



Newsletter 1, Term 3 31st July 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

We are still not quite back to normal operations this term, as the delay with the introduction of Phase 5 of the WA Government's Recovery Plan means we still need to observe physical distance restrictions for adults. Whilst there is no restriction for children, any activity involving parents will be affected.

Assembly Next Week: Therefore, our next assembly scheduled for Friday August 7th will be in two halves:

Pre-primary to Year 2 at 8.50am, followed by Years 3 to 6 at 9.30am. Parents who attend are asked to observe the requirement of one person per two square metres. We will space out the chairs to enable this.

Library Opening: Although we won't be holding an official library opening, we do want to show off the new-look library to those who have not yet seen it. So on Friday August 7th the library will be open to any visitors who may like to visit there after the completion of each assembly, from 9.20 – 9.50 am and 9.50 – 10.20am. Tea, coffee and morning tea will be provided.

Year 6 Camp Update – Christmas in July Raffle and Sponsorship

All our Year 6s have their fingers crossed that there will not be a resurgence of the Coronavirus in WA, and their camp to Albany in week 9 will proceed. Payments are coming in from parents, thank you. The Year 6 Raffle is under way and will be drawn on Friday August 7th at the assembly. There are some wonderful prizes.

Those parents who participate in the selling of raffle tickets will benefit from the subsidy, while others have opted not to do so.

We know that there will be a few families who will not be able to afford the cost of the camp, and their children may not attend due to genuine financial hardship. There may be some generous people or parties out there who would be willing to contribute some money toward subsidising the cost of camp for these students, to bring the cost down to a manageable amount. If you or someone you know is willing to help, please contact me personally on 9076 2800 or email Timothy.Baker@education.wa.edu.au . This can be kept anonymous and confidential.

New Lunch Time Break: You will no doubt be aware that the lunch break has been set back by an hour this term, with lunch time now being 1.15 – 1.50pm. The feedback so far has been overwhelmingly positive, from students and staff, and especially our canteen manager Addie who has more time to prepare the lunches. It seems the students have worked out how to manage the longer session between recess and lunch (two hours), with help from their parents.



PBIS Top Behaviour Winners having lunch with the Principal

Change to Finish Time – All Years the Same 3.00pm: Earlier this year, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we changed our daily finish time so that Kindergarten and Pre-primary finished a little earlier at 2.50pm. This was done to benefit families with children in K or P and Years 1 to 6. This has meant that some parents now need to wait longer to pick up their children, so we are changing the finish time for K and P back to 3.00pm, starting from next week on Monday. Those who may have a special reason and need to pick up children from K or P a little earlier at 2.50pm can do so, please arrange this with the class teacher.

SMS Messaging Service for Attendance: Last week we introduced the new SMS service for absentees. This will make things much easier for the school and parents in communicating and managing absentees. The information about this was included in last week's News Update email.

School Development Day – Friday August 21st: Parents are reminded that we have a School Development Day scheduled for Friday August 21st, the same day as other public schools in Esperance. Students do not attend on this day, and staff will be engaged in a professional learning program linked to our Business Plan.

Parking at Early Years

I have been hearing of some issues with the carpark at our Early Years centre. Some motorists are finding it very difficult to safely exit from the rear parking area back into the lane to come around and exit the carpark, due to a few cars being parked along the kerb of the entrance lane. I popped down there on Monday and saw this for myself. Those in larger vehicles have a real squeeze trying to get around the corner without hitting the cars parked there. This part of the roadway is a No Standing zone, and I believe in the past cars parked there have been issued with a fine. I would prefer not to take this course of action, and ask everyone to observe the rules and signs. There are always plenty of empty bays in the two parking areas.



Jeans for Genes Day – Thursday August 6th

Our school will be observing this day next Thursday. Jeans for Genes day is to raise funds for, and awareness of, children's medical research. Children are allowed to wear denim on this day and pay a gold coin towards this worthy cause. Denim is not allowed in WA schools under the Dept of Education's Dress Code policy.

Mr Baker
Principal

Deputy's Desk - Curriculum

Talk For Writing Professional Learning



On Monday and Tuesday of this week, 8 of our staff members attended the Talk for Writing professional learning at Scaddan Primary School. This engaging writing program provides an effective and supportive approach for the development of students' writing. A strong focus on oral language forms the foundation of

this program as this has been proven through research to assist students in the development of writing. Students practise orally telling stories and non-fiction texts, combined with lessons involving short burst writing that focus on grammar and literacy skills. Students then make changes to these stories/texts (innovate) before using the knowledge and skills they have been learning to write their own stories independently.

Talk for Writing can be used in conjunction with the Brightpath Writing Assessment program that we use currently at the school, providing the tools to teach the identified teaching points from the assessment.

Our staff members were so inspired by the program, they have made the recommendation that we use this as a whole school approach. We are currently negotiating Professional Learning for the remaining teachers to also learn about Talk for Writing. This program is currently being implemented, or beginning to be implemented, across a large number of schools in our local network. We look forward to seeing the implementation of this program here at Castletown Primary School.

Students Leaders Morning at OLSOTS Primary School

On Wednesday, 19th August, our Student Councillors have been invited to a Leadership morning at OLSOTS Primary School. The aims of the excursion are focusing on acquiring team building skills, collaborating, improving leadership skills, making new friends and discussing initiatives at OLSOTS. Castletown Primary School held the first leadership morning back in Term 1, and the second term meeting had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. It is great that the students are now able to meet up once again to share their experiences as leaders of the school.

Julie Fetherston
Deputy Principal

Deputy's Desk - Student Services

Hello Castletown Community

Our kids have kicked off Term 3 with lots of smiles and fun!

So far this year we have 13 288 moments of positive behaviour that have been recognised by our staff and awarded a Behaviour Point. Students have used their Behaviour Points to redeem 302 items from their classroom stores so far this year. Some of my favourite items are –

- Get the teacher's chair for a day
- Ring the school siren
- Sit next to a friend of your choice for the day
- Versus Mr Weckert in a game challenge

Staff are looking for students who are demonstrating our Castletown Behaviour Expectations –

- Be a Learner
- Be Friendly
- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Resilient

This term we will be zoning right in on these expectations with our students and building a stronger understanding of what it looks like to behave in these ways.

It would be great to talk with your children about their understanding of these expectations as we want a school full of kids who really get what it means to show these values.



David McLaren
Deputy Principal

RIBIT Readers

Congratulations to the following students who have read for 100 nights.

Year/Room	Student
Yr 1/ Room 1	Logan Andersen
Yr 2/ Room 1	Amaya Nankivell, Carter Watt, Heidi Hurrell
Yr 5/ Room 9	Jack Witt

School Board News

From the Chair, Mrs Tania Wright

From the School Board, we'd first like to extend a really big hello to everyone. The first half of 2020 has been turbulent and uncertain due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Taking a bike ride around Castletown last term and admiring all the rainbows, teddy bears and messages of love in windows was a highlight and shows the spirit of our community. We hope everyone is going well.

It was great to see parents getting back into the school (with social distancing as relevant) as restrictions continued to ease, allowing everyone to experience the great vibe of the school with all our senses. This is part of our discussions at Board, what we want our school to feel like, to look like, to sound like.

What it looks like is starting to be quite different to what had been quite drab and rundown buildings. To see the space being rejuvenated is just fantastic and the Board will continue to push to ensure our needs are recognised by the department/s that fund the buildings. Mr Peter Rundle visited the school in Term 2 to see for himself the work that has been done, and discussed with Julie Fetherston and Board representatives the broader issues regarding our school buildings. We very much appreciate the ongoing support Mr Rundle has given to the school.

We have had a survey go out to the community regarding the school uniform, collecting thoughts and preferences. Majority of the parents who responded (63%) said that they would like to see the uniform modernised, with majority voting for black feature colour or strip. The Sports jacket was popular but there was a lot of feedback about it being cold for winter, and too large for the smaller children. For the younger children, the zip up cardigan option was popular however again the feedback was for a more modern style. For the shirt material, 50% voted for

Cotton Polyester blend, 32% voted 100% Cotton, 18% voted Polyester/Other. We're currently discussing with the P&C who operate the uniform shop, how to progress from here. Please be assured that where there are changes, they will be based on feedback from parents and what the majority prefer, and that there will be a rollout period so that families can get the full wear out of existing uniforms purchased.

When we think about what it sounds like - the bells that keep everyone together in time, the kids at free play time, the busyness of the classrooms, are coloured with moments that make our hearts happy like listening to the factions chanting on the ovals, play time sports and games livened up by music and dance, singing at assemblies, and wonderful performances of the students and choirs. The students and the community are very proud of our strength in music, and we are excited to be able to continue to build on this music program with the appointment to the school of a new specialist music teacher, Mrs Karen Baker. I know Mrs Baker is excited and looking forward to be joining us at Castletown, and I'd like to extend a really big Castletown Primary School Welcome.

There was talk about culture and religion this term. The school has a long and proud history including traditions, often tied to cultural and religious practices, which can give individuals a strong sense of belonging, strength and comfort. We must ensure that practices and traditions of the school promote unity, respect and awareness of diversity. We wish to preserve the traditions that are working for our community, and modify or let go of those that are no longer relevant.

It is a function of the Board to provide advice to the principal of the school on policy concerning the use in school activities of prayers, songs and material based on religious, spiritual or moral values being used in a school activity as part of religious education. Every student, even those that belong to minority groups, should feel respected and valued regardless of their religion, culture and background. We believe that the most important aspect of beliefs, is promoting practices to ensure that when we come together as a community we behave in a way that displays the virtues - Be respectful towards each other and of our differences; Be inclusive; Be friendly. The Board will be discussing this further in Term 3.

Tania Wright
School Board Chair

P&C Information

Although Covid-19 has reduced our ability to fundraise, the P&C has still been very busy over the last term.

Canteen

The canteen has been very well supported by the school community; in fact, the canteen committee are in the process of getting approval for opening on Mondays! We hope that this third day open will be of benefit to the students and staff. Please continue to use QuickCliq to order your lunch as it is the easiest way for our canteen manager to manage ordering and production. We have also re-opened at recess, giving students the opportunity to purchase recess items such as vegemite scrolls, fruit muffins and pikelets. Addie mentioned the incredible effort of school parent Jo Ramsell, who has volunteered in the canteen six weeks in a row!! Wow! That is amazing Jo, the P&C, as I'm sure all the students, are very happy that you are there, helping the school canteen run smoothly. Also thanks to volunteers Hailee Schmidt and Fiona Ryan for their time in the canteen as well.

If you do have one spare morning a term (or more!!) and would like to assist with buttering bread, making up salad rolls or cooking pikelets, please email Addie on CastletownCanteen@outlook.com or phone her at the canteen on 9076 2809.

Uniforms

The P&C has formed a uniform subcommittee to investigate modernising the school uniform. All our decisions will then go to the school board for approval. We thank the school community for taking part in the uniform survey earlier this year, as that feedback is included in this process.



New uniform coordinator needed

Build up some (very transferrable) retail skills while volunteering in the uniform shop! Our outgoing coordinator Kristy Roper has left the uniform shop in amazing order, she has shifted to online ordering and stocktake, meaning the process is a lot simpler for the coordinator. The time commitment is small, and could even be shared between two people! Contact the P&C President Sandra Prosser on CastletownPandC@gmail.com or on mobile 0408 913 122. Kristy will be available to train up the new coordinator.

Nature Playground

Thanks to Dayle Durrant and his parent helpers – Greg Prosser, Greg Bower, Paul Watt, Leon Guest, Dale Guest and John Sullivan, as well as young Kyle Durrant, for making progress on the mud kitchen. Janet Durrant applied for an Esperance Shire grant for a portion of the playground which was successful. The sensory wall is also underway. Teacher Steve Barter has been working on a communication circle with each class at Castletown. Fiona Ryan has been working on organising the laying of some large wooden stepping stones. Concrete World are donating a tunnel for the nature playground which will be picked up this week. So while you can't see much happening on site, there is a lot happening off site!!

School banking

Finally, school banking is back this Friday, 31 July!! The children can deposit their pocket money into their bank account at school. Have your deposit slip ready to go! This time you will need to go the school library to do school banking, and Fiona Ryan will be there from 8:15am Friday 31 July. See you there!

Fundraising

Because of Covid-19 the Mother's Day stall usually run at the school, was changed to an online stall. This raised \$697 for the P&C. An extra-special thank you to volunteer and mum Fiona Ryan who coordinated and delivered the online Mother's Day stall gifts to every family! During lockdown this was really appreciated by all Castletown families that participated.

Due to COVID restrictions the Easter Raffle scheduled for end of Term 1 was cancelled.

For this term we still have two fundraisers (Father's Day Stall and Colour Fun Run) scheduled. Stay tuned for more information.

We also still plan to run a week long bookfair in November.

Whew! There is a lot going on with the P&C. Our next P&C meeting is Monday 17 August at 1:30pm and we would love to have you along. If you are working at this time but still want to be involved, we have plenty of other activities that you can be a part of, or you can provide feedback on the meeting items which will then be recorded at the meeting. Just let us know!

Sandra Prosser
P&C President

School Photos

Our School Photos will be in Week 6 – Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th August. The envelopes will be sent to parents as soon as we receive them - the company has advised that they will be here soon. A copy of the schedule will be in our next newsletter.

Master Class

**P110
Premium
Pack** **\$70**



**P111
Classic
Pack** **\$60**

Best Value for Money



**P112
Value
Pack** **\$55**

Popular Choice



**P113
Essential
Pack** **\$50**



**P114
Basic
Pack** **\$45**



Gift Pack*
\$20

All 12 items
*Only available when purchasing one of the packs listed above.

3 x Photo Bookmarks 8" x 2"

3x 2" x 1.4"

1 x Door Hanger 10" x 4"

1 x Photo Calendar 9" x 7"

4 x Photo Gift Tags 3.4" x 2.5"

Group Only
\$30

Group Photograph

See Overleaf →



100% Money Back Guarantee

(conditions apply)

CAPTURING SCHOOL MOMENTS

Dates to Remember

Wednesday 5 th August	Board Meeting at 3.15pm
Thursday 6 th August	Jeans for Genes Day
Friday 7 th August	Assembly
Friday 14 th August	Earbus visit
Monday 17 th August	P&C Meeting at 1.30pm
Tuesday 25 th & Wednesday 26 th August	MSP Photography



JOIN THE
ESPERANCE
TENNIS CLUB
TODAY!!

**JUNIORS
SENIORS
SOCIAL
COMPETITIVE**

Highly experienced accredited
coach for group or individual
lessons available

Contact Coach Kelvin
0432 406 450

www.esperancetennisclub.com.au