PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

Dear Parents and Friends

Faction Athletics Carnival
We were very fortunate this year to have some excellent weather for both days of our Faction Athletics Carnival. It always helps the atmosphere of the day when we can avoid cold, wet weather. Whilst there is always a competitive edge to this event, it is mostly about encouraging healthy physical activity and having some fun. It seemed to me that most of those involved enjoyed the opportunity to be outdoors doing the best they can for their team.

After a close tussle all day between the 3 factions, congratulations go to team Red, the eventual winner of the day’s competition. There was only about 30 points difference between the first and third faction making it a relatively even contest throughout.

Congratulations also go to the medallion winners, it is a significant achievement for a child to be the best or near to the best athlete in their year level. This group will now go on and become the basis of our school team to compete at the interschool carnival next week.

Many thanks to all of those parents who volunteered to help out – a number of roles are required on such a day – too many to be undertaken by our staff. It was also great to see a good size crowd of parents here throughout the day to encourage and support their children – this always helps them to give a fraction more effort during the various events.

Once again thanks also go to Mrs Binning who, as usual, not only ensured that our students were well prepared for this event but also ensured that all of the organisational details were well in hand.

Congratulations
I am always keen to hear about the achievements of our past students. Two past students, Brett Stephens and Michael Taylor have been elected as ASHS Prefects for 2016. Given the size of the school and the interest in these positions these are wonderful achievements. To top this off, Michael has also been chosen as Head Boy. Past Spencer Park students have always been represented well in these leadership positions, but in my time we haven’t had someone selected to carry out the role of Head Boy. Congratulations Michael and Brett.

Students Sign Birthday Card for Prince Charles
Early last week the students in Room 5 got an opportunity to be recognised royally when they were asked to sign a birthday card that was presented to Prince Charles during his visit last weekend. The card was provided by Radiowest and the City of Albany. Where the card will eventually end up, I am not sure, but I would be hoping that it becomes part of an archive that preserves their involvement in this historic visit for many years ahead.

Early Childhood Parking Area
Our new parking area, on the northern side of the school, has become a busy parking space at pick up and drop off times. When students are dropped off or picked up they could be crossing the main access road that allows cars to enter and exit this area. This road does have a number of speed humps that should slow cars moving along this thoroughfare, but you are asked to keep vehicle speed to an absolute minimum and to be extra vigilant when it comes to children crossing this area.

All human beings can behave unpredictably, young children more so – if everyone keeps this in mind then I am sure we will keep everyone safe in this area.

Year 6 High School Transition Visits
Tomorrow all of our Year 6 students will begin a transition program that will be carried out over the next 3 Fridays. The first 2 of these days will be at ASHS for all students regardless of which secondary school they will be attending. This is about starting to give these students a real opportunity to experience how a secondary school feels and operates. On the third of these Friday sessions the students will actually go to the public secondary school they will be attending in 2016 and be a part of their official orientation days.

This is the kind of program we have run for several years now and, I believe, allows our students to enter secondary school confident in participating well in this very different kind of schooling environment.

P&C AGM – A Reminder!
A reminder that our P&C holds its AGM next Monday 23 November. The group always welcomes new members. If you feel that you may be in a position to...
help out in a greater capacity, then don’t be nervous about coming forward and offering your services. Besides fundraising the P&C also manages the important areas of uniform sales and the operation of the canteen. Having people come forward to help out will ensure that this group has the viability to manage its responsibilities very well. Hope to see you there.

Alan Dowsett – Principal

**Future Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Transition at ASHS</td>
<td>Fri 20 Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;C AGM</td>
<td>Mon 23 Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interschool Athletics Carnival (Jumps)</td>
<td>Tues 24 Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interschool Athletics Carnival (Track)</td>
<td>Thurs 26 Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Transition at ASHS</td>
<td>Fri 27 Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Service</td>
<td>Tues 1 Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASHS/NASHS Orientation for Year 6 Students</td>
<td>Fri 4 Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Moving Schools/Locations in 2016**

As we move towards the end of the year it is important that we have an accurate picture of school numbers for the new school year. It is crucial that you inform the school of any intention to move from Spencer Park in 2016. Our funding and the way we organise classes is dependent on a clear understanding of student numbers in each year level across the school. From here on in and for the remainder of the year, notifying us if your child will not be here in 2016 will assist greatly when it comes to planning for the new school year.

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**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.

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**BUSHFIRE READY**

Are you bushfire ready? We are coming into the season when this hazard is at its most dangerous. Visit the website to find information on how you can ensure you are ready.

[http://det.wa.edu.au/intranet/ccm/detcms/navigation/schools/parent-communications/?page=5#toc5](http://det.wa.edu.au/intranet/ccm/detcms/navigation/schools/parent-communications/?page=5#toc5)

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**Salvation Army Christmas Appeal**

Dear Parents and Friends,

We would like to invite you to be part of our 2015 Christmas Appeal.

This involves us donating and collecting together non-perishable food items. These will be given to a representative of our local Salvation Army at our Christmas Assembly on Tuesday December 1, and then distributed to needy people during the Christmas season.

Your support for this Appeal would be greatly appreciated, and all donations gratefully accepted. We thank you for your very generous help last year, and hope you may be able to assist us again.

Kind regards,

Jennifer Hunt, School Chaplain

**FACTION ATHLETICS RESULTS**

Many thanks to our parent helpers, who assisted most ably on Tuesday and Thursday to make the carnival a success. Thanks again to our sponsors Mrs June Hodgson and The Quayle Family.

Congratulations to our medallion winners:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year &amp; Gender</th>
<th>Champion</th>
<th>Runner Up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 Girl</td>
<td>Jamie</td>
<td>Makayla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy</td>
<td>Caleb</td>
<td>Silver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 Girl</td>
<td>Kanisha</td>
<td>Kirly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy</td>
<td>Silas</td>
<td>Darren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Girl</td>
<td>Lily</td>
<td>Tahlia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy</td>
<td>Callum</td>
<td>Tom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Well done to our Winning Faction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Faction</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>481.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>464</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Friday was a "sad" day at for the Centre. Margaret Walsh has decided that it is time for her to retire. Time with her family and grandchildren is high on the priority list as well as gardening.

Margaret has been with our school for 16 years. She has been a quiet achiever working with some of our more difficult students in a patient yet firm manner. In the past she has served the school as an Occupation Health and Safety officer. Margaret is on long service leave for the rest of the term. I have asked her to come back for our end of year assembly on Monday 14 December. This will give all the students a chance to say goodbye. It will also give us a chance to acknowledge her for her contributions to the school over the years.

After having Amy Litton, ILC speech pathologist, introduce the staff to Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), it was important to understand it from a schools' perspective. On Show Day we had Rod MacKintosh and Kim Daly from Malibu ESC come to talk to the staff. Mrs Ellery and Mrs Redmond have been doing some training there.

Rod gave us an entertaining yet informative look at the importance of communication both in and out of school. He was very motivational and thought provoking.

Kim focused more on the classroom aspect of AAC. She shared some of her journey and encouraged us to have a go. The important thing is to MODEL. MODEL. MODEL for the students, how to communicate using a variety of ways which is known as multimodal communication. Many of the strategies we already use.

She also made us aware that it doesn’t matter if we don’t get it right. The important thing is show the process including the mistakes we go through to say what we want to say using, for example, a Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display (PODD) or an electronic device.

At our Early Close on Tuesday the staff were introduce to a draft Communication Policy. It is the first step in implementing AAC across the Centre.

I mentioned the end of year assembly earlier. Please mark Monday 14 December on your calendar. At 9:00 we will be holding our required SPESC School Board Annual General Meeting. That will be followed by our end of year assembly including graduation of our Year 6 students. We are planning on our board members attending including Peter Watson, MLA for Albany.

Also mark Monday 30 November on your calendar. That is the beginning of Disability Awareness Week.

Our students will be part of the Opening ceremony at the City of Albany offices. They will be singing and signing as part of the entertainment. The morning tea begins at 10:00. There is no charge to attend.

Diane E Edwards, Principal

P&C AGM REMINDER
Our P&C is holding its AGM next Monday 23 November.

The group always welcomes new members.

Besides fundraising, the P&C also manages the important areas of uniform sales and the operation of the canteen.

Having people come forward to help out will ensure that this group has the viability to manage its responsibilities very well.

All are welcome.
Hope to see you there.
7.15pm in the staffroom.

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.
DANCE
WITH SAM

Want to learn more of the dancing you saw at the Performing Arts Night?

I am currently taking expressions of interest for dance after school for any age. I will then organise classes accordingly.

Dance classes planned for mondays after school in the hall starting Term 1.

cost $100 /term.

Contact me on symmove@gmail.com or 0428 639 461 by the 1st of December to register your child’s interest and for more info.

Classes need a minimum of 6 to run

FUN FIT CREATIVE

Essentials
FOR WOMEN

We are collecting the following items for Essentials for Women.

Albany Women’s Centre refuge and support service, and the Albany Soroptimists are working together to support women and young families in need in Albany for 2015.

How can you contribute? Being a not-for-profit organisation, the Albany Women’s Centre relies heavily on donated items to provide for the day to day needs of clients.

So pop something extra in your shopping trolley and donate.

Toiletries:
• New and full size
• Shampoo, Conditioner, toothpaste, deodorant, shower gel, razors, etc.
Children’s Essentials:
• New - clothing, underwear, sleepwear for boys & girls
• New - school bags, lunch

Gift Vouchers:
• Kmart & Target
• IGA, Woolworths and Coles

DROP OFF POINTS

• Leading Edge Computers – 13/89 Cockburn Rd, Albany
• Summit Fertilisers – Princess Royal Drive, Albany
• AnglicareWA office – 44 Collie St, Albany
• Mt Barker Bendigo Community Bank – 4 Short St, Mount Barker

www.facebook.com/essentialsforwomenofAlbanyWesternAustralia

albany@essentialsforwomen.com.au

Thankyou for your kind donation, they will be greatly appreciated

Celebrate Disability Awareness Week
Albany

Free Morning Tea
Monday 30 November, 10am
City of Albany Civic Rooms
North Rd Administration Building

Disability Awareness Week recognises and celebrates the contributions of people with disability. Join us for a free cuppa, bite to eat and entertainment to mark the commencement of Disability Awareness Week.

All welcome, no bookings required.

For enquires please contact the Community Development Officer on 9041 9391.