Good Evening Everyone,

Welcome back to Semester 2 when we begin training and transition in readiness for our uptake of Independent Public School status in 2013. By the beginning of next year approximately one-third of all Government schools in WA will be Independent Public Schools.

The School Council will be meeting on Wednesday 8 August to begin this transition process and will be considering, amongst other matters:

- Adoption of a draft Business Plan; detailed for placement on the School website and an abridged version for distribution to parents and other persons in the wider School community;
- Determining the make-up of the incoming School Board and specific roles of Board members.
- Consideration of staff profile for 2013;
- Preparation for training for Council members and the School staff.

During this term staff, particularly Mrs Doust and I, will be attending many training courses to prepare for this new and exciting concept, that will allow us to make more decisions independently of the Department’s bureaucracy and within broad guidelines allow us to be more proactive in planning for the future, more particularly in staffing and getting minor works completed effectively and efficiently.

FAREWELL/WELCOME BACK

This week we farewell Larry Youngman on leave until the end of the year after six years as the School gardener/handyman. Larry has been instrumental in maintaining the School’s appearance and in ensuring that our electronic learning equipment (computers, whiteboards, etc) are in good working order. Amongst other things he has also played a big part in production of our end of year concert, completing the vegetable patch/chook pen/orchard and in rebuilding storage facilities for the Pre-Primary/Year 1 class.

On behalf of the staff and students I sincerely thank him for his contribution to the School and the wider Walpole community. We wish him well in his ‘sea change’ to the west coast and look forward to seeing him early next year.

On a brighter note we welcome back a refreshed Mrs Edmonds from Long Service Leave. Mrs Edmonds will be sharing the Pre-Primary/Year 1 class (Mondays) with Mrs Williams and Mrs Armstrong.

PARENTS & CITIZENS SURVEY

The P&C has distributed a survey for completion by parents and return by 10 August (Friday next week). This is an opportunity for parents to contribute to the planning for the future across a range of issues.

Please make every effort to participate and give the P&C feedback on our School.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs will be taken on Monday/Tuesday 13/14 August. Order forms attached MUST be returned with money by Friday 10 August. For the sake of uniformity please ensure that your child has their white School shirt and royal blue shorts available for photographs.
Thank you to Jo Lane for the generous donation of 2 sewing machines to Mrs Brodie’s sewing group.

STUDENT COUNCILLORS
Claire Roocke and Tully Lane have been elected School Captain and Deputy Captain respectively for Semester 2. They will be supported by Shannon Wrigley, Indiana Cooper, Toby Burton and Paige Cullinan.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE/LATENESS
Maintaining a high level of attendance at school is an important aspect of supporting most children to maximise their achievements. Whilst there are many genuine reasons for student absences (eg being unwell and possibly impacting on others’ health) there is ample evidence to support the foregoing statement.

We are also experiencing some problems with late arrivals. Missing a few minutes each day might not seem like such a big deal BUT research indicates that early morning is the most productive time of the day and that when children arrive late and settle after other students have commenced their learning, valuable learning time is lost not just for them but for other students as well when they interrupt the already commenced learning programme. By not being here on time children also miss out on valuable time interacting with their classmates that could contribute to them developing low self-esteem and social isolation.

Arriving late is also most likely sending a message to students that it is OK to be late, that arriving on time is not important and that parents do not value school sufficiently to arrive on time. This is not a life habit that is in any student’s best interest.

INCURSION
Next Monday Years K-5 students will have the opportunity to attend a visiting group presenting “Journey to the Centre of the Earth”.

Please ensure that monies and forms are returned by tomorrow. Children who do not return forms/money will not attend the presentation.

SENIOR ANGKLUNG ORCHESTRA/CHOIR
Next week Years 6-7 students will participate in a week long camp in Perth under the watchful eye of Ms Walker and Mrs Crossley. Amongst their many outings will be a presentation on Tuesday at Burswood at the WA Government Schools Music Concert. I am sure they will again prove to be worthy representatives of our School. We wish them a safe and enjoyable camp.

SOLAR SYSTEM
Panels have now been installed on the roof of the transportables on the south side of the School and should shortly begin to reduce our reliance on external power sources. Due to delays in the tendering process we may have lost the State Government’s grant of $13 500.00 which would have enabled us to acquire a much larger system than the 6.5Kw installed.

We recently received a cash injection of approximately $2 000.00 from the Department as an acknowledgement of our savings on 2011 utility expenses (power, water and rubbish). We look forward to this amount increasing over coming years.

STUDENT STATIONERY
With the start of a new term please go through your child’s stationery items and replenish their requirements. IT IS NOT THE SCHOOL’S OR TEACHER’S ROLE TO PROVIDE THESE ESSENTIAL ITEMS OF STATIONERY.

The following items as a minimum need to be supplied by parents and should be in each child’s pencil case at the beginning of every day:

- 2 lead pencils (2B)
- coloured pencils
- 2 red and 2 blue biros (Years 4-7)
- project markers (Textas)
- 30cm ruler
- scissors
- eraser
- glue stick
- pencil sharpener
- protractor (Years 4-7)
- compass (Years 4-7)
- calculator preferably scientific(Years 6-7)

In addition students need to have an art shirt and a library bag.
WA MONITORING STANDARDS ASSESSMENTS (WAMSE)

Years 5 and 7 students will be undertaking assessments in Science and Society & the Environment learning areas next week. Any parents who do not want their child to sit the assessments should contact Ms Walker or Mr Birkin tomorrow (Friday 3 August). Tests are marked independently of the School and results will be available mid Term 4.

PARENT INTERVIEWS

Following the issuing of reports at the end of last term, teachers are available to discuss student achievements. Please telephone to arrange a mutually convenient time if you wish to meet with your child’s teacher.

Richard Walker

STUDENT QUOTE

“A crescent is a present for the stars”, a quote from Nicholas from the Kindergarten class. He said this when drawing the moon.

2013 Enrolments

Applications for new enrolments for children entering:

Kindergarten

(born 1 July 2008 – 30 June 2009)

in the 2013 school year should be made by Friday, 3 August 2012.

Enrolment forms are available from the School office Corner Swan St and Latham Ave

Phone: 98401020

Immunization records and proof of birth date are required at enrolment.

THE GLOBAL EXPERIENCE – LIVE IT AT HOME

In January 2013 students from over 20 countries around the world will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 5 or 10 months. Opportunities exist for families to act as a host family, in a volunteer capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To hear more about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia Call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student

DENMARK LITTLE ATHLETICS

For all those parents who would like to assist at Denmark little athletics this season with some improved knowledge, there will be an:

INTRODUCTION TO COACHING LITTLE ATHLETICS course in Albany on Sunday 23rd September. Start time 9am. Free of Charge. All disciplines covered.

Good fun, hands on course.

All welcome. Please email Belinda Ross on pj.ross8@bigpond.com if you would like to attend.
The following is an adaption of the philosophy of Charles Schulz, the creator of the 'Peanuts' comic strip.

You don't have to actually answer the questions. Just read the e-mail straight through and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss Australia pageant.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's AFL winners.

How did you do?
The point is none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special!
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier?

The lesson:
The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials... the most money...or the most awards. They simply are the ones who care the most.

'Don't worry about the world coming to an end it's already today in Walpole!

"Be Yourself. Everyone Else Is Taken!"

PETITION TO SHIRE OF DENMARK

Below is a copy of a petition from the Denmark Aquatic Association re the provision of a swimming pool in Denmark. This is included for interested persons residing in the Shire of Denmark to action as appropriate.

SUBMISSION TO DENMARK SHIRE COUNCILLORS REGARDING A POOL FOR DENMARK

FOR THE ATTENTION OF: Councillors Ross Thornton, John Sampson, Jan Lewis, Roger Seeney, Dawn Pedro, Alex Syme, Adrian Hinds, David Morrell, Kelii Gillies, Belinda Rowland, Barbara Marshall and Ian Osborne

SUBMITTER'S CONTACT DETAILS:
Name: 
Postal address: 
Email Address: 
Phone: 

SUBJECT OF SUBMISSION (i.e. State how your interests are affected - whether as a private citizen, as behalf of a company or other organization, or as an owner or occupier of property):
As a private citizen, a local resident and a future user of the Denmark Aquatic Centre I/we hereby request that Council will soon be considering whether or not to commit to constructing a heated indoor aquatic centre for Denmark. Numerous surveys of the Denmark Community have demonstrated that we, the residents of Denmark, are keen to have such a facility. I/we am/are writing to you to ask you to support the motion of a pool for Denmark.

As residents of Denmark I/we are very keen to have a pool in our town.

If I/we understand that swimming pools cost money, not only initially to build, but in the long term, to staff and maintain. I/we understand that a pool in Denmark is a long-term commitment for the residents and taxpayers of Denmark and will result in not only higher rates but that there will also be admission/membership charges associated with the use of the pool. I/we accept this and intend to use the pool on a ongoing basis.

In the interests of the health, rehabilitation, safety and fitness of the entire community, now and in the future, I/we urge you to support the motion for a pool in Denmark.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________
Email to: petboddenmark.wa.gov.au or send to the Shire of Denmark, PO Box 183, Denmark WA 6333

Additional Comments: ____________________________