network principal . . .

Term 3 comes to an end and it is the “festival of the boot” for those amongst us old enough to remember the Triple J legends. We have the AFL, NRL and the Rugby World Cup all vying for our attention. Can you imagine the Dockers losing to the Eagles in the grand final - it is almost too exciting? Our ESSN footy tipping competition is too close to call but the winner will receive a $100 voucher to spend at the mighty North Melbourne Football Club merchandise store.

Our network is very busy at the moment collecting data about the provision of school psychology services to our schools. The initial feedback from principals is that basically all the time allocations their schools receive is spent on mandated reviews and psychologists have no time to provide the service we should receive in terms of interventions and counselling and case management. It is ironic that those students most in need appear to be receiving a reduced service in terms of allocations.

We have also been working on getting clarification on standard enrolments and local placements, and in particular the process to demonstrate high need for students with ASD. We find it very disappointing that Disability Resourcing branch seem to keep changing the rules for enrolments, that there is no agreed process for determining eligibility and that the timelines are very short. A group is working hard to address this issue.

Transition programs will be underway in most of our schools and we are planning to run a DSC/DOE workshop discussing and sharing best practice in person centred planning. We need to work with our families to educate them in the process so that when NDIS time comes around they understand the how and the whys. As a network we can do better at providing a seamless transition from early childhood to primary to secondary to post school. We have all the options in our schools, we just need to tell each other.

Term 4 promises some major network collaborations including the create.link.participate Market Day at Cannington Exhibition Centre on 19th November – come along and have a look at the enterprise products on offer, grab something to eat and get involved in interactive activities. Please e-mail angela.whittington@education.wa.edu.au or catherine.houden@education.wa.edu.au if you intend...
The ESSN secondary athletics carnival will be held November 5th at CVC. The weather will be brilliant that day and we wish all teams good luck – have fun and try your best. Leeming are the current title holders. Get onto Connect and take part in our Collaborations in the network discussion thread for more ideas for sporting events.


I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable term holiday - I will be staying at school waiting for my egg chairs to arrive.

TCOT

*Andrew Wilson*

**ESSN Art Awards . . .**

Congratulations to all of the schools who sent in entries for the Feelings theme for this term. There were so many and the decision was so close that the Promotions Group decided to award three $20 vouchers in each category this time.

The winners for the Junior Category were:

- Seth - Yr 3 from Cloverdale, Natalie—Yr 6 from Koorana and Ryan—Yr 3 from Maddington.

The winners for the Senior Category were:

- Isabella—Yr 8 CCESC, Maria B—Yr 8 Kenwick and Ben M from Leeming.

All of the entries were creative, imaginative and showed many ways for students to demonstrate their understanding of feelings. Well done!

All submissions will be on the ESSN website soon, be sure to check them out over the school holidays.

Term 4 flyer will be sent out today. The theme for Term 4 is Celebrations. We are looking forward to seeing the many different interpretations of the theme.
professional learning update . . .

Do you have teachers in your school who would like to further develop their skills in supporting students with:
- Dyslexia and other reading difficulties
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Self Regulation and Promoting Positive Behaviour

Online Training Australia offers courses in these 3 areas. Courses are run over a period of 8 – 10 weeks and consist of online training and 3 face to face sessions.

There are further opportunities for participants to become course tutors through further specialised support.

Course outcomes include:

**Dyslexia and Other Reading Difficulties**
- the causes, incidence and main characteristics of dyslexia
- some of the issues surrounding dyslexia and significant difficulties in reading
- how to carry out an individual reading assessment and monitor student progress
- the importance of a whole school approach to teaching reading and providing additional support
- a range of practical strategies to teach the critical aspects of reading
- how to individualise the class reading program
- how to support learning across the curriculum and use assistive technology effectively

**Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorders**

In many classrooms there are students who may:
- have difficulty communicating and relating to others
- have behaviours and interests that are restricted and repetitive
- appear distressed over changes in routine
- be overly sensitive to some sounds, movements, smells and tastes
- appear to be unaware of insensitive to the feelings of others

**Understanding and Managing Behaviour**
- what is meant by difficult behaviour
- how teacher practice can influence student behaviour
- the need to consistently develop students understanding of themselves and others
- the appropriate behaviours and skills that allow inclusion in learning
- positive classroom management practices that support the learning, behaviour management and inclusion of all students.

For more information please email: NCCD Team: NCCD.Disabilities@education.wa.edu.au. Phone: (08) 9264 4284
school update...  

Canning Vale College

Each year at Canning Vale College we hold the LEAP Open Day, to celebrate the success and achievements of the students in the education support program; LEAP. This year’s Open Day took place on Wednesday 9th September. The year 4 to 6 students from our local feeder school Canning Vale Primary Education Support Centre attended in the morning, taking part in a rotation of engaging hands on activities. The CVC students worked along-side the visitors and supported their participation by acting as guides and mentors for these sessions.

This was followed by a presentation of music videos of the students performing at their Music Rocks Concerts throughout the year, and then a series of tabloid sports games. The enthusiasm of all of the students was great to see.

A shared sausage sizzle with jelly cups was a fitting way to end the day with everyone leaving with a show-bag and a smile.

The more formal part of the Open Day was in the afternoon, where family, friends, and the community were invited to celebrate the LEAP program through a walk-about of classrooms and various displays showcasing the different curriculum programs that we deliver. Employers who support our workplace learning students were acknowledged and presented with Certificates, as were our students who had achieved their Transition Challenge Certification from ASDAN.

Parents also took advantage of the opportunity to speak with Local Area Coordinators from Disability Services and representatives from a range of Disability Service Providers as they enjoyed a light afternoon tea prepared by the students.

Melissa Sarich, 
Deputy Principal
school update (cont’d). . .

Coolbellup Community Art Project - “Our Place”

The students from Coolbellup Learning Centre have been helping to create a wonderful art work based on the designs of Sally Morgan, an indigenous artist. The project was the idea of Mrs Felicity Palmiero, the Art Teacher at Coolbellup Community School and was funded by a grant from PALS (Partnership Acceptance Learning Sharing). The art work involves all students across both school campuses and the aim was to involve indigenous parents working one to one with students. The Art Work has an ocean theme and is a mixture of paint and mosaics and is both visual and tactile. The Learning Centre students had the opportunity to paint different sea creatures and glue on stones and mosaics. The wall that is being decorated is directly outside our Centre for the students to enjoy.

Claire Gardner
school update... 

East Victoria Park Education Support Centre – Speech Program

In Term 3, the East Victoria Park Education Support Centre commenced a speech and language Word Fun program in conjunction with KZ Speech.

The Word Fun program runs each Wednesday morning for 3 hours with the support of Courtney Rampin (Speech Pathologist) from KZ Speech, Teachers and Education Assistants from the Education Support Centre and speech pathology students. This program provides students with an intensive speech and language experience.

The Word Fun Program Theme Packages are a series of visually based language learning tasks. The packages integrate the use of symbol supported language into a wide range of expressive and receptive language learning tasks. The format of the tasks remains constant, providing a structured and familiar learning context. The content within the packages changes with each package relevant to the theme of the package. The language learning targets of the package are also carefully linked to developmental milestones.

The children involved in the Word Fun Program have been producing some fantastic work and have been able to continue using the skills they developed from the program into other areas of their learning.

Both KZ Speech and East Victoria Park Education Support Centre staff are very excited by the implementation of the Word Fun Program and the corresponding gains that the children have made to date. The program will continue in term 4.

Sheena Patterson, Principal
Useful resources . . .

Getting Started! A useful number of resources freely available

Have you visited the Carson Street School web site and looked at some of the downloads freely available to families and friends of the school? Over the years, in collaboration with Dolly Bhargava, School for Parents have, using funding from the Non-government Centre Support organisation, produced a number of resources under the title of Getting Started!!!. These include:

1. Using Visual Systems to Promote Communication
2. Using Visual Systems to Promote Play
5. Rainbow of Emotions and Emotional Management.
6. Balanced Timetable: the Key to Student Engagement.

All of these can be freely downloaded at http://www.carsonst.wa.edu.au/parent-info/getting-started-books/

I thought I would share this free online book library with you. Click on the Discover Our Books icon and then you will be taken to the bookshelf. It has the age range on the bottom so that will give you an idea of the level. If you click on the four arrow icon you can enlarge the book to fit your screen size.

http://wegivebooks.com/

Enjoy!

Alicia Bani
Literacy Learning Coordinator, Carson Street School

Minister’s Visit

The Minister for Education Mr Peter Collier visited the school on August 5th and was given a tour of a number of our programs. He was very interested in how being an Independent Public School had changed the way we operated and the benefits of the Student Centred Funding model which was introduced this year.
Kensington’s Tip for a Top Excursion... 

Oral Health Centre of WA

17 Monash Avenue, Nedlands WA 6008

1. Central location
2. Easy to link to the Curriculum and Useful Skills of Daily Living
3. Very hands on
4. Lots of 1-1 support given by dental students
5. Activities included mixing and using Plaster of Paris
6. FREE!
7. Students given healthy Goody Bags to take home
Interesting apps

An amazing app for easily creating, sharing and printing educational social stories, visual schedules and beautiful memories.

Bugs and Numbers covers a wide range of math skills -- spanning preschool through early elementary -- all in one educational app.

Cause and Effect Sensory Light Box uses abstract animation and sound to introduce basic touch skills and awareness.

Cause and Effect Sensory Sound Box is a developmental touch skills app.

Motion Math: Hungry Fish Pro
A fun addition and subtraction game for iPad, iPhone and iPod touch.

One of the hardest things with using the iPad in the classroom is finding the time to go through all of the apps in the iTunes Store listed under the education banner. Here are some suggestions from Ann Gray (EA at Carson Street School) which have proved very educational and motivating.