FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Carers and Community members,

SMS MESSAGING FOR ABSENCES

Settlers Primary School has implemented a mobile phone messaging system to communicate student unexplained absences to parents/guardians. This communication system uses Short Messaging Service (SMS) and will send text messages to parent/guardian mobile phones when your child is absent from school (in the instance that an explanation has not already been provided).

At approximately 10.30am, each morning of a school day, our computer system will automatically send parents a message similar to:

SPS records show Frank Smart is absent Mon 23/03/2014. Pls reply SMS or call 9523 2335, stu name/reason/abs date.

SMS is designed to advise parents that according to school records, the student is absent and no reason has been provided to the school. It is a legal requirement that parents contact the school regarding any student absences or reasons for lateness. If an explanation for the absence has been provided prior to 10.30am each morning, then parents will not receive an SMS.

Parents need to be aware that this system is an additional absence follow up service only. There will be times when parents may not receive a text message due to technical issues. In cases where you are concerned about your child’s attendance, please contact the school directly on 9523 2335.

Occasionally the use of SMS communications is extended to wider uses such as unexpected school closures or a reminder about a school event.

We use SMS communication to parents to assist in reducing the number of unexplained student absences and help inform the school and parents as to the whereabouts of every student. The SMS strategy is being used across many WA schools as a successful initiative to improve communication to parents and to encourage students to take responsibility for their attendance at school.

It is important that up to date phone contact details are recorded for each child in order to receive the SMS messages.

Further enquiries should be directed to the school office on 9523 2335.

2015 KINDERGARTEN AND PRE PRIMARY APPLICATIONS

Thank you to the families who have completed applications for enrolment for 2015. The school is currently processing these applications. Parents can expect to hear from us very soon with an outcome. We have been waiting on the appointment of the new Principal at the Smirk Road school so that we can co-ordinate this process with him/her. I am pleased to advise that a recommended applicant has been named and that Mr Gary Crocetta has taken up his new appointment as of Monday.

At this stage we look like we will only be offering 11 hours of Kindergarten for 2015 rather than the 15 hours that has been available over the past few years. This equates to two full days per week rather than the 2.5 currently available. The additional hours have previously been funded by the Federal Government and the program concludes at the end of this year. At this time, the State Government has not indicated that they will fill the shortfall created. Further enrolment details, including times, will be included as part of the acceptance package posted to students. I will advise of further developments in this regard as they come to hand.

Stephen Yates
PRINCIPAL
CHILDREN ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

Parents are reminded that students are asked to time their arrival at school so as not to arrive before 8.30am as supervision before this time cannot be guaranteed. We also ask that students make their way home promptly after school to ensure they do not spend extended time unsupervised in between being dismissed and arriving home. Any children arriving before 8.30am are required to wait in the area outside D Block until 8.30am when teachers will allow access to classrooms to prepare for the day. Sports and playground equipment is not permitted to be used before and after school.

COLLECTING STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL

Parents collecting students from school during instruction hours for any reason are asked to first visit the school office so that a pass can be completed. In order to further ensure the safety of students we will be requesting some form of identification before the pass is issued. This will allow us to ensure that appropriate adults are collecting children from school. If parents require a friend or relative to collect any child on their behalf, a signed note to this effect would be appreciated.

INSURANCE

The Department of Education does not carry insurance for students or their possessions both at school and when participating in educational activities away from the school site (camps involving an overnight stay are an exception). It is the responsibility of parents or carers to ensure that their children are adequately covered by insurance for accidents that are not caused through negligence on the part of an employee of the Department.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Two Year 6 students from our school were recently selected to represent Western Australia in the 2014 State Touch Football Team. Congratulations to Tjay (D5) and Bobby (D7) on their outstanding achievement. Both boys have the support of the entire Settlers community as they head off to the National Schools Championship in Victoria later this year.

MERIT CERTIFICATES

Junior Assembly– 1st August 2014

A Block - Darci W, Ryder B, Taiven D, Maddison D, Ella G, Alex M, Tayla C, Ryley B, Maisie L.


C Block - Franco D, Gian L, Eva N, Ellie M, Logan C, Ezekiel C, Tayah J.

E Block - Ronin J, Xander L, Makay-lei M, Max B, Rhys K, Caitlyn W.

HEALTH - E5      SCIENCE- B5

Senior Assembly– 8th August 2014

C BLOCK - Latysha G, Ellie B, Connor R, Bailey M.


HEALTH - F1      LIBRARY- C3      PHYS ED- F6

NEXT JUNIOR ASSEMBLY - Friday 15th August 2014, C1, Year 3 Mrs Preedy

NEXT SENIOR ASSEMBLY - Friday 22nd August 2014, D7, Year 6/7 Mrs Hardy/Mrs Blomfield
MOBILE PHONES, PAGERS, RADIOS & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

School Policy relating to the above was developed in 2012 and a copy of the policy is included on our school web site. Increasing numbers of students are now gaining access to mobile phones for a number of reasons and this policy has been designed in response to this trend. Mobile phones have not been banned from school, however a number of procedures have been put in place to manage their impact on the learning program and other students, including a ban on their use whilst at school. The policy details these procedures clearly.

Likewise, more students are bringing electronic devices to school that disrupt the classroom program for students and teachers. Items of this nature are banned from school unless specific permission is granted to the contrary.

PARENT OPEN NIGHT – 17th September 2014

Please take the time to mark your calendars for our annual Parent Open Night which has been scheduled for Wednesday 17th September from 4.00 – 5.30pm.

We always have fantastic community attendance at the Open Night which gives our students the opportunity to share their learning and their achievements with family members.

Teachers will be available on the night to assist your child to share their progress with you. If you would like to discuss your child’s progress in more depth with their teacher, please make an appointment time with the teacher concerned.

NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL IN BALDIVIS—SMIRK ROAD

As many of you are aware a new primary school is being built on Smirk Road and commence for the 2015 school year, catering for students from kindergarten through to year six.

At this stage you can find out more about us by searching for Smirk Road Primary School on Facebook. https://www.facebook.com/pages/Smirk-Road-Primary-School/255438117988554

Gary Crocetta
Principal
'Smirk Road' Primary School
Mobile: 0447 770 843

VACSWIM OCTOBER HOLIDAY SWIMMING PROGRAMS

Swimming pools and beaches are part of our Western Australian lifestyle. It is important for every child to learn to swim properly and develop essential water safety skills. VacSwim’s October school holiday swimming program is conducted by qualified instructors who teach children skills to be confident swimmers and safe in the water.

For further information and how to enrol, please visit education.wa.edu.au/swimming.

Enrol online now at education.wa.edu.au/swimming
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Bookclub is in need of some interested parents who have some spare time to help keep this service running. Our lovely volunteers are unable to continue next year and would like some new faces to take over and are happy to teach them the ropes for the remainder of this year.

13th August 2014

Is your child starting or changing schools in 2015 and are you seeking Transport Assistance on an ‘Orange’ school bus?

In 2015 all Year 7 students will be attending high school as secondary students. This will have a substantial impact on the ‘Orange’ school bus network and will require significant planning. It is very important that Public Transport Authority establishes the number of eligible students requiring Transport Assistance.

The Public Transport Authority is requesting parents that have children starting or changing schools in 2015 and requiring bus travel to complete an online application for Transport Assistance at www.schoolbuses.wa.gov.au by no later than 31 August 2014 for travel in 2015.

Please be aware; Transport Assistance is offered to eligible families in two forms, either by ‘Orange’ school bus or a Conveyance Allowance paid to parents to drive their children to and from school. The type of Transport Assistance provided to a family depends on many factors including, location and bus availability.

If your child is currently travelling on an ‘Orange’ school bus and they are not changing schools next year, there is no need to reapply or contact us as your transport arrangements as a rule will remain the same.

If you have any further questions please phone 9326 2625 or email schoolbus@pta.wa.gov.au
Science Week is just around the corner and every student at Settlers Primary will be participating in Tabloid Science activities with their block one day in Week 5.

I am seeking parent helpers to assist with all the fun science activities during Science Week. Each block is participating on a different day during the week. The timetable is below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session:</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AM: 8:50 – 10:50</td>
<td>F Block Yr 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A Block</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM: 1:00 – 3:00</td>
<td>D Block</td>
<td>C Block Yr 3</td>
<td>B Block</td>
<td>E Block</td>
<td>C/F Block Yr 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you can help out please see your child’s classroom teacher or Miss Beahan in the Science Room. There is a sign up sheet on the window of the Science Room. You do not need to be a science wiz to help out and you will be guaranteed to have lots of fun! I will send out a note to parent helpers with more information the week before Science Week.

As part of our Science Week Tabloid Carnival we are asking all parents / caregivers to help out if they can by contributing any of the following resources to the school:

- Toy cars (or toys that can roll)
- Balloons
- Bi-carb soda
- Vinegar
- Bubble-blowing hoops
- Spaghetti
- Marshmallows
- Batteries (especially D Batteries)
- Lemons
- Ice-cream containers
- Marbles
- Milo/coffee tins with lids
- Buckets
- Alfoil
- Golf Balls
- Ping Pong balls
- One-minute sand timers
- Old rubber balls ie tennis balls, bouncy balls

Having a vast array of resources will enable us to promote fun and exciting science lessons in the school where all children will be thrilled to have a go at science. The aim is to make ‘SCIENCE FUN’ in our school.

If you are able to help out by donating any of these items please bring them to the Science Room.

Thanking you kindly
Sarah Beahan (Science Specialist Teacher)
This event has been brought to you by the Settlers Primary School P&C

Father’s Day Stall

Lots of fantastic gifts to celebrate the special day!

26th, 27th, 28th and 29th August

All Classes will have the opportunity to visit and purchase from the stall on one of these days. Final stock sales will occur on Friday the 29th August before and after school only.

A timetable will be distributed to families closer to the date.

All gifts range between $2 and $10

Key Rings

Back Scratchers

Necklaces & Bracelets

Hats

Car Cleaning Kits

Frisbees

Cooler Bags

Mugs

Photo Frames

Calculators

Pens

Other items include: cards, stress balls, torches, wrist bands, drink bottles, mouse pads, badges, air fresheneres.
Help Kids Discover a Treasure of Books by Volunteering at Our Book Fair

We are having a Book Fair on the 3rd – 5th September
8.30-9.00am; 1.15-1.45pm; 3-3.30pm
Something very exciting is about to happen, we will be hosting a Scholastic book Fair to encourage the fun of reading and earn some great books for our school, and we need HELP!!

Due to the high number of students in our school this year we are going to need as many volunteers as possible for the Book Fair. Help is needed with receipting monies, security, and assisting students with their wish lists.

If I don’t have enough volunteers, I may have to cancel the Fair. Please help out so this doesn’t happen.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this event before and/or after school, just pop in in and put your name down.

Thank You
Lynn Walker
Library Officer
Have a go Teeball Days

- 5 years old and up
- No experience necessary
- Every child bats
- Every child fields

A great sport for both Girls and Boys

31st August @ Lark Hill Sports Complex
9am - 12pm

To register contact: Sharon
0405 743 721

Registrations for the 2014/2015 season available on the day or registration day 6th September

visit us on Facebook

www.secret-harbour-teeball.org.au
COME AND TRY DIAMOND SPORTS
WITH THE ROCKINGHAM RAMS

WIN YOUR PRIMARY SCHOOL
A $500 DIAMOND SPORTS PACK

The Rockingham Rams Baseball Club invites all boys and girls aged 7+ years to come down to the park and try Baseball.

The Primary School who has the most attendances to the “Come and Try” Days will win a Diamond Sports Pack to the value of $500.

A range of skills and drills of hitting, catching, throwing and base running will be run by our accredited coaches.

When: Saturday 16th August & Sunday 24th August 2014
What Time: 9.00am to 12.00pm
Where: HOURGLASS RESERVE, Gascoyne Way Cooloongup
How Much: FREE

SEASON JUNIOR COMPETITIONS AVAILABLE

| Teeball Inters & Seniors | (8 to 13 years of age) | 8.00am Saturdays |
| Teeball Juniors & PeeWees | (4 to 7 years of age) | 9.30am Saturdays |
| Machine Pitch Baseball | (7 to 10 years of age) | 4.30pm Fridays |
| Little League Minor | (8 to 11 years of age) | 10.00am Saturdays |
| Little League Major | (9 to 12 years of age) | 10.00am Saturdays |
| Junior League 70 | (11 to 13 years of age) | 1.00pm Saturdays |
| Junior League 80 | (12 to 15 years of age) | 1.00pm Saturdays |

For more information contact:
Troy 0417 938 149 E: tntflynn@aapt.net.au
Debbie 0419 948 670 E: redman44@bigpond.com

Visit our Website www.rockingham.baseball.com.au
BUNK PUPPETS PRESENT

SHAMP JUICE

A SHADOW PUPPET MENAGERIE WITH A JAW-DROPPING 3D FINALE!

SHADOW PUPPETS IN 3D

TOTAL THEATRE AWARD WINNER 2011
EDINBURGH

‘ONE OF THE GREATEST INNOVATIONS IN SHADOW PUPPETRY’ - THE SCOTSMAN

‘A MUST SEE FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS ALIKE’ - THEATRE GUIDE LONDON

WWW.BUNKPUPPETS.COM  BUNK PUPPETS

Monday 25th August @ 2pm & 6pm

Adult $22  Concession $20  Child [2-13yrs] $18

Recommended for 7yrs +

BOOKINGS on 9467 7118 or www.koorliny.com.au