In this our last newsletter for 2013, I would like to thank our school community, our students, our parents and our staff for their positive contributions to the success of our collective endeavours during the year.

As a school, we sometimes simply get immersed in the “bus-i-ness of business” but in reflecting I take on board the positive and commenatory feedback from external professionals, who have labelled our practice as ‘excellent’. This from our school reviewers as they departed and numerous other professionals who see our uniqueness, our purposeful site contexts and our well designed and implemented programs supporting the learning needs of all our students.

My reflection also takes me into that bit of ‘country’ that is about improvement and some of the feedback was about where we could do better. As a principal, I always focus on the need to do better BUT, I am learning to also acknowledge our success as a “good school”.

One of the best ‘windows’ into the life of our school is through our school magazine “GILLIANA” which will be available next week. Take the time to look at the dynamics of our school and feel free to celebrate on the positive story it tells.

My best wishes to all for a safe and enjoyable festive season and I look forward to a productive 2014.

Students resume on Monday, 3 February, 2014 and staff resume on Thursday 30 January, 2014.

Also published in this newsletter is a full staff and operational profile for 2014.

PARKING AT MEAD STREET

Our school community needs to be aware that the school and our parents are most concerned about the pick up and put down area for most Mead Street students.

The school, individual parents, the School Board and the Shire have all written to the Department of Education and most recently the Minister and all local politicians, expressing the clear view that this area is not safe in its current state.

There is a properly planned and engineered solution, (funded by the Department and the Shire) with the Department, but there is no authority to proceed the works due to budget issues within the Department of Education. What has been agreed as an interim solution is a set of bollards next to the path on Mead Street, to stop cars encroaching on the path thereby protecting pedestrians.

I will keep you informed of progress and there may well be other action by the school community early next year.

NEW SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

On behalf of the school I would like to welcome to the Board Mr Neil Pemberton-Ovens for the term 2014 - 2016 school years.

Our School Board has worked hard around all the issues of governance this year.

Our Board comprises:-

Mrs Pip Murdock
Mrs Peta King
Mr Neil Pemberton-Ovens
Mrs Helen Gamble
Mrs Siobhan Baxter
Mr Mike Armstrong
Mrs Jeanette Hutchison
Mr Mike King
Mr Peter Fitzgerald
Mrs Gwendoline Nidd
Mr Jeff Brown
Mrs Sue Williams

Parent (Chair)
Parent (Retiring) to be replaced by
Parent
Parents & Citizens Association
Staff
Shire of Donnybrook/Balingup
Principal
Co-opted Citizen
Co-opted Associate Principal
Secretary to the Board (ex-officio)

As Principal, I express my thanks to the Board Members for their work this year and best wishes to Peta King and her future.

LET’S CELEBRATE!!!!

Our ex students from Donnybrook DHS have excelled once again. It is wonderful to see so many of our past Year 10 students achieving at such a high level and winning so many academic awards at both Manea Senior College and Bunbury Senior High School.

BUNBURY SHS 2013 AWARDS

Mark Atherton
Amy Mountford
Zara Jones
Automotive Engineering and Technology
Sportswoman—2013
(VET) Workplace Learning Career and Enterprise Academic Excellence Award

MANEA SENIOR COLLEGE 2013 AWARDS

Perri Hernan
Katelyn Hunt
Sarah Tassone
Brodie Williams
James Hart
Jethro Neave
Workplace Learning
Certificate of Merit
Completion of Senior Schooling with Distinction
Completion of Senior Schooling with Distinction
Chemistry, Physics, Certificate of Merit
and DUX 2013

Well done and congratulations to all. You have done your parents, your community and yourselves proud. We wish you all the very best of whatever your future holds.
The Year sevens and eights wonderful textile creations through Semester two included fridge magnets, felt phone covers, aprons and bags.

School Development Days are days set aside for School Planning and to support staff professional learning. We have been granted an extra day for 2014 to deal with Australian Curriculum Implementation and all the days are scheduled to give the community “long weekends.” It is our intention as a school to trade off the last day Friday 19 December by using the time allocated to increase our Wednesday regular staff meetings.

### 2014 Student Term Dates

#### SEMESTER 1

**Term 1**
Monday 3 February - Friday 11 April

**Break**
Saturday 12 April - Sunday 27 April

**Term 2**
Monday 28 April - Friday 4 July

**Break**
Saturday 5 July - Sunday 20 July

#### SEMESTER 2

**Term 3**
Tuesday 22 July - Friday 26 September

**Break**
Saturday 27 September - Sunday 12 October

**Term 4**
Tuesday 14 October - Thursday 18 December

As a matter of policy we welcome parent advice in the placement of children in primary classes. Our construction of the classes is based on our knowledge of the children as learners and we are endeavouring to build the best mix to achieve good learning outcomes for all students.

If you have advice please contact Jeff Brown. I have indicated to year seven parents working in secondary mode for 2014, the classes will vary in composition and size by subjects.

All primary class lists will be published on Friday 31 January at Mead Street. We leave it until then to include all students expected and to minimize the need for class changes.

### DENTAL VAN NEWS

Bridgetown Mobile Dental Van will be closed from **18 December to February 2014**. The van will be relocating to Boyup Brook for the beginning of 2014 and can be contacted on 0417 252 536. If you cannot get in contact with the Mobile Van in February, please contact South Bunbury on 9721 1497.

For emergencies over school holidays please contact your private dentist or alternatively:

Mount Henry Dental Therapy Centre, Perth
Phone: 9313 0555
Hours: 8:15am - 4:30pm
Monday to Friday.
Work Placement Program

Year 10 student Alex Mounsey has been a regular helper in the Kindy 1 class through the school’s Work Placement Program. Alex began towards the end of Term 2 then attended every Monday during Terms 3 and 4. In this time she has clocked up over 150 hours of work experience. Consequently Monday has become “Alex” day!

Alex has been a fantastic help in the class, and has built up a great relationship with the children. Over her day her role is varied. She plays and talks to the children, helps prepare activities, takes small groups of children to complete maths, language and art/craft activities, regularly takes a news group, reads stories to the class and been our official photographer to name a few! All wonderful things.

Alex has been a very dedicated helper and a great asset to our class over that time. All in all we have had a wonderful time having her in our class.

We hope by Alex coming to our class, it has opened up a whole new range of possibilities for her future learning and career and she has discovered the joy in working with 4 and 5 year olds.

Thank you Alex from Mrs Cain, Mrs Attwood and the Kindy 1 children. xx

Big “Thank You”

Donnybrook District High School would sincerely like to thank the following businesses who have helped the school run their Work Placement Program for this year. Without the support of these businesses, the program would not run.


Yr 8 Poetry Examples: English

Recently we have been completing work on figurative language and poetic techniques. Students have completed word cinquains, metaphor poems and Topic poems. Below are some poetry examples completed by some Year 8 students.

Mrs Horton

Time
it kills
it brings life
it blinds
it cracks rocks, iron and steel
it decimates places
By Keith Mitchell

Food
Farmers grow it,
People eat it.
Mice steal it,
But people give it.
People buy it.
Monkeys snatch it,
Elephants reach it.
Giraffes chew it,
Birds crunch it.
Animals need it...
And people need it.
By Kristal Donaldson

White
White is the colour of a fragile snowflake
White is the colour of a bride’s silk dress
White is the base of an artist’s canvas
White is the colour of the tissues that dry my tears
White is the colour of the clouds watching over life’s memorable moments
By Bianca Pinzone

Pink is....
Pink is... Spring flowers dancing in the warming breeze
Pink is... A new summer dress floating around my knees
Pink is... A newborn pig squealing its happy tune
Pink is... Love, compassion and happiness on days when you feel down
Pink is... My bedroom-freshly clean and crisp and delicious

Clothes
Men wear it,
Women spend heaps on it!
Homeless find it.
Kids share it.
Models live for it
Goats eat it.
Designers create it.
Babies stain it!
By Chyann Smith and Georgia Rutter

Blue Is
Blue is the colour of the sky on a warm summer day.
Blue is the colour of the sweet tasting blueberries that grow in my garden.
Blue is the colour of the ocean’s icy waves that gently lap at my legs.
Blue is the colour of the ink that is scribbled across my page.
Blue is the colour of the tiny rain droplets that fall from the darkened sky.
Blue was the colour of my sweet grandmother’s eyes when she took her last breath.

Peace
calm, quiet
relaxing, laying sleeping
laying in the sand
Happiness
By Brook Atwell
As we approach the end of what has been a year of both challenge and success, our focus turns to acknowledging staff, both those continuing and those leaving, and announcing how we will set the school up for 2014.

Staff leaving:
Belinda Walker has served many students at 'educational risk' at Bentley Street. We would love to keep Belinda on staff if we could, but we no longer have sufficient funds. Belinda will be welcome here to do relief and I am sure she will enjoy being a free agent. Sincere thanks for your service, Belinda.

Cathy Mitchell has worked in the office at Mead Street for 2013, and unfortunately, we won't be able to continue this role in the same format for 2014 due to the funding cuts. Cathy has done excellent work at Mead Street, and we will continue to see her at both sites in relief roles.

Siobhan Milos (Year 2 Teacher) at the Mead Street campus has been 'head hunted' by the private school sector. Siobhan is a brilliant young teacher, who made a real difference in her year's service at our school. Best wishes, you will be missed.

While we have no new staff to Donnybrook, the following whole school class and learning area configuration sees some significant change for 2014.

### MEAD STREET CAMPUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROLE</th>
<th>TEACHING STAFF</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K1</td>
<td>Wendy Cain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K2</td>
<td>Sara Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP1</td>
<td>Christina Jones, Julie Atherton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP2</td>
<td>Pam Ucich, Michelle Fernley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y1</td>
<td>Marg Howlett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y1</td>
<td>Trish Gibbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y2</td>
<td>Liz Elkington, Penny Hearman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y2</td>
<td>Oonagh Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>Sara Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>Leonie Pearce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y3/4</td>
<td>Roz Scott, Elke Edwards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>Mike Armstrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y5</td>
<td>Geoff Little</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y5/6</td>
<td>Kate Pember</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y6</td>
<td>Jeanette Hutchison</td>
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</tbody>
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**SPECIALISTS EMPLOYED AT THE MEAD STREET CAMPUS**
- PE & HE: Rob Horton
- HE & Performing Arts: Deb Cann
- ICT: John Roberts
- Girn & Tds: Denise Gibbs

**SITE LEADERSHIP**
- Jeff Brown (Long Service Leave until May 9)
- Garry Davis (Relieving Jeff until May 9)

**SUPPORT STAFF**
- **EA MAINSTREAM**
  - Sue Attwood
  - Sharon Harvey
  - Linda Martindale
  - Barbara Brodison
  - Julie Howlett
  - Maryanne Buck
- **EA SPECIAL NEEDS**
  - Peta Murphy
- **CLERICAL**
  - Jane Lockhart
  - Sue Williams
- **LIBRARY OFFICER**
  - Louise McFarlane has been relieving Ann Fry who is on extended leave.
- **GARDENING & CLEANING**
  - Rachel Seton
  - Terri Morgan
  - Len Cain
  - Kayleen Beveridge
  - Shane Cullen
ROLES SHARED ACROSS BOTH CAMPUSSES
Jenny Cowell SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST
Len Van Aarde SCHOOL CHAPLAIN
Marie O'Donoghue SCHOOL NURSE
Katrina Taaffe SCIENCE SPECIALIST (PRIMARY)

WHOLE SCHOOL ROLES
Peter Fitzgerald PRINCIPAL (Operates from Bentley Street Campus)
Lee Fitzgerald BUSINESS MANAGER (Operates from Bentley Street Campus)

LEADERSHIP GROUP - BENTLEY STREET CAMPUS
Garry Davis DEPUTY (Relieving at Mead Street until May)
Liz Burckett DEPUTY
Tamara Feltham DEPUTY (Relieving Garry Davis until May)

BENTLEY STREET CAMPUS

ROLE | TEACHING STAFF | SUPPORT STAFF
--- | --- | ---
Y7 | James Duncan | EA SPECIAL NEEDS
Y7 | Jonelle McLoughlin | Karen Reynolds
Maths | Nigel Edwards | Penny Priest
English | Anthea Horton | CLERICAL
S&E | Neil Robertson | Karen Long
Science | Richard Clapp (On mobility transfer to Australind SHS for 2014 and his replacement will be Joe Figiuolo) | Delveen Cross
PE/HE | Denise Duncan | Sue Williams
Art | Sue Jessop | LIBRARY
Home Economics | Leanne Robertson / Tanya Marshall | Barbara Kay
Design & Technology | Len Strother | LABORATORY ASSISTANT
ICT | Rob Doherty | Sue Field
School Community Librarian | Dave Hutchison | HOME ECONOMICS ASSISTANT

SCHOOL OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
| Role | Staff |
--- | ---
Brass | Wendy Armstrong
Woodwind | Jemma Whelan
Percussion | Stacey Smart

NOTE: Many of our staff are part-time and in 2014 we will be moving staff across both campuses to augment and enhance student learning.

Merry Christmas to all and have a happy and safe Holiday.
**IMPORTANT DATES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12 December</td>
<td>Year 8 Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>13 December</td>
<td>Year 9 Excursion/ Year 10 Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>16 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Fun Day/ Year 7 Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>17 December</td>
<td>Year 10 Graduation 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>18 December</td>
<td>Year 7 Celebrations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19 December</td>
<td>Year 6-9 Final Assembly 2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19 December</td>
<td>Students last day of school</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


Every Wednesday Early Closure: Mead Street 2.35 - Bentley Street 2.45

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**Information for Parents with a Child in Year 4, 5 or 6**

In brief, the government in 2001 introduced the “First Child Tax Offset”. This was one of the first types of baby bonuses introduced, but unlike today’s Baby Bonus Schemes it was not given much media exposure and was confusing. As a result many parents have missed out on claiming this entitlement.

The offset was introduced to compensate parents for reduced income that followed the arrival of a child born between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2004. There is information on the ATO website, but like many entitlements it is difficult to understand.

Unfortunately, the Australian Tax Office has now placed a deadline on claiming this offset (and, again, this deadline has not been widely promoted). With so many parents still unaware that they are eligible for this payment, we are attempting to advise as many as possible before the cut-off date.

For more information please contact your Accountant or the Australian Taxation Office.

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Geoff Little and Rachel Seton would like to acknowledge the donation of mulch from BDA Tree Lopping for the future development of a sustainable productive garden.

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Bunbury Musical Comedy Group Present

**PETER PAN**

YouthCare Charity Night

Wednesday 15 January 7:30 pm

Tickets $10 from BREC

Proceeds to support Chaplains

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**Year 6 - War Memorial Visit**

To commemorate Remembrance Day the Year 6’s recently visited the War Memorial on South West Highway. As a number of students had never visited the memorial before they were quite surprised at the number of men that had died during WW1 and WW2 who came from Donnybrook. The visit reminded all students of the sacrifices that have been made for us to live in freedom.

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**CHOOSE RESPECT**

RESPECT IS TO TREAT WITH CARE AND CONSIDERATION

The following students received a Choose Respect wristband at the last assembly.


Congratulations!