

# NEWSLETTER



## Wembley Downs Primary School

### From the Principal

24 JULY, 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope that all families had a relaxing and enjoyable break over the recent holidays. I also trust that everyone had some time, as a family, away from the demands of work and the regular activities of busy schedules.

### Welcome

On behalf of the school community I warmly welcome Ms Simone De La Motte. Simone is commencing teaching duties in room four and we expect that this will be for the remainder of the school year. Simone has had previous teaching experience in public and independent schools in Karratha and Geraldton. Simone has moved to Perth with her husband and is looking forward to becoming a member of the WDPS teaching team.

I also take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Anita Molkenthin. Mrs Molkenthin will be working one day per week in Ms Edgar's year one class.

I am confident that all school community members will ensure that Anita and Simone receive warm welcomes to the school. We look forward to Simone and Anita adding brief background biographies in the next newsletter. ☺

### ICT Model Class – Room 15

Throughout term 3 room 15 will be involved in an innovative program that will initiate the inclusion of iPads into learning activities. Mrs Burchard's class is being supported by the school administration team, specialist staff from Apple Australia and Ms Hodder. The school is allocating significant resources to upgrading the classroom furniture so that we can create an inspiring, collaborative and engaging learning space – a 21<sup>st</sup> C learning environment – indeed.

### P&C Class Representative Meeting

The next P&C parent representative meetings will be held in the school library at 7.30 am on 6 August, 2018. The purpose of the meeting is to focus on building stronger relationships and improving existing communication channels. From the feedback received we have agreed to make these meetings a regular part of the school calendar.

### Assemblies

The first of our fortnightly assemblies will be held this coming Friday. As explained in the previous newsletter, we have planned for one of the assemblies to be a school based communication event (mini

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Friday 27 July**  
Mini Assembly

**Wednesday 1 August**  
Steaming Ahead  
Year 5/6

**Thursday 2 August**  
Steaming Ahead  
Year 3/4

**Friday 3 August**  
Steaming Ahead  
Year 1/2

**Tuesday 7 August**  
P&C Meeting

**Friday 10 August**  
Year 6 Assembly



## Principal News cont...

assembly) and the second assembly will be a class based school community celebration event. Parents and family members are welcome to attend both assemblies. The first 'mini assembly' is this week, 27 July 2018. The first class based assembly for this term will be on 10 August 2018.

We are also committed to developing a newsletter structure that focuses on student achievement / teacher successes / school community achievements.

### Open Night – 13 September 2018 5.30pm – 6.30pm

During this term we will conduct a School Open Night. This will be a time for all families to attend their child's classroom and see what their child is doing in their class. The student workbooks books will be available for parents to peruse through with their child. It is an opportune time to discuss your child's work quality and standards and ask your child to explain the activity / learning goals etc. Given the purpose of this event and the time available, it is important to appreciate that there is no time available for formal interviews etc.

### Schools

I have always believed that schools should be something much more than a place where students do maths and English lessons. Undoubtedly, both are crucially important. Nonetheless, I am of the view that schools should be enjoyable places where children are engaged and inspired in a number of ways. We scrutinise student performance data and assign A's and B's to a number of learning activities. However, it is my belief that we ought to create a learning environment where children are encouraged to be ... *well* ... children for a large part of their day.

### Drama Program & Performance

The drama program has commenced for the year 6 students for 2018. This year 31 students have chosen to work with our expert drama teacher, Mrs Yvette Wall. We are expecting another stellar performance from our year 6 students this year. Given the outstanding quality of the performance in 2017, I would recommend that all families 'block out' the evening of 30 November 2018 in their calendars. The performance will be held in the Churchlands Senior High School Concert Hall.

### Kindy and Pre-Primary Equipment

In terms 3 and 4 we are planning to, with P&C support, ensure that the Kindy and pre-primary children have resources that enable them to be involved in 'Play-Based' learning. Importantly, play-based learning is not 'just play'.

*"When implemented with care, planning and deliberate learning goals in mind, it is an effective vehicle for achieving expected outcomes for children in the early years."* ('Early Years of Schooling', Education Department WA).

### Aladdin Excursion



Towards the end of last term, the school negotiated a discounted price for tickets to the acclaimed musical performance, "Aladdin". We are planning on offering this opportunity to all students from Years 1 to 6. *Aladdin* is being performed at the Crown Theatre in Burswood. Broadly, the details are as follows. We will

## Principal News cont...

advise class groupings for each performance once the excursion is finalised

### Dates:

10 October 2018 at 1.00pm

Classes: Year 1 (rooms 6 and 7) + Year 1/2 (room 8) + Year 5 (room 3) + Year 6 (rooms 10 and 4)

17 October at 1.00pm

Classes: Year 2 (room 9) + Year 2/3 (room 11) + Year 3 (rooms 12 & 13) Year 4 (rooms 14 & 15)

Cost: \$72.00 per student (selected parent 'helpers' will be funded by the school).

Payment: All tickets must be paid for by;

10 August 2018 (for those attending 10 October)

17 August 2018 (for those attending 17 October)

Transport: Bus from WDPS to Burswood and return. Transport cost is included in the above amount.

### **Faction Carnival – 22 and 24 August 2018**

The annual athletics faction carnival will be held on the 22 (jumps etc.) and 24 August 2018. Mr Rosier is working hard to ensure that we are able to further improve our efforts from 2017. Mr Rosier will be holding a meeting very soon with parents who can volunteer to assist the school on both or either of the days noted above. I expect that Mr Rosier will advise all parents, as soon as is practicable, of location, date and time of when that meeting will be held.

### **Staff Leave**

Mrs Rebecca Clohessy will commence parental leave as of 30 July 2018. Rebecca and Mat are expecting the birth of their second child. I am very confident that all of the school community wish Rebecca, Mat and Olivia all the very best during this very exciting time in their lives.

I have an amount of long service leave that is required to be cleared in accordance with Education Department policy. I have negotiated a leave plan with the Regional Executive Director. Therefore, I will be taking the equivalent of one day per week of long service leave for the remainder of the school year. J

Lastly, I look forward to another semester of working in partnership with all to continue to build an effective school community.

*Mr Lincoln Day—Principal*

## Deputy News...

### **Every Day Counts for Students**

A study conducted by the Telethon Institute for Child Health and Research studied data collected from 400,000 WA public schools in the past five years.

The report concluded that there is no safe threshold of tolerable absences. It stated that many parents believe it did not matter if children missed a day here and there of primary school. In fact the report showed a strong correlation between regular attendances, positive outlook to learning something every-day and consistent effort are learning keys to progress and achievement. The article went on to say that "... going to school is more than just learning maths or reading. It's actually learning to show up."

## Deputy News cont...

The report showed school attendance patterns were developed in Year 1. This infers a real need for parent support across all year levels, particularly parents who have children in early childhood programs.

Whilst our school can boast over the last five years of school attendance averages in excess of 95% we all should be reminded of the importance of our children to go school.

**Table F 1 Educational risk through non-attendance**

Period of Absence (years 1 to 10)	Rate of attendance	Equivalent Schooling Missed	Level of educational risk
Average of 5 days a term	90%	1 year	Classified as regular attendance
1 day a week	80%	2 years	Indicated risk
1.5 days a week	70%	3 years	Moderate risk
2 days a week	60%	4 years	Moderate risk
3 days a week	40%	6 years	Severe risk
5 weeks a term	50%	5 years	Severe risk

## School Office News

### Term Accounts

Term 3 accounts will be sent home by the end of this week, please check your child/ren's bag.

Payment can be made by **Direct Deposit BSB 066161 Account No. 10035840.**

**Eftpos/Credit card facilities** are also available.

It would be appreciated if payment could be made as soon as possible, if you have difficulty making payment in full, please contact the School Office on 9245 3199.

Information re incursions/excursions will be sent home closer to the date, **remember to sign the permission note** attached and return to the School Office as soon as possible..

## Drama News

We've had a great start to Year 6 Drama – 31 participants. There is so much talent and enthusiasm in the room. It's looking like our show this year will have a 'green' theme.

The venue for Thursday's sessions has changed from the Library to the Undercover area so the students need to dress warm please.

Punctuality is still an issue on the Tuesday morning so if everyone can arrive on time at 7:50am it would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,



**p: +61 408 471 060 e: hello@yvetewall.com w: www.yvetewall.com**

## Community News...

### VacSwim 2018

With swimming pools and beaches a big part of the Western Australian lifestyle, ensuring your children can swim competently and safely is essential.

You can now enrol your children in VacSwim swimming lessons during the October and December/January school holidays.

VacSwim is for all children - from beginners to more advanced swimmers and young people doing their Bronze Medallion. Your children can start as young as five years old.

Your children can join in the fun of learning to swim at pools and open water venues across the State.

Enrol your children in VacSwim now at [education.wa.edu.au/swimming](http://education.wa.edu.au/swimming)



## Woodlands Teeball Club

### Registration Day

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2018

12 - 2pm

Woodlands Reserve, Teakwood Ave, Woodlands.

Email: [woodlandsteeball@gmail.com](mailto:woodlandsteeball@gmail.com)

<https://woodlandsteeball.tidyclub.com/>

Boys Pre-primary up to Year 5

Girls Pre-primary up to Year 5

