Dear Parents and Friends

Smooth Start to the Year
I am pleased to see how well each class has settled into their daily routine and are quickly into the rhythm of the learning program. One cannot underestimate the work required at school and at home to achieve this outcome. Many thanks go to parents and staff for ensuring that we can begin the year with minimal loss of momentum from the previous year. Every minute at school is important, starting the new year well minimises the time that can be lost in this transition period.

CBH Donation
Our thanks go to CBH who this year provided nearly 40 stationery packs to particularly assist those younger children at our school who arrive early in the year with limited supplies. These packs will be used throughout the year to ensure all students have what they need to participate in the learning program.

Directions for 2016
As with any year there are number of key developments that we will need to follow through with:

- **Writing** will be a focus this year. This is one area of the literacy curriculum where student performance could improve. A number of strategies have been planned to elevate performance in this area, much of this work will be to ensure that as teachers we are clear about how explicit teaching applies to the teaching of writing and being consistent across the school in our approach. We will also be looking at ways we can showcase student work in the public domain – a newsletter later in the term will be one of the places we do this. Having a public audience for someone’s writing is a way to motivate and enthuse those involved in this process.

- Completing our next **Three Year Business Plan 2016 -2019**. The completion of our first Three Year IPS Review last year begins the next cycle of planning and review.

- Over the last 2 years the **Humanities and Social Studies curriculum area** (previously called Society and Environment or Social Studies going many years back) has been reviewed and updated. Schools now need to familiarise themselves with the changes that have occurred this year and be ready to implement the new content by the start of 2017.

- **Explicit teaching** will continue to be a focus, but in the main this year, it will be about further embedding developments from the last 5 years. The use of test books and the test period each Friday initiated last year will be consolidated as a strategy this year.

- We will be running our biennial **Art Exhibition** this year. This is scheduled for Term 4.

- More work is to be done towards establishing our **vege patch** on the southern side of the school with the aim of having something operating by mid-year. The fence around this area should be completed in the next couple of weeks.

As always, along with the usual termly events and happenings, there will be plenty to keep students busy and positively engaged at school. Your term planner distributed last year and also available on our school website is something that you should refer to regularly so that you are up to date and in tune with what is happening at school.

**Booklist Supplies**
Once again thank you to all of those parents who took advantage of the opportunity to purchase booklist supplies through the school. This is a significant fundraiser for our P&C as your purchases generate a commission paid to us by the supplier Storm Office National. I am not sure how the numbers participating in this compared to previous years but it was certainly a busy period for our front office on the Friday that supplies were distributed.

Thanks also go to those hard working members who were here again this year to distribute each booklist order and as well as this service those people wanting uniform supplies. Given that many of these people who volunteered their time have other commitments, getting time to do this is not easy and as such the contribution of these people is highly valued.

**Student Updates**
You will receive in these first weeks of the year forms that ask you to update the information we have about you and your child. This process ensures that we
have the most up to date information, enabling us to not only contact you promptly if there is an issue, but also that we are well aware of any issues when it comes to the day to day management of your child at school.

Please update the forms and return them to school as soon as possible

Alan Dowsett – Principal

UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop is changing to a new day, Monday. This will take effect from Monday 15 February 2016.
The Uniform Shop will be open from 8.45am to 9.15am.

No longer open on Friday!

DENTAL THERAPY NEWS
Spencer Park Dental Therapy Centre provides free general dental treatment for enrolled school children from pre-primary through to year 11 or until they turn 17, whichever occurs first.

We will be issuing enrolment forms to new and pre-primary students shortly.

Parents of enrolled students are reminded to update contact details if you have moved in the last few years.

All appointments are posted home and many of these are returned to us due to incorrect address. This means that your child misses out on their dental visit. To update contact details either phone the clinic on 98413967, call in and tell staff or send an email to spencerparkdtc@dental.health.wa.gov.au.

The clinic is currently running behind schedule due to staff shortages. If you think your child has not been seen in the last 18 months please contact us to make an appointment.

We hope to see you all soon.

Susanne and Kayleen

School Board Vacancies
After completing their 3 year tenure as members of our School Board, all positions have now been declared vacant and will need to be filled via nominations from people within our school community. Existing Board members can renominate. Four positions are set aside for community people. Two staff members plus the School Principal make up the remaining members of the Board.

If there are more nominations than positions then an election will be held to determine successful candidate.

If you are interested in taking on this role, the following information may be of help in understanding the work of the School Board.

What will the School Board do?
The School Board’s overall role is to provide strategic guidance, monitor school performance and to increase the flexibility and autonomy of the school to enhance the quality of students outcomes and learning environment.

The School Board will assist the Principal in:
• Monitoring the implementation of the schools existing 3 year Business Plan and approving adjustments where needed over this period.
• Ensuring that the school’s yearly plan and budget address identified needs and supports the implementation of the current 3 year Business Plan.
• Developing processes to review the satisfaction levels of parents, staff and students.
• Creating the school’s Annual Report.
• Reviewing and adjusting school polices.
• Promoting the school in the community.
• Annually setting voluntary contributions and charges.

What do suitable nominees need?
Any person/parent who is committed to supporting our school to achieve the best education for all students should consider nominating. Skills/qualities in the following areas would be helpful;
• Leadership
• Strategic and/or critical, analytical thinking
• Interpersonal and communication

What commitment is required?
In making a commitment to be on the School Board members should be prepared to:
• Commit to the school’s vision, ethos and goals.
• Commit to the development of Spencer Park PS as an independent public school.
• Contribute to the work of the Board.
• Be sensitive to differing views and have the ability to work in a spirit of cooperation.
• Be willing to donate time, expertise and influence.
• Attend at least 2, hour long meetings per term, usually held at the conclusion of the school day.
• Serve for a period up to 3 years.

How to nominate?
Nominees need only give their name and brief statement explaining why they would like to be considered for a position on the School Board. Hard copies can be left at the front office or e-mailed to Julie.Fordham@education.wa.edu.au.

Closing date for nominations is 4.00pm Friday 19 February.
Early Close
Early Close is on again. Professional Development on Tuesday was presented by Lara Eyles. Lara and Shelley Redmond attended training on Protective Behaviours last year. We have been teaching Protective Behaviours for a number of years. With the new training we are now more up to date with the latest trends in this part of the curriculum. It also fits in with the Departments Focus 2016:
• Implement protective behaviours instruction across all phases of schooling as a key risk management strategy.

More Shade in the Playground
The two shade sails were installed on the weekend by Turp’s Steel Fabrication: turquoise and navy blue. They look great and they shade the picnic table that was installed on a cement slab during the holidays.

Toilet Block
Building of the toilet block is progressing. I wish to thank Dave and his team from Smith Construction for being flexible with the whacker packing and doing it before the children arrive and after they leave. It makes it much less stressful for all concerned.

Paying Voluntary Contributions
We do great things for your child at our school. Your $45 helps to cover the resources that we need to do this. The funds go towards such things as Maths and English resources, classroom activities, art materials, colour printing and laminating of resources for use in the classrooms.

Thank you to those parents who have already made contributions or have arrangements in place for regular payments to be made.

There are a number of ways you can make your contribution: cash, cheque, direct deposit and Centrepay. Just let us know how you would like to contribute to your school community. You will be receiving your school invoice in the near future.

Forms
Thank you to those parents who have returned all the forms we sent home last week. If you haven’t done so, please get them back to us ASAP so we have everything up to date.

Please feel free to discuss any of your concerns with me. It is best to make an appointment by calling 9841 1537 to be sure I will be available.

Diane E Edwards, Principal

SPENCER PARK EDUCATION SUPPORT CENTRE

With the beginning of the year we are finding our new office space is working extremely well. The new arrangement of Sharon, our Registrar and Tully or Janelle in the same space makes everything flow more efficiently.

ALAC Swimming Started Monday
For those students attending swimming at ALAC it started Monday. Mr Riemer is the teacher in charge of swimming this year. Considering the temperature on the day it was a great time to start.

CYBER WISER
This performance will occur at 2.00pm on Monday 22 February for Years 3-6, in the hall. The cost to each child will be $3.

This performance deals with cyber bullying and how to be safe in our technological age. It is a very entertaining way to deliver a serious message.

This incursion is being subsidised by the school, as cyber safety has been identified in recent years as an area of concern amongst the school community. We would therefore like all children to attend so please encourage your students to get their $3 in as soon as possible.

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.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Our school swimming carnival is set to take place on Friday 26 February at the Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre. We are in need of volunteers to help on the day with marshalling, time keeping and giving out place ribbons. If you feel you can help please return the slip below to school as soon as possible.

We are also asking for donations For the medallions. These medallions cost $16.00 for a pair. Donors names will be engraved on the medallions. Please indicate on the return slip if you can assist with this.

I am available to assist at the swimming carnival.

Name: ________________ Ph: __________

I would like to sponsor a pair of medallions and enclose $16.00.

Name of donor to be engraved on medallion.

__________________________________________________________________________________________
RECYCLING CLUB
This year the club will be Room 2 Year 3. The class will be in charge of looking after the recycling bins and loose cardboard. Term 1 leaders are:
Captain: Dakota
Captain Cardboard: Kiara
Please put only PAPER in the recycling bins. Bring batteries to Room 7 and I will take them to the tip to be recycled.
Thank you. Catherine Burges – Science Teacher

SOCCER
We are looking for expressions of interest for students wishing to play in the 2016 soccer season. If you are interested please contact Claire Ridley on 0487 987 528.

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.

Albany Ballroom Dance Studio
Movement to Music - Kindy to 12 years
Friday 4.30pm
Medal class – 8 years + for those wanting gradings. – Friday 4.30pm
$8.00 per class.
For more information please contact Donna on 0407 980 010. Albany Italian Club, Albany Hwy

CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
A program will be available for children attending government schools from Pre-primary to Year 7, beginning Monday 8 February from 3.45pm to 4.45pm at New Camfield, 154 Aberdeen Street.
Welcome and enrolments 3.45pm on Friday 5 February.
Carer Movie Day

Do you care for a family member or friend with an illness or disability?

If yes, then Carers WA would like to invite you to take a break, sit back and enjoy a wellness and socialisation activity on us.

Seats are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment!

When: Wednesday 3rd February 2016
Where: Graza Cinemas, 451 Albany Hwy, ALBANY
Time & Movie: Daytime session time and movie to be confirmed once timetable is available
Cost: Free movie ticket provided. Snacks can be purchased at carer's own expense
RSVP: To register for this event please call 1300 CARERS (1300 227 377) and ask for Aslyn

Providing services & support for family carers
1300 CARERS (1300 227 377)
www.carerswa.asn.au

The Jesus Hokey Pokey
Colin Buchanan
Live in Concert!

Tickets: $13
1:00PM Saturday, 13th February 2016
Albany Baptist Church, Bethel Way, Albany WA 6330
Phone: 9641 8696 for details
www.colinbuchanan.com.au

Triple P
Stepping Stones Program

Stepping Stones Triple P has been developed for parents of children with a developmental disability (aged 2-13 years). Because it's based on Triple P’s proven parenting strategies, it gives you ways to deal with the kinds of childhood behaviour problems and issues that can make family life stressful. Stepping Stones Triple P has been evaluated with real families and has been shown to work with children with intellectual and physical disabilities who have disruptive behaviour.

Stepping Stones Triple P Seminars can help you manage problem behaviour and developmental issues common in children with disabilities, encourage behaviour you like, cope with stress, develop a close relationship with your child and teach your child new skills.

Triple P Stepping Stones Seminars consist of three sessions, parents and carers can attend one, two or all three sessions in the series.

The topics in the series are:
Positive Parenting for Children with a Disability
Helping your Child Reach their Potential
Changing Problem Behaviour into Positive Behaviour

Seminar One - Positive Parenting for Children with a Disability is being held on

Dates: Monday 22 February 2016
Time: 9:30am - 11:30am
Place: Albany Local Education Office
85 Sarjeant's Road, Albany
Cost: FREE Onsite child care can also be booked at no cost
Facilitator: Jenny Allen - Lead School Psychologist

Bookings are essential
For more information or to book a place in the group, contact
Jenny Allen on Phone: 0427 083 683 or
Email: jennifer.allen@education.wa.edu.au
by 17th February 2016

1-2-3 Magic and Emotion Coaching
Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

A three session parenting program for parents of children aged 2-10

Would you like to learn more about:
• encouraging and promoting positive behaviour in children.
• strategies for managing challenging behaviour.
• building strong and healthy connections with your children.

Presented by: DLGC Parenting WA - Great Southern

Where: Albany Family House, 219 North Rd
Dates: Tuesdays Mar 22nd, 29th and April 5th
Time: 12:45 - 2:45pm
Please phone Julie on 9841 8254 to register your interest.
Free creche is provided on site for children aged 0-5

Partners are very welcome to join the program
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Alan Dowsett</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<td>Carl Luscombe</td>
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<td>Pam Hoskin</td>
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<td>Julie Fordham</td>
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<td>Robyn Clements</td>
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<td>Keithlea MacKenzie</td>
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<td>Jasna Curic</td>
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<td>Cathy Burgess</td>
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<td>Jenny Kightly</td>
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<td>Lucy Dowsett</td>
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<td>Frances Walmsley</td>
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<td>Deb Binning</td>
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<td>Jeannie Ralph</td>
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<td>Sarah Murray</td>
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<td>Gale Bond</td>
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<td>Head Cleaner</td>
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<td>Paul Nie</td>
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<td>Marlene Hills</td>
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<td>Sriwai Sakkarat</td>
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<td>Chi Nguyen</td>
<td>Cleaner</td>
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**REMINDERS**

- If children are to be collected during school time they must be signed out at the office prior to collecting them.

- Parking - please be considerate of others and obey all parking regulations. The staff car park is out of bounds.

- Canteen - the school canteen operates every day from 8.30am.

- The co-operation of all parents is sought in ensuring students arrive at school between 8.30am and 8.50am. Late students disrupt classes and we are unable to guarantee supervision prior to 8.30am. Students who arrive late receive a late slip from the school office. End of school siren is at 3.10pm. Please ensure students are collected promptly.