Good Evening Everyone

Farewells and Welcomes
Next Wednesday in addition to the fifteen Year Sevens leaving the School, we have significant staff changes.
We recently farewelled Rod Doust who was one of our School cleaners and next week we have three teachers leaving us:

- Mrs Gardner who has been teaching Health and Physical Education and coordinating After School Sports will be moving to Albany with children Grace and Olivia after a 11 year connection with the School. Grace and Olivia have been popular members of our student body and they will be missed by their many friends.

- Ms Slatter who has been teaching Year 3-4 and gardening as well as being a teacher assistant, is moving to Shark Bay. Ms Slatter has worked in various roles in the School for the past 3 years;

- Ms Smith who has been teaching the Year 4-6 class this semester will be returning home to Bunbury.

On behalf of the whole School community I sincerely thank them for their contribution to the education and well-being of our students and wish them all the best in whatever life holds for them.
Ms Smith will be replaced by Mr Birkin who will move to Walpole during the summer break.

Seniors’ Lunch
Yesterday, as part of their community service the Year Sevens prepared and served lunch to the Seniors’ Group at The Recreation Centre. After lunch they played a series of games with and against the Seniors. From all reports an enjoyable time was had by all.

School Garden
The netting of the orchard and garden is nearing completion. The various fruit trees have a substantial amount of fruit growing (including apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums, almonds, pecharines, plumcots, pears and a variety of berries) that will ripen as the holidays progress in readiness for use in student lunches next term.

Special thanks to Gary Hunter for his work with School Gardener, Larry Youngman. Between them they have undertaken the netting.

Thanks also to Frank Cooper who recycled another old tank to us for use in the garden. This has been cut into two pieces and will shortly be sown. We currently have a range of vegetables growing (including potatoes, celery, corn, beans, lettuce, onions, peas and capsicum).

Our chooks continue to provide us with a ready source of eggs for use in cooking activities. Thanks to Ms Viner and Ms Johnston for their help with cooking this term. Each class has worked in the garden weekly under the direction of Ms Slatter.

Thank you to Maddelin Larkman, Jessica Larkman, Tully Lane and Phoebe O’Brien for developing a short video for the schools website. The video explains the various aspects of our school garden and the connection to the Friday Lunch programme. You will be able to view this video online in the near future.
School Council Meeting
The Council met last night for the second time this term to consider and adopt several policies including:
• Behavioural Management
• Health and Physical Education
• Dress Code
• Bushfire Management
• Evacuation

Year Seven Graduation Evening
The Graduation Evening will be conducted at The Country Club on Monday 12 December. During Monday the Year Six students will be busy preparing the meal and then will serve approximately seventy students and guests for dinner.

End of Year Concert and Presentation
The End of Year Concert and Presentation night will commence at 6.30pm in the Community Hall on Wednesday 14 December. All parents, families and community members are invited to attend.
Parents may take photographs/videos for their own consumption BUT for legal reasons are advised not to circulate the documents publicly. A light supper will be served at the conclusion of the evening. Parents are requested to bring a plate to share with those in attendance.

End of Year Reports
The students will be issued with their end of year reports next Wednesday. Reports are in the process of completion and will NOT be available for collection prior to Wednesday. If your child is absent on Wednesday, their report will be mailed on Thursday.
Please make the time to discuss your child’s progress with them with particular emphasis on teacher comments, rather than the grades.

Senior Classrooms
Demolition of the demountable began this week. The work involves taking the building apart via panels and we have been assured that there is no risk to students and staff. If any asbestos is disturbed during the demolition work students and staff will be removed from the School site.
The new buildings will be brought onto site in early January to allow time to make any minor repairs required and to ensure access is available when school resumes on February 1.

2012 Classes
Class lists will be posted on room doors on Wednesday morning February 1, 2012 when students return to School.

Swimming Lessons
A brief survey is attached regarding the recently conducted swimming lessons at Peaceful Bay. The School subsidised the transport cost of lessons by approximately $1 500.00.
Please return the survey document to School no later than 9.00am on Monday 12 December.

Student Access to Social Media
It has come to our notice that a significant number of our students have their own Facebook, and/or Twitter pages. According to respective company policies it is NOT appropriate for students under the age of 14 years to have a site.

What is most concerning is that many of the students' sites are 'open' documents which means that anybody around the world can access them or communicate with site holders. This is extremely dangerous and can lead to disastrous consequences for students if the wrong person(s) make contact.
Parents are again requested to consider whether their children should be on these sites.

What you can do
• Be aware of what your child is doing online and explore it with them. Try to locate the computer in a shared or visible place in the home.
• Discuss the kinds of sites that are okay to explore and those that are not, and have clear rules about online activities.
• If your child is using social networking sites ensure that they understand the privacy features—in particular how to set their profile to private and limit access to their information. Encourage them to screen online ‘friends’ and block anyone that sends offensive content.
• Keep the lines of communication open so your child will be comfortable to talk to you if something is worrying them.
• Help your child to develop the skills they need to interact safely and respectfully online.

Senior Students’ Photograph Exhibition
Many of the photographs that students took with photographer Alan Smith will be available for viewing in The Town Library during the school holidays. It is worth taking the time to see these excellent works; they are a real credit to students, and to Alan.
Premier’s Summer Reading Challenge 1st December 2011 to 6 February 2012
The Premier’s Summer Reading Challenge (in support of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Western Australia) 2011-2012 encourages children from Kindergarten to Year 7 to read over the summer holidays. Everyone who completes the Challenge receives a certificate from the Premier and goes into the draw to win great prizes. This year children also have the option to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of WA. All funds raised will remain in Western Australia to support people living with Multiple Sclerosis and other neurological disorders. The theme for this year is “Explore Western Australia” and children can follow Bosko on his adventures as he visits lots of exciting destinations across the State. This year the Challenge has launched a brand new website and registration system that will make keeping track of reading and completing the Challenge easier than ever. You can discover more about the Challenge at www.det.wa.edu/readingchallenge

On behalf of the Staff I wish parents, students and community members the compliments of the season and ask that you have safe happy holidays with your families and come back to School in February ready for what promises to be another busy year.

Richard Walker

This Fortnight’s Thoughts
"Happiness cannot come from without. It must come from within. It is not what we see and touch or that which others do for us which makes us happy; it is that which we think and feel and do, first for the other fellow and then for ourselves."  
Helen Keller

"There are no easy answers but there are simple answers. We must have the courage to do what we know is morally right."
Ronald Reagan

Lunches to amaze!
The student councillors have made a cookbook containing all the Friday lunch recipes. The cost of the book will be $2.00. All funds go towards our sponsor-child, Sarini. If your child would like to purchase a book, please see one of the student councillors.

P & C NEWS
Thank you to everyone for supporting the P&C throughout 2011! We have had a successful year raising funds and receiving donations that has allowed us to pay for the school mathletics program, home readers, sports shirts and some school infrastructure. Plus, we hope to re-paint the playground with some new games and bright colours before 2012 !!!
The present committee will be standing down this year and we look forward to some new faces for nomination at the AGM next year.

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

P&C Committee
Fiona, Maree, Kelly and Kim

Attention Parents
The Walpole Dental Therapy Centre is trying to finish treatment by the end of Term 4, 2011. If your child is going to be absent from school next week, (Monday 12/12/11 to Friday 16/12/11) can you please contact the clinic ASAP as we will need to arrange an appointment time.

Phone: 0437 486 143

Thank you
From the Dental Staff.
A BIG THANK YOU GOES TO KIM AND GLEN BURTON.

YOUR EFFORT EACH TUESDAY FROM 3PM UNTIL LATE, SETTING UP, UMPIRING AND LOCKING UP THE REC CENTRE IS MOST APPRECIATED.

FROM ALL THE PLAYERS AND PARENTS INVOLVED IN THE WALPOLE BASKETBALL COMPETITION THIS SEASON.

Come along to the 2011 KARATE TOURNAMENT at the Walpole Rec Centre Sunday 11th December

Watch the Walpole and Denmark kids in action from 10.00 am.
Morning and afternoon tea, Sausage sizzle lunch and refreshments for sale.
GOLD COIN ENTRY

2012 Family Summer Tennis

Would you and your family like to play Tennis on a regular basis this summer.
For an up front payment of $30 you and your family can play Tennis any time you like between 1st January to 31st March
For more details 98401345

2012 Applications for Transport Assistance
The Public Transport Authority’s School Bus Services (SBS) branch is responsible for providing Transport Assistance to eligible rural and special needs students.

At this time of year it is important that we capture all new students who are eligible to access the ‘orange’ school bus network in 2012 and ask that you assist us and students who will be attending our School in 2012.

As such, we ask that you make reference to our website www.schoolbuses.wa.gov.au. New applications are required if a student is changing schools or have a new residential address.

Further information regarding the eligibility criteria can also be found at our website or on our log on before you hop on brochures. If you would like a brochure explaining the Transport Assistance process please contact our office via email schoolbus@pta.wa.gov.au or on 9326 2625 and advise your mailing address.

It would be beneficial for families to complete this requirement before the end of the school year in order for SBS to administer their transport in time for 2012.
SWIMMING SURVEY
1 is totally agree to 4 is totally disagree

Peaceful Bay was preferable to Coalmine Beach  1 2 3 4

I would prefer lessons to be conducted at Coalmine Beach  1 2 3 4

I would be happy to pay $25 per child towards transport to Peaceful Bay  1 2 3 4

My/Our children appeared to enjoy Peaceful Bay more than Coalmine Beach  1 2 3 4

The longer transport time was not a problem for my/our children.  1 2 3 4

I would prefer lessons to be conducted at another venue (eg near to Skippy Rock). This option could include UR Walpole activities. Suggested venue: .................................

If it was possible I would prefer year 4-7 lessons to be conducted as part of a 3-5 day School Camp  1 2 3 4

If it was possible I would prefer year P-Year 3 lessons to be conducted as part of a two 2 day (overnight night) School Camp; ie over 2 weeks  1 2 3 4

I would prefer lessons to be conducted in Term 1 (Year levels (delete if applicable;  Yr 1-3  Years 4-7))  1 2 3 4

I would prefer lessons to be conducted in Term 2 (Year levels (delete if applicable;  Yr 1-3  Years 4-7))  1 2 3 4

I would prefer lessons to be conducted in Term 3 (Year levels (delete if applicable;  Yr 1-3  Years 4-7))  1 2 3 4

I would prefer lessons to be conducted in Term 4 (Year levels (delete if applicable;  Yr P-3  Years 4-7))  1 2 3 4

Other Ideas??

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Parent Comments

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SURVEY NEEDS TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL BY 9.00AM MONDAY 12 DECEMBER.