

SCHOOL BOARD PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE WEEK 5, TERM 3, 2019

Buildings and Works

Shelter structure Lyon Road

The shelter structure on Lyon Road outside our Early Childhood precinct has now been completed just in time for the Winter weather. We are also communicating to families that this is the place where they can drop off and pick up their students, to avoid children running out between cars to their family car. The administration team have been extensively patrolling this area for some time now, to informally educate our families about the entry and exit point for the school in which we are having success with.

Camp Australia Independent Audit

Monday and Tuesday of Week 2

The Department of Communities have recently spent time at the school to audit the Camp Australia team, in a similar fashion to our school review. The representative from Department of Communities spent two full days on site, talking to staff, families and the students to assess the process and planning for the out of school provider. Although the audit was extremely intensive for the team, they believed that their planning and ability to showcase Camp Australia in the best possible light was very successful. The feedback from the audit will be shared with the Camp Australia team in the coming weeks.

School Sleepover- Year 5

Friday Week 1

The Year Five teaching team, in addition to many other staff, held the first Year Five, Night Under the Stars school sleepover in Friday 26th July. This was such a fun filled and highly organised night for our 140 students, where they were able to sleep over in their classrooms with their friends for one night, enjoy a pizza dinner, look at the stars with the help of the Perth Observatory and watch a late-night movie. It complimented the Year Five Science Curriculum, where our students have been learning about our solar system, in addition to giving our students and their parents a first taste of independence in readiness for the Year 6 school camp in 2020. A fun night with the additional novelty of sleeping at the school overnight was enjoyed by all, although not a great deal of sleep was had by everyone that participated! It is anticipated that as part of our developing upper primary leadership approach, the school sleepover will become an annual event on our school calendar.

Early Childhood Showcase Tour

Melanie Osborne recently hosted the first Early Childhood Showcase Tour for school leaders in the CCEN and beyond in Week 3, Tuesday, 6th August. This was our first step of sharing our journey in our Early Childhood phase of learning to other schools, who are interested in what can be achieved in a public education early childhood setting. The session had a focus on the development of our Early Childhood Philosophy, our play based learning approach and the recent review and changes made to our approaches in the Kindy and Pre-Primary areas in phonological awareness. The classrooms were opened to the tour group, who were then able to see learning in action, in addition to providing the forum for rich professional conversations about our Early Childhood journey to this point. The tour was so well received by the leaders and our teachers, that we are now going to explore how we can provide another session for teachers in the network who are looking to improve their practice. Our teachers were thrilled to talk about and share their experiences in this change management process. I would like to pass on my sincerest thanks to the Early Childhood team, led by Melanie Osborne for allowing the wider community to share in our journey, with the aim of supporting other schools to improve outcomes for all students in public education.

NAIDOC Week

At Aubin Grove Primary School, we are an inclusive and multicultural community that is culturally responsive and values the diversity in our students and families. Recently, we recognised NAIDOC week with celebrations, education and recognition of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, first peoples of this land. Our aim in celebrating this very significant week in the national calendar is to build upon our existing knowledge about Aboriginal history, culture and practices, through providing our students the opportunities to engage in oral storytelling, singing, dancing, and craft-making experiences. Many students in their classes went on the Noongar language treasure hunt around the school, in addition to families taking the time to enjoy the visual displays of boomerangs contributed by all of our students around our central library and staffroom building for the week. Thank you to all of the teachers and staff who provided such an educational and dynamic week of learning and celebration for our community.

To conclude the week, the school's rock band, drumbeat group and selected senior choir members performed on Thursday August 1st at the Crown Theatre for the Western Australian Government Schools Music Series with a number of other primary and secondary schools. Their performance showcased our school to the highest of standards, with the Drumbeat group performing a popular Youthu Yindi song, Djapana. The Aubin Groove performed for the first time together, playing It's My Life, by Bon Jovi and Thriller, by Michael Jackson

Other Term Three Events

As usual, Term Three has commenced with a bang, with our next cycle of swimming lessons commencing for the Year Three and Five students at Cockburn Arc and Kwinana Recreation Centre. The feedback from our students in regards to their swimming has been overwhelmingly positive, with many setting themselves a 'mini' swimming goal for the next few weeks to aspire to. There are many students in Year Five setting the goal to build their endurance with their swimming distance and others are working really hard towards achieving a perfect frog kick! At Aubin Grove, our visible learning approach encourages our students to set personal goals to drive their own learning progress. It is so wonderful to see that now, three years into our journey with visible learning, our students naturally set goals in many areas of their life to reach achievement, even in non-academic areas. In addition to swimming this term, we have upper-primary teams entered into the Tournament of Minds competition in Week 6, the junior choir attending the One Big Voice at Perth Arena in Week 6, the senior athletics carnival in Week 7 and the senior choir participating the Massed Choir at Perth Concert Hall in Week 9. Our term concludes with our whole school community Open Night event in Week 10, Wednesday 25th September from 5:30-7:00pm

Mesha Steel