Dear Parents and Friends

School Board
Vacancies for our School Board have now been filled; four nominations were received to fill the positions available to those parents and carers in our community. Many thanks to Michelle Gray, Jem Ruggera, Carrie Beeck, and Linda Taylor for their commitment to our school and willingness to provide service in this way. Mr Luscombe, Mrs Barker and myself complete the make-up of our new School Board.

Our first meeting was held last Tuesday with the agenda made up of a number of items, including Directions for 2016, the process for recruiting and appointing a new Principal in 2017 and information about the school’s current financial position. Our 2016 School Development Plan and Budget were also distributed to Board members for discussion and endorsement at our next meeting on Wednesday 30 March.

T20 Blast Cricket Program
Over the last few weeks a large number of Year 5 and 6 students have been out at the cricket pitch on the oval with Mr Luscombe preparing themselves for an interschool T20 Blast Cricket Carnival to be held in the last week of the term. This format of cricket is modelled on what you may have seen played at a professional level.

Among a range of attractive features, it is a much shorter version of cricket, is fast paced, encourages big hitting, doesn’t require protective equipment and enables hitting off a tee if the ball bowled is too wide of the batsmen. Children of most abilities can participate and enjoy the game. From what I have seen each lunch time those participating are enjoying this program and should really relish the opportunity to play teams from other schools at the carnival. A boys team and girls team will be selected to take part in this day long event to be held in the last week of the term.

As with many of these sporting activities the intention is to expose children to a form of physical activity that they may not have considered with the hope that they make take it up regularly outside of school.

Many thanks to Mr Luscombe for coaching and encouraging our students in this program.

Child and Parent Centre at Mt Lockyer
In previous newsletters I have given information about the Child and Parent Centre (CPC) based at Mt Lockyer Primary School. This program established in 2014, has now moved into its brand new building at the school. This does enable a fuller range of services and supports for families with children from 0 to 4.

As you may be aware our school is linked into this program and does have a staff member from the CPC visit here regularly. This person is Angela Diletti, she can be contacted on e-mail ADiletti@wanslea.asn.au or phone 98430077.

Angela will be organising regular workshops for parents, hopefully one per term, that are aimed at helping you when it comes to making sense of your role as a parent of young children. The first of these happened today in our kindy, with a group of parents coming together to look at the issue of managing the behaviour of young children. This session was facilitated by Margot Morgan from Parenting WA. I am sure this session and those that follow over the course of the year will be worthwhile for those who can attend.

The CPC is a place that can assist you with a range of services and supports if you are encountering any issues with your young child’s development or to go to as a place that has a range of programs that you can access that will maximise your child’s initial involvement at school.

The program does have a mobile phone app that can keep you in touch with what is happening at the Centre. Simply go to the app store, type in “Child and Parent Centre – Mount Lockyer” and click install.

This is a very worthwhile program that all families with young children in our community should get to know and utilise.

Net, Set, Go Netball
One of our parents Michelle Gray, an accredited Netball WA Coach is looking to run Net, Set, Go, an introductory program for those children interested in playing netball. This will run once per week next term and will be free for those who participate. This will be funded by the Commonwealth Government’s Sporting Schools Program.
Please look for a notice elsewhere in today's newsletter asking for expressions of interest in participating – this will help in determining whether there are viable numbers interested in being involved.

Student Writing
You will see some samples of our students best writing appearing in this week’s newsletter. Publication of writing is a powerful motivator when it comes to encouraging a child’s best effort in this area. I hope you enjoy them and are able to encourage the children involved.

Alan Dowsett – Principal

Forthcoming Events
Early Morning Swimming
Training 7 – 8am
Thurs 24 Mar
In Term Swimming Year 5/6
at Emu Point
14 to 24 Mar
Good Friday Holiday
Fri 25 Mar
Easter Monday Holiday
Mon 28 Mar
Easter Tuesday Holiday
Tues 29 Mar
School Board Meeting
Wed 30 Mar
Mrs Hoskin
Retirement Assembly
Fri 1 April

HONOUR CERTIFICATES
We congratulate the following students who received certificates at the last assembly.
Tyson Room 1 Irene Room 1
Dakota Room 2
Thomas Room 3 Angelina Room 3
Lee Room 4 Jordan Room 4
Eh Sher Way Dah Room 4
Talissa Room 9 Charlie Room 9
Darren Room 11 Cheyenne Room 11
Lauchlan Room 18 Hailey Room 18
Mornig Star Room 18
John Room 19 Winter Room 19
Storm Room 25
Science Room 24
Music Bella-Jayne Room 3
Sharni Room 9

LORITZ CIRCUS VOUCHERS
This week the ice cream ticket draw will have prizes of circus vouchers. Some of these vouchers will be for 1 adult and 2 children, others will be for a single child only. If your child receives a single child only voucher, parents will need to buy an adult ticket and accompany their child as children cannot attend on their own. All vouchers must be exchanged for real tickets at least 24 hours before the event. See information on the voucher.

ANZ NetSetGo Netball
NetSetGo is an introductory program for netball that is nationally branded and endorsed. It has been developed to children aged 5 to 10 years and the program incorporates skill activities, minor games and modified matches. The program runs over 8 to 10 weeks of 1 hour sessions.

Spencer Park is looking for expressions of interest to join free weekly sessions, run after school by an Accredited Netball WA coach in term 2. If your child is interested please fill in the form below and return to the office. Any enquiries please contact Michelle Gray on her mobile - 0433 262 970.

Name: ___________________________
Age: _________
Contact Number: __________________

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.

Book club orders are due by Friday 18th March.

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.
For those students participating in horse riding (RDA) they began this week. The student and staff were really looking forward to going.

On Friday Ros Fleay and I attended the Early Intervention Program Principals’ Network meeting and training at the School for Special Education Needs: Disability.

There were a number of things Ros and I took away from the training and the meeting. Firstly, all behaviour has a function. There are three key reasons for any behaviour as most parents know. For children with Autism there can be a fourth. The excerpt below comes from Educate Autism.

1. Social Attention
A person may engage in a certain behaviour to gain some form of attention or a reaction from other. For example, a child might engage in a behaviour to get other people to look at them, laugh at them, play with them, hug them or scold them. While it might seem strange that a person would engage in a behaviour to have someone scold them it can occur because for some people it’s better to obtain “bad” attention than no attention at all.

2. Tangibles or Activities
Some behaviours occur so the person can obtain an item or gain access to a desired activity. For example, someone might scream and shout until their parents buy them a new toy or take them to the zoo.

3. Escape or Avoidance
Not all behaviours occur so the person can “obtain” something; many behaviours occur because the person wants to get away from something or avoid something altogether. For example, a child might engage in aggressive behaviour so his teachers stop running academic tasks with him or another child might engage in self-injury to avoid having to go outside to play with classmates.

4. Sensory Stimulation
The function of some behaviours do not rely on anything external to the person and instead are internally pleasing in some way – they are “self-stimulating”. They function only to give the person some form of internal sensation that is pleasing or to remove an internal sensation that is displeasing (e.g. pain).

For more information visit: http://www.educateautism.com/behavioural-principles/functions-of-behaviour.html

Next week I’ll look at reinforcement of positive behaviours vs punishment.
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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**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.

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**The 2016 Albany Model Railway Show**

Hosted by the members of The Albany Model Railway Association Inc.

**When:**
March 25th, 26th, 27th & 28th, 2016 (Easter)

**Where:**
The Scots Uniting Church Hall, York Street, Albany.

**Opening Times:**
Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 9:30am to 5:00 pm
Monday, 9:30 to 3:00 pm.

**Admission:**
$5 for Adults, $3 for Under 16, Family (of 4) $10.00. Under 5’s are free.

The Albany Model Railway Association (Inc) will host a modest model railway exhibit to entertain the public and show off several model railway layouts including the club’s large portable Australian Rural Themed model. This will measure 8.6m by 4.6m. Also displayed will be the Garden Gauge large trains often seen in a garden settings and one members home model railway.

This year we will also donate part the profits to the Albany Hospice and Royal Flying Doctor.

For more information contact the Co-ordinator, Peter Pocock. Phone: 0419 967 911.

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**Cushion Concert for Kids**

**Recommended age:** 3-8 years

**Conducted by:** Sue Findlay

**Sunday 20th May**
Flinders Park Primary School 2.00 pm
Tickets available at the door or book www.albanycitywindensemble.com.au
AMAZING ALBANY
WHY GO TO PERTH – IT’S ALL RIGHT HERE

I live in a historical, peaceful town called Albany. So why not plan a little visit.

Firstly, we have peaceful, clean beaches with the whitest sand in WA and clear, see-through, calm, aqua blue water.

Secondly, we have restaurants such as Due South, Venus, Dylans, Mean Fiddler and Cosies. You don’t go hungry.

Finally, we have the famous Dog Rock, the great Gap and Natural Bridge.

So there you have it, Albany is truly the best place to plan a little visit.

Abigail Stan-Bishop Year 3 Room 1

COME ON DOWN AND SEE THE DAZZLING SIGHTS OF ALBANY!

I live in a comfortable, caring city called Albany. It is a place with laughter, joy and friendliness. There are many activities too. So come along to see the wonderful places of Albany.

Firstly, the spectacular beaches are just covered with golden sand and all the water!! – just blows you away!! The aqua sights of the marine life will amaze you.

Secondly, the FOOD! Once you get to a cafeteria, restaurant or any type of food shop you are never going to leave. Just as you get the food down your throat it will taste so delicious, you are just going to keep on ordering it.

Finally, the PARKS the BEAUTIFUL parks! You can sit on a seat while the kids can go and play in the park. The beaches are really close too.

There you have it, there’s beaches, food and of course parks. They are all things you can do to relax and play.

Te Paea Keremete Year 3 Room 1

ALBANY – THE PLACE TO COME

Albany is a wonderful place with lots of things to see and do.

Firstly, Albany has the most delicious food. You can go to the most peaceful restaurants in this magnificent place.

Secondly, there are magnificent beaches with beautiful white sand and clear blue water. The big, blue whales cross Albany squirting the water out of the holes on their backs.

Thirdly, the places you can go to are wonderful. There is a bowling alley, Whale World and the movies. You can play basketball and all sorts of sports.

We have delicious food, beautiful beaches and great places. So come and visit soon.

Lily Kirby Year 3 Room 1