Dear Parents and Friends

Spencer Park Infernos Basketball Tribute Game
Last week I had the privilege of watching a group of our Year 6 boys who are part of the Spencer Park Infernos Basketball Team play a game dedicated to Miss Ralph. This group were in Miss Ralph’s class when the idea of starting a basketball team made up of Spencer Park students began. She was very supportive of this idea. They wanted to show their appreciation of her support for this idea.

It was great to see their respect for her as a teacher recognised in this way. They were up against a team of similar ability in what may have been a close game, but, the added incentive to play well, resulted in some wonderful team play and skill and, in the end, they enjoyed a comfortable win.

My compliments go to their Coaches Karl Kirby and David Kerr for their leadership in organising this event and the work they have done to develop the skills of these students. I was greatly impressed not just by their level of skill but their understanding of the game, their understanding of their role and their ability to work together as a team. I am sure that a number of these children will enjoy very successful careers as basketballers in the years ahead.

Sean Choolburra Incursion
Next week our students will be treated to a performance by Sean Choolburra. Sean was born and raised in Townsville and his indigenous ancestors are from around this area and Palm Island.

Sean trained and toured internationally with the Bungarra Dance Company and was creator and leader of the Naroo Dancers. His performances are hugely entertaining and filled with humour. He is in demand for a range of corporate and public events as an accomplished professional MC and comedian.

Charismatic, vibrant and captivating, Sean fuses his engaging energy and humour with historical facts, spiritual wisdom, depth of ancestral understanding and knowledge. Dance, stories, painting, fire creation, didgeridoo playing are presented along with a wonderful array of artefacts, from fishing nets to hunting shields.

He comes highly recommended, I am sure that our students will come away from his performance not only being highly entertained but also with a greater appreciation and understanding of indigenous culture and history.

This performance is being provided at no cost to our students.

In Term Swimming Years 5 and 6
Next week all of our Year 5 and 6 students will be involved in In Term swimming lessons. This was conducted successfully at Emu Point with the same year levels for the first time last year. We are continuing at this venue again this year.

There are a range of benefits in holding these lessons at Emu Point; with no pool entry required it is somewhat cheaper and it does give children an opportunity to learn about what is required when swimming in a beach environment – in a place like Albany this is important.

I know that the children did enjoy this change from the usual venue at ALAC – I am sure that this will be the case again this year.

Rock and Water Program
Our school has over a number of years now involved our students in this program The Rock and Water program aims to apply a physical/social approach to assist boys and girls in their development to adulthood by increasing their self-realisation, self-confidence, self-respect, boundary awareness, self-awareness and intuition. A specific goal for the course is teaching boys and girls to deal with power, strength and powerlessness.

In particular this program is very helpful in assisting children to deal appropriately with conflict both at an emotional and social level. In a world that would appear to be more complex when it comes to issues that arise when conflict arises and the significant consequences that may result, this is a program that can help young people to better manage these situations.

For the last term we have been fortunate to have had Ben Miller here from Aboriginal Health running this program every Friday afternoon with the students from Room 9 and 11. We are hoping that beyond this term we can extend this to include other classes and year levels.

Alan Dowsett – Principal
SPENCER PARK EDUCATION SUPPORT CENTRE

Individual Education Plan meetings have been happening. If you have not attended your meeting with your child classroom teacher here are a few points that will help the meeting go well. Please bear in mind these meetings will probably be tightly scheduled. It is important for you to be ready to make the most of this time you will have with your child teacher. Here are a few tips that may be helpful.

1. **List important points before you go.** Spend five minutes prior to the meeting listing two or three questions, or jotting down any information about your child that you’d like the teacher to know.

2. **Attend with a partner or friend.** If you are nervous about the meeting then consider attending with your partner or a friend. It’s easy to miss key points when you are on your own and it’s difficult to relay information accurately to a partner. Two sets of ears are generally better than one.

3. **Make a good impression – be friendly and positive.** Make a good impression on your child’s teacher by adopting a friendly, positive demeanour. Greet them with a warm smile and a culturally-appropriate greeting and be mindful that they may be a little nervous themselves.

4. **Be led by your child’s teacher.** You may have plenty of things to say but sit back and let your child’s teacher steer the meeting. To ensure the meetings stay on track.

5. **Take notes and clarify information you don’t understand.** Take a notepad with you so you can make a note of important points. Be prepared to clarify any information your teacher passes on that you don’t understand.

6. **Be prepared to discuss your goals for the year.** Think about what you would like your child to achieve in the coming year. If you are not asked directly be prepared to share the goals you have for your child this year before you leave. These goals and aspirations may be:
   - academic (“I’d like him to improve his reading!”),
   - social (“I’d like him to make a new friend or two friends.”)
   - or related to their behaviour (“I am working on him controlling his anger. I would appreciate support with this.”)

7. **Help your child’s teacher build their family knowledge.** Be prepared to pass on essential family details such as your family circumstances etc. This information will help the teacher form a more rounded picture of your child.

8. **Be prepared to give an assessment about how your child has settled in.** Be ready to give a brief assessment about how you think your child has settled in at school this year. Don’t expect your child’s teacher to provide an assessment of early progress more than “he or she seems to have settled in well”. An accurate assessment of your child’s progress comes later in the year.

9. **Pass on what they need to know.** Don’t leave the meeting without telling teachers important information about your child’s health, family circumstances or behaviour that’s likely to impact significantly on your child’s well-being or learning during the year. Any concerns need to be raised at the start of the year so your child’s teacher can factor this in to their teaching.

10. **Follow-up with a thank you note in your child’s contact book or email.** Cement your relationship by being one of the parents that follow-up parent-teacher meetings with thank you for the way the meeting was conducted or even the interest the teacher showed in you and your child.

A strong parent-teacher partnership is one of the main keys to your child’s success at school. Your IEP meeting hopefully will be the start of a productive and happy relationship with your child’s teacher over the coming year.

This has been modified from Michael Grose’s Parenting Ideas. For more great tips, expert advice, and parenting ideas, join Michael Grose’s Parenting Ideas Club

If you would like to discuss anything in this item please call 98411537 to make a time to meet with me.

Diane E Edwards, Principal

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**Forthcoming Events**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Next Assembly</td>
<td>Fri 11 Mar</td>
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<td>Early Morning Swimming</td>
<td>Thurs 17 Mar</td>
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<td>Training 7 – 8am</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Term Swimming Year 5/6</td>
<td>14 to 24 Mar</td>
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<td>at Emu Point</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6.00pm Liberte</td>
<td>Mon 14 Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sean Choolburra Incursion</td>
<td>Wed 16 Mar</td>
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<td>(No Cost)</td>
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<td>Good Friday Holiday</td>
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<td>Easter Monday Holiday</td>
<td>Mon 28 Mar</td>
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<td>Eater Tuesday Holiday</td>
<td>Tues 29 Mar</td>
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<td>Mrs Hoskin Retirement Assembly</td>
<td>Fri 1 April</td>
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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.
HONOUR CERTIFICATES
We congratulate the following students who received certificates at the last assembly.

Joshua Room 1
Lily Room 1
Dakota Room 2
Eric Room 2
Will Room 3
Joshua Room 3
Madison Room 4
Silas Room 4
Crystal Room 5
Skyla Room 5
Gwyneth Room 9
Damion Room 9
Lyndsey Room 11
Beaudean Room 11
Haikal Room 18
Brock Room 18
Portia Room 24
Brock Room 25

LUCKY TICKET DRAW
Recognising effort, excellence and good citizenship. Congratulations to these students who won ice cream tickets at the assembly last Friday.

Junior Senior
Portia Room 1 (Goldie) Bella Room 3
Koby Room 19 Sarah Room 4
Venja Room 19 Seth Room 5 (Goldie)
Ronan Room 19 Khiarah Room 9
Gracee Room 25 Dannon Room 11 (Goldie)

SUNRISE COME TO SPPS
Thanks to the creative students from Room 3, our school assembly was treated to a surprise visit from the Sunrise morning show. The 'live show' also included a winning phone call by the Cash Cow, with Ms Curic winning 10,000 ml of milk! The Olympic Torch also made an appearance on its way to Rio! Some said the presenters looked younger and more handsome in 'real life'. Congratulations to Room 3 and Mrs Kowald on their innovative Assembly item.

P & C MEETING Monday 14 March
Please note that our next meeting will be at Liberté in Stirling Terrace. Mrs Hoskin, retiring Deputy Principal, will be a special guest. The meeting will start earlier than usual at 6.00pm.

Voluntary Contributions / P&C Contribution and Scripture Books
Thank you to all the parents and guardians who have already paid contributions for 2016. Contributions can be made either by cash, card or cheque through the office or you may prefer to phone your card details through. If you would prefer to do a direct credit to the school you can contact the office for banking details. Please ensure if paying by direct credit that you include child’s surname and first name as a description. Centrepay is another easy option for you to setup or if you would like to know more just contact the office.

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.

From after school to bed time.
Margot Morgan from Parenting WA will come in for a chat about ideas for dealing with after school behaviour as your children get used to their busy days. She can also answer other questions you may have about parenting.
Morning tea is provided.
date: Thursday March 17
Time: 9.00am to 10.30am
Venue: Spencer Park School Kindergarten room
R.A.V.F. -- Helpphone 0409000480 or 99426071 or register on our app at Mount Lockyer Child and Parent Centre.

cpc@warrelsea.asn.au • Child and Parent Centre – Mount Lockyer, Humphreys Street,
Supported by: Mount Lockyer • 0408 692 485
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-5:00pm
at the Child Parent Centre in Mt Lockyer.
Bookings essential – please call 9892 2499

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Cushion Concert for Kids

Recommended age 3-8 years

Conducted by Sue Findlay

Children $10
Older siblings & Adults $5

Sunday 20th May
Flinders Park Primary School  2.00 pm
Tickets available at the door
or book  www.albanycitywindensemble.com.au

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ALAC swimming lessons provide an enjoyable and rewarding experience for both you and your children.

Our Swim School caters for all your swimming needs and offers a wide range of classes.

✓ Water awareness for infants
✓ Learn to swim classes for preschoolers
✓ Learn to swim classes for school age children
✓ Learn to swim classes for adults
✓ Swim Squad (free stages 2+)
✓ Private tuition classes

Each individual’s progress and development will be facilitated under the guidance of our experienced Aquatic trained instructors.

Term 2, 2016

Term 2 will run from Tuesday, 26 April 2016 to Friday, 1 July 2016.

Enrolments begin on Saturday, 2 April 2016.

Further details and information can be obtained by contacting our Swim School directly on telephone number 9844 2274 or email alacany@albany.gov.au

--- join us and embark on your swimming journey today...