Dear Parents and Friends

Successful Book Week
It was terrific to see so many students here last Friday dressed up as a book character – as always it was a great way to have some fun at school and end the week’s program. Many thanks to you as parents for your support, I am sure that there is always some pressure to find the right costume and then get it organised, but hopefully the rewards are worth the effort. It is moments like these at school that children remember well and help to make school a positive experience. There were certainly many inventive and creative costumes.

The book swap held during the week was also a popular activity with many children excited about being able to refresh their libraries with some preloved books. I hope this resulted in some extra bookworm moments in your house over the course of the week. Many thanks to Mrs McKenzie our Library Officer for her organisation and promotion of this wonderful activity.

Eagles Cup Football Season Concludes
The 2016 Eagles Cup football season has concluded. Whilst we did not have a greatly successful season, it did again give the opportunity for many students to play this sport when in normal circumstances they may not have been able to. It also gives our students the opportunity to represent their school in an interschool competition, something that builds a greater connection to and pride in the school they attend. The team nature of this sport also gives the opportunity to build positive relationships between the students themselves. Certainly, at the games I did get to see this year, it was clear that everyone who pulled on the Spencer Park jumper gave their best for their team.

Many thanks, to Mr Luscombe for coaching and organising our team during the year, this takes much time over and above his usual duties to attend to. Also to the many loyal parents who came along to each game to encourage and support their child’s involvement.

I am really pleased that we have been able to maintain our involvement in this competition over a long period, I have had many enjoyable and memorable moments watching our students give their best for our school. In my last year I would hope that the school can maintain its involvement and yet again experience the success that we have enjoyed in past seasons.

YOH Fest Involvement
Recently a group of our students from Year 3 to Year 6 performed a dance that they have been working on with Symantha Parr, one of our talented parents, at YOH Fest, held at the Albany Entertainment Centre. YOH Fest is a competitive, statewide performing arts festival that covers a range of performing arts areas. Groups can enter and depending on their performance at the many venues around the state may be invited to perform at a Grand Final event held in Mandurah later in the year.

YOH Fest is supported by Act Commit Belong, the state’s mental health strategy and each year has a theme that promotes the messages associated with this program. This year’s theme is “Resilience”. Our group constructed a dance to match this theme. The feedback I have received is that their performance was very well thought of by the judges and those present in the audience and there is a chance that they could be chosen to perform in Mandurah.

It is wonderful that a group of our students have had the opportunity to be involved in such an activity. Many thanks to Mrs Wilson for her commitment to using the funds the school makes available for enrichment to enable our students to be involved in this program.

Primary Schools Music Festival
Groups of our students will again be performing at this event next Wednesday 7 September at the Albany Entertainment Centre. This year our YOH Fest Dance Group will present the item they performed at this event last week, Room 9 will present a Marimba item and a number of students from our choir will perform with a combined choir made up of students from the other schools involved with this event.

Our school has had a long involvement with this event and has maintained a high standard of performance, pleasingly, across a wide variety of performing arts genres reflective of the strength and diversity of activity that our school supports and provides in this area.
Artist in Residence
In what has been a busy time at school, last Wednesday we also had a number of artists in residence, here in various places around the school, demonstrating to our students how they go about their work. This is something that we have done every 2 years leading up to our Art Exhibition to be held next term. Our students were fortunate this year to witness the work of Tony Jones, Heather Joyce, Scott Mahar and Trish Williams. Many thanks, to all of these people who give their valuable time to this activity, this is appreciated hugely. Many thanks also to Cate Moreton, one member of our Art Exhibition committee, for organising this opportunity for our students.

I am sure that this will provide some inspiration for many of our students to take a greater interest in the visual arts and to develop their skills in this area.

Alan Dowsett – Principal

Future Dates
Next Assembly Room 24 Fri 2 Sept
Fathers Day Stall Fri 2 Sept
Dockers Cup (Year 5/6 Girls Football Carnival) Fri 2 Sept
P&C Meeting Mon 5 Sept
Albany Primary Schools Music Festival Wed 7 Sept
Spelling Championship at Flinders Park PS Tues 13 Sept
Open Night 6.00 – 7.30pm Wed 14 Sept

HONOUR CERTIFICATES
We congratulate the following students who received certificates at the last assembly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Room</th>
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<tr>
<td>Charlie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brody</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skye</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Kaizen</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Erin</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Kirly</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shane</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>Zakariah</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>Chelsea</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>Timothy</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>Indigo</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Layla</td>
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<td>Science</td>
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<td>Seth Room 2</td>
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<td>Paige Room 2</td>
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<td>Music</td>
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<td>Aaron Room 4</td>
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<td>Abrufl Room 3</td>
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<td>Agyarko Room 25</td>
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<td>Health</td>
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FATHERS DAY STALL
We will have a stall for Father’s Day tomorrow 2nd of September at lunchtime in the undercover area.

Lucky Ticket Draw
Recognising effort, excellence and good citizenship. Congratulations to these students who won ice cream tickets at the assembly last Friday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior</th>
<th>Senior</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oscar</td>
<td>Room 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Khenneth</td>
<td>Room 2 (Goldie)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Venja</td>
<td>Room 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zac</td>
<td>Room 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latia</td>
<td>Room 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie</td>
<td>Room 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chevy</td>
<td>Room 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kleo</td>
<td>Room 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleb</td>
<td>Room 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack D</td>
<td>Room 5</td>
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</tbody>
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2017 Applications for Kindergarten and Pre-primary
Applications for your child to be involved in Kindergarten (children turning 4 by 30 June 2017) and Pre-primary (children turning 5 by 30 June 2017) are now being taken at our school office. If your child is entering our school for the first time their birth certificate and immunisation certificate from the Australian Children’s Immunisation Registry will be required.

The closing date for applications was Friday 1 July. Whilst we will continue to take applications for enrolment in these programs for the remainder of the year, getting your application in before the closing date will be important in securing a place with our school in 2017.

If your child is currently enrolled in our Kindergarten program you will need to make contact with the school office to ensure that your child is on our Pre-primary list for 2017.

WA Education Awards 2016
Voting opens for People’s Choice Award
As part of the WA Education Awards we are asking parents and students to tell us who makes a difference in their schools. Parents and students can now vote for their favourite teacher, principal or support staff member and give them a chance to win $1000.

The staff member who receives the most votes will be awarded the People’s Choice Award at the WA Education Awards presentation event on 28 November.

Parents and students can vote now at thewest.com.au/competitions. Voting closes at 5.00pm on 23 September.
This week we are hearing from Mr. Riemer’s year 5 and 6 class

Last Friday morning, transition of our year six students to high school at Albany Secondary Education Support Centre began. The students attended the high school from 8:45 until 10:00 o’clock. This was a brief introduction to their new high school. They will continue to have a number of Fridays at ASESC with the time increasing until they attend a couple of full Fridays towards the end of the year.

The students had a great time. They met three new classmates from other schools. They met a number of new teachers. One of the key teachers with Mrs Sellenger. Joe enjoyed the visit to the library the best. Leearna enjoyed everything. She was a bit concerned before she went but she had a great time. Shania also enjoys herself and met a number of new classmates. Chad loved the cake he got from the canteen. Sam is looking forward to all the new EAs he has to train. The students were supported by Chiara Letter, Jasmine Sim and Belinda Stonehouse. Wilma Tognetti drove our school bus to pick the students up to return them to the Centre. They will be attending the high school again this Friday from 8:45 until 10 o’clock. Parents need to organise transport to ASESC.

The transition program that is been developed between Albany Secondary Education Support Centre and our school is fantastic. By the time the students attend the high school, the staff there have a very clear understanding of the students’ abilities and skills. It also gives the students a time to gradually adjust to the new school environment so that the transition between primary school and high school is almost seamless.

Sunday is Father’s Day. This is a very important day in the lives of children and fathers. It is a chance for children to acknowledge and be grateful for the wonderful loving care that their father has given them or another significant male in their life. On Tuesday afternoon before Early Close we will be having a Father’s Day barbecue. This will run from 1 o’clock. You will be receiving an invitation from your child in the very near future.

Last week I attended the WA Education Support Principals’ conference in Perth. It was an interesting program. On Wednesday the country principals visited head office to have meeting with the Disability Resourcing people and Human Resources. We also visited Durham Road School. They have primary and secondary on the same site with over 150 students at the school.

One of the things the guest speakers focused on was positive psychology and the importance of looking for and working with the strengths in people. This applies to other children as well. We also examine the new ABLEWA which is an assessment tool for students with disability. I will be discussing this with the staff for possible implementation next year.

Diane E Edwards, Principal

Spencer Park Primary School
Code of Behaviour

• Respect other people, their rights and their property.
• Be safe.
• Let others learn.
• Treat others as you would like to be treated.

Community News

Please note notices appearing below are not necessarily endorsed by the school. We provide this space for community groups to advertise to the school community. It is up to parents to scrutinise the activity and organisers for their child.

Little Athletics Registrations

Registrations for Albany Little Athletics Club will be held:
ALAC - Sunday 11 September 10.00am to 2.00pm.
Albany Little Athletics Club, North Road – Saturday 17 September 10.00am to 1.00pm.
Family Fun & Fitness. For more information go to littleathletics.com.au or call 9388 2339.

Basketball season 2016/17

Registration for the Albany basketball Association 2016/17 season is now active on the Albany basketball website.
Please see the link below for further information on how to register your team.
Fees for the season will be $110 for juniors and $140 for seniors. Court fees are $450 for Junior (15 weeks) and $480 for seniors (16 weeks).
For further information please visit albanybasketball.net
BOOK WEEK BOOK SWAP

The fact that hundreds of books were ‘swapped’ by students in less than 15 minutes shows that books are still a treat in this modern technological world. The enthusiasm shown by students and staff alike has ensured that this will be an annual event for book week. So start putting your books aside for swapping!

Congratulations to everyone for another successful Book Week. It is great to see so many get into the fun of dress up and demonstrate their enjoyment of books!
Artists in Residence

2016 brings the binennial Spencer Park Art Exhibition, with opening night planned for Wednesday October 26. Students are currently each creating their own piece of art for the exhibition. As inspiration for this event, last Wednesday August 24, several local artists accepted invitations to be our ‘Artists in Residence’ this year. During the morning the artists, Tony Jones, Scott Mahar, Trish Williams and Heather Joyce, generously gave their time and talent to create a unique piece of art. They interacted with the students as each class spent time discussing and admiring their art. Each artist has generously agreed to donate their work for a silent auction to be held at the exhibition. Many thanks to all those involved; the students loved it!

Scott Mahar, Artist in Residence last Wednesday with some of his “apprentices”.

[Images of artists and students]
**The Quokka.**

By Peter Year 5, Room 5

**Description**
Quokkas are one of the smallest members of the wallaby family in Australia. They have thick grey and brown fur and short, rounded fluffy ears. Quokkas are famous for ‘selfies’ on the internet because people think they are so cute.

**Habitat.**
The Quokka lives in Western Australia on Rottnest Island. When the European settlers discovered Rottnest they thought Quokkas were rats and they called the island “Ratnest”. They then found out that they had pouches and were not actually rats. Rottnest has a lot of vegetation for the Quokkas that live there.

**Diet.**
Quokkas are herbivores and eat native grasses, leaves, stalks and bark. They prefer new vegetation to old vegetation and their favourite thing to eat is scraps that people give them.

**In the Wild.**
On Rottnest island Quokkas live in small groups or live on their own. Quokkas form paths by going the same way through vegetation. On Rottnest, because it is an island there are not many predators so there is a large number of the animals.

**Threats.**
There was once a large number of Quokkas on the main land. The arrival of dingoes and foxes 3,500 years ago reduced the numbers to very little. As dingoes and foxes cannot swim they did not threaten the population on the island. Today there are signs of recovery of numbers on the mainland. The greatest threat to Quokkas on the island are poisonous snakes.

**Did you know?**
Quokkas are very unusual because they can climb trees!

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**The Three Little Kids**

By Indigo Room25 Year 1

Once upon a time there lived three little kids. They wanted to go to the park and have a picnic. But there were two scary dragons. One breathes fire and the other dragon breathes water. The kids names are Snowflake, Lilly and Lavender.

Lilly crossed the bridge and one dragon said “Who’s that walking on my bridge?” “It’s me Snowflake”. “But I am going to gobble you up” said the dragon. “But I am too small. Wait for the next one,” said Snowflake.

Then Lilly went on the bridge. “Who’s that walking on my bridge?” “It’s me Lilly. I am going to the park”. “But I am going to gobble you up.” “But I am too small. Wait for the next one.” Then Lavender crossed the bridge and the dragon said “Who’s that walking on my bridge?” “It’s me Lavender the biggest kid. Do you want to come with us?” “Yes we will come.”

So they lived happily ever after.

The End