in kindergarten (4 year olds) and pre-primary (5 year olds) are now being taken at our school office. If your child is entering our school for the first time their birth certificate and immunisation details will be required.

The closing date for applications is Friday 26 July. Getting your application in before this date will be important in securing a place with our school in 2014.

If your child is currently enrolled in our 4 year old program you will still need to make contact with the school office to ensure your child is registered for the pre-primary (5 year olds) program in 2013.

IS YOUR CHILD ATTENDING KINDERGARTEN FOR THE FIRST TIME?
The National Health & Medical Research Council (NH&MRC) recommends that children who have turned 4 years of age have the following booster immunizations:

- DTPa-IPV (vaccine against diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (whooping cough) and Polio)
- MMR (vaccine against Measles, Mumps and Rubella)
- And all other WA schedule vaccinations recommended, completed.

THESE VACCINES SHOULD BE GIVEN BEFORE STARTING PRE PRIMARY.

If you need more information about these vaccines please phone one of the following:
- Immunisation Clinic – Anne Taylor, 98427500
- Central Immunisation Clinic in Perth – 93211312
- Australian Childhood Immunisation Register – 1800 653 809 or www.medicareaustralia.gov.au
- Your Community Health Nurse

WA Education Awards
Nominations for the WA Education Awards are now being called for. These awards celebrate schools and staff who have achieved outstanding results in education throughout the year. The awards cover a number of categories to acknowledge and thank individuals and schools for their achievements and enable them to further excel their results through professional development.

Categories for 2013 are:
- WA Premier’s Early Childhood Teacher of the Year
- WA Premier’s Primary Teacher of the Year
- WA Premier’s Secondary Teacher of the Year
- WA Primary Principal of the Year
- WA Secondary Principal of the Year
- WA Beginning Teacher of the Year
- WA School Support Staff Member of the Year
- WA Primary School of the Year
- WA Secondary School of the Year

Cash prizes will be awarded to finalists and winners of the nine categories. Prize money for individuals will incorporate a professional learning component which will not only benefit the individual but also the school and most importantly, its students.

Nominations for awards close on Friday 16 August. More information can be found at: http://www.det.wa.edu.au/educationawards/detcms/portal/

Merit certificates are also available for those people who wish to recognise a member of staff – these are available at the front office

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS
Many thanks to Ms Marwick, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Sodano Derek Carter (Johno) and Mr Hockey for their valued assistance on the day.

Championship Medallions were awarded as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Champion</th>
<th>Runner Up</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 Girl</td>
<td>Lily Rm 19</td>
<td>Tahlia Rm 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy</td>
<td>Callum Rm 18</td>
<td>Zayne Rm 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 Girl</td>
<td>Aleesha Rm 17</td>
<td>Robyn Rm 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy</td>
<td>Isaac Rm 17</td>
<td>Jarrah Rm 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Girl</td>
<td>Kayla Rm 10</td>
<td>Narelle Rm 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy</td>
<td>Joshua Rm 9</td>
<td>Tye Rm 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Girl</td>
<td>Jessamme Rm10</td>
<td>Darcie Rm 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy</td>
<td>Mitchell Rm 11</td>
<td>Jordan Rm 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SPENCER PARK EDUCATION SUPPORT CENTRE

Over the past three years I have persistently applied for a playground grant of $20,000. I am pleased to announce that yesterday I was informed that we have received the grant. I am hoping to start community consultation on the development of the new playground early next term.

Moving on to more immediate things, last Friday for Community Access we had the St John Ambulance visit the school. This is another visit of “strangers who help us” for our Protective Behaviours Program.

The students had a wonderful time pretending to have broken arms, being put into the ambulance on the trolley, having blood pressure taken and much more.

Crystal, Emily and Hayley-Jane all have one of their arms in a sling.

Jacob is going for a ride.

Damian is helping Samuel who is having his blood pressure taken by the ambulance people.

These experiences prepare our students if they or someone close to them has to be transported in an ambulance. It also gives them the opportunity to meet some of the “strangers who help us”.

Staff were also busy last week with upskilling themselves. Ros Fleay, Lara Eyles and Kristin Ellery as well as two EAs and two of our relief teachers attended the Autism Team Training on the 13 June. Kristin and Ros also attended the SEN Assessing for Autism. On the Wednesday after school 19 EAs under took training in Practical Strategies – Ziggurat and Developing Resources.

I attended the WA Primary Principals Association Strong Foundation - Strong Future conference the 12, 13 and 14 June.

Please feel free to discuss any of your concerns with me. It is best to make an appointment by calling 9841 1537 to be sure I will be available.

Diane E Edwards, Principal

Here is a sample of Jensen’s (Yr1 Rm 2.) work.

Crash Landing

A long time ago a UFO crashed. There was an alien he went “beep”. What would they do? The alien ran away it was scared it went into it’s UFO. It was broken so the alien called for help with his Walkie Talkie. The alien went “boop, boop, boop” that meant please help me. The other aliens came with a new UFO it was happy it was home.

By Jensen

NITBUSTERS

Head lice are back! We have had a volunteer offer to lead the Nitbusters team and we are asking for parents who would be available to work with the team to check heads several times per year. We would like to get this going as soon as possible. If you can spare a few hours to help please contact the school office on 9841 2488
You won't miss our new look

There are some exciting changes happening to transport services in Albany from 22 July 2013. Apart from a new look, there will be a new name, new stops and a whole new way to save money when you travel.

New Name
From 22 July 2013, Albany town bus services will operate under the name 'TransAlbany' and will be run by Loves Bus Service Albany.

New Look
As part of this changeover, Loves Bus Service buses will be repainted green, white and silver in alignment with other Transperth and Transregional services.

New Stops
More than 345 new bus stop posts are being installed around the Albany region. Blue bus stop posts indicate the pick-up and drop-off points for all TransAlbany school bus services. Orange bus stop posts indicate the pick-up and drop-off points for TransAlbany town bus services. Students can be picked up at both blue and orange bus stops.

New Ticketing System
SmartRider is a fully electronic ticketing system that allows you to travel anywhere on the TransAlbany system without having to carry change to buy your fare. With SmartRider, you simply add value to your card before you travel then tag on when you board and tag off when your journey ends. The SmartRider will automatically calculate the lowest fare for your journey.

Best of all, your SmartRider lets you enjoy discounted fares, such as the 50c fare for students, and the free travel entitlements for seniors and pensioners. You can only take advantage of these discounts and entitlements when you use a SmartRider.

As a bonus, your SmartRider can be used to buy your fares on Transregional services in Bunbury, Busselton, Geraldton and Kalgoorlie, as well as on Transperth buses, trains and ferries when you visit Perth.

The SmartRider system will be in operation on TransAlbany services from 22 July 2013.

What if I have existing tickets?
We recognise that some users of TransAlbany bus services may have unused travel value left over when the new SmartRider system is launched. Passengers can attend the Albany Retail Sales Outlet located at 17 Vine Street Albany with their Albany MultiRider and will be refunded the remaining travel value on the MultiRider. Passengers will have 3 months from the launch of SmartRider to attend the Albany RSO and receive a refund on their MultiRider balance.

New Brochures
Brochures explaining how to obtain and use a SmartRider will be distributed to all local schools and available within the general community from the Albany RSO. Should you require more information on these changes please call the InfoLine on 13 62 13 (TIS 13 14 50). Hearing or speech impaired? Call via NRS 133 677 and ask for 13 62 13.