Good Evening Everyone,

**INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Special thanks to:

- students for once again demonstrating a commitment to their preparation which resulted in them achieving second place in both the overall and handicap fields;
- Ms Teague-Robertson for her organisation of the School team that participated in the Carnival at Pemberton last week;
- teachers for their support of students attending trials;
- parents and other helpers with the duties associated with such an event.

**Congratulations to Tully Lane and Ella-Jewel Cooper for attaining Senior and Intermediate Champion Girl respectively. Claire Roocke earned silver and Chai Robertson, bronze, for their excellent effort in the 800m events.**

**2013 CLASSES**

At this time of the year we are being told that some students will not be returning in 2013. If you know that your children will not be attending our School in 2013 please inform the office as this will greatly help with the class list planning.

**SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS AND FEES 2013**

At its October meeting The School Council determined to waive the Voluntary Contributions Fee for 2013. Accordingly a number of student items (diaries, personal ear phones, photocopy paper required by students, etc) that have traditionally been purchased by the School using these funds will now be added to booklists that will be sent home shortly.

Persons who in the past have made additional voluntary contributions towards the purchase of library books or other specific resources will still be welcome to continue their support of the School in this way.

Maximum fees for excursions/incursions and any camps have been agreed to as follows:

- Kindergarten – Year 3 $100.00
- Years 4-5 $250.00 (includes possible camp fee $150.00)
- Years 6-7 $400.00 (includes possible camp fees $400.00)

The maximum fee payable by students to participate in any excursion/incursion arranged by the School will remain at $5.00 per student per event.

**ASBESTOS COMPLAINT TO SHIRE OF MANJIMUP**

Last week we received advice from the Shire that a parent (and some children) had lodged a complaint with the School that asbestos had been identified and picked up by children on the site of the new transportables and that we had responded by covering the site with woodchips – **totally untrue**. In discussion with staff we have not been able to identify the staff member to whom the concern was expressed and certainly there is no evidence of any covering of the area where the asbestos was allegedly found.

These issues are part of our duty of care towards students and staff (and the general community) and are taken seriously. All protocols were adhered to and follow up checks from the relevant authorities were undertaken after the removal of the asbestos buildings last year.
IN-TERM SWIMMING
Swimming lessons (2 per day) commence on Monday 26 November and will continue throughout the week concluding on Friday 30 November.
Pre-Primary and Year 1 students should come to School wearing their bathers ready for lessons. They will need to bring a change of clothes in readiness for their return to School. All other students are to wear School uniform and will change to swimming gear prior to travelling to Peaceful Bay. Yrs 2-4 will need to take their lunch with them as their lunch break will be held at the conclusion of their lessons.

FRIDAY LUNCH – 30 November
There will be no Friday lunches next week due to swimming lessons.

VISITING AUTHOR – WALPOLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
Thanks to Ms Tash Viner for her support in arranging the visit of Mr Mark Greenwood last week. Students from Years 2-7 participated and from all reports thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to listen to Mark.
Mark is an author with a passion for history and legends. He has twice received the West Australian Premier’s Award, for The Legend of Moondyne Joe and The Legend of Lasseter’s Reef. Fortuyn’s Ghost, is the story of an ill-fated Dutch East India ship, Simpson and his Donkey, was an Australian Children’s Book Council honour book in 2009 and was selected as a USBBY Outstanding International Book. Mark’s new book is Ned Kelly and the Green Sash. Mark’s earlier works, Magic Boomerang, Outback Adventure and Our Big Island, were prompted by an interest in multicultural literature and the unique way illustrated books can assist children to develop an understanding of other cultures.
Order forms are available for the front office if you wish to purchase any of Mark’s signed books.

AFTER SCHOOL SPORT
Students and other community persons are offered the opportunity to participate in an athletics programme on the Town Oval each Tuesday afternoon commencing at 3.15pm for the juniors, followed by older athletes. The programme will be conducted under the guidance of Brenda Painter and Bronwyn Clark and provides the opportunity, particularly for Little Athletes competing at Denmark, to practise their skills.

SCHOOL GARDEN NEWS
Thank you to Julie Ewing for giving us an update on the school garden. (see attached)

If you have any matters that you wish to discuss with me or any of the teachers, please telephone to make a mutually convenient appointment. I can’t guarantee the answers that everyone wants BUT I will listen and endeavour to negotiate an acceptable solution or to investigate your concerns and get back to you!

Richard Walker

MERIT CERTIFICATES
Kindy       Sequoia Donovan
PP          Caelan Wrigley
Year 1      Will Arrowsmith
            Tia Burton
Year 2      Connar Hill
            Gypsie Mayger
            Madeleine Sherlock
Year 4      Jorja Brown
Year 5      Jessica Bedford
Year 6      Kori Thompson
            Joel Weir
            Monty Edmonds
Year 7      Indiana Cooper

BANDANA DAY FUNDRAISER
All our Bandanas were sold by 9am Tuesday morning. What an amazing effort, thank you all for your support.

Student Council
Food for Thought

A common topic in the world today and featured in many school newsletters is bullying. Much debate and money has been spent on understanding the problem and educating people to try and eliminate it from our culture.

As a parent, I became quite concerned about how I could guide my children to play with peers that were ‘appropriate’. Like every family there were times when they were teased by their peers and sometimes excluded from games or activities and we had to work through strategies they could use to feel good about themselves and feel as though they belong.

Questions rose about how I should deal with this.
Should I be telling them not to play with some individuals because I didn’t see that they were ‘appropriate’?
Do I let my children go to play or have children who were ‘different’ over to play? How would this be interpreted by my children?
If we have a birthday party and not invite one or two students, would that be sending the wrong message to my children? Would I be inadvertently saying it is okay to exclude?

Are there ways we can include all children yet keep our homes and families safe?
Maybe I could invite their parents too and they can help monitor behaviour?
Maybe getting to know the parents would give me another friend?
Our children will always choose their own friends and playmates. Supporting them through this process and getting to know their friends and their families may make us feel more at ease and hopefully demonstrate to our children that we are accepting of all people.
I would be very disappointed in myself if I gave the image that exclusion of some children is okay.

Obviously there are exceptions, but maybe if we put ourselves, and teach our children to put themselves into the shoes of their peers before making decisions, we would avoid accidentally imparting the wrong message. Hopefully this will lead them to be more open to differences in others as they move into adulthood.

I often reflect on how I could have handled situations better. Bringing up children is not easy and hind sight is such a wonderful thing.

Lorelle Flett

WAMSE Assessments for Yrs 5 and 7

Results of the Western Australian Monitoring Standards in Education (WAMSE) assessments have been received with most students achieving sounds results. Official reports similar to NAPLAN will be sent home with students from Years 5 and 7 with their school report at the end of term.

Quote of the week:

Watch your thoughts; they become words.
Watch your words; they become actions.
Watch your actions; they become habits.
Watch your habits; they become character.
Watch your character; it becomes your destiny. –Frank Outlaw

RUN FOR FUN in the Walpole Sport and Rec Centre FUN RUN

5km walk / run 10km run, Sunday 2nd December, 9.00am start $5 entry fee Registrations from 8.15am
Grab a friend and have a go. Just over 1 week away now. Loads of prizes to be won. Great family fun day.
Year 4/5 Garden

The year 4/5 class has been doing a huge amount of work in their garden area as well as in the orchard.

In September they placed manure and mulch around all the fruit trees to give them a fresh start for spring.

The following week some students took turns to barrow and mulch along the pathways in the orchard, as well as weed in their own garden area. Seeds were sown and seedlings were planted out. More barrowing was undertaken to finish mulching the whole area.

Mr Hunter and Mr Griffiths rearranged a few of the tank rounds to give the 4/5 garden a raised double garden bed. A tamarillo tree will be planted in the centre of this garden.

Willing helpers have been hand watering the garden until the reticulation is finished.

The Year 4/5 class has also been busy growing pea sprouts. The class was shown how to sow pea seeds into a tray to produce their own sprouts. This works out much cheaper than buying cut sprouts from the shop, as well as having a ready, fresh supply of greens on hand.

Plants in the garden—cherry tomatoes, basil, zucchini, Lebanese cucumber, chillies, carrots, radishes, watermelon, chives, strawberries, beans.

Year 3/4 Garden

The year 3/4 garden has a lovely crop of potatoes ready to harvest soon. The silverbeet is growing up to the sky (maybe spinach and feta triangles for Friday lunch?)

The class is currently working on a wish list of vegetables they would like to plant.

The aquaponics area has had a tidy up and some lovely babies were found on a female marron when the last measurements were taken.

The centre of the tank rounds have had a fruit tree planted in each— an Emperor mandarin in one and a Persimmon in the other. More leafy greens will be planted to supplement the Friday lunches.

Willing helpers have already sown sunflower seeds and have planted strawberries with the mantra “grow, grow!”

Above: The orchard in September.

Above: Macy digging the soil.

Below: William shoveling straw for around the fruit trees.

Above: The planting crew, Gabriel, Connah, Madeleine and Lailani.

Above: Mr Griffiths getting some tips on how to shovel from Lailani and Madeleine.

Above: Shannon and Indiana after a great job of cleaning out the shed!

Many thanks go to Mr Hunter and Mr Griffiths for their many hours of work in redesigning and reticulating the gardens for the classes.