

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT TERM 1, 2023

*Bringing
Kadadjiny
'thinking,
listening and
learning' to life*



Welcome back to all of our board members and Aubin Grove families for Term 2, 2023.

I hope that you all enjoyed an extra-long holiday break and found some time to rest and relax before we get back into the busy routines that Term 2 can bring for families. Along with the start of most winter extracurricular community sports, families can find themselves very stretched for time as the term moves along. We have really enjoyed welcoming our community back into our school for events such as ANZAC Day, assemblies, P and C Day, the cross country carnival and the girl's soccer finals, and we appreciate that families are taking the time out of their days, to spend some time with us!

KAYA!

***I AM HAPPY TO SEE YOU AT AUBIN GROVE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL. WE COME
TOGETHER ON WHADJUK NOONGAR
BOODJAR. WE ACKNOWLEDGE
NOONGAR FAMILIES LONG AGO, NOW
AND INTO THE FUTURE.***

***AUBIN GROVE IS ALWAYS MOVING
FORWARD, LEARNING AND SHARING
NOONGAR KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE.***



TERM TWO EVENTS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION



- Capital works in the school holiday break.
- Staff Movements for Term 2.
- Playground update.
- Year 6 Camp
- Teaching, learning and leadership

STAFF MOVEMENTS AND NEWS TERM 2, 2023



We have made a couple of changes to our staffing structure for the commencement of Term 2. We would like to welcome back Emily Arrowsmith from her maternity leave, and she will be sharing a teaching role in Year 6 Room 40 with Mrs Roslyn Foote. I would like to thank Mrs Rachele Goodey, who stepped into this class for Term 1 so that Emily could complete her leave. Thanks Mrs Goodey and welcome back, Emily!

We also would like to congratulate and say farewell to Miss Grace Nalder in Year 3. Grace won a permanent teaching position at Hilton Primary School and also got married over the holiday break! We all wish Grace all the very best of luck in her new teaching role and thank her for the two years of service she gave to Aubin Grove Primary School. We are very fortunate to welcome Mrs Diane Williams from Woodland Grove PS, who will be taking over from Grace in Year 3, Room 31 for the remainder of 2023.

We would also like to congratulate Jess Stevenson (Year 1), who also got married over the holiday break. Congratulations to Jess and Simon!

I would also like to congratulate Mrs Lynna Matthews who has been accepted into the APPP, Aspirant Principals Preparation Program, with the Department of Education, which is a nine-month leadership journey for high performing deputies who could potentially step into a principal role in the next five years. Congratulations, Lynna and we hope that you get a great deal of value and new knowledge out of the program.

CAPITAL WORKS

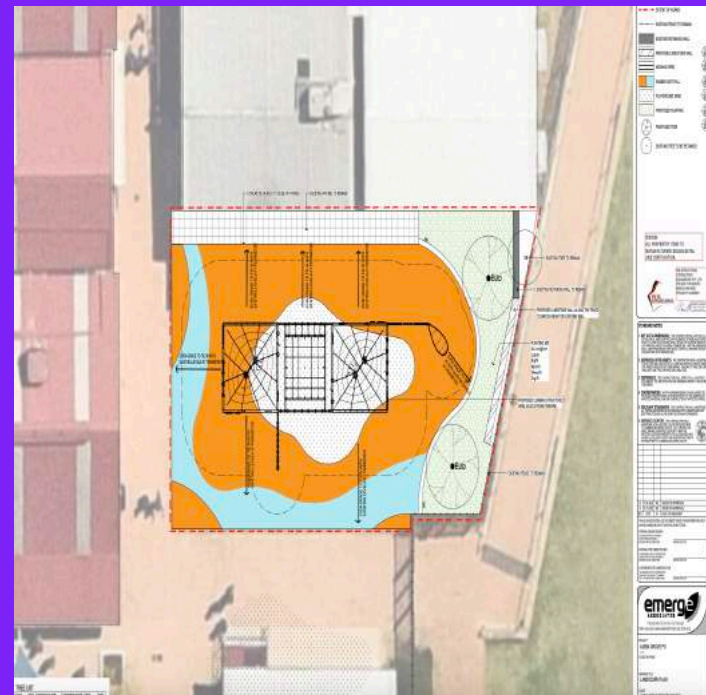


It was very timely that we had the holiday period so that essential works could take place across the school site. As per usual, our cleaning team undertook a deep clean of the whole school, concentrating on the Early Childhood classrooms.

We had the Room 38 transportable upgraded with new carpets, reverse cycle air-conditioning and internal painting completed, after this room was vacated by its classroom earlier in the term due to ongoing issues. The Department of Education's Modular Department also came out and inspected all of the transportable buildings towards the end of Term 1, and they now have a plan in place to upgrade certain aspects of some of the transportable buildings.

Kris, our groundsman, had a very busy time while we were all on holidays, planting out garden beds in our Cultural Garden, in addition to building a permanent outdoor enclosure for the Spice Girls. They seem to be very appreciative of the extra leg room and scratching space. Thanks Kris.

PLAYGROUND UPDATE



Please see the updated plans for the upper primary playground, which has been scheduled by Programmed to be built this year. The final plans and surroundings have been approved, and the final design is also looking at some additional static sensory activities for all children to enjoy. The plans have now gone out to tender, and this will determine which company will undertake the supply and building process. It has been such a long wait, with the project been handed between several Supervisors at Programmed, but I feel as though we are all on the same page now. Hopefully, we can use a holiday period to commence the works, to minimise the impact to the school environment and the teaching and learning programs.

THE YEAR 6 SCHOOL CAMP



The 2023, Year 6 Woodman Point Camp was another wonderful success for our students, thanks to the efforts and extensive planning that had taken place for many months by the Year 6 staff. The camp went for three full days and two full nights, with the days being filled with nonstop action and activities for all of the students. Some of the more challenging and higher risk activities were run by the Sport and Recreation staff, and were good level of challenge for our children to step out from their comfort zones to try something they hadn't done before. They enjoyed paddling, flying foxes, a variety of beach team building activities, sports and orienteering challenges.

A big challenge of being on camp is staying overnight in an unfamiliar space away from family, being responsible for personal belongings and continuing to use the FISH Philosophy, even when you are tired and just want a bed! The students all did so well from our perspective and worked with staff and their peers as the personal challenges arose to overcome them. As a staff, we love having the opportunity to attend camp with the Year 6 students, as it allows us the opportunity to really get to know them all as individuals in this last year of primary schooling, and to continue to build the relationships between teacher and student in a fun and less structured environment.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers for preparing their students for the camp and for our staff for being so supportive of the students in their time away from home.

TEACHING, LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP



Reporting

This term is a formal reporting term, so teachers are currently assessing their students to draw some professional conclusions about a child's progress from the beginning of the year, and are now preparing for the report writing period. Reporting to parents is an important aspect of the teacher and parent partnership, as it provides clear communication to all stakeholders about how a child is progressing in academic and social and emotional aspects of their schooling. At AGPS, we have a 'no surprises' policy about keeping parents informed if a child is not demonstrating an understanding of the learning at the expected year level. To this end, we do ask families to contact their classroom teachers, if the teacher has requested a meeting over the past few months, or has endeavoured to make contact with parents or carers to discuss a student's progress with them.

As usual, the Semester One reports will be released to families through Connect at the conclusion of Term 2. If parents are having access issues with logging into Connect, please contact the front office before the end of term, to get logins reinstated.

School Development Day

Our School Development Day on the 24th April was presented by Dolly Bhargava, who is the founder of NDIS endorsed company Behaviour Help. Dolly has an extensive education, specialising in Speech Pathology and Special Education. She has worked across a number of sectors, including classrooms to support children, adolescents and adults with emotional and behavioural difficulties. Dolly presented a very in-depth professional learning opportunity on the presentation, assessment and diagnosis of ADHD, ASD, Sensory Processing Disorders and anxiety, what that means for the young person and their families who are diagnosed, and how we can support these children to have success in the school setting. She also gave us expertise, knowledge and practical advice on all of these conditions, so that as a staff, we have the same understandings and approaches when working with our students who might present with some or all of these conditions. As many families are aware, finding external support from agencies and Paediatricians is very challenging at the moment, post COVID, so as a staff, we are upskilling our own knowledge so we can support our children and their families who are waiting to get their external support activated.

Mesha- Professional Learning

South Metropolitan Regional Office requested that I travel to the Kimberley's on the 11th and 12th of May to work with a group of twenty-five principals and aspirant leaders across the region to provide them with some professional learning.

My brief was to present the newly developed 'Sources of Truth' professional learning, which teaches and develops school leaders on how to develop good judgement skills to solve complex technical and adaptive problems and other ethical challenges that might present in their school contexts.

In this role I also worked on developing two experienced principals from the region to learn the content, so that they could continue building the capacity and knowledge of their school leaders out across the region. The challenges that the Kimberly region face are highly complex, not only due to the remoteness of the schools, but also in maintaining quality staff and providing them with an opportunity for professional learning, away from their community. These logistical issues in the Kimberley are also compounded by the many social issues in the region, which take a multi-systemic approach in being able to maintain law and order in the townships.

This was a really positive way for me to promote Aubin Grove Primary School across Western Australia and I although it was an immense challenge professionally for me for a number of reasons, I really loved talking and listening to other leaders about the challenges they are facing in their own schools and communities, at a relentless pace. I was humbled by their stories of challenge, yet also triumph in their schools and I hope that through my support and knowledge, I was able to provide some learning to help them all take the next positive steps in their own schools.

Staff Recruitment 2023

We have moved our annual staff recruitment processes forward to Term 2 this year for a number of reasons. Historically, recruitment does not take place until late in Term 3; however, with the current staff shortages and potential number of fixed term positions we may need to fill throughout the 2023/24 school year for our permanent teachers being on leave, we believe that securing quality staff earlier in the year is more feasible. We are running three processes currently: a Kindy to Year 2 teacher process, a Year 3 to Year 6 teacher process, a permanent deputy process, with school officer and education assistant process to commence before the term is concluded.