

An Independent Public School

Morawa District High School

NEWSLETTER

Issue 8, December 2015

EVENTS COMING UP

Last Day for Students
Thurs 17 Dec

First day back 2016 for
Students
Mon 1 Feb

Uniform Shop and Front
Office are
available from
25 January onwards
(excluding Australia Day)

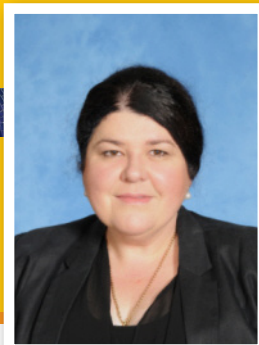
Maggie Dent-Author &
Parenting Specialist
Parenting Session 6-8pm @
WACOAM
16 Feb 2016

Nathan Hulls - Youth
Motivational Speaker
15 February

From all of us at Morawa
DHS, we wish you a very
Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year



Tonia Carslake



From the Principal

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

What an amazing year staff and students at Morawa District High School have had, and Term Four was no exception, with lots of highlights to end the year on a high note.

The many opportunities in which students have had over this last academic year have only been made possible because Morawa DHS has such dedicated and talented teachers, support staff, parents, P & C, School Board, and community who are motivated to help every student achieve success and ensure continued growth of our school. Thank you! Congratulations to all students who have represented the school throughout the year in various events and to all who have achieved their goals.

We are fortunate to have a strong community at Morawa. Your commitment and belief in our school has contributed to our very successful year. 2015 has been a great year involving extensive consultation with all who are connected with our school community, especially through surveys and the Independent

Public School Review during Term 2. This was a wonderful process to undertake and our report was very positive.

The feedback, views, ideas and opinions we have received have identified and affirmed the School's clear strengths and also highlighted key areas for desired improvement and growth that will be key in the development of the new strategic plan. There is much that we are proud of at Morawa DHS but there's always room for improvement and I thank each and every one of our students, staff, parents, Board members and P & C who gave feedback through our surveys and interviews about the schools performance. Thank you.

What we do at Morawa DHS, every day, is make decisions to create opportunities for our school community, now and into the future. We put our students at the heart of what we do. We value diversity and are committed to nurturing the heart and wellbeing of every student and the entire school community. Who and what we are today are the results of countless choices that have been made in the past. Our School's future will be determined by what we do now. Sometimes, we may not even witness the results of our actions; some of the trees that

Endeavour & Achieve

we plant today will take many years to grow to full size and we may not see the impact of those decisions. Nevertheless, throughout the development phase of our new strategic plan, we will question our school's mission, values and priorities and asked "what kind of school do we want to leave to the next generation"? What opportunities do we want to make possible for our children and community? And what kind of trees do we need to plant in that case? The Administration Team together with the New Board will work hard to develop the new Business Plan for 2016-2018 next year that has learning at its core. It will focus on the needs of our students of today and the future, within a framework that respects the School's past, its traditions and its values. There is an old Chinese proverb that states: The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is now!

PRESENTATION NIGHT

We celebrated the many student achievements; both academic and extracurricular our students have made in 2015 at presentation Night on Wednesday evening, as well as being entertained by the Primary Classes and the Band with fantastic performances. Thank you to all involved and those who supported this fantastic evening and of course to all award recipients. This was a memorable evening of prizes, wonderful music performances and speeches. Thank you also to the following sponsors who generously made donations towards prizes & scholarships:

- CWA Morawa Branch
- Landmark Morawa
- Morawa Freemasons
- C & T Tubby
- Morawa Rural Enterprises
- Morawa Gutha RSL
- McIntosh & Sons
- Peter Smith
- Kats Rural
- Darren West MP
- Shane Love MLA
- Melissa Price MP

Scholarship Donors:

- Mr Chris Moffet – Laura Moffet and Bellaranga Scholarships
- Carslake Family- Carslake Family Scholarship
- Frank Dixon Memorial – Music Scholarship
- MDHS P&C Association – P & C Community Scholarships – Endeavour and Achieve
- Shire of Morawa – Shire Scholarship

Congratulations to award and scholarship winners and to the staff for their preparation of this event.

FINAL WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

The final assembly for 2015 was held last Friday. This was a great opportunity to recognise the wonderful achievements our students have made and the contribution of parents and the wider community. Thank you to those who supported this event and

congratulations to all award winners.

STUDENT COUNCIL & HOUSE CAPTAINS

Students were involved in the Student Council and House Captain elections during the last weeks of term. We were very impressed with the quality of speeches presented on the day. Well done to all students who were involved. The Student Council and House Captains for 2016 were announced at the final Whole School Assembly on Friday 11 December. They are listed in the following pages.

I would like to extend my congratulations to all those students recognised for their efforts this semester as well as those students elected as 2016. I look forward to your leadership next year. The Student Councillors for Years 7 will be elected early next year due to a large intake of students from Perenjori, Three Springs, Mingenew Primary Schools, as well as those in Yr 12.

TEACH LEARN GROW

It was so wonderful to have 22 Teach Learn Grow Tutors in the school during Week 7. The students gained so much from the intensive maths tutoring as well as the lunchtime and recess activities. Thank you to the community for your support of this program. We look forward to it continuing in 2016.

K/PP CHRISTMAS PARTY

The K/PP students and staff put on a delightful Christmas Party filled with singing and dancing. Thank you to Miss Tulloch, Mrs McBeath and Ms Teakle at Kindy and Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Clark, at Pre-Primary for preparing the students so beautifully.

YEAR 6 CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

The Annual Year 6 Celebration assembly was held on 4 December. This is undoubtedly one of the most important occasions in the School Calendar. It is one of mixed emotions. It is end of one chapter, but the beginning of a new and exciting challenge for our Year 6 students as they enter secondary school next year. I would like to extend my congratulations to each and every one of these students for successfully competing primary school. Congratulations also to Miss Jongen for their outstanding organisation of this event and for all they have done for the students over this last year.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Your child's Semester 2 report for 2015 was sent home yesterday. Students from Pre-Primary to Year 10 have been assessed on the Australian Curriculum in the areas of English, Maths, Science and History. Students in Year 11 and 12 have been assessed on the WACE and VET Certificate courses they have undertaken. If you have any queries about this report, or if your child's teacher has requested an interview please telephone the Front Office on 9971 0900 to arrange a time to talk to the teacher.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

A copy of the Contributions and Charges and Personal Items List [booklist] for your child/children in 2016 was also included in your child's report envelope. At the beginning of the 2016 school year you will receive the final account at which time we will require payment. I encourage all parents to pay their Contributions and Charges as this provides financial support to enhance our learning programs. Unfortunately this year, the rate of payment was lower than it has been for many years. As you would know, there have been reductions in school funding over recent years and it is now even more important that families pay their Contributions and Charges.

PLANNING FOR 2016

Planning is well underway for 2016. Below are a few of the things we have to look forward to:

- Parent and staff workshops by Maggie Dent - 15 February
- TLG and UWA Interventions and Tutoring
- A variety of incursions including SciTech, School Performance Tours, and a "School Production"
- Many camps including the Canberra Snowies Melbourne Tour for secondary students, Year 6 camp and Year 7 Ningaloo Camp, Orientation camps, GRIP Leadership, Country Week, UWA Aspire etc.
- Primary School Device Program – new laptops in primary classrooms
- Secondary Engagement Program lead by Miss O'Halloran
- Introduction of Cert II Building and Construction & Cert II Sprrt & Recreation to our courses. The building course will assist with the construction of the Nature playground
- New air-conditioning in all classrooms, refurbishment of the senior toilets and painting of some of the classrooms during April holidays....just to mention a few of the exciting things we have in store

STAFFING

Unfortunately some staff members are moving on to new schools or adventures for 2016: Miss Jessica Jongan and Mrs Alison McCarthy have both done an outstanding job teaching our students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their dedication to the students at MDHS over the last 4 and 5 years respectively and wish them well for the future. Ms Lee Jones has been a Deputy Principal for 2.5 years and has done a great job with the secondary students and leading special events such as our school ball. Lee is thinking of taking some well-deserved Long Service Leave next year but hopefully we can entice her back to do some special duties. Watch this space!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Ryan Egan, Ms Broad and Mrs Dee Bestry for their work in the school this year as and wish them well for their future endeavours. Best wishes to all students and families who may also be moving on in 2016.

SCHOOL BOARD

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the MDHS School Board and IPS Assistant Maryanne Milloy-Rakich for their ongoing support throughout the first 3 years of being and IPS. It has been so valuable to the school and its success. A huge thank you to our outgoing board members, Barbara Browne, Alison McCarthy, Jenny Hirsch, Michelle Hughes and Marisa Chisholm for their fabulous contribution to MDHS over the three year term. It has been truly appreciated and words cannot express my thanks.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the new IPS Board 2016-2018 for Morawa District High School:-

Andrew Moore - Parent representative (returning)
Greg Payne – Community representative (returning)
Debbie Collins – Community representative (new)
Bree Phillips – Parent representative (new)
Di Ballantyne – Parent Representative (new)
Julie King – Community Representative (new)
Tammy Solomon – Staff Representative (new)
Helen Walter – Staff Representative (new)
Karen Chappel – Community Representative (returning)
Teresa Tubby - Community Representative (returning)
Tracy Tapscott – Staff Representative (returning)
Linda Jenkins – Finance
Tonia Carslake – Principal
Maryanne Milloy-Rakich – IPS Assistant

CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM

It has been fantastic to have Revd Ric Payne back in the school this year as our School Chaplain, Ric has done an amazing job helping students, families and staff. Ric recently organised the Krissie Westwood Modelling & Casting Academy camp for Year 7 and 8 girls, giving them valuable lessons in personal development and deportment. Thank you Revd Ric, Mrs Tammy Solomon and Mrs Rosemary Bond for making this event possible.

UWA ASPIRE

Ms Leonie Jones accompanied a group of Year 9 students to the University of WA for a tertiary study immersion camp last week. A fantastic time was had by all with many options of study opened up to them. Thank you to Ms Jones for making this camp possible.

MAGGIE DENT

Together with WACOAM, we are very excited to have Maggie Dent, author, educator and parenting specialist coming to Morawa on the 16 February 2016. Maggie will present the following workshops: Adolescence Unplugged: Engaging Today's Adolescents in the Classroom (for Teachers) from 3.30-5.30pm. This is a 2-hour seminar. Maggie will then present "Boys, Boys, Boys" for parents and

community members at the WACOAM dining room from 6-8 pm. All parents and carers are invited and encouraged to attend.

NATHAN HULLS

CDO Jo Draper has organized a very exciting guest speaker to address our high school students on the 15 February. Nathan Hulls is a high school motivational speaker and youth coach. He has engaged audiences in Australia and Internationally. He will present his entertaining "Decide Your Own Destiny" workshop to all secondary students from MDHS and the WACOAM. This will focus on his stories of overcoming adversity and disability at a young age, to follow his dreams and achieve success that have inspired others to do the same. Nathan will then work with students from the Gunduwa Young Leaders Program as well as presenting a parent workshop in the evening.

SCHOOL PUPIL FREE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DATES 2016

The Proposed PD Dates [Pupil Free] for 2016 are:-

Thursday 28 January

Friday 29 January

Tuesday 29 March – Easter Tuesday

Tuesday 26 April – Day 1 Term 2

Monday 18 July – Day 1 Term 3

Monday 10 October – Day 1 term 4

December 16 – Last Day Term 4

I would like to express my greatest appreciation and thanks to our dedicated and passionate teaching and support staff who work tirelessly for our students, ensuring that students are empowered to succeed in all their endeavours and for providing them with many opportunities in which students have had over this last academic year. You are a wonderful team.

School begins for Administration Staff on the 25 January; 28 January for Teaching and Support staff, and students first day back at school for 2016 is Monday 1 February.

On behalf of the Morawa District High School, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe holiday.

Mrs Tonia Carslake

2016 TERM DATES

Term 1	Monday 1 February - Friday 8 April
Break	Saturday 9 April - Monday 25 April
Term 2	Tuesday 26 April - Friday 1 July
Break	Saturday 2 July - Sunday 17 July
Semester 2	
Term 3	Monday 18 July - Friday 23 September
Break	Saturday 24 September - Sunday 9 Oct
Term 4	Monday 10 Oct - Thursday 15 Dec

Graduating Year 6



OUR GRADUATING YEAR 6 STUDENTS FOR 2015:

LAUREN APPLETON
 EMILY BEAUCHAMP
 AMY BROCKMAN
 ETHAN BURNETT
 CLARISSA CHIPPER
 CHARLEE-ANN CHISHOLM
 JASPER CHISHOLM
 MONIQUE COMEAGAIN
 TEGAN COYNE
 CLIFTON DONGARA
 DAYAN FRANCIS
 ELLA JEWELL
 ERICA MCCARTHY
 MARK NARRIER
 TARL PARKER
 TEAGAN PARKER

Aspire UWA Camp



Mrs Bond, Nikki, Rachel, Dakota & Brittney

At 5:00am on Monday morning, 31/08/2015, four specially chosen Morawa District High School Year 11 students set off from Morawa to be part of an exciting program at the 2015 Aspire UWA Year 11 Camp in Perth.

After driving to Geraldton with Mrs Bond, they flew to Perth where they were met by Aspire Ambassadors and bussed to Point Walter to experience 3 days of engaging activities.

Aspire UWA works with partner schools and communities in regional Western Australia and in Perth to raise aspirations for tertiary education. Nikki-Lee Humble, Rachel Lucas, Dakota Curtin and Brittney-Louise Councillor mingled with students from other schools, including Kalbarri, Exmouth, Geraldton and Dongara.

Nikki said, "The highlight of the ASPIRE camp was the Department of Planning. I think that would be a very interesting place to work. The food and shopping were also my favourites."

"While I was at the ASPIRE camp," wrote Dakota, "I liked the Department of Planning and I enjoyed the Perth Museum because the dinosaur exhibit was fascinating. The only reason I would go to uni. would be for the food and for the atmosphere at lunch time.

Brittney reported, "The highlight of going to University of Western Australia for the ASPIRE camp was going to the Department of Planning because they have some cool jobs like being a graphic designer. I also enjoyed going to shopping and most of the theatre games were fun."

Rachel said, "While I was at the UWA ASPIRE camp I really enjoyed the Perth Museum because of the snake we got to pat and the Graphic Designing in the Department of Planning. I would like to go to University for zoology, the food they have and the friendly environment. The grass on campus is amazing."

Morawa District High School is privileged to be involved in the ASPIRE program, which provides activities for most ages of our school students at various times throughout the year, both at our school and in the metropolitan area.

For all Year 10's, this is a camp worth planning for next year.

Final Assembly



Year 7s



Year 8s



Year 10s

Primary Awards

Sophie Collins	English	Darcy Tynan	Mathematics
Sophie Collins	Health & Phys Ed	Darcy Tynan	Science
Blayke Twomey	Health & Phys Ed	Isabella Tomlinson	Humanities and Social Sciences
Ezra Govender	Mathematics	Noah Kowald	Humanities and Social Sciences
Ezra Govender	Science	Darcy Tynan	Technology & Enterprise
Grace Tubby	Science	Amber Bestry	English
Blayke Twomey	Technology & Enterprise	Amber Bestry	Health
Sophie Collins	Humanities and Social Sciences	Regan Tubby	Physical Education
Grace Tubby	Technology & Enterprise	Amber Bestry	Mathematics
Grace Tubby	The Arts	Thomas Appleton	Science
Cameron Tomlinson	English	Thomas Appleton	Humanities and Social Sciences
Carly Ballantyne	Health	Amber Bestry	Technology & Enterprise
Carly Ballantyne	Phys Ed	Atayah Aliphon	The Arts-Music
Liam Appleton	Mathematics	Regan Tubby	The Arts-Visual Art
Liam Appleton	Science	Erica McCarthy	English
Max Knox-Atkinson	Humanities and Social Sciences	Lauren Appleton	Health
Jamie Cosgrove	Humanities and Social Sciences	Lauren Appleton	Physical Education
Carly Ballantyne	Technology & Enterprise	Charlee-Ann Chisholm	Mathematics
Max Knox-Atkinson	Technology & Enterprise	Ella Jewell	Science
Banjo McBeath	English	Lauren Appleton	Humanities and Social Sciences
Sophie Scott	Health	Erica McCarthy	Technology & Enterprise
Christi Bestry	Physical Education	Erica McCarthy	The Arts
Banjo McBeath	Mathematics	Erica McCarthy	The Arts
Banjo McBeath	Science	Lauren Appleton	The Arts
Christi Bestry	Science	Jacob Cooper	Endeavour Award
Christi Bestry	Humanities and Social Sciences	Tyler Robinson	Endeavour Award
Christi Bestry	Technology & Enterprise	Gary Cooper	Endeavour Award
Banjo McBeath	Technology & Enterprise	Wesley Harris	Endeavour Award
Tom McBeath	English	Denayh Coyne	Endeavour Award
Jacob Coaker	Health	Lewis Clinch	Endeavour Award
Braydon Fairlie	Physical Education	Tegan Coyne	Endeavour Award

Learning Area Awards

Secondary Awards

Alex Solomon	Home Economics	Gorgina Groves	Integrated Science
Demi Bestry	Society & Environment	Matthieu Taukoory	ATAR Mathematics
Candi Shiel	Instrumental & Ensemble Music	Sam Drew	English General
Jacob Traylen-Witt	Instrumental & Ensemble Music	Gorgina Groves	ATAR English
Alex Solomon	Visual Arts	Brittney Louise Councillor	Cert II Info Digital Media and Tech
Demi Bestry	Instrumental & Ensemble Music	Anthony Whitehurst	Materials D and T (Wood) General
Alex Solomon	Mathematics	Mitchell Turner	Materials D and T (Metal) 1A
Demi Bestry	Science	Ben Whitmore	Visual Arts General
Hayley Clayton	Physical Education	Dakota Curtin	Hospitality Certificate II
Candi Shiel	Design & Technology	Anthony Whitehurst	Career Studies
Nellie Humphreys	English	Anthony Whitehurst	Instrumental & Ensemble Music
Demi Bestry	Information & Communication	Sam Drew	Physical Education Studies General
Demi Bestry	Health	Clarice Layton	Endeavour Award
Sarah Connolly	Career Studies	Danielle Letton	Endeavour Award
Amber Burgess	Home Economics	Jerri-Lee Clayton	Endeavour Award
Olivia McCarthy	Visual Art	Ashlee Knock	Endeavour Award
Sarah Connolly	Instrumental & Ensemble Music	Nikki-Lee Humble	Endeavour Award
Tanisha Burgess	Instrumental & Ensemble Music		
Darcie Parker	Society & Environment		
Tanisha Burgess	Mathematics		
Samantha Councillor	Science		
Olivia McCarthy	Physical Education		
Shyanne Narain	Design & Technology		
Tanisha Burgess	English		
Tanisha Burgess	English		
Shyanne Narain	Information & Communication		
Madison Tynan	Health		
Shaun-Michael Harwood	Career Studies		
Shaun-Michael Harwood	Mathematics		
Mackenzie Matthews	Society & Environment		
Zepplin Curtin	Health		
Jerrilee Clayton	Physical Education		
Shaun-Michael Harwood	Vocational Education		
Harrison Matthews	Science		
Shaun-Michael Harwood	English		
Jerrilee Clayton	Information & Communication		
Jerrilee Clayton	Visual Arts		
Harry Matthews	Ceramics		
Jack Whait	Pop Band		
Harry Matthews	Woodwork		
Zepplin Curtin	Media		
Mackenzie Matthews	Design in Metalwork		
Alexandra Whitehurst	Food In The Fast Lane		
Ashlee Knock	Pop Band		
Jack Ballantyne	Woodwork		
Corrine Moore	Design in Metalwork		
Travis Jones	Jewellery		
Alexandra Whitehurst	Food In The Fast Lane		
Corrine Moore	Mathematics		
Corrine Moore	Instrumental & Ensemble Music		
Jessica Wallace	Ceramics		
Alexandra Whitehurst	Ceramics		
Molly Traylen-Witt	English		
Corrine Moore	Health		
Molly Traylen-Witt	Society & Environment		
Jack Ballantyne	Physical Education		
Corrine Moore	Sports Extra		
Molly Traylen-Witt	Science		
Molly Traylen-Witt	ICT		
	Visual Arts		

Is your child starting high school in 2016?

Enrol today in our HEAD START PROGRAM

Help your child start high school with Confidence



English – Maths – NAPLAN – Coding – Science – Persuasive Essay Writing – learning skills

Jan 18th – Jan 28th 2016

6 hours per subject, 3 hours per day over 2 days

Venues: Churchlands SHS and Rossmoyne SHS

Cost: \$180 per course. 10% discount for all enrolments received before 21st December 2016.

Head Start program to help students going into year 7 in 2016 gain confidence and transition successfully in their high school studies



For further information, program and enrolment:

Website: www.academictaskforce.com.au

Email: learn@academictaskforce.com.au

Phone: (08) 9314 9500

Chaplain's Chat Corner....

Revd Ric Payne

YouthCare School Chaplain

Just last week, 23 young ladies from Years 7 and 8 travelled to Perth to attend the Krissie Westwood Modelling and Casting Agency for a day-long programme in Personal Grooming and Deportment, and Positive Attitude. They were accompanied by Mrs Tammy Solomon, Mrs Rosemary Bond and myself. What a fantastic opportunity this was for all the girls who, despite a very nervous start, had a fabulous time...and learned much...even walking the catwalk 'with style', in their own fashion parade, as a culmination to the day. I was extremely proud of all the girls who were, mostly, highly motivated and positive in participation and attitude. I sincerely thank all the girls for being who they are – beautiful, responsible and amazing young ladies!

Well, it is nearly Christmas and all around us people are getting ready to celebrate. Here at school, Christmas trees have appeared in classrooms, Christmas cards are being given, Christmas decoration, gifts and crafts are being made, and Christmas carols and songs sung. Wow! What a lot of excitement there is in the air!

Christmas for many is a time to take a well-earned rest or holiday, to indulge in fine food, drink and parties, to catch up with 'rellies' and friends, and exchange gifts. Christmas is a Christian celebration, and within the Christian church, Advent is the time of preparation for the coming of Jesus. It is a time of watching and waiting expectantly for Jesus to come. We think not only of the coming long ago when Jesus was born in Bethlehem, but also of all the ways in which God in Jesus comes to us now. Without the continual expectation of encounter with Jesus, our faith reduces to a system of belief, a set of principles, rather

than being living experience of God. And so in Advent, we prepare our hearts and lives for receiving God's greatest gift, that of His Son, Jesus, the gift of life. Christians at Christmas, are celebrating this gift of Jesus to us. As we give gifts to others we are reminded of God's wonderful gift to us. On Christmas morning, as you unwrap your gifts, I urge you to spend a few moments in prayer or reflection, giving thanks to God for His gift to us, and for generous and loving hearts. Pray also, for all those for whom Christmas is not a happy cheery time especially those who will be alone this Christmas. I pray the light of Jesus will shine brightly upon you and your loved ones, and may you also know the peace and love of Jesus this holy season. With all of God's Blessings for a happy, safe and holy Christmas. Ric

*~ What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a
lamb;*

*If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what can I give him... I give my
heart. ~*

Christina Georgina Rosetti [1830 -94]



Parent Survey Reminder

*Could parents please hand their
surveys back to the school to assist
in planning next year.
(these came out with the last
newsletter)
Thank you!*

Krissie Westwood

Modelling Agency

Morawa Girls on the Catwalk

The Year 7 and Year 8 girls' excursion to the modelling agency culminated in a photo shoot when each girl posed for shots for their future portfolios. After arriving back at school, the girls were presented with their photos and their certificates for the course.

Candid Comments:

"It was fun, and I think next year's Year 7s should do the course," Megan.

"I learnt how to walk the catwalk," Sharnez.

"I learnt how to act like a lady," Olivia.

"What I enjoyed most was when we did our own modelling," Madison.

"I learnt how to keep my posture and sit properly," Danielle.

"What I enjoyed most was talking on the microphone," Sarah.

"What I enjoyed most on the excursion was the food," Samantha.

"What I didn't enjoy, was being judged," Shyanne.

"What I enjoyed most was being with my friends," Nellie.

"I learnt to walk properly and sit up straight," Candi.

"I enjoyed walking the catwalk with my friends," Tanisha.

"What I didn't enjoy was sitting down for a long time," Demi.

"What I enjoyed the most on the excursion was the shopping and the movie," Claire.

Candi, Claire, Demi, Nellie
& Molly



Sarah, Samantha &
Shyanne



Darcie, Danielle, Olivia,
Madison & Hayley



Nakeetah, Sharnez, Shakira
& Destiny

Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS



Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

It's a (Christmas) WRAP!

How will you close up the school year and set the scene to make next year your child's best year ever?

It's that time of year again! The school year is almost over. The Christmas holidays are just around the corner.

"Where did the last twelve months go?" That's the adult viewpoint. Kids think, "What took so long?" Different ages, different perspectives.

Kids generally want to plunge into holidays, leaving schoolwork, timetables and teachers behind. That's only natural.

But before they get too far into holiday mode, consider how you'll round out the year, and bring it to a close. If your child is finishing primary or secondary school then there will be a graduation ceremony that signals the end of one phase of their school lives.

The greater importance given to school graduation ceremonies over the last few decades is recognition of the human need to bring closure to one stage of life, and prepare for the next.

Kids of all ages benefit from parental recognition of their achievements and successes as it sets the stage for the coming school year.

Here are a few ideas to help you close off the old year to prepare for the year ahead:

1 Discuss the highlights and the lowlights of the year:

Ask kids to name their highlights, favourite times or most memorable moments of the year just gone. Use age appropriate language and questions that will open them up, rather than shut them down. At the year's end I would ask my school-aged kids to rate the year from 1 to 5, and to identify their best memory, their favourite subject and something new that they encountered. These questions worked for me, but each parent needs to find their own approach.

2 Celebrate improvement and success:

Identify one or two areas where they excelled, improved or overcame some challenges. Broaden the focus away from just academic performance and recognise achievement in social, sport or arts areas. It's important for kids who struggle academically to understand that you value success in a variety of areas.

3 Show appreciation:

Consider how they can show appreciation to teachers, coaches or other people who may have assisted them during the year. Not only is it good manners to show gratitude, but some kids need reminding that other people contribute to their achievements.

4 Look forward

It maybe beneficial to give your kids a chance to vent about some aspect of the year that they didn't like, found difficult or challenging. Try to limit this type of discussion so that it doesn't end in a whinge session and point them toward a better future next year.

5 Now relax

It's time for them to set the previous school year aside, put their feet up and chill out over the school break. Remember, if the previous year wasn't one of your child's best, the five to six week break gives him or her a chance to make a fresh start next year.

So it's a wrap! The slate has been wiped clean. Enjoy the break and see you next year!

THANK YOU-Book Fair

Thank you to all students and their families, school staff and members of the community for supporting Book Fair this year. It was a great success, enabling the library to acquire a large number of new books for our students to enjoy.

Bonus Book Prize winners, drawn on Monday 23rd November, were Max Knox-Atkinson, Sarah Connolly and Ella McBeath.

Support for this annual event is much appreciated.

Catherine Moore, Library Officer

Band News

Our Brass Band played at Late Night Shopping held in the main street on 4 December.

Our students also played at the Carols by Candlelight held at the school on the following Friday night.

It has been a busy month for our band with these commitments and also performing at assemblies and Presentation Night.

We had a wonderful wind-up which included a slip n slide, a sausage sizzle and a massive waterfight!

We wish our leaving band members the very best for their next adventures - Lucy, Olivia, Erica, Demi & Amber.

Thank you to Mrs Walter and the band committee especially Mrs Caddy Hebiton for your tireless work with the band.



The wind-up



Late night shopping

Year 9 UWA Aspire

Four Year 9 students had a really good excuse to arrive at school early last Wednesday – they were being driven to Geraldton Airport to catch their flight to an Aspire university immersion experience!

Shaun-Michael, Mackenzie, Harry and Jerrilee made the trip with Ms Jones, and spent three activity-filled days learning what it felt like to be a university student.

For some, the flight to Perth was their first (but definitely not their last!) The students were housed and fed in rather plush student accommodation opposite the university. They all thought the experience was "just amazing".

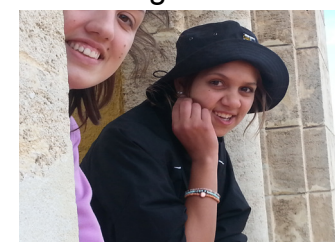
They explored the Physics, Media and Arts departments and took part in interactive activities in each area.

Mackenzie and Jerrilee were particularly impressed by the Physics Department with its floating magnets and with being allowed to run their hands through liquid nitrogen.

The students also took part in team building games with the amazing Mike, a professional motivational speaker and visited Sci-Tech and the Planetarium.

An awesome cruise up the river and a banquet meal, followed by a disco, rounded off the activities.

The Year 9 Aspire UWA immersion camp is something all Year 8s should aspire to in 2016!



Jerrilee & Mackenzie



Harry & Shaun-Michael



Keep the great parenting ideas coming in during the holidays by joining the parentingideas.com.au Facebook community. Go to www.facebook.com/parentingideas.com.au and click the Like button.



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CANBERRA, MELBOURNE, SNOWY MOUNTAINS TOUR

2016 Reminder

Please let the front office know if your child would like to attend this fantastic camp next year.

Phone: 0899710900

Email: morawa.dhs@education.wa.edu.au

SMS: 0409 084 813



CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

Thank you to all the parents who have supported the school this year. Your contributions are much appreciated and do make a difference.

2016 personal items lists and contributions and charges, will be sent home this week with student reports. The school is offering a 10% discount to families who pay by Friday 4 March

2016 (please be advised the C&C's have the incorrect date). This year all payment receipts will be entered into a draw to win a Family Pool Pass for the 2016/2017 season (to be drawn Term 4 2016).

To assist with your budgeting a payment plan authority form has also been included with the report package. As a guide the \$60.00 contributions asked for Kindergarten to Year 6 works out around \$1.50 a week calculated on a 40 week school year and the \$235.00 for year 7-10 works out at \$5.87 a week. Year 11 &12 costs vary dependant on the courses chosen.

Kind regards,
Linda Jenkins
Registrar

WEEK	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT/SUN
10	14	15	16 Presentation Night	17 Last Day for Students	18 Last Day for Staff	19/20
<div>HOLIDAYS</div> <div>Students start back on</div> <div>MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2016</div>						