PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

Dear Parents and Friends

Art Exhibition Opening
It was wonderful to be part of a large gathering of people at the opening of our art exhibition “Our Sunburnt Country” last Wednesday evening. Those of you who were there will I am sure agree that the artwork produced by our students is of the highest quality and should impress greatly all of those who get to view the exhibition in the time ahead. Certainly the feedback from those present, particularly those from outside our own school community, was very positive. All of our parents and staff should feel very proud of the efforts of our students to produce such excellent pieces of work.

From what I could see “Our Sunburnt Country” was represented very well from aspects of our ancient indigenous culture to magpies on barbwire fences, lifesavers, iconic Australian plants and animals and light houses.

I hope that those who couldn’t get to the opening can get a chance to view the exhibition before it closes on Wednesday 12 November. Do yourself a favour!!

As always an enterprise such as this does take considerable time and effort from everyone in our community. A huge thank you goes to:

• All of our classroom teachers for their work in inspiring our students to produce such awesome pieces of work.
• A large and hard working staff committee who have gone above and beyond to organise and help prepare for the exhibition, Mrs Ruffell, Mr Hockey, Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Joyce, Ms Ralph, Mrs Swainston, Mrs Davey, Mrs Dowsett, Miss Perry, Mrs Barker, Mrs Caramia and Mrs Jeshrani.
• Our office staff Mrs Fordham, Mrs Clements and Mrs Franey for managing the purchases of student work at the opening.
• A number of parents, ex parents and ex staff who helped out with the huge task of setting up the exhibition.
• Our P&C who donated funds to help with the catering.

I must also once again thank our artists in residence who came last term to carry out their work in our school. The pieces they have donated to the school will be sold in a silent auction over the course of the exhibition – I am sure there will be much interest in these.

As was indicated in last week’s newsletter, all of the pieces produced by the students are on sale to you as parents in the first instance and then made available to the general public on Wednesday 5 November. This helps us to recoup the significant costs in staging the exhibition.

Mural Installed
An addition to this year’s art exhibition is that in the lead up we engaged one of our artists in residence, Scott Mahar to also work with a small group of students who have shown some talent in the visual arts. This has resulted in the production of a mural that was installed on the western facing wall of our admin area. As you can see the art work involved picks up well on those things that Albany is known for. This compliments beautifully the mural that Scott helped our Aboriginal students and parents produced and installed on the western facing wall of the main building last year. I hope you agree that these two pieces will be terrific entry statements for our school.

ANZ Savers Plus Sponsorship
As was indicated in our last newsletter of last term, it is terrific that ANZ Savers Plus has offered to sponsor our ice-cream raffle ticket draw for the remainder of the year. We have already had 2 assembly draws that have been funded as a result of this arrangement.

Please be reminded that ANZ Savers Plus is a program open to Health Care, Pension or Disability Card holders who are in regular work or study, where $500 saved and accumulated by those involved receives $500 from the ANZ bank. These matched funds can be used on a range of educational related expenditure for school aged children.

For eligible families it is an additional amount of revenue that can be very helpful when it comes to meeting the costs of your child’s education.

Athletics Carnival
Our athletics carnival is next week, starting with the jumps, throws and 800m at 9.00am on Tuesday 11 Nov and finishing with the track events on Thursday 13 November. As usual at this time of the year athletics has been a focus in sport and PE.
programs in this lead up period. Hopefully all involved will be suitably prepared and motivated to participate fully. If your child is keen to be involved and looking forward to this event please encourage them as fully as possible. Whilst there is a competitive element, in the main this is about promoting healthy physical activity and having some fun at the same time.

Your attendance on both days of the carnival is welcomed. This encourages participation and adds atmosphere to the event. I hope that you can be there.

..., and finally
What a great event everyone experienced in Albany last weekend – many many highlights. I hope that you and your family were able to experience some part of the extensive program. If so I am sure that your children will, hopefully, look back in years ahead on this significant moment in our community’s history. It was fantastic that, apart from our Art Exhibition, our students were also able to perform for all of those attending the Stirling Terrace Mess Hall area set up especially during this commemorative period. I heard many positive comments about their performance.

Alan Dowsett – Principal

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.

Moving Schools or Locations in 2015?
It is crucial that you inform the school of any intention to move from Spencer Park in 2015. Our funding and the way we organise classes is dependent on an accurate understanding of student numbers in each year level across the school. From here on in, and for the remainder of the year, notifying us if your child will not be here in 2015 will assist greatly when it comes to planning for the new school year.

Class Requests 2015
Parent requests in relation to class placement in 2015 can now be made. These need to be in writing and addressed to Mr Dowsett. The deadline for these is Monday 10 November. Please be reminded that whilst all requests will be given due consideration there may be a range of factors that may not allow all requests to be granted. Parents also need to be aware that once classes have been set it can be difficult to make changes to the placements that have been made.

ART EXHIBITION
As you will be aware, our art exhibition Our Sunburnt Country, is running from 30 October to the 12 November 2014 and forms part of the ANZAC Albany commemoration.

The cost of each art piece is based on the mounting (for example, canvas, framing) or, in some instances, special materials purchased. Our school does not make a profit on any piece exhibited.

Thank you from the 2014 Art Exhibition Committee

Help Needed
We are looking for parent help with the pack up of Spencer Park Primary School's Art Exhibition at the Albany Museum. Pack up will be Friday 14 November, any volunteers please contact the school office 9841 2488.

Medallion Donations
If you would like to donate a pair of medallions for our Faction Sports Carnival please return the slip below to the school office with your donation. Medallions are $16.00 per pair and will have the name of the donor engraved on them.

Help
Parent help is also requested for the faction sports carnival on 5 and 6 March. If you are available to assist with either the jumps and throws on Tuesday or the track events on Thursday please return the slip below.

I would like to sponsor a pair of medallions and enclose $16.00.

Yes ☐ No ☐

Sponsor name to be put on medallion.

____________________________

Yes I am available to assist with the Sports Carnival.

Tuesday 11 November (Jumps & Throws) ☐
Thursday 13 November (Carnival) ☐

Name: _________________________________
Phone: _______________________________
SPENCER PARK EDUCATION SUPPORT CENTRE

Congratulations to Spencer Park Primary School on the great Art Exhibition. It was a fantastic, well-organized night. The wonderful artwork created by the students was a credit to the dedication of the teaching staff and the creativity and patience of the students.

Thank you Ms. Heather Joyce for displaying the grass trees created by our students out of recycled materials. They looked great!

Mrs. Fleay's students created representations of Australia using the colours that they see as part of the Australian landscape. They also included an image of themselves in the landscape. Wonderful work for Kindergarten and Pre-Primary students.

On Thursday Mrs. Redmond organized for the teachers and the students to visit the exhibition. It was a great opportunity for those who had not made it to the opening night to see the artistic items produced by themselves and students from our whole campus.

Do you have a Companion Card?
The WA Companion Card Program is an important community scheme funded by the WA Government through the Disability Services Commission (DSC) and implemented by National Disability Services (NDS).
The program assists people with a significant and lifelong disability who require support from a companion to participate at community venues and activities. It also supports and assists businesses to comply with existing disability and anti-discrimination legislation.

As many of our students may benefit from this program. Benefits of the card include:
- Access to admission or ticket for their companion at no cost to over 600 affiliates;
- Personal secure card with photo identification;
- Participation as an active member in their community.

For more information see Sharon Hall, our Registrar or go to www.wa.companioncard.asn.au

FUND RAISER for CAMP 2015
Nikki Farmer has organized a Living Fundraiser. We have Seed-embedded Christmas Cards for sale. Each card has a special “Christmas Tree that can be planted to grow Australian Native Swan River Daisies.

Packs of 4 cards cost $6.00. Please come to our office and collect a bag of 10 sets of cards. We have 30 packs to sell. When all the packs are sold; this will raise ~$750 towards next year's camp.

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

Library News
Hi everyone.
The new book stand is filling up. You can borrow some great new books now, there is something for all reading tastes.

Don't forget the computer roster has changed. Remember your computer manners and be considerate of other library users.

There are some overdue books that need returning so look high and low for them. See you soon.
Mrs Keeler

What I can See from My Playground by Jacob North

Today I can see a machine that looks like a lawn mower. I don't know what it is called, but it looks interesting. It is on the cement.

I can see a new veranda being built. The veranda goes over the path so you don't get wet walking to the new classrooms. It is not finished yet.

Jacob North

What strategies can parents suggest to their child who is being verbally or socially bullied?
The Bullying. No Way! Website provides information about various strategies.

These can be tried if the child feels safe:
1. walk away
2. try to act unaffected or unimpressed
3. try to deflect the bullying behaviour (e.g. pretending to agree in an offhand way ‘okay, yeah, maybe’)
4. say 'No!' or 'Stop it!' firmly
5. talk to a trusted adult at the school or at home

Taken from Bullying, No Way! (2013) Fast Facts: Bullying in Schools
Energy drinks are not suitable for children and teens. They are also not recommended for pregnant women, people with heart disease, or people who are sensitive to caffeine.

Energy drinks typically contain:
- caffeine (ranges from 30mg/250ml to 150mg/250ml, depending on the brand);
- guarana (a caffeine extract from a plant);
- sugar (in higher quantities than sports drinks);
- protein (the amino acid taurine is often added to these drinks), and;
- Vitamin B.

The high caffeine content of these drinks can produce a variety of unpleasant side effects. The high sugar levels in these drinks can reduce the body’s ability to absorb water, meaning that it is dangerous to consume these drinks before, during or after physical activity. It is particularly dangerous to mix energy drinks with alcohol.

For more information, go to [www.drugaware.com.au](http://www.drugaware.com.au)

### 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.

#### The Albany Schools Concert Band 1 and The Albany Youth Orchestra Concert

The Albany Schools Concert Band 1 and The Albany Youth Orchestra are combining forces to present a concert which they have named “The best of 2014”. The concert will take place on Monday 24 November, starting at 7pm in the Albany Baptist Church. Part proceeds of the concert will be used for the band to attend the Australian International Music Festival in Sydney in 2015. Students involved in this concert come from every school in Albany.

You are invited to attend this concert. Tickets are available from the Accounts Office at Albany SHS.

#### Uniting Care West

The Lower Great Southern Family Support Association are being taken over by the Uniting Care West.

Uniting Care West are having a community meeting at 10:00 Friday morning at the Lesser Hall of the Wesley Uniting Church, Duke St.

Please pass this information on to any families who may be in need of respite or who have funding available for carers.