Dear Parents and Caregivers

The change of seasons is just beautiful to watch, particularly as I drive up the hill to school each morning. I trust that you are able to find moments in the day to take in the beauty as well.

I have started a focus this term on attendance and am awarding a class each assembly with a bag of games (for their exclusive use over the fortnight) for the best attendance in previous weeks. The data that I look at is the daily attendance data that is entered at the classroom level. Staff mark whether children are absent or late to class. Whilst the attendance at Sawyers Valley is on par with the State average there is still room for improvement. Being away or arriving late to class impacts on your child’s learning and progress. Persistent absenteeism or being late to class impacts on your child’s learning.

Regular attendance is a learned behaviour. Children learn from an early age that punctuality and ‘showing up’ are expectations that people have of us in various social circumstances. When children engage in activities outside of school - such as sport, employment or even going to the movies - arriving on time is regarded as essential. Attendance patterns are established in the early years of school. Disparities in attendance rates are carried into and become wider in secondary school. These patterns are evident in the early years of schooling and are established or set by Year 3.

Many parents hold the belief that children will not be adversely affected by missing school. Parents would benefit from understanding what normal attendance looks like, and to hear the consistent message that every day that their child misses school will have consequences for their learning and achievement.

Being half an hour late to school each day from Year 1 to Year 10 is approximately equivalent to missing one year of schooling.

On this note I would like to congratulate Room 7 for 100% attendance in Weeks 1 and 2 of this term.

It has been exciting to see the first school visit the Old School House in the past week. The Year 3 students from Mt

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.
Hawthorn PS thoroughly enjoyed the experience of school in the Victorian era as it was brought to life by Mrs Shaw! I would like to thank Mrs Holling and Mrs Mees (as well as Mrs Mees’ mother and mother-in-law) who volunteered (in full costume) to run the activities. Thank you to Linda Thornhill whose wood working skills lovingly created the pieces for the students to make their own wooden toy car. The feedback from the school has been full of praise for the entire day of experiences. If you are keen to be involved behind the scenes or be a part of the activities when we have school groups visit, I would love to hear from you!

At the end of this week we farewell a long standing staff member, Mrs Sue Bostock. Sue has relocated closer to the city with her family. Sue has worked with many children and many families during her time her at Sawyers Valley PS and has been a friendly face for all our students. Sue will be missed by everyone here at Sawyers Valley and we wish her all the best.

Have a great fortnight

Leanne Sheardown
PRINCIPAL

Humphreys Dance Academy will be conducting dancing lessons with our students again this year. Students from years 4-7 will have 6 lessons over three weeks commencing June 3rd, and PP-yr 2 students will have one lesson each. Dancing lessons have been held at Sawyers for many years now, and it is an integral part of the Health and Phys-Ed curriculum. Students are taught a wide range of dances from the jive through to modern dances such as Hip-Hop, which they can then use at the joint School and P&C Social Dance later this term. All students are encouraged to attend!

P&C NEWS

**Uniform Shop**
The uniform shop day will be changing - as of 23rd June 2014 it will be open on **MONDAY** afternoons at the same time from 3 – 3.30pm.

**Donation of Fridge**
We require a fridge/freezer to use for events - If any family have a working one that they would be happy to donate to us please contact a P&C member. Thankyou

-----------------------------------------------

**P&C General Meeting**
**Tuesday 10th June at 6.30pm**
in the Staffroom

We invite all parents – new and existing – to attend and become a member.
Financial membership costs $1 per year; you are then entitled to vote on any decisions being made.

No previous experience is required all you need is a desire to supplement your child’s educational journey.
ROOM 2
Charlie Jackson
Brayden Fletcher
Wyatt McAuliffe

ROOM 3
Willow Urlus
Caleb Manuel
Aiyana Williams

ROOM 4
Alex Cayley
Daniel Lobo
Mathew Murch

ROOM 5
Amber Netherway
Tomi Szabo

ROOM 6
Martin Crute
Daniella Hardy

ROOM 7
Bella Bonusiak
Bethany Brahim

ROOM 8
Shyanne Levett
Jamie Lobo
Shonny Oman
Why resilience matters

What the experts say

Think back to your childhood and you may recall a mix of memories – you might remember idyllic family holidays by the beach, sadness when a beloved pet died, endless games of backyard cricket with your siblings, worries about school, and homemade birthday cakes. Sound familiar? As adults, we might look back on our childhood as a time when we were carefree and always happy, or we might recall times of upset and worry. We know from our own experiences that life’s ups and downs impact on kids too.

For children, life’s downs may include emotionally painful experiences like rejection or humiliation at school or an early childhood education and care (ECEC) service, frustration at not being able to get their own way or sadness when a friend moves away.

Good times and bad times are a normal part of life in childhood and adulthood; what’s important is our ability to bounce back from life’s challenges. Helping children develop resilience and build their coping skills means they’re more likely to experience positive emotions, which supports their mental health and wellbeing now and into the future.

What you can do

As a parent or carer, you play a significant role in the development of resilience in your children. Start by supporting your children to cope with small stresses, so that when bigger stresses come along your little ones can build on what helps them to feel better.

For example, you can help your child to feel less scared of going to a new place like a friend’s house by saying, “would you like me to come in with you the first time?” When they are confronted with bigger challenges like their first day at a new school, they will be better able to deal with the challenge of confronting something new.

PARKING IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CAR PARK

REMINDER

If you are using this car parking area,
You are requested to reverse park only.

This is to increase your visibility when leaving the school when many little people are leaving the school at the end of the day.
Managing teenage children’s behaviour can be challenging at times for most parents. Parents and carers of children in Years 6 and 7 are invited to attend free parenting seminars being offered this term to learn practical, positive and effective ways to manage common behavioural problems, and ways to help your child achieve their best at school and in the future.

Remember, you don’t have to be experiencing difficulties – Teen Triple P is for every parent!

Parents may choose to attend one, two or all three of the following seminars

**When:**
- 16 June 2014  Seminar One: Raising Responsible Teenagers
- 3 June 2014  Seminar Two: Raising Competent Teenagers
- 30 June 2014  Seminar Three: Getting Teenagers Connected

**Time:**  1.30 pm - 3.00 pm

**Venue:**  Balga Primary School

**Cost:**  Free – however bookings are essential.

This seminar series is hosted by Balga Primary School. Parents and carers of children in Years 6 and 7 attending schools in the North Metro Education Region are most welcome to attend.

Register to attend these free parenting seminars by completing the slip below, ask your school to return to:
Melissa Morgan
Balga Primary School
11 Fernhurst Crescent
Balga WA 6061
Phone 93442602  Fax 93453725

OR for more information contact
Karen Paton email karen.paton@education.wa.edu.au  BY Monday 9 June, 2014

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**REGISTRATION FOR:**

North Metropolitan Education Region: TEEN POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM - SEMINAR SERIES

Venue: Balga Primary School

Name of Parent(s) wishing to attend:

(1) Surname_____________________________  First Name______________________ Mobile_______________________
(2) Surname _____________________________ First Name______________________ Mobile_______________________

Home Phone: ______________________
Postal Address: ____________________________________Suburb:____________________________Postcode:____________
Email:______________________________________________________________________

Name of Child: _____________________________DOB of Child:____  /  ____/ _______School___________________

I / We wish to attend (please tick):

Seminar One – 16/06/14  Seminar Two – 23/06/14  Seminar Three – 30/06/14

Ask your school to send via:
Return slip attention Melissa Morgan ‘Triple P Teen Seminar 2014’ by **Monday 9 June, 2014**
BY FAX: Balga Primary School on 93453725
BY MAIL: Balga Primary School, 11 Fernhurst Crescent Balga WA 6061
BY EMAIL: karen.paton@education.wa.edu.au
**Foster Carers Needed!**
The aim of foster care, in the majority of cases, is to reunite the children with their own families, although sometimes this is not a possibility. When this is the case, alternate options for permanent placement are explored.
You can be a foster carer for just a few nights, weeks, or for many years, and as a foster carer you able to choose the length of care you are willing to provide.
Regardless of what you choose to do, Foundations Care will support you every step of the way. We believe that every child has the right to feel safe, accepted and valued and every foster carer given all the support and flexibility they need to make this a reality.
More information about being a foster carer can be found at the Foundations Care website.

**JAPANESE STUDENTS**
Following the success of Gunma Kokusai Academy’s visit to Perth last year, they have booked to return again! We’d very much like the opportunity to collaborate with the Academy again on hosting the student group and hope that we once again have families who are interested in hosting students during their stay.
**The student details:**
- Arrival Monday 20th October, departure Tuesday 4th November 2013
- Japanese students will be boys and girls aged 12, and can be placed with a family with a student at the school in grades 5, 6 or 7.
- Japanese students buddy up with their host student and join in on the same classes and activities. A maximum of 3 Japanese students can be placed in the same class.
- Working With Children checks, holding an information evening for host families, matching students, payment to host families, provide 24 hour bi-lingual support as well as keeping in touch during the program.
- Duty of care of Japanese students is ultimately the responsibility of Gold Intercultural Learning. Gold Intercultural Learning are the first point of contact ensuring that school staff will not be called upon to resolve any after-hours issues.
- **Host Families Role:**
  - Involve the student into their routine.
  - Arrange for the student to travel to and from school with their host student.
  - Provide 3 meals a day and a bed (students can share the bedroom with a member of the host family).

*If you are interested in being a host family, please register you interest with the school office, indicating whether your preference is a boy or a girl student.*
The Student Council is holding a **Dress Up as Someone Famous** day on **Monday 9th June**. It will be a gold coin donation with funds raised going to our sister school in Cambodia. Come dressed as a singer, a dancer, a sports person, a movie star. **Who will you be dressed as?**

**Girl Power!**

Sawyers Valley Primary School is keen to host one or both of the following Girl Power courses after school, day and date to be confirmed. Please express your interest by return email stating; the course you wish to attend, your name and your daughter’s name by **Friday June 6**. For more information contact Sharon Humphreys.

1. **Fuzzies and Friends (girls age 6 & 7) Parent Daughter Workshop**
   In this 90 minute workshop, girls will learn the basics of friendship. They will learn the Friendship Facts, qualities of a True Friend, and how to use the Friend-o-meter to understand the difference between healthy and unhealthy friendships. We will also discuss the importance of standing up for yourself and how to stand up without feeling mean. Parents will learn the GirlPower lingo, participate in role-plays and learn how to support their daughters through “friendship fires”. The cost of this workshop is $35 per person (e.g. $70 for a mum and one daughter). Please Note: A minimum of 20 people is required. A refund will be issued if the event is cancelled. Also note that if you register and can no longer attend, a refund will be issued if notified PRIOR to the event.

2. **Language of Friendship (Parent-Daughter workshop)**
   Learn how to better understand your daughter’s emotions and offer her advice and support while she navigates the unpredictable world of female friendships. You will learn strategies to help her put out “Friendship Fires”, how to empower her to stand up for herself, and the best ways to support her through unhealthy friendships. Girl Power will give you a new “language” for talking about friendship, helping you connect with your daughter and open up those lines of communication. This workshop is best suited for girls 8 to 12 years old and is 2 hours long. The cost of this workshop is $35 per person (e.g. $70 for a mum and one daughter). NOTE: A minimum of 25 participants is required. A reimbursement will be issued if this event is cancelled. Also, if you can no longer attend after you register, a full refund will be issued if notified PRIOR to the event.
BOOK WEEK IS ALMOST HERE!!!

We would like to invite you to support our local family operated business by informing your staff, students and busy parents that 'Costumes in the Valley' is the place to get your costumes for book week (or any other event).

I have attached a flyer if you could utilise it to notify, it would be most appreciated.

Kind Regards

Costumes in the Valley

www.costumesinthevalley.com.au
9025 7976