With over 230 subscribers to our ESSN website and 118 on our Connect community members are starting to get more on board. There are e-mail distribution lists anybody can use - simply click on the options tab on your e-mail- (Outlook Web App via portal) select see all options then select groups from the new screen - it will show you wish groups you belong to. You can also try your address bar and simply type essn from the global address list. hayley.ding@education.wa.edu.au is the teacher representative and would love to hear from you with ideas or issues especially our graduate teachers. Debra.Brown@education.wa.edu.au is the corporate services representative and Sharlene.Cheetham@education.wa.edu.au is the non-teaching representative. They are not self-professed experts but have made themselves available to assist our members. Congratulations to Samantha Brassington from Kalamunda ESC who was the recipient of funding from the network to support professional learning. The $1,500 will help subsidise her trip to North Carolina to update her TEACCH qualifications. We look forward to hearing from her soon. Well done also to Ben New and Rose Linton for picking up our new thumb drives for simply subscribing to the ESSN Connect Community. I spotted, thanks to my registrar, a certain member in the recent Sunday Times with his Fremantle CBC all abilities team. One of our CCESC ex-students is a member of that team but the big fella in the middle of the photograph - wonder who it was? No prize for this one, but there is a prize for someone who reads the newsletter carefully and can answer a simple question. Remember that our students should have the chance to read the newsletter. Keep an eye out for the question!
In our school, CCESC Connect community staff often share tips or ideas to make our work better, easier or maybe just funnier. Some staff suggested that they may be of use to others so I have included my current top ten tips.

I wish all our network community a safe, relaxing and refreshing school holiday break and put out the challenge to other principals for their current top ten tips for our next issue.

Well done to our promotions team for getting the newsletter out especially to the fantastic Lisa Sinclair who makes it look wonderful.

TCOT

Andrew Wilson

1. For registrars put your waste basket on your desk and label it “IN”.
2. Principals if you have not much to do then walk around with a clipboard or stack of papers and frown - people will assume you are very busy.
3. Mobilemail.det.wa.edu.au is the server if you want to access e-mail or calendar on your portable device - you simply add or use exchange to your mail settings.
5. Never ruin an apology with an excuse.
6. Want some very cheap Microsoft or Adobe software then go to https://doe.onthehub.com/WebStore/Welcome.aspx
7. Food - eat it don't tweet it.
8. Mailbox often full on Outlook - click on File tab on top then mailbox clean-up. Also scroll down left on the home tab to folder list. Click and clean up your Sync Issues folder.
9. If someone offers you a breath mint, accept it.
10. You can't scare me - I teach special ed!
promotions group update . . .

The ESSN Newsletter is an important avenue for sharing and celebrating the great things that we are doing across our Education Support South Network. To encourage more people to visit our ESSN website and read each Term’s Newsletter the Promotions group are running a competition with a prize of a $25 Coles/Myer voucher to the lucky winner. All you have to do is:

1. Go to the website www.educationsupportsouthnetwork.com.au
2. Go to the Members tab and enter the password if you have previously subscribed. If not, why not subscribe now, the password is Essn2015.
3. Go to the News tab, select Newsletter Archives.
4. Select the latest newsletter.
5. While you enjoy reading what has been happening across the network, you will come across a hidden question. The answer is within the pages of the newsletter.
6. When you find the answer, send an email to essnnewslettercomp@gmail.com, with your name, school and the answer in the body of the email.
7. These will be printed and brought to the ESSN Leaders Meeting in the following term, where the Network Principal, Andrew Wilson will draw a winner randomly.
8. The winner will be notified by email and will be featured in the subsequent Newsletter.

ESSN Art Award—Winning Entries Term 4, 2014

This is the junior winner;
Ryan from Carson Street School

The Senior winner is
Jake, Yr 8 Leeming ESC
professional learning update . . .

Vice-Chancellor’s List

At Canning Vale Education Support Centre we are celebrating the success of our new graduate teacher, Dana Langridge for attaining membership of the Vice-Chancellor’s List at Curtain University. The Vice-Chancellor’s list comprises the top 1% of undergraduate students based on academic performance.

Dana has also received the Australian Association of Special Education Award, which is awarded to a Bachelor of Education student who has completed special education and shown great promise in this area. Well done Dana. We are very proud of you!

By Di Harper

Landsdale Farm Scholarship

Last year I was the winner of the Landsdale Farm School Scholarship 2014. I am so excited to be heading to North Carolina this school holidays to complete the TEACCH Autism Program training. The training provides theory and hands-on opportunities to both assess and teach children with ASD in a classroom setting. The foundation is an understanding of learning styles of individuals with ASD and how to use teaching strategies to capitalise on learning strengths. I am passionate about the use of Structured TEACCHing principles and how I am able to combine the research, strategies and methods into my classroom to create highly motivating academic lessons and programs.

Currently I am studying my Masters of Education (Special Needs) at ECU and I plan to further my knowledge and expertise with regards to ASD and TEACCH. I will be speaking at the AASE WAESPAA National Conference in August about my training. Later this year my class will be open for teachers to observe how I apply the TEACCH method and structure. This year has already been a busy one and with this additional training, I will not only be able to implement my knowledge within my classroom but throughout the networks.

Jessica Morris
MSSD update. . .

The following is the list of MSSD projects which are being led by schools in the ESSN. It is fantastic to see that our schools are being so proactive at producing materials and programs which reflect the needs of our staff and students. Which school’s students made an interactive robot?

In addition, many schools have been partners in many other projects led by schools outside the ESSN.

Classroom Behaviour Assessment and Intervention

At Carson Street School our project application, Managing Classroom Behaviour Software Tool, was accepted through the More Support for Students with Disabilities (MSSD) initiative. Our project to date has evolved into an e-learning package titled Classroom Behaviour Assessment and Intervention (CBAI). The e-learning package will involve two components of Online Learning Modules and a Monitoring/Tracking tool. These two components will be designed to complement each other and will provide a comprehensive e-learning package to assist staff in understanding and managing student behaviour in a school environment.

We are working very closely with Dolly Bhargava, Speech Pathologist, to develop the e-learning package which will reflect the fundamentals of positive behaviour support and the use of functional behaviour analysis principles. We are currently going through the research and development stages of our project and we have been working with 12 partner schools to gain valuable knowledge and feedback in regards to what is happening across schools within the area of managing student behaviour. From this information it has assisted to lead our project in a direction that will hopefully provide much needed support across areas of need identified by our partner schools.

We are looking forward to working through this process alongside fellow schools to develop a comprehensive and evidence based package to provide much needed support to educators in the area of behaviour management.

Carson Street School
Project Coordinator: Andrea Rees
andrea.blair@education.wa.edu.au
Positive Partnerships Team

A Positive partnership Team led by Teacher Development School Rockingham Beach ESC, has been established to assist public schools to build their understanding, skills and expertise when working with students with autism spectrum disorder and with the creation of an ‘autism friendly’ school culture. Positive Partnerships provides evidence based, face-to-face workshops and local network support groups that provided ongoing support via regular webinar sessions and telephone support.

Rockingham Beach Education Support Centre
Principal : Margaret Keen,  Project Coordinator : Kelly Barker
Margaret.Keen@education.wa.edu.au

Structuring your classroom for success – The TEACCH Approach

Our project was to develop a series of professional learning sessions designed to enable schools to understand the philosophy of TEACCH and TEACCH structures within a classroom environment and to learning about the principles of TEACCH. Each School had the time to plan and create visual structures for students with disability within their settings. Sam Brassington is the only fully trained TEACCH trainer within Western Australia. The program that she and her team developed uses a range of exemplar strategies to use TEACCH effectively in the classroom.

Kalamunda Education Support Centre
Principal : Jarna Wright
Project Coordinator : Sam Brassington
Jarna.Wright@education.wa.edu.au

The Autism Support Program

Canning Vale College has established a successful working model-the Autism Support Program (ASP) which supports local school students who have an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This effective model inclusive of evidenced based assessment, curriculum and reporting processes, supports the achievement of positive academic, behavioural, social and emotional outcomes for each student to maximize academic engagement and enhance opportunities and access for further education and / or employment upon leaving school.

Canning Vale College
Associate Principal : Merrilee Wright
Project Coordinator : Jodie Norwell
Merrilee.Wright@education.wa.edu.au

Reporting to Parents SEN Component

Atwell College used their knowledge and experience of the Reporting to Parents Online SEN planning and reporting tools to support primary and secondary schools through the Distinctive School Model. Atwell School delivered training workshops and local network support groups that provided ongoing support via regular webinar sessions and telephone support.

Atwell College
Associate Principal : Brendon Bleakley
Project Coordinator : Natasha Worth
Brendon.Bleakley@education.wa.edu.au

Positive Partnerships Team

A Positive partnership Team led by Teacher Development School Rockingham Beach ESC, has been established to assist public schools to build their understanding, skills and expertise when working with students with autism spectrum disorder and with the creation of an ‘autism friendly’ school culture. Positive Partnerships provides evidence based, face-to-face workshops for school staff providing detailed content in ways to foster the productive school-family relationships. The whole of school framework focuses on the relationship between school culture, school practices and policies, classroom teaching and learning.

Rockingham Beach Education Support Centre
Principal : Margaret Keen,  Project Coordinator : Kelly Barker
Margaret.Keen@education.wa.edu.au
WACE preliminary Courses
This project is led by staff experienced in the development and use of WACE Preliminary Courses and aims to support schools meet the requirements, as set by SCSA, to successfully implement the 2015 WACE Preliminary Course content in their own schools. The development of a range of comprehensive Preliminary Course professional development, teaching and learning programs, curriculum resources and ongoing collegial support is available.

Canning Vale College  ●  Associate Principal : Merrilee Wright  ●  Project Coordinator : Melissa Sarich
Merrilee.Wright@education.wa.edu.au

Using iPad App technology to access the Western Australian Curriculum: Mathematics
The project is a model for enabling students with disability to participate in the Western Australian Curriculum with tablet technology, working up to and within the achievement standards of Pre Primary to Year Two. The downloadable resource contains three resource books for pre primary to Year 2.

Cloverdale Education Support Centre
Principal : Linda Lane
Project Coordinators : Melinda Manship and Susan Moran

A systematic transition from Primary to Secondary school for students with Disability
Leeming Senior High School ESC is highly regarded for its systemic process to support students transitioning from primary to secondary schooling. An evidence based student centred approach to guide the student, families and schools through the transition process is being used with partner schools. Partner schools are supported to develop and implement consistent transition practices and processes to ensure a successful experience for students and their families transitioning to secondary school.

Leeming SHS ESC
Principal : Keran Davies
Project Coordinator : Hannah Piers
Keran.Davies@education.wa.edu.au

Alternative Augmentative Communication
Malibu School has developed a deep understanding of the learning and support needs of students who have complex communication needs. It is clear that the impact of having complex communication needs on a person’s participation and inclusion in education is immense and the use of evidence based AAC strategies is well documented and validated through sound research over the past 20 years. Malibu School’s project, AAC-A Voice for All, has focussed on enhancing the ability of partnership schools to better support students who have little or no speech, through innovative approaches to classroom instruction and educational outcomes.

Malibu School  ●  Principal : Noelene Mason  ●  Project Coordinator : Rod Macintosh
Nolene.Mason@education.wa.edu.au
school update. . .

Early Learning at Carson Street School

Welcome to Green Gum, Early Childhood 0-4 Years Programs: home of Conductive Education ‘Parent and Child’ groups and ‘My Time’.

Our new purpose-built building has everything you can possibly need to run early intervention programs. Programs currently run from Tuesday to Thursday every week led by specialised teachers including Teacher-Conductors.

Our children have been busy making the most of the fantastic space we now have. They have been cooking and dressing up in the home corner, socialising outside, playing with play dough and other craft activities, learning how to move around our huge classroom and around fun obstacle courses in our lovely outside area... and lots of other activities!

Parents are being provided with the opportunity to be up-skilled in ways of supporting their child’s learning whilst also networking with other parents and gaining knowledge of support services available to them in the community. We are all looking forward to taking part in fun activities and learning lots of new things in this fantastic new classroom!

by John Exeter, Principal
school update. . .
Cloverdale Education Support Centre:
'Working Together To Achieve'

This year Cloverdale ESC is embarking on a Change 2 process to develop a unified approach to consistency, quality and understanding across the board of “What is Cloverdale ESC?”

Three major themes form the basis of the Change 2 Project; being Literacy, Numeracy and Community Life Skills. Cloverdale ESC is focused on student achievements and meeting students’ physical, social, emotional and academic needs. A consistent teaching approach implemented by confident, knowledgeable, skilful staff based upon the needs of individual students is paramount.

By the end of the Change 2 process Cloverdale ESC will have identified best practice in numeracy and literacy, enabling whole school strategies to be identified and implemented in all classrooms. This will greatly assist students to move seamlessly from room to room as they move/progress through the school. The project is also focusing engagement with the community, promoting inclusivity and acceptance of all students with a disability.

Through this Change process Cloverdale ESC will be better equipped, with best practice, to build independent students with effective communication, which will enhance the social and life skills for all. Cloverdale ESC encourages community interaction outside of school. An education based on community support and latest knowledge will give each child confidence for the best future.

The vision is for enthusiastic, self-motivated students that are engaged in their education and in their wider community with all staff and students happy and achieving their goals together. The end goal is to enable every child to be an active participant within their school, home and community.

By Linda Lane, Principal