

# School Newsletter 0317 9 March 2017

## Coming Events



- Wednesday 15 March – Faction swimming carnival Years 4-6 and *invited* Yrs 2 & 3 – please refer to notice under “Sports” heading to see the day’s program.
- Wednesday 22 March – Early close for parent/teacher interviews on Wednesday 22 March, 12 noon.
- Tuesday 21 March – P&C meeting, 7.30pm in the Staffroom
- Pupil free days for the remainder of 2017 are as follows: Monday 24 April, Friday 26 May, Monday 9 October and Friday 15 December.
- Last day of Term 1 – Friday 7 April
- First day of Term 2 – Wednesday 26 April

## Principal’s Message



### Stranger Danger

A number of children have been waiting with their friends after school, rather than walking or riding straight home. I have explained to students that this is not a safe practice as there is safety in numbers. We encourage anyone who is not in the care of their own parents to leave school straight away so that they are not walking/riding home alone. There are a lot of parents and other children walking home straight after school but this number drops later. Please talk to your children about walking/riding straight home after school. Please also encourage and help them to find someone to walk home with. It is also important that they know what to do if a stranger approaches them on their journey. Adults should not approach children that they don’t know, so please encourage children to not engage in conversation with any adults but to move away quickly. Discuss and even role play other actions they can take, for example, if they have a mobile, to ring for help etc.

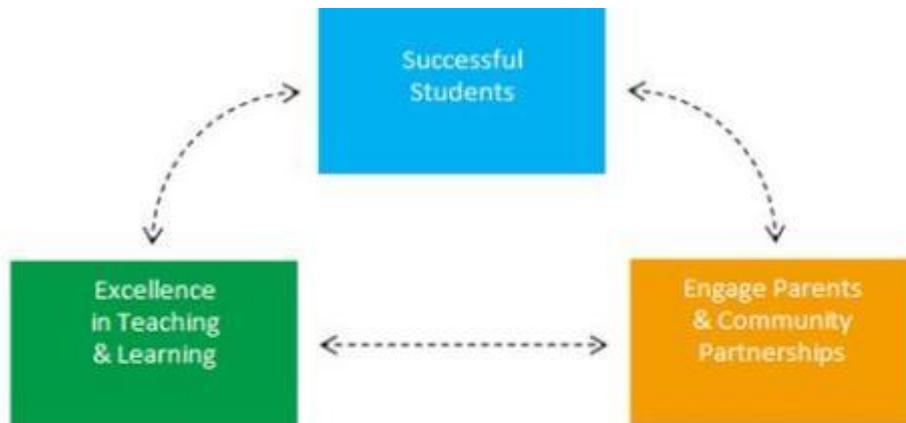
### Welcome to our New Board Members

- Parent: Nicole Austin (2 yrs) and Donatella Giansante (2 yrs) and Pharyn Thompson (2 yrs) and James Ramsay (1 yr)
- Staff: Debb Dellar and Megan Mehnert

An additional community member will be elected by the board at a later date. We will keep you informed.

### Updated Business Plan

As was mentioned in the last newsletter, the School Board has updated the Business Plan. This is now available on the school website under the “About” tab and then click on “School Business Plan” or go directly to the page by clicking on this link <https://kensingtonps.wa.edu.au/school-strategic-plan/>



<b>SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS</b>	Continuous Academic Performance in Literacy & Numeracy	Provide a Safe, Supportive and Inclusive Environment
<b>EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING</b>	Leadership, Workforce Planning & Performance Management	Professional Learning Opportunities
<b>PARENT &amp; COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</b>	Build & Stimulate Collaborative Partnerships	Effective Communications & Feedback Mechanisms

The focus of the Business Plan remains unchanged but it has been streamlined and the targets have been reduced in number to create a more focused approach for planning and monitoring. The strategic priorities have been summarised visually above. You may be aware that the school will be reviewed this year as part of the three year cycle as this is our final year for this Business Plan. We will begin a new cycle and new Business Plan in 2018. So why have we reviewed the Business Plan when it is so close to the end of its life? The Business Plan is not intended to be a static document, but a living, working document. As we continue to monitor our progress, we also review the plan to ensure it is still meeting our needs and driving our actions. So changes are not only allowed but they are expected and show that it is, indeed, a living, working document.

**Thank you**

A big thanks to the P & C for organising and spreading the sand as part of the regular maintenance of the Nature Play area. Mulching is to come next.

## Forgiveness



i don't forgive people because i'm weak. i forgive them because i'm strong enough to know people make mistakes.

While we have made changes to the Business Plan, we still maintain the focus on improving perseverance. You might think this has nothing to do with forgiveness, our virtue this month. However, the reason we all need forgiveness from time to time is that we all make mistakes. Making mistakes is a part of life and it is also an important part of learning and developing. We don't want to fear making mistakes otherwise we won't take the necessary risks to continue to learn. So, as everyone is on a learning journey we need to expect we will all make mistakes sometimes and be ready to forgive. Forgiving is giving others a second chance after they have done something wrong and allowing them to make amends. But it is also important to forgive yourself when you make a mistake and to take on a growth mind-set rather than punishing yourself or feeling like you are useless when you make a mistake. It is about moving forward and "keeping on keeping on" – about perseverance. It is also about not persevering down the wrong path, but not giving up when you have to make a navigational adjustment – a change in plans. The art of perseverance also includes knowing when to let something go; when it is no longer serving the purpose you intended. Forgiveness recognises everyone is on a learning journey.

## Myth Busting

You may wonder why I published the before and after school rules this year, when we did so last year too. The reason is not because we love rules but because we too are required to follow policies (department rules) and so we must ensure everyone is aware of these rules, which means publishing them regularly. Some of you might think that I love policy and making rules; I can tell you that it is the part of my job I don't like. Nobody likes to be the kill-joy but no one likes putting others at risk either; and nobody likes to be reported to Standards and Integrity or be taken to court or disciplined by your employer for failing to maintain standards and follow policy. Unfortunately, this is a sign of our times, both in society and within the Department of Education. The creation of Independent Public Schools has done nothing to reduce this but, on the contrary, has increased these requirements of the principal. So, all I ask is that you don't shoot the messenger. I am in a no win situation if you disagree with departmental policy as I must follow it. However, I am always happy to listen to suggestions or explain the policies, even though it is not my favourite subject.

On a similar subject, one of the easiest ways for a myth to spread like wildfire is through getting information second hand. All teachers (and I am sure parents have had similar experiences) have had the experience of a child misreporting something the teacher allegedly said – not because the child was trying to mislead, but because they misunderstood or only half-heard what the teacher was trying to convey. If something seems too unbelievable or unfair to be true, then it probably is. Please approach the teacher or me if you have any concerns, so we have the opportunity to explain things or, if we were wrong, to make a correction and provide an apology.

## **Year 6 Leadership**

As part of our increased focus on leadership skills in the upper years, all Year 6 students will be attending the Halogen Leadership Conference next week. The theme is **Imagination**. The staff will then begin the process of establishing leadership roles for Term 2 onward. Obviously some students already have formalised leadership roles – Student Councillors and Faction Captains – but it is our intention to offer leadership roles to all Year 6 students. The teachers have been taking this term to discern the most appropriate leadership role for each student, taking into account the needs of the school community. The aim is not to just provide students with jobs to do, but to provide real leadership opportunities and ways of contributing to our school community. In Year 4 and 5 we are working to develop the skills of independence and interdependence needed for good leadership. The staff will be attending professional learning on teaching philosophy in schools and then be provided with time to plan learning programs and leadership opportunities for the rest of the year.

## **Parent Teacher Interviews**

Endorsement has been received from the School Board and our Regional Executive Director to close the school at 12:00 noon on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March to undertake a *Reporting to Parents* afternoon in the form of individual *Parent Teacher Interviews*. The interview will focus on literacy and numeracy, and attitude, effort and behaviour. Teachers will use information collected from tasks completed as part of the usual classroom teaching and learning program to support the discussion. Parents will be informed if any students are experiencing difficulties with learning and provided with information about supporting their child at home.

The early close means no lessons will occur after 12 noon. Supervision will be provided **only** for those students who cannot be collected, but it is strongly requested that parents make alternative arrangements for their child(ren)'s care. Supervision will only be undertaken until 3:00pm; the normal school close time.

As per last year all interviews (K-Yr 6) will be held in the Senior Block and will be timed for 12 minutes with a 3 minute changeover. A bell will be rung to ensure timings are kept under control. A half hour break for staff will also be scheduled into the afternoon. Sign-up sheets will be placed on class notice boards and/or class emails for your convenience by next week. Some interviews will need to occur before or after the scheduled day, please communicate with your child's teacher as to a suitable time and day.

*Bronwyn Jones*

## Virtue & Honour Awards



### Forgiveness

Everyone makes mistakes. Being forgiving is overlooking the mistakes that others make. Forgiving does not mean that all of a sudden you do not feel hurt – it means that you find it in your heart to give the person another chance. You can even forgive yourself. You sometimes do things that you are sorry for and wish you hadn't done. Forgiving yourself means to move ahead, ready to do things differently, with compassion for yourself.

Congratulations to the following award winners from our last assembly on 8 March 2017.

### Virtue Awards 8/3/17

RoomName	RoomName	RoomName	RoomName
P1	Mokshada	1	Jackson
2	Ternura	3	Jack
4	Bridget	5	Marcus
6	Felice	7	Jacob
8	Jessica	9	Jack
10	Lucy	S1	Aiden
S2	Jordan	S3	Meg
S4	—		

### Honour Certificates 8/3/17

RoomName	RoomName	RoomName	RoomName
P1	Harper	P2	David
P3	Sabrina	1	Sasha & Mackenzi
2	Liam	3	Lily
4	James	5	Lenny
6	Lachlan	7	Kyle
8	Alicia	9	Paria
10	Eliza	S1	Mietta
S2	Georgia	S3	Cora & Josie
S4	Ben, Eliza & Marcus		

## Sports News



Please [click here](#) to see the program for the faction swimming carnival, to be held next Wednesday 15 March 2017.

## Running Club

Kensington runners, come and join us on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 8.00 to 8.30am on the oval. All ages welcome!

## Congratulations



Congratulations to Mrs Robyn Partridge on the occasion of her retirement from KPS. We all thank Robyn for many years of dedicated service – we will miss her friendly, kind and colourful presence around the school!



## Special Thanks



On Friday 3rd March, the Kensington community united at Morris Mundy Reserve for a fundraising event for Year 4 student, Nelson, who recently underwent emergency surgery after being diagnosed with a brain tumour.

A group of youth and junior youth, who had got to know Nelson through the Baha'i children's classes, got together one afternoon to discuss what meaningful way they could help him and his family through these tough times. That is where the idea of a fundraiser was

born, and what better place to hold it then at Nelson's favourite park. The whole community got behind it as it built momentum and gained a life of its own.



The afternoon involved face painting, soccer, basketball, bottle flip competitions and various other games. There was plenty of food, and youth from around the neighbourhood also helped in running a busy dog wash and car wash. A talented young guitarist added to the joyful atmosphere as he performed a catchy set of tunes and songs.

The event raised over \$2000 to help towards Nelson's medical and family costs, with approximately 200 people getting behind this worthy cause.

A big thank you goes to the DUCKS for their support of this event. Their generous contributions in the raffle and delicious sausage sizzle were greatly appreciated. We'd also like to thank the youth and junior youth of Kensington for their dedication in organising, preparing and running the different activities and stalls.

If you would like to support Nelson and his mum Jen, please go to:

<https://www.gofundme.com/nelsons-medical-fund>

**P&C News**



**Election Day BBQ and Cake Stall**



## Election Day BBQ & Cake Stall

*Run by the parents of Kensington Primary, raising money for  
the P&C and feeding the hungry voters!*

**Saturday 11 March 8am to 1pm**



**CAKE DONATIONS NEEDED – whole cakes preferable**

(drop off Friday 10 Mar in the STAFF ROOM or bring down early on Saturday)

Please contact Mel T if you can help on the day – 0405265902 [mmtibbitts@gmail.com](mailto:mmtibbitts@gmail.com)

### **Movie Night**

A huge thank you to everyone involved in the 2017 movie night. It was a great success. Record numbers, record temperatures and record funds raised! Thanks to our sponsors Angelo Street Optical, Banyan Creative, John McGrath MLA, Lomax Fitness and Como Preston Street IGA. In total, \$5000 was raised for the P&C. A big thank you to all the parents and kids involved. GO Kensington!

*Keep an eye out for the next fundraising events into Term 2:*

Election Day BBQ and Cake/Ice-cream/Lolly stalls (Saturday 11 March 8am-12noon)

Scitech (Friday 2 June 5pm-8pm)

Lapathon (Friday 30 June 2pm-3pm)

Any questions, please get in touch with the fundraising co-ordinator Mel on [mmtibbitts@gmail.com](mailto:mmtibbitts@gmail.com)

**Community News**





St Martin's House is having a bazaar on 18 March 2017, featuring a huge sale, morning tea and cake stall. Please [click here](#) to view the flyer.



### **New Child Care Centre and Work Space. One Convenient Place.**

Studio 64 is one of the first in Australia to open a space that assists parents balance their work and childcare commitments by offering flexible work space and an exceptional licensed early learning centre for children all under the one roof. The centre offers long day care, occasional and casual care and is open from 7-6.30 to give parents additional flexibility. Designed with busy parents in mind, other services on site include mobile hair and beauty, grocery delivery and on site parking so parents that work elsewhere can drop off their children and ferry into the city. They've recently opened on 64 Mill Point Rd, South Perth, so check out their website [www.studio64.org.au](http://www.studio64.org.au) or call 08 6111 3072 for more information. Please click [here](#) and [here](#) to view the flyers.



# WES TALKS 2017



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WES Talks is an initiative by Wesley's Social and Emotional Learning team to provide students and their families with expert support and advice around issues affecting our young people today. In 2017, WES Talks is back again with another fantastic program of speakers.

## DR JUDITH LOCKE 15 FEBRUARY

Clinical psychologist, former teacher and author of *The Bossy Child*.

*Helping your teen become confident and capable at school.*

### SUITABLE FOR

Parents and guardians of Middle and Senior School students. *Please note this WES Talk is for parents only.*

## MELINDA TANKARD REIST 31 MAY

Author, speaker, media commentator and blogger.

*The world of the 21st century adolescent: how can we address this over sexualised culture and raise happy, healthy and resilient children?*

### SUITABLE FOR

Parents and guardians of Middle and Senior School students.

## PAUL DILLON 20 SEPTEMBER

Internationally renowned drugs and alcohol expert.

*Teenagers, alcohol and other drugs: How much influence do parents really have?*

### SUITABLE FOR

Parents and guardians of Middle and Senior School students.

## MARTIN HEPPELL 17 OCTOBER

Former AFL Footballer who now works with young people to develop positive mental health strategies.

*Teaching resilience at home.*

### SUITABLE FOR

Parents and guardians of Junior and Middle School students.

All WES Talks tickets are \$5 including wine and cheese on arrival. To book tickets please visit: [wesleyona.edu.au/events](http://wesleyona.edu.au/events).

The doors to the Joseph Green Centre open at 7:00pm. Presentations begin at 7:30pm in the Geelcher Auditorium.



*\*The above community advertisements are for your information only and should not be taken as endorsement by Kensington Primary School.*