The Playground is Open

Last Tuesday at the school assembly the Playground was formally opened by Mr Fitzgerald and Ms Gwendoline Nidd - representing the P&C. The ribbon was cut and during recess and lunch there wasn’t a piece of equipment not being used.

A big thank you goes to all the people who contributed in some way to this wonderful community partnership. The P&C, Mr Neville Fry, Donnybrook/Balingup Shire, Earthmac, all staff and especially Mr David Wylie and Mr Casey Dale who have spent months organising, and assembling the equipment.

Last weekend I drove past the school and it was wonderful to see parents and children enjoying the playground facilities as a family.

The Physical Education staff have built the fitness circuit into their lessons as well as discussing “the respecting of” the equipment, which all students are visually showing. The feeling around the school at recess and lunch time has definitely changed to an environment of “enjoyment” and both areas, the playground and fitness circuit, are always populated with many students; interacting with one another positively and with smiles on their faces.

Thank you everyone for a project that will be here for many years for students to enjoy into the future.

We do encourage community ownership of these areas after school and during the weekend but for obvious reasons we can not offer adult supervision - duty of care.

If you wish your family to enjoy these facilities after hours, we would encourage an adult member of your family to supervise your children please.

Liz Burkett Deputy Principal Secondary

Interschool Chess

Last Friday 6 students from our Year 6 and 7 classes represented our school at the South West Chess Championships in Bunbury. As they were the only primary students attending, our boys had to play against High School students from the Bunbury Catholic College. Our 6 students David Cullen, Lachie and Alex Connor, Alex Freeman, Keith Mitchell and Mitchell Dhu all played very competitively and were congratulated by the organisers on the way they had conducted themselves throughout the day.

Special mention should be made of David Cullen who took on, and beat the best, winning 4½ of his 7 games and finishing 4th overall in a field of 16. Medals were awarded to David, Lachlan, Mitchell and Alex. The team now progresses to the State Championships to be held in Perth in October.

David Hutchison
From the Principal

We have just come off a “really big week” with our playground opening at Bentley Street, a hugely successful ‘Band Camp’, a set of successes at the Primary Winter Carnival last Friday. This week simply sees more activity and a different focus, with our Year 10 program, “It won’t happen to me”, which in partnership with our community emergency management and safety groups sets out clearly the issues around road trauma.

Modern schools are really dynamic places that accommodate more than just the traditional literacy and numeracy learning. We set out to make our curriculum engaging to meet the widest needs and to give our program, which includes the recent camp, caters for those who like to express their talents musically. The Winter Carnival is about “teams” and learning about participation and competition and I have to congratulate our kids for the way they have responded in all these contexts. I also expect great learning this week as well!!!

OFFICIAL OPENING OF OUR NEW FACILITIES

The Minister for Education in WA, Mr Peter Collier, will officially open the new facilities provided by the State Government on Wednesday September 5 at 10.30am at Bentley Street.

The State Capital works, valued at $5,000,000 was an election promise in 2008 and has funded:

1. A new administration building at Mead Street.
2. A fantastic new Design and Technology facility.
3. Significant upgrades and refurbishments to specialist facilities at Bentley Street including Science, Home Economics and Art.
4. The funding also supported additional ICT infrastructure.

We invite parents and other community members to attend the official opening at 10.30am in the Bentley Street Undercover Area. The ceremonies should be over by 11.00am, and parents, invited guests and staff are invited to a morning tea to follow in the staffroom. The minister is due to depart at 11.30am.

All Bentley Street students and our Year 5’s from Mead Street will participate in the event.

Out of School Hours Care

A DDHS P&C Association Family-School Partnership Project

UPDATE – OSH Club coming to Donnybrook in 2013!

The OSH Club is an accredited and highly regarded franchise group who manages and runs out of school hours care programs in schools and communities throughout Australia. OSH Club will open in Donnybrook for the start of the school year in 2013 and will initially offer after school care services for school aged children from within and around the Donnybrook area.

While Donnybrook DHS will be ‘hosting’ this community service at the Mead street school site, it is important to understand that it will be a standalone business and the provider will have full responsibility for this service, not the school.

Osh Club will soon be advertising for staff and conducting Parent/Carer meetings to provide information for any families interested to hear what this service will offer. These meetings will be widely advertised throughout the broader Donnybrook Community.

For further information please contact Janine Morgan, DDHS P&C representative on 9731 0265.

Primary Winter Carnival

With the excitement levels at a record high for the Tuart Division, Primary Winter Carnival, our Donnybrook DHS Year 6 and 7 representative teams knew they would be in for a day of fun and challenging competition. Under the guidance of their coaches from years 8, 9 and 10 our Soccer, Football, Hockey and Netball teams did themselves and our school proud. Competing against bigger schools from across the Bunbury region our young people played with great sportsmanship and skill to record some excellent results and most importantly have some great fun. Netball recorded runner up champions in both A and C division with Soccer and Hockey also finishing in a top two position. Special congratulations and thanks to Mrs Cooper who coached our hockey team and our Year 5’s who helped make up teams and participate to the best of their ability. Well done!
Art News

Aadon Freeman Year 6

Students had to apply Impressionist in depth techniques to produce a landscape using only primary colours to generate all other colours. Aadon’s work was selected because of his outstanding work ethic, acceptance of advice and outstanding result achieved with little teacher assistance.

VacSwim Classes 2012/2013

VacSwim, sponsored by Department of Education & Training and the Royal Life Saving Society Australia is an important program and is fully supported by these organisations. The swimming classes are available to children who have turned 5 years of age by the first day of classes.

Information cards will be coming home to all Kindergarten to Year 7 students. Enrolments can be done online. Year 8, 9 & 10 students wishing to participate in the classes may come to the office and collect an information card.

Primary Schools Cross Country

Eight students from Year 5 participated in the Primary Schools Cross Country at UWA Park on Tuesday August 14. The girls’ event had 295 competitors and the boys were up against 287 competitors. Congratulations to Jade, Kayla, Bronwyn, Elise, Casey, Henry, Aussie and Jayden on an outstanding effort.

Class Newsletters Primary

Many teachers send home regular notices to parents of their class to inform of programs being run, excursions coming up, the current values focus and reading, writing and maths strategies being concentrated on.

These notices are also now being posted on the school website, so if you missed one, or lost one or can’t remember one- they are there at your disposal!

Most recent additions are from Year 1/2 HB, Year 2 EB and 4/SGL (Term 3 advice).

Combined Donnybrook DHS and Collie SHS Band Camp August 17 and 18

Donnybrook can be proud of their hard work, courtesy and fabulous impression given to all they met along the way. Congratulations on your well deserved Certificate of Merit! Mrs Armstrong

Tyrone O’Doherty’s perspective of the Band Camp

At 7.30am Friday August 17, the Donnybrook Band departed Donnybrook for Collie to meet the Collie part of our band. After picking them up, we began the journey to UWA in Perth. When we arrived we received a guided tour of the music facilities and met Dr Alan Lourens, Head of UWA School of Music. We had lunch and departed UWA for the School of Instrumental Music (SIM in Maylands). We then had a workshop with Dr Geoff Lowe, Head of Music Education, who gave us constructive criticism of the pieces we were to play on Sunday morning at the School’s Band Festival. Dr Lowe was one of the Festival’s adjudicators.

We departed SIM for Ern Halliday Camp where we stayed Friday night and all of Saturday. We had dinner followed by rehearsal. Saturday was spent rehearsing with a team building exercise in the middle of the day. We packed everything and put music equipment into the trailer in readiness for departing Sunday morning.

On Sunday morning, we were up early, finished packing and locked the dorms. After breakfast, we left Ern Halliday to arrive at Perth Modern School (PMS) for the WA School’s Band Festival. A smallish practice prior to playing on stage—Canon of Peace, The Sound and the Fury, and Wombat Shuffle. For lunch we went to Ten Pin Bowling and then returned to PMS to watch more advanced bands (2%). I, among others, though we would be bored but found it to be totally awesome and the time went very quickly. We then made the arduous journey back to Donnybrook.

I really enjoyed the camp and would like to thank Mrs Armstrong, Miss Whelan and everyone else who made this camp possible, it was great.
**Important Dates:**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>August 29</td>
<td>- Yr 9 &amp; 10 Winter Carnival - Bunbury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>August 31</td>
<td>- Mead Street - Assembly - 9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue &amp; Wed</td>
<td>September 4/5</td>
<td>- Senior First Aid - Yr 10 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>September 5</td>
<td>- Official Opening of new facilities</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>- School Photo's Bentley Street &amp; Kindy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>- School Photo’s Mead Street &amp; Kindy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>September 11</td>
<td>- Bentley Street Assembly 9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>September 13</td>
<td>- Yr 6 &amp; 7 Mini Paralympics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>September 14</td>
<td>- Mead Street Assembly</td>
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Every Wednesday Early Closure: Mead Street - 2.35 - Bentley Street 2.45

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**Bunbury & Districts Little Athletics Centre Registration Day**

Saturday September 1 2012 At Bunbury Athletics Arena, Hay Park 9am - 12pm

Coast $140 per athlete - Singlet $25

New athletes must provide a birth certificate/passport to register.

More info visit www.lac.mysouthwest.com.au

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**Donnybrook Junior Cricket Association**

will be holding their Registration Day on

**Saturday August 25 2012**

At The Donnybrook Football Club (Marmion Street, Donnybrook)

9am - 4pm

Any queries please contact Stirling Parker on 0427865936

**FEES**

Milo cricketers pack for current school years Kindy & up $65

Children currently in school years 3-6 $60

Children currently in school years 7-9 $70

**NO EFTPOS available only Cash or Cheques please.**

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**Insights - Michael Grose contribution this week is “Helping Kids with Homework”**

His article is published on our website and alongside his article is our “School Homework Policy” presented as a final draft of a review. Feedback on this document is welcome by email to: peter.fitzgerald@education.wa.edu.au

Michael's articles are written exclusively for parents and contain lots of practical ideas for parents. Schools have policies about homework ideas for parents. Schools have policies about homework and are required to publish these and teachers have requirements as part of policy to have the contextual conversation with the parents of students in their class.

Michael also recognizes that the place of homework is routinely questioned by both parents and education authorities.

I encourage your engagement with this insight by Michael Grose and welcome any response you may have on our current policy which appears next to it on our website www.donnybrook.wa.edu.au

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**Road Trauma Day**

On Tuesday, the Year 10 students attended a Road Trauma Day. The day was extremely successful and a big thank you to Mr Davis for organising it. Below are some students thoughts on the day.

(More to follow in the next newsletter)

"The stories were very sad". Shaun Myczka

"After that day, it makes you realise that it can easily happen to yourself. I believe the stories of Jess and Bridget had a huge effect on us all the most. What happened to them, affected them hugely and others around them, and nobody wants to go through that. I know I wouldn’t". Shenae Tucker

"The Road Trauma Day was an excellent day and I’m really glad I went, it opened up my eyes to what can really happen and if it did happen. I found the road trauma day very awakening and confronting". Rachael Berry