



An Independent Public School

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear parents and caregivers,

Key Dates	
✓ Thursday, 18 August (pm)	Interscholar Cross Country Carnival
✓ Thursday, 18 August (9-9.30am)	Goal Setting by Sarah Jamieson (1500m Olympian) – Year 3 – 6
✓ Tuesday – Thursday (this week)	NAPLAN on-line testing trial
✓ Wednesday, 17 August 2016	Survey by Commissioner Children & Young People -Years 3,5,6
✓ Friday, 26 August 2016	Science Tabloid Day
✓ Monday, 29 August 2016	School Development Day [No students]
✓ Friday, 2 September 10.10am – 11.25am	Visit by the Minister of Education
✓ Monday, 5 September 9am - 9.30am Assembly	Year 1 classes
✓ Tuesday, 6 September 2016 6.30pm – 8.30pm	School Board Meeting
✓ Wednesday, 7 September (am)	Junior Tabloid Sports Day (PP – Year 1)
✓ Thursday, 15 September	Faction Athletics Carnival Years 2 - 6

Staffing

As mentioned in previous letters, you may notice regular changes in staff as they finalise their leave entitlements. Every effort will be made to offer continuity to students and learning programs.

We THANK the following staff for their efforts this year and WISH them all the best for their leave or new opportunity:

- ✚ Emma Semple – Year 4 (returning in Term 4)
- ✚ Tim Mangano – Year 3 (returning Week 9&10)

We WELCOME back:

- ✚ Caroline Freel – Year 3 (Week3)
- ✚ Anne Kay – Year 4 (Week 6)

We WELCOME:

- ✚ Ben Brooke – Mid Phase 2 IEC (Week 6)
- ✚ Lauren Osborne – Senior Phase 2 IEC (Week 5)

Leave Entitlements of Staff

A number of parents have asked questions of School Board members related to staff on leave at Beaconsfield PS. The following information may be useful in answering these queries. School staff are employed under a number of different 'Awards'. Their 'Award' is determined by their role in the school. Each 'Award' has a variety of leave provisions. For instance, teachers are entitled to take Carer's Leave, Ceremonial Leave, Defence Force Reserve Leave, Emergency Leave, Leave without Pay, Local Government Leave, Partner Leave, Long Service Leave, Short Leave, and Sick leave [to list a few].

In April 2014, all staff received a letter addressing 'Leave Liability' – an extract from the letter is below:

'You will be aware that we are required to reduce levels of leave liability as part of the State Government's overall reduction of leave liability across the public sector. .. Leave management is necessarily being tightened across our department. Your cooperation is sought to ensure that long service leave, annual leave, and leave accrued under the deferred salary scheme and Remote Teaching Service is taken before any unpaid leave and within the required timeframes'.

CLIFF GILLAM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WORKFORCE, 8 April 2014

Where possible, the school is seeking to replace staff on leave with the same relief teacher or education assistant. However, with all schools supporting staff as they clear their leave entitlements as well as 'winter illness' rates, this is not always possible. The number of staff on leave in 2017 should be minimal as the majority of staff have cleared their leave during 2015/2016. However, there will still be changes in staff members as fixed term contracts end, staff take up new work opportunities, staff clear accrued leave and staff return from extended leave (some of whom I have not yet met) to take up a teaching position.

Daily Activities

You may have noticed the school has set up a number of activities that students can do during every recess and lunch break. The activities include loose play parts, giant chess, jig saw puzzles and as soon as the game arrives GIANT JENGA!

A number of staff have kindly offered their time to provide students with an opportunity to be involved in lunch-time clubs. At the moment, the planned timetable is as follows:

✓ Monday – Gardening Club	Years 1 – 6	Mrs Dicker & Ms Jack
✓ Tuesday – Games & Drawing Club	Years 1 – 6	Miss Stevens, Ms Platts & Ms Stalley
✓ Wednesday morning – prior to school Running Club		Ms Lechte & Mr Andersson
✓ Wednesday – Cultural Club	Years 4 – 6	Ms Jefferson
✓ Wednesday – Loose Play Parts	Years 1 - 3	Ms Hopkins
✓ Thursday – prior to school	Choir	Ms Yeomans
✓ Friday – Chess Club	Years 3 – 6	Mrs Denman

From Week 6, Mr Morellini is planning to start an after school ‘Tinker Club’ (STEM) for parents and students on a Thursday afternoon from 3.15 – 4.15pm. ALL students are welcome to participate in activities.

BOOK FAIR 2016

I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to students, parents and staff who participated in the recent book fair. It wasn't only fun, it was also a very successful event raising approximately \$1,000 for new library books which I am sure our students will enjoy. Congratulations to Sidney, Anya and Fatma. They were winners of our raffle and each chose \$20 worth of items from the fair. Thank you for your support.

Maggie Hill, Library Officer

NATIONAL SCHOOL OPINION SURVEYS (NSOS): FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. We did the surveys in 2015; do we have to do them again in 2016?

Yes. It is mandatory for all schools to administer the NSOS surveys in 2016.

2. We used the NSOS surveys in 2014 (or 2015). Do we use the same surveys in 2016?

No. Two additional survey items aligned to the new strategic plan have been included in the 2016 surveys and the structure of the surveys has also changed. This means the surveys done in 2014 or 2015 cannot be re-distributed.

3. Why do we have to do the NSOS surveys?

The two main reasons:

1 Mandated requirement: In 2013, Ministers of Education agreed that all Australian schools should undertake nationally consistent satisfaction surveys. In September 2013, the Director General announced the requirement for our schools. Since 2013, the *Australian Education Act* and regulations have required schools to include parent, student and staff satisfaction information in their annual school reports.

2 System-level and school comparative satisfaction data: Prior to NSOS, our schools had access to the Surveying the School Community suite of surveys or reported satisfaction from local sources. None of these data were collected centrally. NSOS satisfaction data, based on common survey items, are collected and can be reported centrally. School data can be aggregated to report system satisfaction and to shape and guide system responses. It will also be possible for schools to compare their satisfaction responses to those of the system as a whole or, potentially, to like schools. At the same time, schools are able to add their own survey items.

4. Can we do only one or two of the surveys in 2016?

No. Each of the parent, student and staff surveys must be administered in 2016. The only exceptions are for those students in education support schools/centres who may not be able to undertake the student survey.

5. Which students should be included?

Students in Years 5 to 12 should be surveyed.

6. Can we change some of the NSOS items?

No. The NSOS items, including items just for our schools, are fixed and cannot be altered in any way.

7. How does a parent with more than one child at the school complete the survey?

It is recommended that parents focus on their oldest child in the school.

8. How do parents or students respond to items about teachers when there may be many teachers involved?

It is recommended that parents and students make an overall judgement about all of the teachers with whom the student has interactions.

Stella Wild and Pritika Baptist Win Merit Certificate Design Comp!

The school recently decided to redesign our Merit Certificate, creating two new Merit Certificates for **Citizenship** and **Endeavour**. The idea was that these would show how students are following our school values of *Doing Your Best, Honesty, Valuing Others* and *Respect*.

Miss Andrew and the Student Council organised a competition to design the new Merit Certificates. To tell students and teachers about the competition, the Student Councillors paired up and made posters for all the classes.

Students who were interested designed their certificates and handed them in to their class teacher, who then chose the top six designs from their class and gave them to the Student Council. The Student Councillors each chose their two favourite designs and these made up the finalists in the competition. From these finalists the Student Council voted for the winners.

The winners were Pritika Baptist and Stella Wild. Both students are from Miss S's Year 5 class and she was very happy that they were chosen! Pritika's Citizenship Merit Certificate design is of a paper doll chain circle with a spiral of repeating words: "be kind – respect – include all". Stella's Endeavour Merit Certificate design is a school logo in the background and a large gold star in the centre.

The new Certificates were first presented to students at our Assembly on the 29th of July, which was boss, because Her Excellency, the Governor of Western Australia, Kerry Sanderson AC was there!

There were loads of cool entries, which made it so hard for the Student Council to choose. Commendations to the designs that were chosen for the finals and thanks to all the students who entered. Finally, thank you Miss Andrew for organising this great competition.

Freddie , Year 5 Student Councillor

***** Parents are encouraged to view the 'Certificates Competition' in the staff room window.*****

Governor's Visit to Beaconsfield Primary School

On the 29 July 2016 her Excellency the Governor of Western Australia attended our school assembly, then toured the grounds and met some of the students at Beaconsfield Primary School.

On her tour of the school the Governor came and watched our class, Room Ten, doing a robotics demonstration. We spoke to her Excellency about our term two STEM project and how we started a small business. We discussed how we had to manage our money and how our group made all different key rings from scratch for our business. After that the Governor walked through the STEM area and watched everyone programming their Spheros and she also looked at the 3-D printer making a part of a miniature Mars rover.

When she left the robotics demo the Governor headed off to Mrs Hopkins' Junior IEC class and watched them doing creative play with pipes and old equipment. She followed this with a visit to the other STEM class where Mr Andersson was teaching his students to make animals out of wooden cubes. The Governor finished her tour observing Miss Franklins' Senior IEC Phase Two Class doing individualised maths programs.

By Luca and Milo, Year 6 Student Leaders

Last week The Governor visited our school. Room 7 had the pleasure of spending time with her during Loose Parts Play. We were able to demonstrate how this integrates with our STEM program by showcasing skills such as:

- social interaction
- building
- creating
- problem solving skills
- engaging with nature
- fine and gross motor skill building

We were very fortunate to receive warm and positive feedback about this fun and engaging learning environment.
Melissa Hopkins, Teacher



Maddie's Introduction to the Governor

Good morning. My name is Maddie and I have the pleasure of introducing the Governor of Western Australia. Today we have the honour of being in the presence of her Excellency, the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC, Governor of Western Australia. Her Excellency is the thirty second and current Governor of Western Australia. She has been in office since the 20th of October 2014 and is the first woman to hold the position.

The Governor was born in Subiaco. For primary and high school, she went to Wembley Primary School and Churchlands Senior High School. Her Excellency graduated from the University of WA with a Bachelor of Science, a double major in Mathematics and later a Bachelor in Economics. In 2005, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Letters by the University of WA. In 2015, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Murdoch University.

The Governor was previously a businesswoman and senior public servant. In 2007, she helped Fremantle Ports to win the Australian Business Excellence Medal for the top organisation in Australia. Her Excellency's job as Governor of Western Australia requires her to:

- Preside over the Executive Council
- Appoint Ministers, Judges, Magistrates and Justices of the Peace
- Appoint the President of the Legislative Council
- Accept the resignation of Members of the Legislative Council; and
- Issue writs for general elections.

We appreciate the time and effort her Excellency puts into her role as Governor. Please join me in welcoming the Governor, the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC to our school. Thank you.

It is fantastic to see all the children using the facilities after school has finished.

Please ensure you are directly supervising your child/ren before and after school as staff are not available to provide supervision. Unsupervised children will be asked to sit in the administration block until they are collected.

Please ensure your child/ren are following school rules as they ensure child/ren are safe while on the school grounds.

In response from parents to clarify the rules – here are just a few:

- ✓ **Students are not permitted to run on footpaths. They are encouraged to walk.**
- ✓ **Students are not permitted to walk along the retaining wall at the carpark. They are encouraged to use the paths.**
- ✓ **Students are not permitted to climb on the tee-pees or sea containers or any other structure not designed for climbing.**
- ✓ **Students are encouraged to play with others in a way that does not involve 'rough physical play.'**

Vicki Jack
PRINCIPAL

16 August 2016