

# Fremantle Primary School



## Dates to Remember

Tuesday 8 December - Thank You Morning Tea

Wednesday 9 December - Annual Public Board Meeting

Friday 11 December - Graduation Assembly

Tuesday 15 December - End of Year Concert

## Update from the Principal

Kaya dear parents and carers,

Thanks to the support of our P&C, this week we welcome Paul Litherland, founder of Surf Online Safe, back to FPS. He will run a session with our Year 4, 5 and 6s during the day, and then a session for all parents after school. He'll focus on the 4s to 6s as this is when many students start to get exposed to vagaries of the online world, indirectly or otherwise, but that doesn't mean only parents of the 4-6s, can, or are encouraged, to attend. **We would like to see all parents there!**

When COVID came along, we had to isolate and distance ourselves from each other (and that hardship continues to deeply affect many of us). 'Play' for kids (and adults) had to change. And while the use of Zoom and Fortnite increased as means to interact and socialise in terms of frequency and number of users, I'm sure I wasn't alone in being mindful (fearful?) of the impact of that rise in terms of cyber safety.

Given that holidays are coming, borders are opening and "times, they are a changin'", I feel now more than ever is when we need to raise our collective awareness about, and action on, cybersafety for children. Yes, schools have a role to play, but preparing children for online engagement needs to be a deeper movement.

This topic is too multifaceted to break down on this page, but I hope it's enough to start an informed conversation. Whatever your feelings are about the potential (for example this piece in [The Conversation](#)) or pitfalls (e.g. [cyberbullying](#)) of digital distraction, we know our children will need all our help to be prepared for the future. I hope you'll be able to make the session on Thursday, 6.30-8pm, and I look forward to being on this learning journey with you.

Go Freo (PS),

Adriano Truscott/ Mr T

**27 November 2020  
Issue 18**

- Principal's message
- Community News
- Deputy's Dialogue
- Choir Hospital Visit

**Save The  
Date  
End Of Year  
Concert  
Tuesday  
15  
December  
2020 from  
5pm**



## **Merit Awards Thursday 19 November 2020**

Congratulations to the following students who received merit awards

PP1: Maisie Y and Ayla B

Room 1: Neko B and Michael B

Room 2: Taj S and Mayahli R

Room 11: William O and Amelie C

Room 12: Jesse G and Matilda O

Room 14: Harla B, Elsa M & Axel E

Room 5: Gemma H and Lync E

Room 6: Sam D and Alfie M

Room 7: Liliana A and Toki A

Room 8: Alfie P and Jaylen Z

Room 9: Amelie D and Iyla C

Music: Room 5

### **T20 BLAST STATE CRICKET FINALS with MR POZZI**

Last Friday a group of Year 6 boys represented our school at the T20 Blast State Cricket Finals for the first time ever. The boys played some very competitive cricket, with each of their 3 games going down to the final overs. While they narrowly lost their games, the boys finished the carnival 7th in the state which is a fantastic achievement for our school. The highlight of the day was a fun game played between our boys and the girls team from Deanmore PS at the end of the day. The game was played in great spirit, and it even enticed Australian cricketer Mitch Marsh to join in for a cameo appearance for the Deanmore girls, which is something we were all very excited about. We nearly had him caught on the boundary, but unfortunately Mr Pozzi was too busy trying to score the perfect selfie with Mitch and made a meal of an easy catch. While the boys did us proud with their efforts on the cricket pitch, what was even more pleasing was the school receiving a phone call from Deanmore praising the spirit and sportsmanship displayed by our boys during the game.



## **GRADUATION 2020**

### **Friday 11 December, 9.15am**

All parents of graduating students will receive a formal invitation, including an outline of the student's activities for the day.

### **Graduation Assembly**

Please note that we are still asking adults to maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres, where possible. To ensure that most parents/carers of graduating students get to be close to the action, we'll be prioritising seating for them. There will also be seating for the elderly and pregnant mums, in the undercover area.

Extended members of the family can observe from behind the chairs.

We hope the weather will allow for the undercover area to be opened up, which will allow for more people if needed.

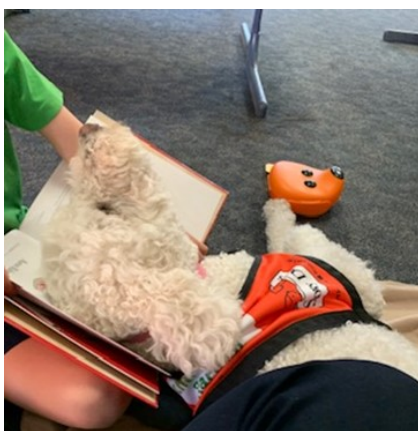


## Deputy's Dialogue

**Story Dogs** is a special and unique reading support program that improves children's reading and communication skills by children reading to a trained companion dog and its handler. Students will spend approximately 20 minutes with the Story Dog team once or twice per week reading books which are appropriate to their reading level.

We have been lucky enough to have Grainne and her dog, Mishie at Fremantle Primary School this year, giving several of our Year 2's the opportunity to participate in this wonderful program. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Grainne (and Mishie) for volunteering their valuable time throughout the year. We love having you as part of our school.

Next Friday 4 December, we will be holding a fundraiser for Story Dogs so that we can keep this valuable program going. Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation and come to school in free dress or wearing something **orange** (the Story Dogs colour).



Mishie

## Be You Families Survey



Please find below a link to the Be You Families Survey. The information from this survey will provide our school with valuable data leading into our next school planning cycle, especially in our priority area of **Social and Emotional Health and Wellbeing**. This updated version of the Be You survey can be completed on any device or computer. **The survey will remain open until Wednesday 16 December.**

### Some further information:

This survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete and includes 27 statements. In this survey, the terms 'learning community' and 'learning environment' refer to your child's school. Teachers and support staff are described as 'educators'.

Your responses are anonymous and only summarised results are used to help us better understand how to improve mental health and wellbeing in our learning community. The survey is not compulsory and you can skip questions if you want to. If you have several children attending Fremantle PS, please respond to questions based on an overall perspective. When choosing your responses, please consider how you were feeling over the last week.

Survey link [HERE](#)



## Junior Choir Hospital Visit

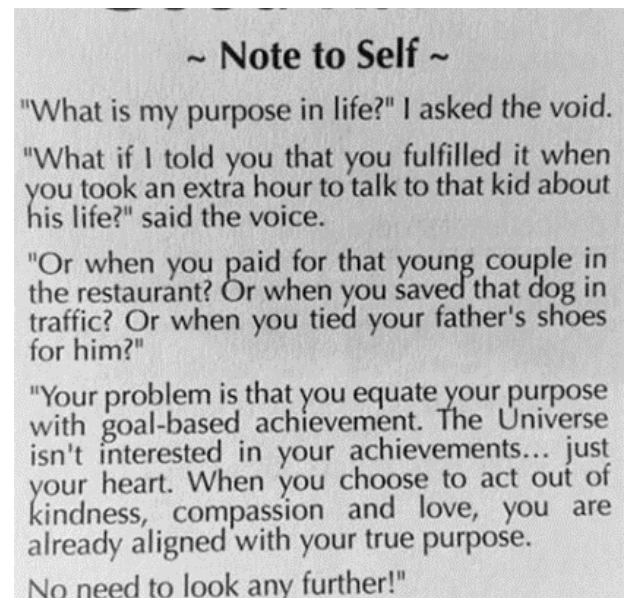
I was fortunate enough to be able to accompany Ms Ee and the Junior Choir on their little excursion to the Fremantle Hospital earlier this month. The choir sang three songs beautifully to the Fremantle Hospital Wellness Therapy group. An absolute highlight for all was the children having the opportunity to meet all of the patients and both parties being able to introduce themselves and have a little chat. Well done to Ms Ee for organising the visit and our junior choir students for their super efforts.



### Year 1's at Chess Club this week

Cheers

Mr S.



## Parent Cyber Safety Presentation on 3 December 2020

On the next page is an ad for a special presentation for families on Cyber Safety, funded by our P&C (thank you!!). I strongly encourage you, parents and carers, to come and engage in the session. Year 4-6 students will be having their own session with Paul Litherland earlier that day (from 2-3pm) so—Y4-6 parents - you will be able to compare notes with them afterwards. That said, the session is for all FPS parents, so please have a special look at the add, and RSVP ASAP TVM (thank you very much).

Many thanks again to the P&C for funding this initiative.

Best wishes,

Mr T



## Fremantle OSHC - Wanslea

### 2021 Enrolments

**Time to enrol for 2021!**

**Please visit us in the undercover area or ask the office for an enrolment pack.**

**Spaces are available every day for before and after school care**

**Before School Care 6:45 – 9:00 am**

**After School Care 3:00 – 6:00 pm**

**We can't wait to see you all!**

**Contact us for more information;**

**Enquiries: 0417 036 195**

**email: [fremantle@wanslea.asn.au](mailto:fremantle@wanslea.asn.au)**

**[www.wanslea.asn.au](http://www.wanslea.asn.au)**



## FATHERHOOD PROJECT

**Friday December 11** Dad's pick up and sausage sizzle after school. Chance to catch up before the end of the year, to chat and think about the summer to come (and perhaps a few thoughts about what we might do to keep building connections between dads and the broader community into 2021).

If you have any questions please contact Glenn Donaldson on [glenn.j.donaldson@gmail.com](mailto:glenn.j.donaldson@gmail.com)



# SURF ONLINE SAFE

INTERNET AWARENESS

## PARENT CYBER SAFETY PRESENTATION

**DECEMBER 3 - 6:30PM TO 8:00PM**



We are proud to announce that Paul Litherland, from Surf Online Safe will be visiting Fremantle Primary School on the 3rd of December 2020, to conduct an evening parent presentation on the subject of cyber safety.

Paul is Western Australia's most sought after presenter and is considered one of Australia's leading experts in the field of Internet Awareness. As a former Western Australian Police Officer, he can offer some great knowledge and experience to help parents better understand the risks our children are being exposed to in the online world.

The parent presentation commences at 6:30pm and concludes at 8:00pm and includes a question and answer session. Paul will outline key points surrounding the online behaviours of our students and offer some good insight into where they are going online. All who have attended one of Paul's presentations have been impressed at how much they learn, and amazed at how engaging he is as a presenter. We openly invite all parents to attend this important event.

Paul's parent presentations are very informative and offer some great tips and tricks on how to keep our kids safe online, as well as how to stay one step ahead of them in the online world. His information is not technical, but offers truly useable solutions to help parents keep their kids safe online.

Subjects include;

Social Networking : What our kids are using. Trends & Pitfalls.  
Online Predators : Risks & Trends, protection methods.  
Cyber Bullying : Detection, prevention & coping.  
The Law : How it relates to us all.  
Online Gaming Risks : Current trends & areas of risk .  
Safety and Control Options : Apps, Softwares, Tips & Hints.

To RSVP for this event please email - [fremantle.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:fremantle.ps@education.wa.edu.au).



Paul Litherland - W : [www.surfonlinesafe.com.au](http://www.surfonlinesafe.com.au) | FB [www.facebook.com/SurfOnlineSafe](https://www.facebook.com/SurfOnlineSafe) | E : [paul.litherland@surfonlinesafe.com.au](mailto:paul.litherland@surfonlinesafe.com.au)

## **CLASS PLACEMENTS AT FREMANTLE (Posted originally in Newsletter 17)**

Dear Families,

Classes are formed based on the professional judgement of staff **to ensure the best learning environment for each student** taking into account their academic, social and emotional needs, and all the resources available to us. The process is as follows:

- The Administration decides the class structures for the following year based on available resources, and the anticipated enrolments according to the [School Education Act Employees General Agreement 2017](#) (Article 12).
- Parents/carers are encouraged to speak with teachers about particular arrangements or placements based on **academic needs**. Requests in relation to choice of teacher will not be considered as a placement factor.
- Teaching staff then allocate students to classes based on factors including discussions with students, behaviour, gender, year levels and social factors as well as considerations around resources and facilities. While parents know their children best, in the school environment, teachers are most aware of all relevant academic and social information about all the children in their particular year level. This information is vital for a successful classroom and the good running of the school.
- Teachers then provide their lists to the school administration to ratify the decision.
- Parents will be notified of class placement in the final week of Term 4 of the preceding year.

I acknowledge that classroom placements can cause anxiety for some. At Fremantle Primary School children's wellbeing is a priority. If your child is having difficulty in relationships, please help us support them, and talk to the class teacher if needed. Rest assured that we are with your children every step of the way to help teach them the skills to adapt to change. We encourage you to support the school nurture this resilience which will serve them well in the school and beyond.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **Can I request for my child to be (or not to be) with a particular child?**

No. If your child is having difficulty with a student in class, please inform the teacher in the first instance, so that the matter can be resolved. Managing relationships is an aspect of the school experience where students learn to function socially with all kinds of people.

#### **Can I request a particular teacher for my child in writing or through discussion with my child's current teacher?**

No, this is not part of our school's policy.

#### **When I get my child's class placement, can I request that it be changed?**

You may talk with the teacher about your concerns and be assured that those concerns will be shared with the principal so your child's anxieties will be addressed. Teachers have the skills to help children adjust. Changes to placements are rare due to the fact they often cause a chain reaction across the school, impacting on the balance in other classes. While we take much care in catering for the individual child during the placement process, it is important to know that your child is part of a complex equation that involves a considerable number of other children.

### **Can my child repeat a year?**

Parent requests and special circumstances will be given full consideration in consultation with classroom teachers, Learning Support Coordinator, the school psychologist and principal. However, we do not encourage the repeating of students in a year level. This is based on current research that indicates it is not beneficial to the student to repeat a year level.

### **Why do we have split classes?**

Split classes are formed where there are insufficient numbers in a single year level to maintain single grade classes. These classes are formed to have a similar spread of abilities to a single grade class, and represent no disadvantage or advantage over single grade classes. Indeed, research shows that multi-age classes have a positive impact on social development. Also, as the size of classes are capped (see below) a split class of a 1/2 class, for example, allows for future enrolments of Year 1 and Year 2 students without needing to restructure classes.

#### *Recommended maximum class sizes*

Kindergarten – 20 students per group

Pre-primary – 27 for purpose built early childhood classrooms (ours are purpose built)

Years 1-3 – 24 students

Years 4-6 – 32 students

### **What if my child is having difficulty in her/his new placement after school has started?**

It is important to give your child time to adjust to her/his new surroundings, and we will do what we can in partnership to facilitate that adjustment. Parents need to talk to and work with the teacher, so that the child's needs can be addressed and the issue resolved. Parents play a significant part in this process by being as positive and encouraging as possible to their children. It can be daunting to be in a new class and new environment, which is why it is so important that both families and teachers work together to support this transition with patience and an open mind. Making new friends and adjusting socially to new spaces and situations are essential in successful schooling.

Please know that teachers deeply care about the students, and they strive to ensure the best learning conditions and smoothest of transitions for all of them. If you have any more questions, please feel free to contact one of the administration staff or your child's teacher.

This policy is supported by the School Board.