A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is with great pleasure that I welcome the Duncraig Primary School students and parents to the 2015 school year. As many of you will be aware, Gary Stenhouse is currently on long service leave. In Gary’s absence, I am delighted to have accepted the principal position. As indicated in the short welcome back newsletter last week, I have had the opportunity to work in a range of contexts as principal, with my most recent appointment at Dalkeith Primary School. My previous experience with the Department of Education includes classroom teacher, deputy principal and literacy consultant.

Duncraig's deputy principal Lloyd Morris has also accepted a promotional opportunity for this year and therefore I am delighted to welcome Mr Taylor Webb to the administration team. Taylor has worked as a classroom teacher, physical education specialist and deputy principal. His most recent position was deputy principal at Padbury Primary School.

The 2015 school year has begun very smoothly, with students and staff settling into the weekly routine. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of staff in ensuring a quality learning program was in place on day 1. At Duncraig this year, we have approximately 380 students, spread over 16 classes from kindergarten to year 6.

There are approximately 50 staff members and 265 families in our school community. Of those families, we welcomed many new families into our kindergarten and across the other year levels.

Transition to school

One of the key concerns for parents at the start of a school year is that their children experience a successful transition into their new class. Although it impacts on a very small group of students, after over 25 years in education (both as a teacher and a parent) I understand how difficult the transition period can sometimes be. The start of the school year allows students to meet their new teachers and establish new friendship groups. It brings together students from different classes and teachers in their previous years of school. One of the difficulties parents (and schools) face, is that transition problems can be difficult to predict and therefore manage. This first fortnight of the 2015 school year is therefore focussed around transition. Diagnostic assessments in literacy and numeracy alongside new routines and procedures have been a feature of your child’s 2015 experience so far. I encourage parents to contact their child’s teacher if you are concerned about your child’s transition.

P&C AGM

Included in this newsletter is information about the first P&C meeting this year. I would like to encourage all families to read this information and support this important group in the school community. The P&C is a dynamic, inviting group of parents who work tirelessly to support the educational experience of students. Many of the school facilities and resources available to your children would not be available without the P&C. I encourage all families to attend the AGM (you won’t get a job...unless you wish to help) or one of the meetings throughout the year.

‘Meet the Teacher’ Parent Information Sessions

Individual classes are organising these sessions throughout the first few weeks of this term. I encourage parents to attend these meetings if you are able to. Please contact your child’s class teacher if you do not have information about their session time.

In conclusion, I would like to wish all families an educationally rewarding 2015 school experience at Duncraig Primary School. I look forward to continuing to meet many of you over the next few weeks.

Lisa Tucker
Principal
MARRI ROAD CROSSING
Our crossing guard has requested that students walk their bikes across the road. This is for the safety of all concerned. Please talk to your children about not riding their bikes until they are fully across the road.

PARKING AREAS
We ask all parents & carers to be courteous and responsible when parking around the school and to take note of any relevant signage.
The staff car park is not to be used for setting down or picking up students.

UNIFORMS AND HATS
We look forward to all students wearing school uniform. This is a feature of our school and we trust parents will continue their support in this area. We particularly request that suitable shorts, not surf shorts, be worn.
We appreciate the efforts of our, P & C uniform shop coordinators, in providing uniforms.
Our sun care policy requires student wear a SunSmart hat for play and sport. Please ensure items of clothing are clearly marked with your child’s name. We request that no jewellery be worn to school in the interests of safety.

PP-YEAR 7 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
We greatly appreciate you having your child attend school regularly and arrive on time.
Consistent and punctual attendance is essential for your child’s social and academic learning.
As parents or legal guardians of an enrolled child, you are responsible under the School Education Act 1999 to ensure the attendance of your child at school every day. It is important to assist your child’s achievement and learning by making regular school attendance a priority in your child’s life. The Department of Education’s Student Attendance policy requires parents/guardians to provide an acceptable explanation to the school principal for any absence of their children.
Your continued support in maximizing your child’s attendance at school is valued and will significantly benefit your child.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES
We look forward to your support in paying these voluntary contributions –
Kindergarten $60
Pre-Primary $60
Years 1-7 $60
These funds will be used to provide additional resources for all students.
An outline of possible charges for each year level was provided at the end of last year. Please use this to anticipate educational expenses for the year. Charges will be collected at the time the particular event, such as an excursion, occurs.
If you have any queries on contributions and charges, please contact the office. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or bank deposit (BSB 016 495 3409 48316). We have no EFTPOS facilities.

STAFFING FOR 2015
Principal Lisa Tucker
Deputy Principal Taylor Webb
Registrar Jennifer Ryan
School Officers Sue Hutchinson, Leanne Gray
Library Officer Pat Southall
Kindergarten A (Anteaters): Tara Phillips
Kindergarten B (Bunyips): Leonie Hetebry
Kindergarten C (Caterpillars): Lisa Becker
Pre-primary Room13: Sandy Firman
Pre-primary Room15: Amanda Davies/ Lindsay Calton
Pre-primary/Year 1 Room 17: Vanessa Sutherland/Rachael Waters
Year 1 Room 18: Helen Spiers
Year 2 Room 12: Cath Locke/Alison Plummer
Year 2 Room 19: Jozie Goodfield
Year 2 Room 20: Joanne Watkinson/Tabitha Stewart
Year 3 Room 7: Stephen Miller
Year 3 Room 8: Jenny Wylde/Jenny Cole
Year 4/5 Room 5: Chris Cox / Alexandra Collett
Year 5/6 Room 6: Louise Oldroyd
Year 5/6 Room 1: Karen Garcia/ Alinson Gordon
Year 5/6 Room 2: Susan Noguchi
Pre-primary Support: Nicola Parramore
Music Specialist: Jan Ruscoe
Phys Ed Specialist: Ted Orzel
LOTE- French: Janet Wilderspin
STUDENT LEADERS 2015

Congratulations to our Year 6 students who have been voted into student leadership positions.

STUDENT COUNCILLORS

Owen
Max
Joseph

FACTION CAPTAINS

Red
Lewis
Kellyn

Green
Juan
Aimee

Gold
Shade
Tara

P & C ASSOCIATION NEWS

NOTICE OF P&C AGM

The 2015 AGM for the P&C will take place at 7pm on Thursday 26th February 2015 in the school library. All welcome.

If you are interested in nominating for an executive position or as a class representative please email duncraigpc@gmail.com


PRIMARY MUSIC INSTITUTE

Instrumental Music Lessons - Small Group And Private Lessons

Keyboard Lessons At Your School

• Enrol TODAY – via PMI's website OR enrolment forms available from the school front office
• Lessons are held once per week on school campus – typically during the school day
• Only $13.50 per child per small group lesson (typically 3-5 students for 30 minutes)
• Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
• Private lessons also available ($32.50 per child for 30 minutes)
• Learning plan for all students via “PMI Stars” program – structured objectives with progress visibility
• PMI teachers supply keyboards and textbooks for lessons (students bring only PMI Stars workbook)
• Ten minutes per day of practice at home is all that is required to see improvement!
• Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination
• Limited spaces available for Term 1 so please enrol ASAP

**Duncraig Primary School Garden**

Our school garden is an area for classes to have hands on experience with growing, maintaining and cultivating fruits, herbs and vegetables. We are always looking for ways to build and improve our space. If you would like to be a part of our team or make a donation, please contact us at duncraigpc@gmail.com with the subject ‘School Garden’. **Our garden is always looking for garden supplies, including seeds, planters, gently used tools, climbing wires and milk or ice cream cartons (with lids).** The Garden Committee recently added a lovely new planting bed. This old boat has found new life at our school. We are very excited to watch this living space grow over the school year.

**CANTEEN NEWS**

**Days Open**
The canteen is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday for morning tea and lunch. Lunch orders must be in to the canteen prior to 9am.

**Online Ordering**
You can now order healthy, delicious lunches for your children online. Just sign up for the TiqBiz and signup for Duncraig Primary School and click on 'online' to register. If you require further information please ask Clare in the Canteen.

You can also place lunch orders in person by coming to the Canteen prior to 9am.

**Canteen Roster**
Outside of your child's classroom you will see a schedule showing which weeks in the school year that your class is responsible for providing volunteers to the canteen. Roster times are 9:00am to 12:30pm, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

It is vitally important for the running of the canteen that we have the help of parents in providing support to the canteen. Volunteers allow the canteen to provide healthy, tasty and affordable homemade food to our children.

If you can volunteer 3 hours of your time at some time during the school year please put your name down, volunteering is fun and the kids absolutely love to see Mum, Dad or any family relative/friend in the canteen.

Please also come see Clare in the canteen if you are available to volunteer in the Canteen at any other times during the school year as we always can use a set of extra hands.

**NETBALL SEASON 2015 IS NEARLY HERE!!**

Is your son (yes – boys can play netball!!) or daughter keen to play netball for their school, join a team sport and make new friends this year??

Calling all players to jump on board and register for the 2015 season.

Your child must turn 7 this year to be eligible to play.

Look out for the flyers that will be posted in the classroom windows by the week ending Friday 13th, Feb. This will have registration days and times information listed on them. Registration forms will be sent home shortly after that.

Also, please don’t be shy – if you think you would like to coach, know how to umpire or can help out in any way (like joining the netball committee) please contact me expressing your interests…The more parents involved, the more efficient our school netball club will operate.

Susie Wright Duncraig PSNC co-ordinator, 0407 210 174
The Uniform Shop will be open on Friday 13 February from 8.15 - 8.45am and then fortnightly on Friday mornings from 8.15am – 8.45am. See the Term 1 calendar on the school website for all the opening times for this term.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

Disclaimer: These notices are provided as a community service only. We do not have any connection with these providers and we do not endorse these programs.

**Zig Zogs**
Out of School Holiday Care
OPEN NOW

BEFORE, AFTER & VACATION CARE AT DUNCRAIG PRIMARY SCHOOL

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE 7.00AM - 8.45AM COST $13 INCLUDING BREAKFAST
AFTER SCHOOL CARE 3.00PM - 6.00PM COST $22 INCLUDING AFTERNOON TEA
CHILDCARE REBATES APPLIED TO REDUCE YOUR FEES
READING AND HOMEWORK SUPPORT OFFERED
CASUAL AND ONE OFF BOOKINGS ALSO WELCOME
DROP IN AND SEE US. WE ARE LOCATED BEHIND THE FRENCH CLASSROOM PREVIOUSLY THE OLD LIBRARY OR CALL WENDY 0466 413 287 FOR MORE INFORMATION

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**Hot-Shots Tennis lessons at Duncraig Primary School with InStyle Tennis!**

Tennis lessons at Duncraig Primary School will be held Monday mornings before school at **8-8.45am**, starting week 3 of term 1 ($90/6 weeks). Great fun, key skills developed and all ages/levels welcome!

Details at **instyletennis.com.au/ 0433 777 195** or grab a flyer from the school front office.

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**The BRAVE PROGRAM**

Need help managing stress and anxiety?

If your child or teen has difficulties with anxiety or just seems to have too many worries, we would like to introduce you to BRAVE Self-Help – an interactive online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It was developed by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland and now, with the support of **beyondblue**, this program is now freely available to all young people aged 8-17 years old who are living in Australia. BRAVE Self-Help provides strategies for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. There are 4 programs available, one for children aged 8 – 12 years, one for teenagers aged 12-17 years and one for parents of these ages respectively. The program can be accessed as often as you like, from the comfort of your own home. For more information, or to register for the program, please visit www.brave4you psy.uq.edu.au

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**Hamersley Rovers Junior FC (Soccer)**

Registrations for Boys and Girls (aged 5 – 18 years)

Expressions of interest for places for the 2015 season are now open via our website. Information about the registration process is available on our website at **www.hrjfc.com.au**. Places in some age groups are limited and new players are encouraged to complete the on-line expression of interest form as soon as possible as places will be allocated in order of date received.
CRICKET - YEAR 7 ENROLMENT FOR 2016 SCHOOL YEAR

CHOOSE CRICKET AS A FULL TIME SUBJECT

CRICKET SKILLS TESTING DAY

at the WACA
Tuesday 31 March 2015
(Applications close Monday 30 March 2015)

Send in an application to one of these specialised Cricket Senior High Schools

Belridge Secondary College
John Forrest Secondary College
Kent Street Senior High School

Background
Students from metropolitan and country areas enrol full time in a comprehensive cricket program from Years 7-12. There are four Department of Education and WACA approved schools in the metropolitan area enrolling Year 7 cricketers next year.

Country Students Accommodation
Senior High School has a specialised cricket program and a hostel for country students Tel: 9681 9300.
Kent Street Senior High School students can apply for accommodation on site at The Rotary Residential College Tel: 9470 4177.

Course Description
Lower School
At all schools the four hour per week course covers:

- Development of batting, bowling, fielding and mental skills
- History of cricket
- Fitness training
- Match strategies
- Training camps
- Umpiring
- Captaincy
- Modified games/indoor cricket
- Interschool matches
- Interschool and international tours

Upper School
All schools offer Upper School University and TAFE bound courses to meet student needs This includes the Physical Education Studies Course of Study and Certificate III in Sport.

Parents should contact their school of choice and submit their application forms and materials (please send in copies of any documents/certificates not originals) with a cheque or money order for $25.

Parents and students will be notified whether or not they have been selected by mail early in Term 2.