From the Principal

I’d like to begin this first newsletter of 2016 by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and extending a warm “welcome back” to staff, students, parents and the wider Wembley Downs Primary School community. I would like to particularly welcome all “new” students and families to our school and hope they find their experiences here both educative and rewarding.

This week’s weather is certainly making the days challenging for students. (And staff) I have been asked by a number of parents if the extended heat wave may result in the school closing. Advice from the Department of Education states:

**Guidance**

- **Schools are not closed during periods of prolonged high temperature.**
- **Parents may keep their child at home and provide an explanation of absence to the school.**
- **Parents may also withdraw students from the school program in negotiation with school staff.**

All our classrooms have air-conditioning and we will continue to encourage the students to drink water regularly and stay out of the sun.

The end of 2015 saw the launch of our new website. Linked to our site is an app called Tiqbiz. The app will send you reminders of events in the school calendar and allow us to send messages to parents; across the whole school or at specific year levels. Simply download the app, select our school and then “tick” the year level/s in which you have children. Instructions are on page 9 in this newsletter.

The AGM for the P&C will be held next Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Staffroom. This dedicated group of volunteers is always looking for fresh faces to join their ranks. Please feel free to come along and get involved in your school.

This Friday our Year 4 – 6 students will participate in elections for our Year 6 Student Leaders for 2016. This is an opportunity for students to learn first-hand about preferential voting and the democratic selection of representatives.

On a final note, next week teachers will hold Parent Information Meetings, so keep an eye on the correspondence from your child’s teacher for times and venues.

*Mr Doug Cook—Principal*
**Notes from the School Office**

**Term Accounts**

This year we are introducing term accounts to enable parent/guardians if they choose to pay for all amounts owing in one payment instead of the small amounts that we request throughout the year for incursions/excursions etc. We encourage all parents if possible to pay in full, time saving for you as well as the school office. If you are having difficulty in paying School and P & C contributions, etc in full please contact the School Office to make arrangements to pay in instalments.  **Thank you** to those who have paid their School and P & C contributions already, term accounts will be sent home with your child by the end of this week.

**Absences**

If your child is going to be absent from school you can **telephone** the school office on 9245 3199, via the **website** under the heading **Information** and complete an absence form or **e-mail** direct to wembleydowns.ps.absences@education.wa.edu.au.  **It is important that** we know if your child is not attending school and the reason why.  **Thank you for your co-operation.**

**Term Planner**


**Deputy’s News**

**ICAS Testing**

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) is an independent, skills-based assessment program which recognises and rewards student achievement. ICAS is unique, being the most comprehensive generally available suite of academic assessments for primary and secondary school students. The assessments comprise seven tests which include English tests, Maths tests, Science tests, Spelling tests and Writing tests.

For more than 30 years, Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) has continuously improved and enhanced ICAS. Today, this experience means ICAS is a 21st century quality assessment the keeps pace with classroom learning. A new ICAS test is developed annually for each subject in each year level by our team of subject matter experts. All ICAS tests are reviewed by experienced teachers to ensure that they accurately assess students’ skills and are relevant to what they are learning at school. Some schools use ICAS as a psychometric test to better understand what students can and can’t do at a point in time and track learning as students’ progress from year to year. Other schools use ICAS results as a component of a student’s overall academic achievement for the year and, still others use ICAS as a placement test. Each test is sat at the student’s school and is invigilated by teachers under normal examination conditions. Administration Guidelines are provided to the schools with the ICAS papers to ensure that the same conditions are afforded to all students sitting ICAS. Over one million student entries are accepted from over 6,300 schools in Australia and New Zealand annually. In addition, students from over 20 countries including Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa and the USA participate in ICAS each year. Wembley Downs Primary School is proud to offer interested parents a chance to nominate their child to participate in all or some of the tests. The tests are held over the year and play a part in determining our Year 6 academic achievers. In due course nomination forms will be sent out to all families with students in Year 2 to 5.
Deputy’s News cont.

Pre Primary to Year 6 Incursion

CYBER WISER - Offering simple, sound advice for our technological times. With a cast of over ten different characters (some human, some puppet), ten costume changes, music from a dynamic sound system, a multitude of exquisitely made props and set, amazing illusions and a little juggling thrown in for good measure, Cyber Wiser thoroughly entertains while getting students thinking and questioning their activities both online and in the playground.

The story centres on three friendships who are put to the test when one of the group unthinkingly posts photos on their Facebook page of their friend. The photos are soon seen by everyone in the school. Seen online, out of context and without any explanation, false conclusions are made and the bullying online commences immediately and continues the following day in the playground. With their long-time friendship threatened the three friends take control and get the true story of the photos heard in order to bring the bullying under control.

With its baffling illusions, beautifully hand painted images that are not what they first appear to be and the mind boggling hexaflexagon, Cyber Wiser is designed to get students questioning both what they see and hear before they jump to conclusions.

Cyber Wiser will be performing in our under cover area on Monday 29 February at 9.30am.

Check with your child’s teacher for class times. The cost of the incursion is $4.50. This charge will be added to your term account that will be sent home at the end of this week.

Mr George Tolev—Deputy Principal

Music Notes

All Scholarship Students

A note has been issued to all scholarship students (including beginners) last Friday regarding ensembles, lessons times and days. All lessons start in week 2, excepting year 4 cellos, who will start in week 3. All ensembles will commence in week 3, with string orchestra on Mondays, jazz band on Wednesdays, and choir on Thursdays.

Choir

A note was available for students to take home last Friday for any student from years four to six to join our school choir. We will meet before school, Thursdays from 8 to 8.45 starting in week 3, 18th February. If you need a copy of the note, please see reception.

Community Choir

The music teaching association KMEIA is starting up a community choir, which will consist of both music teachers and music lovers from the community. There is the option to join for a term, or commit to a whole year of singing and enjoying music. I have included a flyer in this newsletter which includes dates, rehearsal information and cost.

Double Bass Lessons

I would like to welcome Miss Ebony Lim to the Wembley Downs PS community and hope that she enjoys teaching our students the double bass. Unfortunately, Mr Waldron was not able to fit Wembley Downs into his timetable, and I would like to wish him heartfelt thanks for all of the excellent teaching and enthusiasm for our students.

Mrs Archer—Music Teacher
The WA Kodály Community Choir exists for community members to experience the joy of group music making. This choir provides a safe and supportive environment for you to learn to read music, develop your vocal technique and equip you to appreciate music at a deeper level.

For music teachers, the choir provides an opportunity to participate and observe an experienced practitioner taking a choir using a Kodály approach. All our conductors have completed the Australian Kodály Certificate and are experienced choral directors.

The choir will operate seasonally. Season One will consist of 6 rehearsals and a final concert, with singers having the option to commit to one season or the whole year. Each season provides a chance for the choir to explore new repertoire and a fresh opportunity for new members to join. The choir will be open to all ages 16 and up.

When: Season One: 1st February – 21st March
Where: St Peter’s Anglican Church, 11 Leonard St, Victoria Park
Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Monday Nights
Cost: $40 Members, $80 Non - Members
Rehearsals:
- 1 February
- 8 February
- 15 February
- 22 February
- 29 February
- 7 March: No Rehearsal (Labour Day)
- 14 March
- 21 March: Season 1 Final Performance
Dear parents,

When something significant happens in a family, the whole family is affected. Even though death or divorce appears to be a grown up problem, it does have a profound effect on the children it touches. If a parent dies, or separation or divorce occurs, not only do adults grieve, but the children grieve also. Because of their age, and short life experiences, children can find it difficult to verbalise their feelings.

While we will continue to run Rainbows in T2&3 this year, this term our school chaplain, Jessica Kenny, will facilitate a 7x week program for parents using a book written by the founder of RAINBOWS, Suzy Yehl Marta.

The program is for those who have or are going through painful transitions that have affected themselves and/or their families, especially their children (including fifo).

The book *Healing the hurt: restoring the hope* is a guide for parents to help them and their children through times of divorce, death and crisis with the RAINBOWS approach.

The group meets once a week for a cuppa and discussion over an hour and a half during a time that is convenient to everyone.

If you would like to participate or are interested in knowing more, or if you would like to do the group again, please return the slip to reception or contact Jessica at school on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The cost of this program is just the cost of the book which you keep ($25 plus shared postage).

Douglas Cook
Principal
Wembley Downs Primary School

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*Healing the hurt: restoring the hope*

- [ ] I would like to participate in the *Healing the hurt: restoring the hope* sessions.
- [ ] I would like to know more about the parent group above.

NAME: ________________________________

PHONE: ______________________________
P&C News

Netball 2016 Season

It’s that magic time again - Netball Season! Players from Years 1 to 6 are invited to join in the fun of playing netball this season with WDPS Netball Club!

The club is holding a general meeting for all interested parents, coaches and managers on Thursday 18th February at 7.30pm to plan the 2016 season. Register your interest at wdnetball@gmail.com

This year we are once again excited to be able to offer the Net Set Go program to students in Years 1 and 2. NetSetGO is a play based movement skills program where the emphasis is on the acquisition of basic movement skills, in a fun environment of games and activities. The sessions will start in Term 2 and will be 45min on a Monday after school at WDPS. Each player receives a participant pack including T-shirt and Ball. Some parent help with ‘coaching’ for NetSetGo is required. This is mostly supervising a small group of players and facilitating the games instructed by coaches. Any queries please contact Deanne on 0430 324 298 or deanneq@hotmail.com

Players in years 3-6 will play in teams in the Saturday morning PNA competition at Matthew’s Netball Centre, Selby st, Wembley. Training sessions will be at school once a week (time and day decided by the team coaches). The season commences Saturday 7th May (Years 5 and 6), Saturday 14th May (Years 3 and 4). The registration process will be online via www.mynetball.com.au and our club will be ready to receive registrations soon. For now make sure you register your interest with your coach/manager or the club wdnetball@gmail.com and we will email registration link and instructions once finalised.

If your child has never played Netball before or you are new to the school and your child is interested in playing this year, please let me know and I will put you in touch with the coach for your team. If you require any further information, please contact Rita Moar 0407 221 279 or the5moars@gmail.com

Rita Moar and Deanne Quartermaine—WDPS Netball Coordinators

WDPS Reusable Shopping Bags

They have finally arrived. Just in time for Valentines Day! The large reusable jute shopping bags with the design inspired by our students who entered the Plastic Free July 2015 competition are now for sale via the online uniform shop. $10 each of 2 for $15.

P&C School Picnic

The WDPS P&C would like to invite all school families and staff to the after school Picnic on Friday 12th February on the school oval. BYO picnic rug/ chairs, food and drinks and meet some new and not so new faces.

P&C Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 16th February P&C AGM- 7.30pm in the staff room. Find out more about the P&C and how you can support your child and the school. Every parent is invited to attend.

P&C School Sleep Out

Save the date. There will be a school sleep/ camp out on the school oval on Friday 18th March, 2016. Details to follow soon through class reps and in the school newsletter.

Looking forward to seeing lots of families in attendance.

Deanne Quartermaine—Sustainability Coordinator
P&C Roles

Wembley Downs Primary School - P&C Roles

All the P&C positions are coming up for renewal in February. Everyone: Mum or Dads (or both) are able to apply. Which role would you like for 1 year to make our school a better place?

The President is the P&C meeting Chairperson, the public face of the P&C and is a link between parents and school administration. During meetings the President ensures there are motions to be voted on and holds productive meetings. The President is included on all Committees & Sub-Committees. The President speaks at events and promotes the benefits and of the school’s P&C Association. The President will always uphold and ensure adherence to the constitution and requirements of the P&C Association.

Vice President supports the President to undertake the President’s duties if they unable to do so, including chairing meetings when the President is absent. The Vice President can also represent the President on any of the Sub-committees.

Treasurer maintains the P&C accounts & records. Reports on current financial position are provided for each P&C meeting, including reconciliation of bank accounts.

The Secretary maintains the P&C’s records, minutes all meetings and distributes information in a timely manner. The Secretary is the “go to” person as they will know who is responsible for any tasks. The Secretary also deals with correspondence for the P&C.

Executive Committee (3) members assist the P&C Executive body (Pres, V/Pres, Sec & Treasurer) if any immediate decisions are required outside of normal meeting procedures. Executive members should range across all school levels.

Fundraising Co-ordinator role is to co-ordinate of all Fundraising activities occurring throughout the year. This involves the planning of activities and securing volunteers to assist. This is a vitally important role in ensuring that revenue streams are available for the P&C.

The Uniform Committee run the Uniform shop. The Uniform Treasurer is also included in the committee, which then determines best options available to ensure the uniform requirements for the school are maintained.
Uniform Treasurer is responsible for controlling all uniform shop financial activity, including banking, invoice reconciliation & payments and preparing monthly reports for the P&C meetings.

Canteen Convenor prepares and administers volunteer rosters, as well as supporting the Canteen Co-ordinator. (i.e. stock ordering, or collecting, filling in if required) This person will hold committee meetings and report back to the P&C on canteen issues.

Canteen committee members are additional to other Canteen roles. Their role is to meet regularly, discuss menus, upcoming special days, what is planned for the canteen & ensuring adherence to set policies.

Canteen Treasurer is responsible for all canteen financial activity, including banking, invoice reconciliation & payments, staff wages, superannuation & preparing monthly reports for the P&C meetings.

Sustainability Officer focuses on everything relating to conservation/recycling as well as promoting the benefits of a greener environment. They arrange for participation in the vegetable area, growing seedlings, tree planting, mulching & composting, water-wise & energy efficiency.

Safety House person co-ordinates the Safety House activity week, helping to raise awareness to school children. They provide communication to the Safety House participants.

School Council Rep communicates between the P&C and School Council on issues which may require further discussion at the higher school level. They report back to the P&C on Council issues.

Class Reps are the main conduit of information between P&C and parents, as well as between class teachers & parents. This is a vitally important role in keeping all parties informed of upcoming events, meetings and other school activities; Class reps will also provide assistance for fundraising and events and organise nights out for their classes or year group.

Please get in touch with the present position holder or the P&C at wembleydownsp@gmail.com for more information. All positions will be decided on 16th February 2016, the first P&C meeting of the year.

Issued December 2015.
Tizbiz Instructions

We're using an app to communicate with you.

You'll be notified of our news, messages, events and other communications.

Simply download the tibiz app to your phone or tablet following the instructions on this leaflet.

For technical support, please email our friendly team.

tibiz

Here's how to download tibiz

Step 1. Download for phone and tablet.
Search tibiz in your app store.

For Apple:
Select ‘allow’ notifications.

Step 2. Find & Tick.

Log-in
Open tibiz and register/log-in.

Find
Inside the menu, click on ‘Find & Tick’.
Type our name into the search bar.
Select us from the results.

Tick
Click the grey tick on the boxes that apply to you.
When the tick turns green, you’re connected.

Inbox
Click on the Inbox icon.
This is where you will receive our instant messages, newsletters, notices and calendar events.

Don’t have a smartphone or tablet?
Download tibiz on your PC or Mac at www.tibiz.com/register

Community News

Creative Kids Art Club

After School Art Classes

Classes for Term 1 2016 now enrolling near you!
Classes run for one hour and are suitable for children from 5 to 10yrs. All materials and aprons provided.
Visit www.creativekidsartclub.com.au for our class timetable, locations and term dates. Ph 9367 7618 or email jane@creativekidsartclub.com.au
Community News cont.

**Wembley Downs Playgroup**

Looking for somewhere to take your baby or toddler?  
We would love to see you!  
We meet on Tuesday mornings, 9.30 -11.00am at the Wembley Downs tennis club (corner of Ednah and Morden Streets) Come along and meet other families in your community.  
Email: wembleydownsplaygroup@gmail.com if you would like any further information.

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**Ready Steady Go Kids - Term 1 is here!**

Ready Steady Go Kids, Australia's largest and most reputable multi-sport and exercise program for pre-schoolers (aged 2.5-6 years), is now open for enrolments for Term 1. With indoor locations in Carine, City Beach, Craigie, Currambine, Floreat, Karrinyup and West Leederville, our high quality, physio-designed program teaches children the fundamentals of 10 different sports in a fun team-based environment. To arrange a free trial or for more information about our great program, please visit [www.readysteadygokids.com.au](http://www.readysteadygokids.com.au) or call 1300 766 892.

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**ANZ NetSetGO at State Netball Centre**

ANZ NetSetGO is an introductory program to the wonderful sport of netball aimed at 5-10 year olds. It is a great way to learn fundamental skills, encourage physical activity and make friends in a fun and friendly environment.  

Every Monday for 7 weeks, starting 8th February from 3.45 - 4.45pm  
Every Wednesday for 8 weeks starting 17th February from 3.45 - 4.45pm  
$110 per participant (GST inclusive)  

For more information, call Amy on 9360 3732 or visit netballwa.com.au/netsetgo to register.
Tunya Petridis has worked with children and young people in a variety of settings including a domestic violence service, foster care, schools, an indigenous organisation, a mental health service and private practice. Tunya has specialised in working with children who have experienced trauma, separation and attachment disruptions. In her current role as the Children's Consultant at Anglicare WA she continues to work with children who have experienced Family Violence, Sexual Abuse and Neglect and to develop and deliver training and professional supervision in these areas.

Date: 15 March 2016  
Time: 9:30am - 12:30pm  
Cost: $130 per person (incl. GST)  
Location: East Perth

Course Overview
This three hour workshop will benefit those in the legal, community, education and health sectors who work alongside children whose parents are separated.

The workshop has been designed to provide participants with an understanding of family breakdown from a child’s perspective, highlighting issues which children state are often overlooked during this time. Participants will gain insight into the behavioural and emotional aspects of children’s responses to separation. Participants will actively engage in discussion and hands on activities designed to provide them with an experiential understanding of family separation from a child’s point of view.

Who is this workshop suitable for?
This workshop is for professionals in the legal, community, education and health sectors who work alongside children whose parents are separated, including family court consultants, family dispute resolution practitioners, child inclusive practitioners, child psychologists and psychotherapists, family lawyers, independent children’s lawyers, children’s contact service workers, teachers and chaplains.

By the end of this workshop participants will have:
- Developed their understanding of current research related to the impact of separation on children  
- Gained insight into the lived experience of children whose parents have separated  
- Developed their capacity to emotionally attune to the experience of children whose parents have separated  
- Increased their capacity to empathise with children’s experience of parental separation

If you wish to attend, please complete a registration form.

Bookings essential
9263 2122  
or email training@anglicarewa.org.au  
@anglicarewa.org.au/training-services
Newman Knights is a local community based hockey club with a strong emphasis on family. No prior hockey experience is necessary to join and there’s no requirement to attend or have attended Newman College. From our Mini Knights (pre-primary to Year 4s) to our Year 11s and 12s, the Club caters for all ages. Pre-primary to Year 2s enjoy a skills based course while Year 3/4 up members play in competitions against other teams.

The 2016 calendar hits off with Junior Registration Day on Saturday February 13. This will be closely followed by a Junior Skills Clinic being run by our top coaches on Sunday February 21 from 4pm - 6pm for Years 5/6 up. The cost is $25 and includes coaching from our senior players and coaches, a sausage sizzle and drink.

Any questions? Please contact one of our Junior Co-ordinators Catherine Scott on 0415 837 122 or Steve Brown on 0407 814 539.
Community News cont.

1-2-3 Magic™ and Emotion Coaching
To help parents manage difficult behaviour in children 2 to 12 yrs
A humorous look at parenting, a serious look at discipline!
To help manage difficult behaviour in children, calmly and effectively. Learn how to use empathy so kids begin to identify their emotions and become better at managing them. This enables them to take more responsibility for their own behaviour.

Behaviour Tonics Rooms, Level 1, 252 Cambridge St, Wembley
Presented over 3 sessions. Cost $180 per person or $340 per couple. 7 to 9:30pm

Tue 16th, 23rd Feb & 1st March (2 to 5yrs)
Thurs 25th Feb, 3rd & 10th March (2 to 12yrs)
Wed 23rd, 30th March & 6th April (2 to 12yrs)

You will learn:
• The two approaches to parenting.
• How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
• How to handle kids testing behaviour.
• How to show empathy while developing emotional intelligence in your child.
• How to teach and encourage positive behaviour, social skills and independance.
• How to strengthen the relationship with your child.
• How to control obnoxious behaviour.

What people are saying...
• “It saved our lives”
• “Simple, sane, effective”
• “What a relief to come across a program that preserves the dignity of the child, maintains the self control of both the parent and the child and is actually easy to remember at those times when memory is the first thing to go”

For more information about this workshop call (08) 9382 1182 or
(Register Online) at www.behaviourtonics.com.au