Dear Parents and Friends

In Term Swimming Starts
Considering that this program started immediately after the school holidays it would appear that there were very few students unprepared on the first day back. Many thanks to you as parents for being organised in this way. At this stage I am also very pleased about the way everyone involved has moved quickly into routine, the process of moving back and forth to the pool has been carried out very smoothly and the feedback from the pool is that all students have behaved well and are enjoying the opportunity to improve their swimming skill.

I understand and appreciate the cost involved, if you are struggling with this we do have the capacity to allow payment in a time frame beyond the end of the program. A payment plan with my approval can be set up through the office.

For those receiving Centrelink benefits there is also the capacity to be involved in Centrepay, a process that allows regular payment to be made from Centrelink to the school for programs like this. You can organise this through our school office.

Punctuality Crucial
Whilst I am sure that everyone is aware of the importance of a child attending school as fully as possible (ideally 90% or above), being here punctually each day is also crucial. Children arriving late can be disadvantaged considerably when it comes to their learning.

Whilst most classes will finish tomorrow Room 10 and 5 begin their fortnight of lessons starting Monday 4 August.

Arriving for a reasonable period before the siren goes to signal the start of the school day does enable a child to enter the class and get organised. This means that no time is wasted when instruction begins. This is not just about having ones materials ready but is also to some extent about being mentally ready for the start of the school day.

The start of the school day in our school for many children usually involves what we call a “warm up” period, a time when essential skills and knowledge are reinforced in a way that builds automatic recall of this learning and ensures that these skills and knowledge are embedded in long term memory. Spelling of sight words, recall of sounds, knowing grammatical terms, understanding word meanings, being able to blend, segment and track words are just some parts of this work. The later a child appears after the siren the more of this important work is missed, the less chance that they have embedded or automatised their learning.

Some children, experience embarrassment entering a class late as this presence attracts the attention of everyone when they enter the room – for shy, unassuming children this is often unwanted attention.

If you are having difficulty getting your child here at a time that gives them the best opportunity to start the school day and maximise the learning involved at this time, please speak to your child’s teacher or to a member of the school leadership team. We may be able to provide the support needed to rectify this situation and at the same time make a big difference to how well your child learns at school.

Engraved Pavers Finally Installed
After a considerable lead in time our last batch of engraved pavers have been placed in with those laid during our 50th anniversary in the area immediately adjacent to the front of the hall. This will hopefully be a lasting recognition of those who have had an involvement with our school. This has taken some time to ensure as many people as possible got this opportunity. It may be some time before the school is able to
provide a similar opportunity as there are a minimum number of pavers that can be ordered economically.

Many thanks to Mrs Ivane Cremasco from our P&C for coordinating this activity and to one of our parents, Mr Jeremy Scott, for laying the pavers in position. Your support is appreciated and makes this kind of work possible.

Alan Dowsett – Principal

Future Dates
In Term Swimming Rooms, PP1, PP2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 17, 18, 19 Tues 22 to Fri 1 Aug
First Assembly Fri 1 Aug
SMS Attendance to begin Mon 4 Aug
P&C Meeting Mon 4 Aug
IN Term Swimming Rooms 5 and 10 Mon 4 Aug to Fri 15 Aug

2015 Applications for Kindergarten and Pre-primary
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 this year was Friday 4 July but we will be taking applications throughout the remainder of the year.

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 that your child is on our pre-primary list for 2015.

WA Education Awards
The WA Education Awards provide many opportunities for reflection, acknowledgement and celebration. 2014 is an exciting year for the WA Education Awards. Having merged with the WA Aboriginal Education Awards, there are now more award categories and greater opportunities to celebrate the inspiring work taking place in public schools. With 11 categories, the awards will now recognise even more people contributing to providing every child in Western Australia with a high quality education – whatever their ability, wherever they live, whatever their background.

Nominations can be made in the following categories:
- WA Premier’s Primary Teacher of the Year
- WA Premier’s Secondary Teacher of the Year
- WA Premier’s Excellence in Aboriginal Education Award
- WA Primary School Leader of the Year
- WA Secondary School Leader of the Year
- WA Beginning Teacher of the Year
- WA Education Assistant of the Year
- WA Aboriginal and Islander Education Officer of the Year
- WA School Services Staff Member of the Year
- WA Primary School of the Year
- WA Secondary School of the Year.


Merit Certificate
The WA Education Awards are also your opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding commitment and contribution made to your child’s education by a favourite teacher, principal or member of school support staff. Get involved in the nomination process this year by giving your favourite teacher, principal or school support staff member a certificate of merit. Certificates are available at the front office, fill it in and hand it back to your school office Friday 22 August.

Jeans for Genes Day
Who - Everyone
When - This Friday
What – Wear your jeans and bring a gold coin donation
Why - To help find cures for childhood diseases

Spencer Park Primary School 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.

Late Arrivals at school
Any students arriving late to school must come to the office and ask for a late note before they go to class. The late note needs to be given to the teacher.
SPENCER PARK EDUCATION SUPPORT CENTRE

Please Help Us!

Since the advent of the new hospital, radiology services have been outsourced. This has meant that the dental x-ray machine that was in the theatres is no longer available. Because of this people with Special Needs who cannot tolerate dental procedures and x-rays unless done under General Anaesthetic, have to go to Perth for their dental care. This has created unnecessary stress to the person and their family as it requires a 3 day stay out of familiar surroundings.

Please help us to get our dental services back in Albany by signing our petition at: http://www.change.org/en-AU/petitions/mr-peter-watson-provide-dental-services-for-special-needsat-albany-regional-hospital or alternatively go to: https://www.facebook.com/SNDentalAlbany and click on the link to the petition page.

The people with Special Needs and their families/carers thank you for your help and support.

I have had my say on the petition. I know dental issues have a major impact on the students, families and our staff as well as the students' attendance and academic achievements.

SPESC IPS Application

As I have parents and staff asking if we have heard about our IPS application, I contacted the School Innovation and Reform Unit in Perth. We were told at interview that we should hear by 21 July.

The following is their reply:

“There has been a delay and we are still working on this. The outcome of your IPS application will probably be available in middle of August. Thanks”

Looking on the positive side; no news is good news.

The students had a great time at Circus Skills on Wednesday. We may be having our end of term assembly at PCYC so parents can see the great skills the students are developing. I'll give you more information about that later in the term.

Xavier with Jeremy on the blue ribbons

Krystyna and Hayley-jane on the ribbons

Why is it hard to know exactly how common bullying is?

Children and young people often don’t tell adults about bullying. Sometimes children and young people don't want their parents or teachers to become involved as they are afraid of what might happen
if the person who is doing the bullying finds out they have told.
Sometimes, students simply don’t think to ask for adult help or they don’t think anyone will believe them or could help even if they told.
Taken from Bullying, No Way! (2013) Fast Facts: Bullying in Schools

Community News
Please note notices appearing below are not necessarily endorsed by the school. We provide this space for community groups to advertise to the school community. It is up to parents to scrutinise the activity and organisers for their child.

PACTS Parents as Career Transition Support
Want to know how to help your child with career ideas? What are WACE and VET? Choosing a Secondary School? Communicating with young people about careers! What is an Apprenticeship? Where to go for more information: *FREE Workshop*
When: Friday 15th August 2014
Time: 9.30 am—12.00 noon
Venue: Rainbow Coast Neighbourhood Centre, 219 North Rd, Albany. Brought to you by the Great Southern Employment Development Committee Inc.
To book please call 08-9842 9399. Email: ray@gsedc.org.au
Morning tea provided; please advise if you have any special dietary requirements

What’s on at the Child & Parent Centre

Funky Music Group
Bring the 0-5’s down for lots of fun.
When: Monday (Starts 28 July 2014)
Time: 9.30-11am
Where: Child & Parent Centre
Mt Lockyer Primary School

New Jumping Joeys Group
Everybody is welcome.
Fun physical education session for 0-5yrs with Ange, our Early Years teacher.
When: Tuesdays (Starts 29 July 2014)
Time: 9.30-11am
Where: Child & Parent Centre
Mt Lockyer Primary School

Playgroup
Playgroup with Aboriginal Health
When: Tuesdays
Time: 1-3pm
(Enter from South Coast Highway, opposite Marbellup Tuck Shop)
Cost: Free (refreshments provided)
Need more information on any of these sessions please Contact Sarah - 0408 806 405
spedgen@wanslea.asn.au

TRIPLE P
A program for parents with children between the ages of 3-6yrs.
These 4 sessions contain suggestions & practical skills to help you manage those difficult behaviour without resorting to physical punishment, shouting or bribery.
Free Program and Free Creche. To book please contact Community Health Nurses 9842 7500
TUESDAY 9.15 - 11.15 @ Rainbow Coast Neighbourhood Centre 219 North Road.