



From the Principal



Our first week has been wonderful. Students have settled well and classes are already working steadily. I have only heard positive comments from pre-primary parents right up to year 7 on how children are enjoying their new year. Only this week I confirmed that many families are paying \$70/child/day for their private schooling. I have to confess I do not understand it, with our excellent national testing results and quality programs. Shenton College results for 2009 were outstanding and we will be working closely in accessing some of their talent to develop our year seven students.

Our enrolment numbers are what I had anticipated and so there will be no changes to class structures. We have eighteen enthusiastic pre-primary students, all dressed in Prac uniform and enjoying our excellent facilities. Our only year one student is being given individual academic attention and is being socially supported by our year 7 leaders as he settles into school.

Parent/Teacher information meetings are scheduled for next week and I hope parents will be able to attend these meetings to hear about the programs teachers have planned for the year and to take the opportunity to ask questions. Relationships between teachers, parents and students are important in ensuring the best educational outcomes. I encourage parents to maintain a close relationship with their class teacher through informal or formal meetings. Any concerns about your child should be discussed openly, with the understanding that we are all working together for the benefit of your child/ren.

I hope everyone will be able to attend our 'Welcome to Prac' Picnic on Friday 20 February. This is a most enjoyable way to meet people in the school and to start the year.

Wednesday 11 February 2009 – Issue No. 1

One new program we will be starting soon is our Early Years' Literacy Program - called *Zipididoodah Story Time*. This is for anyone with a child 0-4 years old who would enjoy sitting with an experienced teacher and having fun with books. The session will be Wednesday mornings for about 30 minutes in the school library. Flyers will be coming home next week, so please spread the word.

2009 Key areas of focus are:

- Early Years Literacy Program – 0-4 Story Time
- Whole school Literacy and Numeracy Program
- Pre Primary Integration
- UWA Partnership Program
- Prac Partnership Program
- Evidence Based Teaching—using NAPLAN & individual data
- Higher Order Thinking – Origo Maths Program
- Shenton College Year 7 Extension Program
- Leadership and Mentoring program for the year 7 students
- Upgrading Computer infrastructure
- Continue Athletics and extend ICT programs
- Environmental Sustainability- Waste Wise, Water Wise, Energy Wise
- Buildings & Grounds: Shade cover Yr 1 Playground, closing eastern wall on undercover area
- Continue: Virtues' Program to complement Friendly Schools and Families, Crunch 'n Sip, Sun Smart Policy.
- Continuing Blueearth and sports programs
- Implement the new Behaviour Management Policy

The staff and I look forward to a successful year where we continue to offer excellence in our programs, individual support for each child and progressive practice with the University of Western Australia.

On a much wider, humanitarian note, the school will be having a "Free Dress" day this Friday to support those devastated by the bush fires in Victoria. Our money will be given to the Red Cross Appeal. Please donate generously.

Kind regards
Vicki Moir

Quote We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit. Aristotle

Fortnightly Virtue – Friendliness

Friendliness is taking an interest in other people, being warm and courteous. Friendliness is sharing with others, the good times and the bad times. You show friendliness when you smile and greet people and when you ask people about themselves.

Dates for Your Diary

J Parents welcome at these events

FEBRUARY			
Monday	2		Back to school for students
Friday	13		Free Dress Day
Saturday	14		Valentine's Day
Tues/Wed	17-18		Parent/Teacher meetings
Friday	20	J J	Year 5-7 Assembly P&C Welcome Picnic
Monday	23	J	P&C AGM, 7.30pm, school library
Mon-Fri	16-27		Swimming lessons for all classes
Wed	25		Newsletter (hopefully e-type!)

Education News

Swimming Lessons 2009

School Swimming lessons are part of our Sports Program with the expectation that all children will participate. Lessons are 16-27 February for all classes, with the years 1-4 going to Claremont Pool in the morning and the years 5-7 having lessons at Cottesloe Beach.

Permission notes were sent home last week and should be returned to the class teacher.

Parent Teacher nights

Parent meetings are to be held during week 3 as follows:

PP	Wednesday 18	Midday
Year 1/2	Tuesday 17	5:00-5:30pm
Year 2/3	Tuesday 17	5:30- 6:00pm
Year 3/4	Tuesday 17	4:30-5:00pm
Year 5/6/7	Wednesday 18	6:00- 6:30pm

These meetings will be held in your child's classroom.



Did you enter the *Premier's Summer Reading Challenge 2008-09* over the Christmas Holidays?

If your child did enter the competition, he/she is not only in the draw to win some excellent prizes at a state level but at a school level there will also be something special to win. I will be calling for a copy of the completed entry form, from the Challenge Passport, and this will be entered into the draw to win a prize at our next school assembly. To be in the running for recognition on a state level you must send the original copies to the Department of Education & Training by Monday 16 February. Here are the details:

Premier's Summer Reading Challenge
c/o Department of Education & Training
151 Royal St
EAST PERTH WA 6004

Good luck children!

Miss Anne Christodulou

2009 "Practicalities"

Only 25 families have so far responded to our request for their current email address. In future we were hoping to email Practicalities – starting next newsletter we hope. You will still be able to receive a hard copy if this is your preference. Please email to: laurence.dubuisson-perrine@det.wa.edu.au

School Hat Policy

A reminder that Prac has a "no hat no play" policy, so please double check you have your hat in your bag every day.

Year 2-3 News



We are making up stories using the THRASS (Teaching Handwriting Reading and Spelling Strategies) Chart. This helps us learn our sounds (phonemes).



This is some fun we are having in Maths. The Year 2 children are using MABs to help them with place value.

General News...

Free Dress Day

This Friday, February 13, for a gold coin donation, children are invited to wear 'free dress'. This is in aid of the Red Cross Appeal for the devastation caused by the bush fires in Victoria.

Lost Property

Items that are found are kept in the Year 1/2 classroom. Parents are invited to check the lost property if needed.

If anyone finds a large (20cm) white plastic horse/pony, it belongs to the O'Dea's. It was left outside the Year 1/2 room.

P&C News...

P&C AGM

This will be held on Monday 23 February at 7.30pm in the school library. Please see additional sheet for further information. Hope to see you there!

Reserve this date...

All Prac families and staff are invited to attend the Welcome to Prac picnic to be held in the school grounds from 5.30-7.30pm on Friday 20 February. Please bring a picnic, drinks and something to sit on. The P&C will also be sizzling sausages and selling hot dogs.

Canteen News

Canteen will re-open for recess on Friday 20 February.

After two enjoyable years, Donna and Lesley have decided to relinquish the roles of Canteen Coordinators.

Deborah Rogers has volunteered to run the canteen this year and is looking for one or two willing assistants. If you can help, please contact Donna Stomp, 0422 975148, or Lesley Konowalious, 0409 000970.

Uniform Shop

In 2009, the shop will be open before school term starts on Friday 30 January, from 10-11 am and then every Friday morning from 8.30-9 am. As Kelly is leaving us soon, Lesley Konowalious will be taking over as uniform coordinator with Alison Rockett from next term.

Alison 9383 4086/0405 751655
Lesley 9386 2930/0409 000970

Class Parents

The role of class parent is an important one in continuing the East Claremont Primary School tradition of excellent parent/teacher relations and community spirit. Class parents:

- Ø act as liaison & central contact for all parents in the class;
- Ø assist the class teacher in co-ordinating parent help within the classroom or for excursions when the need arises;
- Ø help organise class/parent social functions;
- Ø co-ordinate provision of morning tea following class assemblies;
- Ø liaise with the P&C in distributing information and fund-raising details;
- Ø take charge of parent notice boards outside classroom - adding and removing notices;
- Ø act as initial contact in welcoming new families & ensuring they have all the information they need about the school;
- Ø are encouraged to attend P&C meetings, so that they are aware of discussions, decisions & events that may affect the families they represent. This can be done on a rotational basis.

Thank you to the three volunteers so far:

Year 3/4: Alice Payne & Tracey Gralton
Year 5/6/7: Yvonne Dudfield

Community Notices...

Friday Tennis – Dalkeith Tennis Club



MastaStroke® Tennis System at Dalkeith Tennis Club holds Aviva Tennis Hot Shots on Fridays from 4.00 – 5.30pm. Aviva Tennis Hot Shots is the only nationally recognized grassroots participation program that is endorsed by Tennis Australia. The program caters for all players 7 – 12 years old.

From the first moment children participate in the Aviva Tennis Hot Shots program, they will actually “play the game” of tennis. This means players are able to serve, rally and score in an exciting competition format.

The use of modified balls and courts offers a unique stepping stone into tennis allowing every player to obtain maximum enjoyment.

All players welcome. For more information please call John or Goran on 9386 6906.

Tennis coaching before school at PRAC

Places are available for children wishing to have tennis coaching before school on Wednesday mornings at College Park, 7.40-8.40am for Years 4-6 and 7.55-8.40am for Years 1-3. After the session the children are accompanied to school by one of the coaches. To enrol, or for more details, please contact Matthew Bull at the Tennis Factory on 9284 3300.

More Tennis ...

Ross Gerrans' Tennis School will be conducting tennis coaching for children and adults. Application forms available from the school office or by calling Ross on 9284 9588 or m 0408 945509.

Hockey Club

Riverside Lions Junior Hockey Club is now accepting registrations for the 2009 hockey season.

Registration Day: Saturday 21st February, 11am–2pm

At: J C Smith Pavilion, Melvista Oval, Melvista Ave, Nedlands

☒ Contact Katie McDonald at kmac@smartchat.net.au, or go to: www.riversidelionshc.org.au



Pre Kindies and Kindies

(Programs run indoors when too hot outside)

Days: Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays or Saturday mornings
Times: Mon /Thu/ Fri - 9.30–10.30 am or 10.45–11.45 am,
Saturdays - 9–10am or 10.15–11.15 am
Venue: College Park Nedlands

Pre Primary/Year 1/2/3

Ball Skills/Multi Sport & Exercise Programmes

Tuesdays at Loreto, Nedlands, 7.30 am
Wed/Thu at College Park, Nedlands, 4- 5 pm
Fridays at College Park, Nedlands, 7.30 am
Fridays at St.Hilda's, 3.20 pm
Saturdays at College Park, Nedlands, 9-10 or 10.15-11.15 am

Cricket Programmes

Mondays: Subiaco Primary 7.30 am
College Park, 4 - 5pm
Tuesdays: College Park 4 - 5pm
Thursdays: Scotch College 7.30 am

April School Holidays

Tues 14 April-Fri 17 April: Mon 20 April-Fri 24 April

Birthday Parties: www.kidznpsport.com.au.

Booking online at: www.kidznpsport.com.au
or tel 93849920

Before & After School Care

Health Services OSHC at Sir Charles Gairdner runs before school care from 6.45-9 am and after school from 2.30-6 pm. Children are transported in fully equipped buses and high quality care is provided. A vacation care/school holiday program is also offered, which is open every day except public holidays from 6.45 am-5.45 pm Monday to Friday. For more information, please call 9346 3238.

UWA OSHC (Outside School Hours Care)

UWA has vacancies for December 2008/January 2009 Vacation Care program and After School Care in 2009.

Where: 18 Parkway, Nedlands.

Enrolment: www.childcare.uwa.edu.au or

Telephone: Connie: (m) 0412 237 742, 9389 1848 (Centre)
Jo/Karen 9389 9433 (office)