Dear Families

I hope you enjoyed the long weekend and did something special to celebrate WA Day on Monday.

This Thursday our school will be visited by a School Performance Assessment Team from the Department. They will conduct a validation of our school performance as per the information we provided in the recent School Performance Self-Assessment Tool and provide feedback for us to use to improve the learning outcomes for our students. The team will visit classrooms and interview staff and representatives from the P & C and School Council. I am sure our staff and students will make them feel welcome and enjoy the opportunity to demonstrate what a wonderful school community we have.

The quality of our teaching and learning programs has been commended by Rod McNeill, Principal of Mundaring Christian. Rod recently sent a letter of commendation and thanks to our staff and school community for the “fine students that represent quality primary education” who have joined their secondary campus this year. He was very impressed by the poise, language and humour displayed by Sophie Hopkins, Claire Stanwix and Grace Glasgow in their recent oral presentation about their leadership camp. Well done to all!

Congratulations to all our Year 3-6 students who took part in our recent Spelling Bee. Our Year 3/4 Spelling Bee Champion was Gabe S and runner up was Ava S. Our Year 5/6 Champion was Talia B and runner up was Jemma H. These students represented Darlington Primary in the HEC Spelling Bee at Mundaring Primary last week and competed against representatives from our other HEC schools. Well done to them all and thank you to Mrs Barley for her coordination of this event.

Last Wednesday Cathy Levitt from the EMRC visited the school and began working with our Year 3-6 students. The students had a wonderful time exploring our natural environment, identifying native and introduced plant species and various animal life residing in this area. We look forward to all their exciting ideas for developing this area into a great outdoor classroom coming to fruition. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with Cathy and are grateful for her ongoing support with this part of our GROUNDS PROJECT. Plans for our Junior Veggie Patch are coming along nicely. As is mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter we have a Busy Bee scheduled for Sunday 19th June. If you are available on this day or would like help out with any aspects of the Grounds Project, we look forward to hearing from you. The overall project plan is on display in the front office.

Next week our school may be a little quieter with our Year 6s off on their Leadership Camp at the DARE Outdoor Adventure Camp in Dwellingup. They will have a wonderful week and I am sure will be very supportive of each other as they confront the many challenges that are planned. Thank you to Mr Scott, for coordinating the event and Mr Smith, and Mrs Osenton, for their support. Thanks also to our parents, who have volunteered to help out. We are very fortunate to have staff and parents volunteer to support our school for such an event and give up their week to be on duty 24 hours a day. I will join the group for part of the week as will Chaplain Tracey.

We look forward to hearing the students’ tales of adventure. School camps are always filled with special memories.
We have two positions available on our School Council and call for nominations from parents wishing to stand for election for these positions: **2 x General Parent Representatives**. All parents who currently have children enrolled at Darlington Primary School are eligible to nominate. The role of the Council is that of involvement in the governance of the school. This means taking part in the shaping and monitoring of the school’s objectives, priorities and general policy directions. School Councils reinforce the importance of the partnership between schools, parents and the wider community. The School Council meets once per term, usually on Monday night of Week 5, from 7.00 - 9.00 pm. If you require further information, please contact our Council Chair, Belinda Foster.

Please see nomination form attached to this newsletter. If nominations for these two positions exceed the number of vacancies, elections will be conducted by secret ballot. All parents (except those who are also staff members) are eligible to vote. I urge all parents to consider making themselves available for this important decision-making body. Please return the completed nomination form to the school office by **Friday 24th June**.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in feedback about our new website: [www.darlingtonps.wa.edu.au/](http://www.darlingtonps.wa.edu.au/). Please contact the school on 9299 6888 or darlington.ps@education.wa.edu.au with any further feedback.

In closing, I would like to extend a very special thank you to our wonderful Chaplain Tracey. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and committed Chaplain supporting our students, families and staff. From lunch time activities, to Friday afternoon Zumba fun, Tracey always goes above and beyond - thank you Tracey.

Maree James

(Principal)

---

**School Contributions and Charges**

Thank you to all the parents who have already made payments.

If you have not already paid for your students Voluntary Contributions and Subscriptions, you are encouraged to do so.

Payments can be made in the office, on flexischools or via your child’s class teacher.

Payments can be made by; cash, cheque or EFTPOS.

(Payment by flexi schools will incur a 1.82% fee)
Library News

We are currently experiencing many overdue library books.

Please encourage your students to have a suitable library bag and to return or renew their library items weekly. This will help develop good library habits.

Thank you to the families who have responded promptly to letters home – by either finding and returning items or paying for lost items.

Making Dreams into Reality
Darlington Primary School Grounds Project
Busy Bee 10am - 4pm, Sunday 19 June

All families are welcome to join the team making the school grounds more fun, educational and beautiful for our kids. Come for a couple of hours, or more if you can spare the time and there will be a sausage sizzle for lunch. At the Busy Bee we will tackle two great projects.

Nature Trail
This is a collaborative project between senior school students and teachers and the P and C, taking place in the area next to the amphitheatre. To get this underway, we need your help to clear, weed and revegetate this part of the grounds. We want to create access for kids to the natural environment, without having to leave the school grounds. There are lots of exciting plans for this area, but to start with we need to weed and plant it with wildflowers.

Junior School Veggie Patch
This project will provide children at the junior school with a growing outdoor classroom and the opportunity to plant and grow their own vegetables - a great life skill! At the busy bee, parents and kids will be working together to help get this area set up, so that students can look after the veggie patches in an ongoing way.

Please let us know if you can join the Busy Bee to help us plan the day's work and the catering, by RSVP'ing to kbrinfield@iinet.net.au before Friday 10 June. This will help us to ensure you receive further details about the day regarding the equipment that will be needed, etc.

Look out for the flyer that has been sent home with every student and bring along old clothes, covered footwear, gloves, water, mug, aeroguard, trowel / fork / digging implements. Head to the amphitheatre to check in with the organisers first up.

These are the first in a series of projects - stay tuned over the coming months as we share updates about what is going on and how you can be involved.
GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION IN VISUAL ARTS
KALAMUNDA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

ART WORKSHOP

FOR YEAR 4 AND 5 STUDENTS

Does your child excel in the Visual Arts? Would you like to give them the opportunity to shine? Enrol in a special Art Workshop run by the Gifted and Talented Education tutors at Kalamunda SHS. They will have the opportunity to learn a variety of arts skills that will prepare them for further studies in the Visual Arts.

**WHO:** Any student enrolled in Year 4/5, Term 3, 2016

**WHEN:** Wednesday afternoons between 3.30 and 5pm from the 24 August until the 21 September, 2016

**WHERE:** Kalamunda Senior High School Visual Art Department

**COST:** $50 for the 5 sessions

Please contact Zoe Wittber via email to enrol your son/daughter:

zoe.wittber@education.wa.edu.au

9293 6441

THERE ARE LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE SO ENROL NOW!
ON YOUR MARKS – GET SET – GO!

DPS INAUGURAL FUN RUN

is on
Friday 24th June at 2.30pm

Fun Run sponsorship forms are coming home with your children today! Get moving, get planning, get involved, and get sponsored!

Spare copies of the form available in the office or available via email

P& C Meeting

TUESDAY 14th June, 9.15am
Held in the staffroom

Vacancy – P&C Treasurer

Are you good at accounts or have some sort of book keeping background? Your talents are needed by your P & C as our new treasurer.

MYOB understanding would be helpful, but not essential. (Training will be provided)

Please contact Janine on 0419 851 427, 9299 7773 or janine@daisypoolcovers.com.au if you are willing to join our fantastic volunteer P & C team!

Be Creative Craft Group

Just a reminder that the Be Creative Craft Group is on the second half of lunch in the library. Come along and meet some new friends and see what you can create.

Zumba Kids

I have been teaching Zumba Kids® after lunch on Fridays with some of the classes and I must say the students have been amazing.

I really love the way that you have a try and how well you listen. I love Friday Zumba times. I am learning some new routines for this Friday. Stay tuned.

Camp

I will be away on Camp with the year sixes on Thursday 16th and Friday 17th of June. Looking forward to camp. Tracey, Chaplain

My thought for the fortnight –

Be Encouraged