Principal’s Report
Welcome back to the beginning of a new school year. A number of new enrolments in Primary and Secondary have resulted in a student population of 510. The thorough planning that took place late last year proved invaluable as our student numbers sit perfectly within our intended structure and importantly within our new funding level. The changes (combined classes and larger classes) that were required to be implemented in 2015 under the Student Centred Funding Model will take some adjusting to, but we are committed to making certain student learning isn’t impacted upon. Like all Public Schools throughout Western Australia, Donnybrook DHS is adjusting to meet the current education climate.

In 2015 we have 29 students entering Kindergarten and commencing their first year at school. These students will be excited, but also a little nervous as they begin their early childhood education. This year we have 38 students entering High School as Year 7s. This will be a challenging time for the students as they make the transition into Secondary school and learn to handle the increase in responsibility and expectations placed upon them. In 2015 we have 37 Year 10 students completing their final year at Donnybrook DHS. There is no doubting it will be a testing period for the students as they begin to contemplate the appropriate pathway to take to allow them to be successful and reach their desired goals.

I can assure parents that the Kindergarten, Year 7 and Year 10 students, together with the other students, will be well supported by the teachers and the administration team and we will be working hard to ensure they all reach their individual potential.

2015 School Structure and Staffing
Principal                     Jamie Milne
Associate Principal (Primary) Jeff Brown
Deputy Principal (Secondary)  Garry Davis
Kindergarten 1                Sara Williams (Tues, Wed PM, Fri)
Kindergarten 2                Wendy Cain (Mon, Wed AM, Thur)
Pre-Primary 1                 Pam Ucich (Mon-Fri) and Michelle Fernley (Fri)
Pre-Primary 2                 Christina Jones (Mon-Wed) and Julie Atherton (Wed-Fri)
Year 1                        Oonagh Smith
Year 1                        Trish Gibbs
Year 2                        Liz Elkington (Mon-Wed) and Penny Hearman (Thur/Fri)
Year 2                        Sara Davies
Year 3                        Leonie Pearce
Year 3                        Denise Gibbs (Mon/Tues) and Elke Edwards (Wed-Fri)
Year 4                        Mike Armstrong
Year 4                        Sarah Hales
Year 5                        Geoff Little
Year 5/6                      Marg Howlett and Katrina Taaffe (Alternative Fridays)
Year 6                        Jeanette Hutchison (Mon-Thur) and John Roberts (Fri)
Physical Education           Rob Horton
Health                       Deb Cann (Tues-Thur)
Information Technology       John Roberts
Year 7                        Academic
Year 7/8                      Academic
Year 8                        Academic
Year 9                        Academic
Year 9/10                     Vocational
It is pleasing to report that staff have come back from holidays with a renewed energy that will support the delivery of engaging and productive teaching and learning from Kindergarten to Year 10. On the two days prior to the students returning, staff were given time to meet as a whole school, as Primary and Secondary staff and also within their Learning Area teams. This provided an opportunity to plan around both school and Department of Education priorities for 2015. These priorities centre on Successful Students, Attendance, Engagement and Behaviour and High Quality Teaching and Leadership.

It is also pleasing to report that the students have returned from their break ready to commit to their learning and gain the most from what is being provided in Term 1. All year groups have made a pleasing start and are to be congratulated for their effort throughout the initial weeks. Our expectations will be high and I look forward to seeing the studentsaiming to meet these expectations along with personal goals they set for themselves throughout the year. On behalf of the Donnybrook School Community I would like to welcome our new students and families and wish them the very best for the 2015 school year.

Within the first few weeks of this year the Primary teachers will be holding parent meetings and the Secondary teachers will be distributing course information either via letter or email, to provide parents with an insight into the term and the year ahead. I urge parents to work closely with the teachers throughout the year and if you have any concerns over your child’s education, then take the time to discuss these with the teachers at your earliest convenience. Alternatively you may contact either myself or the Deputy Principals. It is important that we work together to ensure the year is positive for everyone.

**Attendance**
Regular attendance at school is fundamental to your child’s learning. Consistent attendance and participation are essential for your child’s social and academic learning. It is important to assist your child’s achievement and learning by making regular school attendance a priority in your child’s life. Please aim to minimise the time your child is away from school. For students who fall below 90% (approx. 5 days per term), they are at risk of not reaching their potential. I look forward to your support in this crucial area.

**Voluntary Contributions**
Voluntary contributions support the school in meeting our needs and priorities. The funds are used to enhance our programs and to subsidise the cost of many extra curricula activities. With this in mind I ask that parents and carers please pay their child/ren’s contributions at their earliest convenience. Parents and carers can expect invoices in the mail in the next couple of weeks.

*Jamie Milne*
*Principal*
Associate Principal’s Report—Mead Street
Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to all our new families who have come to Donnybrook this year. The Junior Campus has got off to a flying start with everyone settling into their classrooms smoothly, with very few hiccups.

The new parking facilities were completed on time and a big thank you to all those at the Shire who contributed to the work. Thanks too, go to the School Board, especially Mike King, and to Jill Tuia, who advocated the cause at many levels within the Education Department and Government. There are a few more signs to put up but the new parking is proving to be a lot safer for our students; there is more room for car-door opening, movement to the footpath and for reversing out. Drivers still need to be patient and cautious, and give prior thought to arrival and departure direction.

At the request of some Pre-Primary parents, I am meeting buses in the morning to ensure that children move promptly and safely to their classrooms. This can sometimes be problematic when other issues require my attention but I have managed to be at the bus arrival bay every morning this term. I am very impressed by the way older students on the bus are always willing to help the younger children, often holding their hands to the top of the path. Well done to those Year 4, 5 and 6 students! Although we have looked into the possibility, our circumstances do not qualify us for a paid bus-warden and last year we had little success in attracting volunteers.

I remind everyone that in-term swimming lessons begins in Week 5 (3 March) for Years 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 and in Week 7 (16 March) for Pre-Primary, Year 1 and Year 4. A more detailed timetable will be made available when confirmed, as will reminders about bathers, towels and goggles.

One focus this Semester will be attendance. Remember; any less than 90% attendance places your child at risk of not reaching their potential. While we do not want you to send children who are unwell to school, please consider whether days for birthdays and shopping are really necessary. A note or phone call to the school is required from parents/carers for any absence so that our records are accurate.

We hope you enjoy this Term and remember that it is important that we work in partnership in the best interest of your child’s education. Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher(s) if you have any queries.

Jeff Brown—Associate Principal

Values Focus - Mead Street
For the first 4-5 weeks of Term One, our values focus will be RESPONSIBILITY.

We are encouraging children to show responsibility in many ways e.g. being ready for lessons at the start of the day, wearing their hats, looking after equipment both personal and school, doing their homework, returning library books on time. With swimming lessons happening soon, it’s a perfect time to remind your child about being responsible for bringing everything home from the pool, and with older students, perhaps ensuring their towel and bathers are dry for the next day.

Your child will bring home a “Family Focus” card which we hope will go on the fridge and that the whole family will encourage each other to be responsible for their own actions.

Giving your child the opportunity to take on small amounts of responsibility will support our program at school. Once your child has fulfilled the obligation that comes with responsibility, he or she gains a sense of satisfaction. It’s these positive feelings that help motivate the child to continue taking on responsibilities in the future.

Swimming Teachers
Please be advised that we are still accepting applications to teach swimming from qualified and experienced swimming teachers. Application forms are available from the front office Mead St and applications need to be submitted before close of business Monday 16 February.

In-term swimming lessons at the Donnybrook Pool commence 3 March and run until 27 March.
Secondary Deputy Principal’s Report

Welcome to the 2015 school year: We have had a positive start at Bentley Street with 15 new students who have enrolled and settled straight into the class routines. It has been great to see them all arrive and get straight down to solid work. To all new parents and carers, in particular, I would like to welcome you too. You should be proud of your son or daughter/s for settling in to the new surroundings with such ease.

New Timetable Model 2015: we have had a major shift in terms of class sizes now being larger than in the past. However, in building the new timetable model we have been successful in creating a positive learning environment in 2015. We have a straight Year 7 class with 31 students. A Year 7/8 class has 7 Year 7s and 20 Year 8s. Teachers ensure that each Year group has dedicated programs pitched to get the best out of each year level. The Year 8 class has 26 students. The Year 9 class has 26 students. The Year 9/10 class which has 10 Year 9s and 8 Year 10s and has a vocational focus and is run by Miss McLoughlin who has a very solid Term’s work that sets the class up for the workplace for Year 10s in Term 2 and Year 9s in Term 3. The final class is the Year 10 class which has 29 students. The majority of these are on the ATAR pathway and they have started on a positive note. In summary, all classes have settled in well and are working productively.

Options Choices: We now have larger class sizes and this has meant not all students could fit into their number 1 option choices in Semester 1. We will ensure, as far as possible, those who miss out Semester 1 can choose their number 1 option in Semester 2.

One Deputy Bentley Street: We now have only one Deputy at Bentley Street, myself, but with no teaching load. Therefore any query in 2015 needs to be directed to me. I look forward to contact from any parent or carer who requires any assistance. I have already seen almost all the new parents or carers, and look forward to talking to or seeing all parents and carers as the year progresses. The other change of staff is Mrs Feltham who now takes on the role of Learning Support Co-ordinator across the Mead Street and Bentley Street sites. She has already developed timetables and learning support plans which are in place and active on both sites: well done.

Academic Performance: Our aim this year is to focus on stronger academic rigor at Bentley Street. To strive for improvement teachers are linking with other schools to enhance learning and, importantly, to extend and develop all students in their classes based on individual and group needs. As you can see from the class dynamics we already have a good foundation to ensure Knowledge and Progress in 2015 and beyond.

Diaries: Lastly, but very importantly, we urge every student to have their school diary on hand for every lesson. This enables students to take up a key element of our school ethos: PROPS. The O in PROPS stands for ORGANIZED. The diary is therefore a critical method of getting students to write in their homework and their due assignments. This way parents and carers can see the work-load, and see educational progress very easily. We are targeting diaries in every lesson this week and beyond. Please support us to make their futures brighter by keeping an eye on diaries for 2015.

Garry Davis
Secondary Deputy Principal

Learning Support Coordinator

This year I have been appointed to a new position. I will be working in a Learning Support role that is designed to add value to the learning that takes place throughout the school. Initially I will be utilised to target the learning of students with identified needs, together with high and low achieving students.

I will be working closely with all teachers together with the School Chaplin Len Van Aarden and the School Psychologist Amber Newsome.

Whilst your first point of call is classroom and learning area teachers, I am appointed to support you and your child at therefore welcome your contact.

I will be at Mead Street (9731 1557) on Tuesday and Thursday and Bentley Street (9731 1060) on Monday and Friday. Wednesday I will be working over both sites.

I look forward to helping your child learn, develop and grow.

Tamara Feltham
Dear Parents and Carers
Your children are exceptional and have the potential to achieve success in life, whatever they want.
Edith Cowan University wants to ensure every child has the chance to think about, and achieve, university study to reach that success.

That’s why the University is providing yourtutor access at Donnybrook District High School (Bentley Street Campus), to build confidence, enquiry-based thinking, and give each child more opportunities to be engaged with learning, even after the bell goes in the afternoon.

Given its popularity in recent years, we know many families will be using the school’s yourtutor service in 2015 also. I encourage parents of new students to take a look when your child uses it for the first time.

**Go to:** [www.ecu.edu.au/yourtutor](http://www.ecu.edu.au/yourtutor)

**Use your activation code to create your account.**

**More information**

yourtutor is live, one-to-one, on-demand online help during study. The moment your child has a question—English, essay writing, Maths, Science, and more – there is a real-life, expert Australian tutor online, ready to help, 3pm – 10pm Sunday through Friday.

**Who are the real-life, online staff?**
The online tutors are all teachers or university experts, located across the country. The online staff must go through all necessary checks and a stringent application and training process, to make sure only the best are allowed in the network.

**What does this mean for families?**
- Less stress during ‘homework time’ in your household;
- The chance for every child to build up confidence, interest, and performance in subject areas;
- No extra travel or appointments needed, students simply use the service from a computer or device, from school, from home, or anywhere else with an internet connection;
- Extremely ethical guidance, a ‘no answers’ policy, students are trained to think for themselves.

The school is proud to be partnering with the University in this way again in 2015. We encourage parents and students to take advantage of yourtutor and ECU's support.

Kind regards
Principal

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Dear Parents/Guardians, and our amazing patients,

For any emergencies, you can contact our Bunbury Dental Therapy Centre on 9721 1497 (for emergencies only). Our phone will be diverted to the Bunbury Dental Therapy centre so you can also call our number on 0417 252 536 to reach them.

We will be starting at Mead Street on 3 March and we can be contacted on the above number.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Thankyou

Jade & Carl J

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**Bunbury United Soccer Club**

**Junior Registration 20 & 27 February, 2015**

**Bunbury United Clubrooms**

Parade Road, Bunbury

4pm to 7pm

Ages 5-16—Any queries ring 0417 963 014

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**Registration Day**

Auskick, Juniors, Colts, Reserves & League Players And

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Sunday 22 February 2015,**

3-6pm at the clubroom

Sausage Sizzle, Merchandise Shop,

Junior footy drills & skills session

Enquiries: Richard Ph: 0428 310 234
**IMPORTANT DATES**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12 February</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>13 February</td>
<td>Junior Campus Assembly 9.00am</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>24 February</td>
<td>Bentley Street Assembly 9.00am</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>27 February</td>
<td>Faction Swimming Carnival Yr 4-10</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>2 March</td>
<td>Labour Day—School Closed</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Interm Swimming begins</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4 March</td>
<td>Year 8 Immunisation—Girls &amp; Boys</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>Interm Swimming finished</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>Harmony Day at the Junior Campus 11.15 to 12.15pm</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>Senior Campus Faction Athletics Carnival—VC Mitchell Park</td>
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_The DDHS P&C Footy Tipping Competition is on again in 2015 with your chance to win some big bucks!_

Registration details will be circulating soon, so keep a look out.

_As in past years, this competition represents a major fundraising activity for the DDHS P&C Association and will provide essential funds for our school._

If your business would like to sponsor the weekly tipping results being published in The Donnybrook/ Bridgetown Mail for the duration of the football season please contact Football Tipping Coordinator Wendy Cain on 0429 600 530.

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**A note from the Community Health Nurse... (Primary School)**

Welcome to the new school year. My name is **KYM SULLIVAN** and I am the Community Health Nurse who visits your school.

Community Health Nurses work in schools to promote healthy development and wellbeing so students may reach their full potential. A major part of my work is focused on early intervention and the School Entry Health Assessment program.

Community Health Nurses serve as a health contact point for children and their families, providing information, assessment, health counselling and referral. The services provided are free and are confidential.

If you have a concern about your child’s health or development, please contact me on 0427987560.

**School Entry Health Assessment**

All children in Western Australia are offered a health assessment during their first year of primary school. This usually occurs in kindergarten.

A Community Health Nurse will check your child’s vision, hearing and general development. A form will be sent early in Term 1.

**Parents please complete and sign the forms. Please return the form to the school office or class teacher, as soon as possible.**

For more information, or if you have any concerns, contact the local Community Health Nurse, Kym Sullivan on 0427987560.

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Our school canteen is now online—visit ouronlinecanteen.com.au or call 1300 116 637

For more information please see the attached flyer.