network principal . . .
We currently have 287 subscriptions for 265 subscribers to our website and 40 members to our ESSN Connect Community. These numbers are promising and high for a subscription based website. Staff looking at the website without subscribing or going to the members section are missing out on half the news.

www.educationsupportsouthnetwork.com.au click on subscribe then activate your subscription from an e-mail sent to you.

http://connect.det.wa.edu.au – log in using your email details. Go to Communities on the top bar- find new community- enter ESSN in search - then click view- then click request to join community. You will get a reply as soon as possible. It is me not a machine so please be patient.

Want to e-mail your peers- please use the appropriate mailing list-  
Essn.teachingstaff@education.wa.edu.au  
Essn.principals@education.wa.edu.au  
Essn.ministerial@education.wa.edu.au  
Essn.nonteachingstaff@education.wa.edu.au

Our website notifications have not been working this term. I can assure you that John Exeter and I are working very hard- through a thick layer of technical and bureaucratic fog- to get this fixed as soon as possible.

Did you know you can add e-DOE email and calendar to your mobile? If you want to know how join our Connect Community - look in the technology in special education folder in the library section.

If your principal is a member of WAESPAA please consider nominating staff in your school for the WAESPAA Educator Awards- nominations close 17th October- bookings for the Awards Night dinner and presentations closes 24th October. See the website for further details.

The MSSD distinctive school and network grants have been decided and will be publicised hopefully early next term after the DG has signed off. We have a number of member schools who have put in
promotions group update . . .

The group is currently investigating potential gifts for people who make presentations to our members. We are looking at pens and flash drives for instance, and would also welcome any suggestions from members.

Last term’s Art Award winners have been presented with their $25 dollar voucher, and we are hopeful that this term, with the theme of ‘Winter’, we will receive more examples of the wonderful art that is being done by our special needs students. You will find many of the entries on the website in the Gallery. Congratulations to the following winners:

**Junior Category**
- Estela from East Vic Park
- Emma from Kenwick

**Senior Category**
- Vaughn from Canning Vale College
- Supun from Leeming

There have been problems with the email alert system, but we are hopeful that this has now been resolved. We are interested to know if any other schools would like to purchase the pen flash drives mentioned in an email. Several schools have shown interest but we are looking for more to keep the price down. Contact Kathy Britton for further information.

Enjoy your well-deserved break everybody and bring on term 4.

Andrew Wilson
Network Principal
**employability skills collaboration group . . .**

Sharing knowledge and expertise is one of the many benefits of being a part of the Education Support South Network.

In Term 1, through ESSN, an Employability Skills Collaboration Group has been initiated. The main focus of the group was to develop a collaborative scope and sequence of Work Skills learning for Year 7 – 13 students. The group activities involved collaborative development of plans, programs and teacher resources to maximise post school option pathways relevant to students in Education Support settings in the Education Support South Network (ESSN).

The programs and resources collated by the group are to support students in their transition pathways to the workforce by providing tools necessary for developing basic knowledge, understanding and skills related to the world of work and various career options.

The Collaboration Group meets every fortnight at Canning Vale College. The group consists of deputy principals and teachers from the several schools within the ESSN network – Pam Cave (Cannington Community ESC), Evelyn Riley (Leeming ESC), Hannah Piers (Leeming ESC), Magda Jessionek (Armadale ESC), Vicki Fisher (Kalamunda ESC) and Agnieszka Miller (Canning Vale College).

The Work Skills Scope and Sequence document and a resource package developed by the group will be ready for distribution in Term 4, 2014.

Agnieszka Miller

Employability Skills Group Coordinator

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**Carson Street School quiz night . . .**

The school community would like to thank those six schools which joined us on the night and trust you all had a very pleasant evening. We are pleased to announce that trophy for the best school and the overall winner for the night was East Victoria Park ESC. It is interesting to note that this is the first time a school has been the overall winner.

The support of the six ESSN schools helped the P&C to raise over $10,000 to help promote our cycling program. If you look carefully at the photo you may be able to pick out the winning team.

Thanks to you all.

John Exeter

Principal
school update. . .

Koorana ESC

Thanks to Malibu School’s Distinctive Schools MSSD Grant, staff at Koorana ESC were able to attend Assistive or Augmentative Communication professional learning sessions and have commenced using these skills in the classroom. Our very enthusiastic EA Brenda has been able to provide our non-verbal students with chat mats and communication books to aid communication in the classroom and at home. With our own MSSD Development Grant we are moving to extending our knowledge and use of AAC. We will be engaging with a speech therapist to up-skill staff on how AAC can support non-verbal students to access the curriculum and will be building staff capacity on the use of new software and iPad apps.

Marion Wright, Principal

East Victoria Park ESC and the circus troupe

Students from the East Victoria Park Education Support Centre and the East Victoria Park Primary School were delighted to be entertained by the Act Belong Commit Canning Vale Circus Troupe from Canning Vale College on Tuesday, August 19.

Students were amazed at the high level of performance with jugglers, acrobatics, clowns and amazing feats.

Sheena Paterson, Principal
school update (cont’d). . .

Food Sensations at Rockingham Beach ESC

Last week our students were treated to a Free Food Sensations workshop which promotes healthy and nutritious food to children of all ages. Schools with a registered School Breakfast Program with Foodbank WA are eligible for the school sessions which can be tailored to the needs of the students. Our children played the food pyramid game, looked at food labels and takeaway versus homemade foods. The children prepared their own meals to share with friends. Healthy dip, salad, wraps and deserts were on the menu and looked delicious. Besides enjoying the food they prepared, the children were given a recipe book and a banana to take home.

If you are registered with Foodbank, I highly recommend the workshops for children with special needs especially considering all the materials including food were provided by Foodbank. The workshops were interesting, relevant and accessible to all students.

Margaret Keen, Principal
Science at Kensington

Science is very popular with Kensington students and teachers. Experiments are exciting AND provide practice for reading, writing as well as social and language skills. Some science experiments are done indoors; other science exploration happens outdoors and even better is the science that takes place on excursions!

Judy Gardner
Principal

Maddington ESC performs for assembly

On Wednesday 10th September Maddington Education Support Centre held their assembly. They performed ROAR by Katy Perry and they were fantastic. We had many positive comments from both parents and staff and students in the main stream. Afterwards parents were invited to morning tea which was very successful and enjoyed by all.

Kathy Britton
Principal
school update (cont’d). . .

Wirrabirra ESC

Assembly
Wirrabirra ESC is on a high celebrating their successful assembly performance in week 6. There weren’t too many dry eyes in the house after our very talented students sang The World’s Greatest by R Kelly. As some of the lyrics in the song say

If anybody asks you who I am
Just stand up tall
Look ‘em in the face and say
I’m that star up in the sky
I’m that mountain peak up high
Hey, I made it
I’m the world’s greatest
And I’m that little bit of hope
When my back’s against the ropes
I can feel it
I’m the world’s greatest

This is exactly what our students did – they stood up tall, looked out to the audience and were shining stars on top of the mountain. They were the world’s greatest! As quoted to me by another staff member while they were singing “they are just pumping the song out and owning it.” It’s moments like these that confirm just how extraordinary our students are and how lucky we are to be able to work with them.

Crash Bang
Together with Therapy Focus we have implemented a sensory program named Crash Bang. Crash Bang is a sensory program which focuses on our internal senses in particular the Vestibular System and Proprioceptive system. The vestibular sense provides information related to movement and head position. It is important for development of balance, coordination, eye control, understanding of how objects are positioned in relation to one another (spatial relations), attention, being secure with movement and some aspects of language development. Proprioceptive system is Body awareness. This is the sense of knowing where your joints and muscles are in space. We depend on this information to know exactly where our body parts are and to plan our movements.

Our ‘Crash, bang, smash’ sessions focus on giving students the opportunity to access big movement and heavy work activities through a structured, safe environment.

Julie Dawson, Principal
Atwell College - Net Set Go

Net Set Go is an initiative that has been set up by Jessica Mckinnon a Physical Education staff member who runs the Netball program here at Atwell College. Over the last couple of years Jess has used this program to allow the year ten girls in the Netball Program to practice their coaching in an inclusive setting with the Education Support students three times a week. These sessions are attended by at least 20 students.

The coaches are taught key inclusive language and strategies. The year ten students work hard on their coaching skills, teaching students not only the basic skills of Netball but positive interaction in team games. These skills help each student work on their gross motor skills, coordination, balance as well as social interaction in a safe, inclusive environment. The student coaches use lots of positive reinforcement and encouragement on an individual and group level.

These lessons run for six weeks leading up to a carnival in week one of term four. This carnival is attended by two other high schools with round robin fixtures followed by a sausage sizzle.

This program promotes not only inclusivity within the school but the community. It is run very professionally with student’s building on their individual skills and individual targets are aligned their Individual Student Plans.

The students look forward to each Net Set Go lesson and enjoy being together. This is evident by their smiles and high participation rate as seen in the photos.

Ashley Miragliotta
Carson Street School's satellite class makes it to The Terrace.

Carson Street School’s Belmay satellite class recently were invited to design a banner to be displayed on St Georges Terrace as part of Local Government Week. The students attended a workshop at the Digital Hub in Victoria Park—a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their technology and design skills. The workshop consisted of a two hour session where each participant was given the opportunity to use new media in order to contribute to the design of the Town of Victoria Park’s banner. The students’ quest for innovation and uniqueness meant that all topics were up for display and relentlessly questioned. When introduced to Izzy (tech guru) and Alex (Neighbourhood Enrichment Officer from TVP), each student was eager to advise on possible concepts and colour selection for the banner design and this was truly an engaging experience.

On the left are the three final designs developed using the students’ illustrations that aim to reflect the vibrancy and excitement of the Town of Victoria Park. The colour palette is a mix of traditional organic colours from the land and brighter tones associated with youthful, forward thinking outlook. All elements of the design have been inspired and reference the participants’ experiences and observations within the Victoria Park region.

Oh! What a feeling!!

The students were so excited to see their banner up on St Georges Terrace as part of Local Government Week. We waited for a break in the traffic to take this memorable shot!

Our thanks go to Alex and Izzy from The Town of Victoria Park for making it such an educational and exciting experience!