Dear Parents and Friends

Jeannie Ralph – A very sad loss

By now I am sure everyone should be aware that one of our long serving staff Jeannie Ralph passed away suddenly last Tuesday. As a person who not only attended our school as a student but was a part of our staff for 27 years she was highly valued and respected. She was a great supporter and advocate for our school. Her passing has left everyone greatly saddened and she will be missed hugely.

For many years she taught Year 7's and did a fantastic job of ensuring that these students were well prepared for their transition into high school. She was instrumental in organising camps, graduation and in general ensuring that these students were the best role models they could be for the remainder of the student population. I am sure that many who were in her classes during this period will remember her firm presence and the way she worked to get the best from each student. Wanting a change, in more recent times she taught in the middle years and similarly brought to these groups a calm, ordered, highly organised classroom environment ideal in terms of embedding the learning required for each student.

In the last few years she has taught the health component of the curriculum in a part time specialist capacity. She has approached this role with passion and energy recognising that this is an area that is often ignored in a modern day school setting.

Jeannie was also quick to support those events that gave students and parents just that little bit more to look forward to at school. Our performing arts nights have been boosted hugely by her contribution either in organising items (Who could forget “Dolly on the Rubbish Truck!!) or last year filling in as Deputy Principal and being instrumental behind the scenes ensuring costumes were organised and many of the other finer details were attended to.

Jeannie was concerned about those less fortunate and would be keen for us as a school to raise money and help people in need. In the last couple of years she got us all wearing jeans to get involved in “Jeans for Genes Day”, supporting medical research into those genetic diseases that affect young children. She was always proud of the amounts raised in a school with families that aren’t on the high end of the socio-economic spectrum.

She had an artistic touch that she brought to many whole school events, she accumulated a large array of props and decorative features that she would store and use when the occasion arose. Our annual Art Exhibition was a beneficiary of her input and expertise. This artistic, creative part of her personality was also evident in her teaching, those who were fortunate to have been in her classes will, I am sure, remember some quite different activities aimed at engaging the students as fully as possible in the learning activity.

I could probably add a considerable amount more to this acknowledgement of her contribution to our school, but I hope this is essentially reflective of her considerable standing in our community. I am sure that those of you who have known her will have your own fond memories to refer to.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to her Mum Lyn, daughter Bonnie and the remainder of her family, our thoughts are with them as they come to terms with this sudden and unexpected loss.

Alan Dowsett – Principal

RED BALLOON DAY

Don’t forget to have your PP – Year 3 child wear something red and bring a gold coin donation for National Red Balloon Day tomorrow.

PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

HONOUR CERTIFICATES

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

| Sapphira     | Room 1 |
| Khenneth     | Room 2 | Seth | Room 2 |
| Bella        | Room 3 | Kleo | Room 3 |
| Imogen       | Room 4 | Laura | Room 4 |
| Josh         | Room 5 | Ella | Room 5 |
| Mia          | Room 9 | Terraley | Room 9 |
| BJ           | Room 11 | Dannon | Room 11 |
| Ziggy        | Room 19 | Robert | Room 19 |
| Imogen       | Room 24 | Emma | Room 24 |
| Syrus        | Room 25 |
Forthcoming Events
Faction Swimming Carnival  Fri 26 Feb
National Red Balloon Day  PP-Y3  Fri 26 Feb
School Board Meeting  Tues 1 Mar
Early Morning
  Swimming Training 7 – 8am  Thurs 3 Mar
Next Assembly Room 3  Fri 4 Mar
Labour Day Public Holiday  Mon 7 Mar

NO CREDIT AT CANTEEN
Parents are reminded that there will be no credit given on items from the canteen. Please do not ask as refusal may offend.

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.

Asthma Kids
Looking for a way to help your child understand more about their asthma or about a friend with asthma? Asthma Kids is an online, interactive tool to help primary school aged children understand what it’s like to have asthma and what they can do to help. Watch one of the introductory videos then take Chester’s Asthma Trail. There are prizes to win too! www.asthmakids.org.au

BAHA’I
Dear Parents
This year Bah’i Education classes will not be offered in school time, however a weekly after school class is being offered.

On Monday 7 March, there will be an information afternoon tea from 3.30 – 4.30pm at the home of Mrs Mahshid Ferdowsian, phone 09844 7570. Parents and their child/children are warmly welcomed.

On The Noticeboard
Outside Room 6

Relationships Australia
Sessions are offered on the following subjects:
Mums Raising Boys
Mums Raising Teenage Girls
Understanding Angry Emotions
Dads Raising Teenage Girls

Information with session times and venues are available on the school notice board.

FREE Albany Breaking Workshops
Flyer on the notice board.

NATIONAL RED BALLOON DAY
“THANK A FIREY” SAUSAGE SIZZLE
28TH FEBRUARY 2016
ALBANY INDOOR MARKETS
(OLD AUCTION BUILDING)
10AM – 2PM

Healthy Bodies – for Families
FREE nutrition program
for 5 – 12 year olds who are above a healthy weight

Sessions are held after school including:
• games and activities for children,
• interactive discussions for parents
• information on healthy foods, portion sizes, label reading, and effective ways to improve your child’s nutrition and physical activity.

Children must be accompanied by an adult family member/carer
Presented by a Dietitian, Physiotherapist & Allied Health Assistant from Population Health, Albany.

3 week program commences 3rd May 2016
(Tuesday Week 2, Term 2)
All sessions are held 3:30pm-6:00pm
at the Child Parent Centre in Mt Lockyer.
Bookings essential – please call 9892 2499

Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

Healthier county communities through partnerships and innovation – Values: Community, Collaboration, Quality, Integrity, Justice
To provide services to the people of the South West region of Western Australia in accordance with our Mission Statement and Values:

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