Dear Parents and Caregivers

We are now just over the halfway mark of this term. It has been a very busy term thus far with the cross country and the interschool cross country hosted at our school, Book Week celebrations and rehearsals for our school production later this term. The remaining weeks of this term will be just as busy with the Hills Education Community Spelling Bee, final dress rehearsals for the production, the production performance, YouthFest and Opitminds as well as school photos. Please be sure to stay up to date with the goings on at school either via the newsletter, website or the Sawyers Valley PS Facebook page.

Many of you would have heard about the new Student Centred Funding model that takes affect from 2015. This model of funding is very different to how schools have been funded previously and I am working with the administration team to plan for next year. If you would like to find out more please visit the Education Department’s website @ http://biggerpicture.education.wa.edu.au

Australian Education Ministers have determined that all Australian schools will participate in parent, student and staff opinion surveys. As a consequence, all WA public schools are required to administer parent, student and staff National School Opinion Surveys (NSOS) at least every two years, commencing in 2014. I have been working with some School Board members to put together the questions that will enable the school community to provide us with valuable and useful feedback to assist our school to work towards our targets and goals effectively. The survey will be online and I encourage you to take the opportunity to provide your thoughts on a number of aspects about Sawyers Valley PS.

Last week we heard the sad news that Mrs Marian Gard, former Sawyers Valley PS Principal had passed away at home with her family and friends around her. We have received a number of lovely condolence messages that we have passed onto her family. A memorial for Marian will be held this evening from 7pm at Mazenod Chapel in Lesmurdie for those that would like to celebrate her life.

Wishing you all a wonderful fortnight

Leanne Sheardown
Principal

MISSION STATEMENT

Sawyers Valley Primary School aims to create and foster an environment where students become independent learners, enabling them to take responsible control of their lives and contribute meaningfully to society.
Recyclables needed

We need your help to restock the Technology storeroom with recyclables to use for design and construction projects. We welcome donations of: **bottle top lids, pop top lids, jar lids, CDs, LP records, small wood off cuts, core flute, corrugated cardboard ... anything** else that can be reused by creative minds.

Please drop your donations into the box in the front office. Thanks.

Helen Addison

ENROLMENTS

Parents of children in Pre Primary DO NOT need to enrol for Yr 1. Pre Primary is a MANDATORY schooling year now and as such enrolments from Pre Primary are rolled over into Year 1. We are still taking enrolments for 2015 Kindergarten.

![Congratulations to Rm2 for an attendance rate of 95% for Weeks 3 and 4 of Term 3.](image)

Bushfire readiness

We are heading into Bushfire Season and I encourage the community to access the DFES website ([http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/alerts/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/alerts/Pages/default.aspx)) to ensure that you and your family are prepared.

I will publish a summary of our school’s Bushfire Plan via the newsletter at the end of the term.

![A new era for our historic pines area](image)

A new era for our historic pines area

Classes have been rostered on a day at a time to access the new Pines area. Students are very excited about having this new space to play in and can be seen building areas, dragging sticks, making paths and rolling tyres. We have sought feedback from students about agreed behaviours that are required to keep the area a safe place and this is being collated so that all students are aware of the expectations.

“*Children are disappearing from the outdoors at a rate that would make the top of any conservationist's list of endangered species if they were any other member of the animal kingdom…”*  
*Tim Gill*

If you want to become involved or you have natural materials to offer (logs, stumps, rocks, boulders) please get in contact with admin or Danielle up in the Pre-Primary. Thank you to the Mees’ family for their lovely pine ‘stumps’ that have been already been put to good use!
CONTRIBUTIONS

As we are heading towards the end of Semester One we are again asking families to make contribution payments.

A voluntary contribution of $50 per student is requested.

To make it easier for families you are welcome to pay via bank transfer into our Bendigo Bank account in Mundaring.

Account Name: Sawyers Valley Primary School
BSB: 633-000
Account Number: 150617231

Please ensure you put your family name in the reference / description area when making your payment so we know who has made a payment.
Transition to High School
Moving from primary to secondary school is a significant event in every student’s education journey.
While staff have developed school transition plans and programs, parents also play an important role at home.
Parents preparing for and talking about the move can make a big difference to how well their children make the transition. If parents are well informed and knowledgeable about the move, they are better able to support their children. Information is available from the Department of Education website or by clicking here.

WELL DONE!
Mackenzie Sadler plays netball for Eastern Hills Development Squad as a District Representative and has been chosen for the Darling Range Rangers which is impressive. She is playing in a regional netball carnival on Sunday and has been made captain of one of the regional Darling Range Rangers netball teams. She has made the team for year 7 age group even though she is year 6. Congratulations MacKenze!

PRODUCTION REMINDERS
⇒ Senior Production Rehearsal Monday 1st September
⇒ Junior Production Rehearsal Monday 8th September
⇒ Whole School Production Wednesday 10th September at Kalamunda
⇒ Youth Fest Performance Saturday 20th September at Floreat
⇒ Please return production notes ASAP.

P&C NEWS

Interschool Cross Country
Thankyou to everyone for your support at the Interschool Cross Country, we raised $300!!

P&C General Meeting
Wednesday 27th August at 2.00pm
in the Staffroom

Items for discussion at this meeting:
Faction Carnival Lunch
Interschool Sports Carnival

If you would like to have input please attend the meeting, we look forward to seeing you there!
ROOM 7’S BIG CAKE BAKE

ROOM 7 IS HAVING A BIG CAKE BAKE SALE ON FRIDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER.

CAKES AND SLICES WILL BE ON SALE FOR $1 EACH, BEFORE THE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY, AT RECESS AND AT LUNCHTIME.

PLEASE COME AND BUY SOME DELICIOUS CAKES AND HELP SUPPORT THE AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

PRODUCTION TICKETS

Last week to purchase tickets for Stella the Starfish and We are Monsters.

REMINDER: CASH SALES ONLY
NO DOOR SALES
INVITATION FOR FAMILIES TO HOST A JAPANESE STUDENT (OCT 19 – NOV 5)

Sawyers Valley Primary School is again hosting a group of 11 and 12 year old Japanese students from Gunma Kokusai Academy (GKA) from Sunday 19\textsuperscript{th} October – Wednesday 5\textsuperscript{th} November. GKA is an English immersion school so the students are very good at English and eager to experience life in Australia! The visiting students will stay with a family from the school and participate in regular classes alongside their host student. We are looking for families who have a child in year’s 5 to 7 to host a student.

Hosting an international student offers many unique opportunities, including the chance to learn about another culture and build life-long friendships. The family’s responsibilities are to include the student as a member of their family and involve them in their daily routine. Students can share a room with their host student; they do not require their own room. It’s also important to know that the company arranging the exchange program, Gold Intercultural Learning (GIL), provide 24 hours a day support to both host families and students.

A free all day excursion for both Japanese and host students will be arranged, details to be confirmed at a later stage. Furthermore, to help you help us support the program each host family will receive a payment of $400 to assist with any associated costs.

If you would like to host a student, please complete the bottom half of this letter and hand it to the office by Friday August 29 or contact Jason from GIL directly, his details are below.

To find out more about the program please contact the exchange program coordinator: Jason Hutchinson – Director of Gold Intercultural Learning (GIL) T: 08 9481 1694 M: 0417 773 846 E: jason@goldil.com.au

**PLEASE COMPLETE ALL FIELDS**

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<td>Year</td>
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<td>Current Age</td>
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<td>Parent / Guardian Name</td>
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<td>Parent / Guardian Contact Number</td>
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<td>Parent / Guardian Email</td>
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<td>Best Time to Contact</td>
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LUNCH ORDER MENU CHANGE
An updated lunch order menu will be sent via email with today’s newsletter. There are two changes on the menu.
The need to belong

We all want to belong and as parents we’re often worried about whether our children are happy, have friends and fit in. Some children seem more adept at being accepted than others, but there are plenty of practical things you can do to help if your child isn’t one of them.

All children need to feel that their world is a safe place where people care about them, their needs for support, respect and friendship are met and they are able to get help to work out any problems. When these needs are met children develop a sense of belonging.

A sense of belonging has been shown to improve children’s ability to learn and increase their skills in developing relationships. When children feel included, they are able to develop a sense of pride in whom they are, which helps build positive self esteem. It also helps them to appreciate and value differences in those around them.

There are many practical ways you can help your child to feel safe and secure, including:

- Listening to your child, asking them about their day and talking through any concerns they may have
- Taking time to play with your kids without distractions – show them that you value spending time with them
- Giving plenty of encouragement that values effort over success (e.g. “, Lisa, you worked really hard on building that castle”).

GROUND NOTE

I was so disappointed to walk around the school on Monday morning and see so many hats, items of clothing, lunch boxes, snack containers and the worst of it, the amount of rubbish that is being left on the ground. Where is our school pride going?
It’s not hard to pick up something as you walk past it and if we all do it, our school will stay clean and it will also back up our clean school image.
Children learn by example and it’s up to all of us to show them the way old and young alike.

The gardener
Fiona Kent
Each student will be given a FREE sausage sizzle for the P&C free lunch for Term 3
Please only order for students if he/she requires something extra for lunch
Children requiring Gluten free will be catered for.

Sausages in a bun for students will be delivered to faction bays at lunch time, along with any additional orders that have been paid for.

This year we would like you to complete a separate section for each additional student order and for spectator orders. Spectator orders will be kept at the stall for collection

Please return order forms plus correct money (as no change will be given) to the Dockers box in the front office by Friday 5th September.

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<th>Additional student orders</th>
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<tr>
<td>Child/s Name</td>
<td>Number of Sausage Sizzles</td>
<td>Number of Burgers with Salad</td>
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<td>$2.50 each</td>
<td>$4.00 each</td>
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Spectator Orders to be picked up from the P&C stall

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<th>Surname</th>
<th>Number of Sausage Sizzles</th>
<th>Number of Burgers with Salad</th>
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<tr>
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P&C SUPPORTING THE FACTION CARNIVAL – FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2014

We will also be running a cake stall and would appreciate donations of baked goods to sell along with tea and coffee. Items can be dropped off at the stand on the day. (Please ensure ingredients are attached to any items)

Any people who would be able to help with setting up, cooking/putting together lunches, selling items or packing away on the day would be most appreciated

Please contact Julie on 0409 683 245 or come to the stall on the day to offer assistance