Twenty seven very tired but happy Yr 6 students rolled back into town on Friday 30 October after their week on senior camp. Based at Camp Geographe in Busselton, as well as a night camping in the Boronup Forest, the class enjoyed a week filled with fun, adventure and excitement. Highlights included exploring Giants Cave, rafting on the bay and getting to know the baby animals at Sunshine Farm. The teachers had a great time as well.
Dear Parents and Caregivers

Camp

Since our last newsletter we have returned from camp. A full weeks program in and around Busselton proved to be a highly successful operation, with all students and teachers enjoying the experience.

As always, I am pleased to report that the students’ behaviour was exemplary, which made the experience so enjoyable for the staff as it only takes 1 naughty student to ruin a camp.

Thank you to Mr Smith for organising the camp and Mrs Williams, Mrs Vowles and Miss Loxton for attending the camp. Asking teachers to stay away from home for a full week and be on duty 24/7 is actually a big ask. It’s well above and beyond the teachers’ industrial obligations under the enterprise bargaining agreement.

I trust that this level of commitment continues at South Padbury, as many teachers now choose not to undertake all of the extra duties, time and responsibility associated with taking groups of children away on camps.

Leave

I have taken bereavement leave over the last week following the passing of a family member. I thank all of the staff at South Padbury for stepping up and ensuring that our fine school continued on successfully as per usual in my absence.

2016

Planning for next year is now well under way. The class structures, at this stage will be KA,KB,P1,P2,Yr.1,Yr.1, Yr.2, Yr.2,Yr.3,Yr.3,Yr.4,Yr.5,Yr.5,Yr.6. There will be a formalised support structure in the Year 5 and 6 groups to support these 3 teachers due to relatively high class numbers. This support will focus on Literacy and Numeracy.

We have appointed 2 new teachers, being Mr Mark Barnett who will be teaching a Year 3 class and Miss Julia Bishop who will be teaching a Year 5 class. Both of these teachers were merit selected and are high quality, well regarded, accomplished and respected educators. For a clearer view of 2016, I will be presenting my plan to the school board meeting on November 18. This meeting is an open forum and all community members are welcome to attend as observers. The meeting will be held in the staffroom and is scheduled to begin at 3.15.

Class Placements

As always, parents/cares have the right to request certain teachers and classes. This is on the understanding that the final decision is mine and my decision may be contrary to the request. I base class placements on a whole myriad of factors, most of which only I am aware of. As the school’s Principal, I know all of the teachers and students and am in a unique position to have a helicopter view of the school. I go to a lot of effort to know all of our students, their personalities, strengths and weaknesses and match these with teachers’ skills sets. This is the same as in grouping children together. I’ll often separate certain children, as being best friends does not always translate into being good learning partners. The easiest way to contact me with any request is via email.

David Knox
PRINCIPAL

CLASS ASSEMBLY— PP2 Miss Hayes

The next assembly will be held on Friday 13 November and will be conducted by our students in PP2. The assembly will commence at 8:45 am in the undercover area.

Parents of the children are invited to morning tea with Miss Hayes and the Principal in the Staff Room immediately after the assembly.
Parent Survey — A big thank you to those who have responded, closing date Friday 13 November to be in the prize draw.

School Banking - will continue right up until the last week of term Tuesday 15 December.

Canteen/ lunch orders will be available Monday 14 December and then conclude for the year. Lunch orders will not be available the first week back to school for 2016. We are asking for volunteers in the first few weeks of term 1, 2016 to help out Monday and Friday lunch times. Without your help we cannot offer this service to our children and families. Please contact Chantelle Martin chantelle6176@hotmail.com or southpadburypc@gmail.com if you can help out.

Fun Fact: Did you know that honey is the only natural food which never goes off.

Melinda Whiteside
P&C President
melindawhiteside@bigpond.com

P&C e-mail address southpadburypc@gmail.com

P&C Sunscreen Fundraiser Orders

Last day for Sunscreen orders will be Friday 13 November. Place your orders in the Red P&C letter box in the front office.

P&C Disco——Friday 13 November

Junior Disco Kindy—Year 2  4:30pm— 6:00pm
Senior Disco Years 3—6   6:30pm—8:00pm

Please be punctual to collect students so we can smoothly transition from the junior to senior timeslot and volunteers can leave on time at the end.

Children are required to wear their wristbands on entry to the Disco with their next of kin contact details written on their wristband.

P&C Disco——Friday 13 November

Junior Disco Kindy—Year 2  4:30pm— 6:00pm
Senior Disco Years 3—6   6:30pm—8:00pm

Please be punctual to collect students so we can smoothly transition from the junior to senior timeslot and volunteers can leave on time at the end.

Children are required to wear their wristbands on entry to the Disco with their next of kin contact details written on their wristband.

Help Wanted——Year 6 Graduation Committee

The Year 6 decorations committee are seeking your help to make the undercover area look sensational for our graduation night on Friday 11 December. We are wondering if anyone has any contacts or equipment we may be able to borrow. We are in need of a cherry picker to hang decorations or a contact/discount for Coates Hire. Also, we require some long extension cords, flood lights, backdrops, garden accessories etc. Does anyone know of a great party hire company for decorations and backdrops? If anyone can help, please contact Luanne on 0402 366 245.
Swimming Notes 2016

Please look out for Year 5-6 swimming notes which will be sent home in week 7 and will need to be returned with signed consent and payment before the end of the school year.

Year 5/6 Swimming Lessons—Commence Tuesday 2 February for 9 days

School Board Meeting— Wednesday 18 November

Parents and Carers are invited to attend the annual open School Board Meeting as an observer and have the opportunity to understand the function of the Board, which is separate to the P&C. The meeting will commences at 3.15pm in the staffroom on Wednesday 18 November.

Luanne Bernhardt (School Board Chair).

TravelSmart News

Our school was recognised by the Department of Transport at an award ceremony on the 4 November, presented by the Minister for Transport, Hon Dean Nalder, attended by Tia Tutti and [me!] Harrison Adams. On behalf of the school, we accepted not only our Silver certification BUT ALSO “Best New School” of all this year’s newcomers to Travelsmart. I am also proud to announce that our school was Travelsmart’s WA’s Best School of the Year (Runner up).

These well-deserved awards, recognise the leadership, ideas and hard work of our Travelsmarties and their families, throughout 2015 and I hope will inspire us on to making our school journeys healthier and more sustainable for the future.

It was a wonderful day of celebration and learning: our school community can be proud of the wider acknowledgement of the Minister, the Department of Transport and schools throughout the State as being committed to improving our global footprint.

Great photos to follow from the official photographer and signed certificates from Fremantle footballer and all-round-legend-and-super-nice-guy Luke McPharlin.

My congratulations to ALL parents who have found the time to don the hi-viz vests, paint feet on pavements, establish relationships with our local shops or simply make the effort to walk or cycle with their own children on Move-it Mondays, Walking Wednesday and now F-it Fridays [the children have yet to come up with a better name, but I know you all know how FIT we feel on Fridays]

South Padbury Primary School also featured in the Street Watch section on page 15 of the Joondalup Times on 3 November 2015 as part of the Heart Foundation’s Walk Over October campaign. You can view the full article via the link below.


Harrison Adams