Education Support South Network News

Term 2, 2016
network principal . . .
The end of another term, reports are done and the winter holiday break beckons. For many of our students these holidays are often spent indoors with little to do. We should keep that in mind when we return to school.

Don’t forget the annual ESSN conferences are held the first day of term 3 this year. There will be 6 conferences in total and all the details including venues and agendas are in the ESSN Connect library. Please ensure you know where you are meant to be for the day and attend the sessions you were allocated. I would like to acknowledge all the members of the Professional Learning Group and their teams for organising the day and hope everything goes well.

The School Leaders Group recently endorsed Rachael Jones from Cannington Community ESC as the project officer for our Special Education Pedagogy project. We are still fine tuning aspects of the project, but we will be looking for staff to consider what does effective teaching in a special education context look like? What is evidenced-based practice in our sector? We want to produce videoed illustrations of practice for our members to share and use to reflect upon their own work. Stay tuned for further details.

Remember that if you would like to apply for funds for professional learning or action research that would benefit others in the network, then you simply log in to the members’ section of the webpage and there is a section on applying for funds. See your principal if you have forgotten the password!

The School Leaders Group is collecting information about the school psychology service and the use of school funds for extra psychology and therapy services.
what’s been going on at Armadale ESC . . .

Term 1 2016

YOGA—has been introduced into the timetable this term by Ms Jayde Wishart and Ms Kelly Brown. This new and exciting class will be used to exercise the students’ minds, bodies and breathing by developing strength in their bodies and peace in their minds. Yoga is an ancient science that has proven to have a positive effect on bodily systems and make young adults feel great.

DRUMBEAT— is run by one of our education assistants, Ms Marie Candeloro who is an expert drummer of 3 years. The students learn how to drum rhythms and maintain a beat. Drumming games are incorporated into the lesson which improves their leadership and social skills and as a result helps their self-esteem.

SURFING—As a part of Bushranger Cadets for Term 1, our students were able to go to Trigg Beach and participate in surfing lessons. All students thrived as they got to challenge themselves physically. Students were completing Module 6 – Students identify the needs for environmental management, and understand the importance of looking after the environment.

NATUREPLAY—We were successful in receiving a grant of $10,000 from the Disability Foundation for a Nature Play playground. Construction started in the April holiday break and we are expecting completion by week 4 term 2.

WATCH THIS SPACE!!

The NDIS will prove to be a challenge for us with parent/caregivers accessing their own services often during school time. Generally principals are reporting that the vast majority of allocated school psychologist time is spent on testing for disability resourcing. Our students are amongst the most vulnerable and yet we receive little or no service in terms of program delivery.

The ESSN now has a Facebook page, and if this is your preferred method of communication get on board and as they say - “like us”. We want stories from the field and are happy to publish them. We have this newsletter, our Connect Community, our Website and now Facebook - please let us know what you and your school are doing.

Got a question, have an answer, need a resource or want to dispose of an asset - use our communication tools.

Enjoy your holiday break, and I hope you learn something at conference.

Andrew Wilson
school update. . .

WA Day at Castlereagh.

We celebrated WA Day a little early at Castlereagh this year – we had an activity day on Thursday the 2nd (and a SDD on Friday 3rd!).

Students were encouraged to dress up, and we invited students from nearby Burrendah Primary School to join our day of fun.

Each class had an activity to run which included the gumboot toss, boomerang making, a flora & fauna colouring station, ten pin bowling, gold panning in the sand pit, and of course the toasting of marshmallows over the fire pit – with high safety and security!

We also had a visit from Old MacDonald's Farm – always a big hit!

For lunch we had a sausage sizzle, baked potatoes and Damper (or Damper as some like to call it!).

Our day ended with a costume parade, with two winners receiving a cowboy hat each.

Perhaps the most amazing thing that happened on this day was what happened an hour or so after the event when we received 5 handmade thank you cards from the students at Burrendah Primary. The cards were filled with special messages, thank you notes and drawings. The comments were tear jerking and meant so much to all of us. My favourite was from Jack and Jacob...

"Thank you for inviting us to your wonderful school.
We appreciate having the opportunity to bond with you and your kids"

Here are some photos of the day.

Pauline Winrow, Principal
school update (cont’d). . .

Cannington Community Education Support Centre—term 2 update

We have had a great term 2 with lots of fantastic activities and lots of learning taking place. We have had our senior school camp in Albany, a brand new bus shelter built and a new school sign with TV erected. Our garden shed is also being extended into a full on working design and technology shed.

Staff and students have been working very hard to be ready for our school market day where we invite local primary school students to come and spend a penny. All the products are made by our students. We will be having the ESSN Market Day in term 4 and encourage everybody to get on board.

Classes throughout the school ran the Biggest Morning tea and raised over $400 for the cancer council. It was great morning with most of the cooking done by the classes, not all of it was even healthy!

Harmony Day was another highlight this term. Students and staff in both schools participate in cultural activities, attend an assembly and then families, and year groups prepare food for a shared lunch.

Term 2 was also exciting in terms of sport, we had the athletic carnival which saw students participating in competitions such shot put, discus, running races, long jump and high jump.

A few weeks later students enjoyed a visit from two practicing high flying players from the West Coast Eagles, Chris Masten and Brad Sheppard. The players conducted a workshop at recess helping students perfect their footy skills.

We had two teams attend the annual metro interschool basketball competition held in Lesmurdie. The students loved the competition and both our teams were undefeated on the day. It was a successful day for all.

In Academy this term it has been exciting to see students learn new skills and get involved in interest based programs such as a skateboarding workshop, guitar lessons, pottery, cooking workshops and basketball games. The students have worked very hard in this action packed Term 2.
school update. . .

Carson Street School.

It’s 21 years at Belmay!

This year we celebrated 21 years of the Satellite Class at Belmay Primary School. There have been many staff members from Carson Street School who have had the pleasure of working in this class with a large number of chosen students who have graduated onto High School. We couldn’t have picked a better School to run our Inclusive Educational Program. Belmay Staff and students have welcomed our presence at their school. Last year the Principal, Mrs Gillett, offered us a new classroom which was spacious, and thanks to Carson Street who furnished the class thus allowing us to create a wonderful learning environment for our students.

by John Exeter

Morning Tea for all the staff at Belmay. Mrs Gillett helped to cut the cake!

Our weekly visit to the Library

Mrs Imran scans our weekly borrowed books.

Riley and his friends enjoy playing Basketball

During Recess, football is a favourite game to play!
school update (cont’d). . .

Kensington and Clontarf

On June 14 a group of Year 10 Clontarf students joined a group of Kensington students for some sporting activities before a shared BBQ lunch. Next term we hope to have another day of shared activities, with an emphasis on music. Thanks Ms O & Mr C for organising such a great event!!

By Judy Gardner
**school update. . .**

**Music Rocks- Atwell College**

Music Rocks is a specialist program that travels to Schools across WA. Their aim is to bring music to students who wouldn’t have the opportunity to play in a band or experiment with different instruments.

Atwell College is lucky enough to have Music Rocks visit every Tuesday. As part of the students’ curriculum they visit the Atwell College Performing Arts Centre for fun music sessions with Dean. All of the staff and students have lots of fun, students learn how to play instruments and sing songs.

Each group has chosen two songs to learn to play and sing. They are currently practicing hard for the concert in term 3 where they will play for parents, staff and special guests.

*Brendon Bleakely, Associate Principal, Atwell College*
school update (cont’d)... 

Landsdale Farm School Visit

On Thursday 12th May students from pre primary to year 6 visited Landsdale Farm School. The children had a fabulous day interacting and learning about the farm animals, enjoyed billy tea and damper and bumped around the farm on a tractor ride. The playground is always very popular with children of all ages and they delighted in searching for the different gnomes in the sensory garden beds. The children had a longer than usual school day arriving back at school in the big bus at 5.00pm, many having slept most of the way home.

Our senior students stayed overnight in the cottages and enjoyed an evening sing along by the fire complete with toasted marshmallows and a game of Spotto with Mr Sleigh. Mr New was the disco DJ with some fancy moves that got all the children dancing. The night was complete with the showing of the new Chipmunk movie before the tired but happy children hit the bunk beds. In the morning the children fed the farm animals and got to meet and bottle feed the newborn baby goat. There was time to play on the equipment and visit the resource centre to learn more about the animals on the farm before lunch at the café and heading back to school in the school bus driven by Mr New.

By Margaret Keen
ESSN Cricket Cup

The ESSN Cricket Cup was held at Courtside in Canning Vale on Tuesday 21st June. Teams from Gwynne Park ESC, Kenwick School, Maddington ESC and Coolbellup LC participated in the Milo T20 Blast modified rules for children aged 8 – 12. Two games were played simultaneously with the teams then rotating to challenge other schools.

Turns were taken to field and bat. Balls were thrown, and hit – and magnificently caught with all players demonstrating enthusiasm, school spirit and good sportsmanship. Energy and engagement was high with the kids responding well to the encouragement of the supporters.

At the conclusion of the day, GPESC successfully retained the coveted Cup for another year. It appears weekly practice may have paid off!

Thank you to the WACA development team headed by Anton Turco who were also assisted by Ben Jacobsen and the students at SEDA (a provider of hands-on education who partner with sport partners) from the WACA and the Perth Scorchers. Thanks also to the Courtside Multisport for providing the fully resourced venue. With the help of so many celebrated cricketers, our kids had every opportunity to learn and show off their new skills.

Congratulations to Henry Johnston (Gwynne Park ESC) for organising the interschool competition and to all of the staff / carers who supported every child to get the most from the day. An enjoyable and uplifting day which celebrates our collaboration as members in the Ed Support Network.

by Merrilee Wright