



Connolly Primary School News

Newsletter 3

27 February 2017

Important Dates

Monday 6 March

Public Holiday

Tuesday 7 March

P&C Meeting

Friday 10 March

Assembly hosted by Karri 4

Wednesday 22 March

Year 6 Camp

Term Dates

Term 1

1 February - 7 April

Term 2

26 April - 30 June

Term 3

18 July - 22 September

Term 4

10 October - 14 December

Telephone:

9300 2199

Facsimile:

9300 0050

Email:

connolly.ps@education.wa.edu.au

Website:

www.connollyps.wa.edu.au

*Dear Parents and Community Members
Welcome to Week Five*

I would like to thank all our parents. It is a feature of our school how well you support your children, the staff and each other. We do have some families 'doing it tough' at the moment and it is in the true Connolly Spirit that everyone is being so compassionate and understanding to one another.

Parent Information Evening

This was held on Wednesday 15th February. Feedback from those who attended was positive but teachers report that attendance rates were down on previous years. Would you please fill in the short survey attached to this newsletter and return it by email? This will allow us to make any changes to meet your needs.

School Assembly

Our first class assembly of the year was held on Friday 24th February and a huge thanks to *Mrs Loffelman's Year 3 Class*. They entertained us with a superb drumming exhibition. I am amazed how well they did given they have had just three weeks to prepare. They looked fantastic in their white shirts, silver bow ties and top hats. The children spoke beautifully and it was great to see so many parents there. Well done *Mrs Loffelmann* and *Jarrah 3*.

Students Arriving Early

If students arrive at school before 8:25 am, even if accompanied by a parent, they must gather outside my office. They will be supervised from 8:15 am. This is a duty of care issue as directed by the Department of Education. I have asked the student leaders to help me in the mornings as there are groups of students still waiting outside the classrooms for the siren. Students are arriving as early as 7:00am and this is far too early. If there are parents who need to be at work then students should be put into OSH Club. OSH Club is open from 7:00am.

Attendance

Thank you to those families who have written to me regarding family holidays during term time. Last week I sent out letters to parents whose children had an unexplained absence. It is a legal requirement under the School Education Act that any absence from school is explained. This can be a verbal explanation.

Assembly

The staff and students of
Karri 4
will host the School Assembly on
Friday 10 March
in the Undercovered area.

We extend an invitation to all members of the school community to join us for this event.

School Board Meeting

The first meeting of the year was held on Wednesday 22nd February. The main item on the agenda was school review. The School Board Chair, *Councillor Tom McLean*, has submitted this report:

As chair of the Connolly Primary School Board it is my pleasure to present this report on last week's Board Meeting.

The Board is comprised of four parent representatives, three community representatives, three staff members, the Principal and Ms Christine Richards as secretary to the Board.

We meet 4 times a year and our main role is governance. Good governance ensures that:

School resources, including money and time, are used efficiently.

Rules and policies that are relevant to the context and situation of the school are created and enforced.

The school has mutually agreed priorities that are about achieving great outcomes for students, and steps are taken to bring these about.

Relationships with external parties, such as local businesses and organisations, are shaped to best effect.

Ultimately, good school governance makes sure the school is delivering positive outcomes for students.

At last week's meeting the Principal presented a report on the start of the school year. We asked questions about staffing and the implications for 2018. We reviewed the school budget and made sure that this was prepared in line with the priorities outlined in the Business Plan as well as complying with government regulations.

We then spent a significant amount of time on the school's preparation for the upcoming school review. We looked at the improvement recommendations that the school had developed, the workforce plan, the contextual factors that impact student learning and much more. The Board was amazed at the amount of work the school had done in preparing for the review. We also talked about parent response to the recent parent survey and parental attitude and knowledge of the workings of your School Board. We also discussed parent representation and Mr Womersley will be calling for parent nominations in the near future. We also discussed holding an open meeting in Term Three.

I would encourage you to consider nominating for the School Board.

Joondalup Performing Arts Centre

On Thursday I attended a presentation by the City of Joondalup about the proposed new Performing Arts Centre. This will be a world class facility that the school will be able to make use of for our productions. It will also give us the opportunity to exhibit art work if we wished. It means that we will not have to travel to Perth and beyond to go to concerts, ballet, theatre etc. Below is a link to the consultation document and I would urge as many of you as possible to put in a submission. The submission will only take 5 minutes to fill in.

<http://www.joondalup.wa.gov.au/Develop/MajorProjects/JoondalupPerformingArtsandCulturalFacility.aspx>

Virtues

This fortnight's Virtue is LOYALTY

Loyalty is staying true to someone and standing up for that you believe in.

Jodi Ingham, School Chaplain

After School

I have noticed a growing number of students who are staying after school and playing on the playground equipment. I understand it is a great opportunity for parents and students to socialise but it is increasingly becoming a problem in terms of supervision, interference in after-school activities, safety and toileting.

The playground equipment in the Kindy/Pre-Primary area should be cleared by 3:00pm as the gates to this area will be locked at 3:10pm. This area is for OSH Club use only after school each day. Cleaners are required to lock the toilets at 3:00pm each day for hygiene and safety reasons.

The following is an extract from the Duty of Care Policy:

Students who remain on school grounds after being collected by parents

The collection of students at the end of the school day by, for example, parents will result in those parents or others collecting the students assuming responsibility for supervising them while on the school grounds or while using the playground equipment.

David Womersley, Principal

Introducing Qkr! – The New Preferred Payment and Permission App

Qkr is now available for our parents to use. I encourage you to download the app using the 'How To Guide' attached with the newsletter.

With Qkr, you can pay instantly for excursions, incursions, voluntary contributions etc. From now on, when notes are sent home, you will be advised that the activity has been uploaded to Qkr for you to pay for and digitally provide permission for your child to participate in an activity. If you need any assistance or further information regarding the Qkr app, please visit the staff in the office.

JAPANESE NEWS

Konnichiwa (Hello). Japanese Club is back for 2017. It is an opportunity for students to take part in many hands on activities related to Japanese Culture. Term 1 projects include origami, pipe cleaner ninjas and calligraphy. In our first Nihongo Club students made origami hearts (kokoro) and planes (hikouki). For our second Nihongo Club we made pipe cleaner ninjas and origami Pikachus. Arigatou (Thank you) to helpers Shimohara Sensei and Mini Senseis Nikita and Zoe. See you in Nihongo Club every Tuesday lunch in Jarrah 1.

Don't forget to be a Mini Sensei and teach someone or thing (pets can be included!) Nihongo Japanese we have studied in class. When we teach we learn and it's great review. Sayounara.

Jorgensen Sensei (Japanese Teacher)



Thank You

Marri 2 staff and students would like to thank Darren and Melissa Williams from "the Fish Doctor" for generously donating and setting up an aquarium in our room complete with 2 little friends for us to look after. The children will brainstorm names for our new pets and then have a vote to decide on their names.

Ann Newton, Level 3 ECE Teacher

From the Associates

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data for School Students with Disability

All schools in Australia, including Independent and Catholic schools, will participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability every year.

The Data Collection is an annual count of the number of students with disability receiving educational adjustments to support their participation in education on the same basis as students without disability.

All education agencies are now required under the Australian Education Regulation 2013, to provide information on a students' level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education. Data will continue to be de-identified prior to its transfer and no student's identity will be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education.

The collection of this information from states and territories will inform future policy and program planning in relation to students with disability.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Trudy Jones Associate Principal on 9300 2199 or the Western Australian Department of Education NCCD Helpline on 0477 741 598.



Hot Weather

With the hot weather upon us please ensure your child has a named school hat to wear at all times when they are outside. Drink bottles are to be filled with water only and can be refilled during the day with chilled water in each block. It is advisable to put an ice pack into the lunch boxes to ensure food stays chilled.

Balancing Online Time

The number of hours that children spend online can vary significantly. While there is no guideline for the "right" amount of time for children to spend online, it is important that parents be aware of changes to their child's online and offline behaviour as this can indicate excessive internet use.



These include:

- Seeming obsessed with particular websites or games.
- Appearing anxious or irritable when they are away from the computer or mobile device.
- A decline in academic performance.
- Seeming isolated or withdrawn from offline friends and activities.
- Ongoing headaches, eye strain or complaints of sleep disturbance.

If you have concerns, ensure that rules and routines have been established regarding gaming or internet use, and including times for other offline activities.

If you would like more information, you can visit the website of the Children's eSafety Commissioner:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent>

Robert Marshall & Trudy Jones, Associate Principals

OSH Club News

OSHClub provides high quality Before School Care, After School Care, Pupil Free days and Vacation Care for K - 6 students.



Dear Parents/Guardians,

If you would like to enrol your child at OSH Club it is all done online from our website www.oshclub.com.au by clicking on the 'New to OSH Club/Join us' link and following the easy steps to create an account. If you need help with an enrolment or general account questions then please contact our account manager Niki Verweris on 9261 3200 and she will be able to assist you. We do casual bookings which means you don't have to sign up for set days, you can book in up to 9pm the night before the day you need before or after school care. Or you can book up for the term, that's up to you. We also offer 24hrs cancellation of a booking if for any reason you don't require the care on the day you originally booked for, and we accept medical certificates in case of illness to avoid being charged the full fee.

Connolly OSH Club room can be found at the front of the school in the Banksia Block. Our opening hours are 7:00am - 9:00am and 2:50pm - 6:00pm. We offer breakfast until 8.00am and we also provide an afternoon snack with fresh fruit for after school care. We provide a range of indoor and outdoor planned activities suitable for a variety of age groups.

Please ensure your child has a hat to be able to play outside, if children don't bring a hat they won't be able to play outside due to our sun smart policy. Children will also have to apply sunscreen (we can help the younger ones) we supply the sunscreen, your also welcome to bring your own if you would prefer or have a medical reason. Hats and sunscreen are to be worn all year round.

Any questions you may have or if you want additional information please give us a call or pop in and see us.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Laura - Coordinator & Olivia - Assistant

Website: www.oshclub.com.au

Email: oshclub.connolly@gmail.com

Phone: Connolly OSHClub: 0478 079 375

Phone: Head Office Perth: 9261 3200



OCEAN REEF Senior High School

Opportunity Challenge Growth

Are you thinking about enrolling your child at Ocean Reef Senior High School?
 Unsure how to secure a place or complete an enrolment application?
 Wondering what Specialist and Elite Programs we have on offer?

**We invite all parents/carers of Year 6 students to our
 INFORMATION EVENING
 Tuesday 21st March 2017 at 6.00pm – 7.45pm**

This event is always oversubscribed and your prompt attendance will assist us with seating arrangements.

If you are unable to attend, please be aware Year 7 2018 applications for the Specialist and Elite Programs close on 28th April 2017

Application forms are available to download on our website www.oceanreef.wa.edu.au after 21st March 2017.