From the Principal

Dear Parents and Members of the School Community,

This is our last newsletter for the 2014 school year. Who would have thought 200 school days could pass so quickly, and so much could be achieved.

This evening our Graduation Evening is being held at the Town Hall, from 6pm. Our Year 6 and Year 7 students look forward with great anticipation to performing for your enjoyment, and we are excited about celebrating a significant milestone in the educational lives of our graduating students. We look forward to welcoming distinguished guests, parents, grandparents and siblings to join in celebrating the achievements of our Year 6 and Year 7 students over the course of the evening. We look forward to seeing you this evening.

Tomorrow morning our Book Awards presentations will take place in our undercover area from 9am. All students performing are required to wear to school costumes for their performance. There is no need for students to bring school uniform to change into as students may remain in costumes for the day. We look forward to warmly welcoming you to our Book Awards to celebrate the achievements of our students.

This Thursday marks the conclusion of what has been an extremely successful year for East Narrogin Primary School. All students and staff will break for a well deserved six week holiday. All staff look forward with great anticipation to the 2015 school year and hope you will continue to display your support for our school in the manner you have this year. We look forward to welcoming many new families to the school next year, and continuing to work closely with our extremely supportive and active Parents and Citizens Association and School Board, to which new members are warmly welcomed. I sincerely thank those families that have already paid voluntary contributions for the 2015 school year. These funds go towards providing further opportunities for our students and your contribution is greatly appreciated. Should you still have ENPS Passport dollars available these can be used to pay voluntary contributions.

We feel 2015 is going to be a year of great innovation and progression for East Narrogin Primary School. By joining the School Board or P&C you will become privy to, and have the opportunity to further contribute to, the positive changes set to evolve. Begin today to lead the way within our parent fraternity by making contact with myself, our School Board Chair, Ms Gemma Ward, or our P&C President, Ms Jo Thomas, to express your interest in becoming an important cog in our schools.
operation. Becoming a member of these important governing bodies of the school provides you with first hand information about the governance of the school, including plans for future progression and much, much more. I strongly encourage you to consider playing an active role in our school by joining our School Board, currently thirteen members strong, or our P&C a dedicated group currently seeking new, enthusiastic parents to assist in making a reality the plans they have in place for 2015. We look forward to welcoming you to our committees in 2015.

Student reports will be distributed by hand this Wednesday for Kindy and Year 6/7 students and Thursday for all other students. Please do not hesitate to make contact with staff following the receipt of student reports should you wish to discuss or seek further clarification on any elements outlined within the reports.

Our Term 1 Planner for 2015 has been uploaded to our website to assist you to plan for your participation in some of the events we have taking place during Term 1 of next year. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday 2 February, 2015.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and a safe and prosperous New Year!

I close with a quote for our students! 😊

“The two most joyous times of the year are Christmas morning and the end of school.”

~ Alice Cooper ~

Kate Wilson
Principal, East Narrogin Primary School

Student Leadership
Recently three student leaders were chosen to deliver the graduation speech for 2014. I have been extremely impressed with the dedicated efforts displayed by Kate Dyson, Juanelle Van Wyk and Sarah Coetzer in practising their speech with me to perfection after school hours. Well done girls!!

Forward planning for incursions Term 3 2014
In Term 3 all students will be participating in an incursion.

Jack Flash and the Jumping Beanstalk on Wednesday 16 September and will cost about $4 (more information on this incursion will be provided closer to the date).

Swimming Lessons
Thanks for returning the permission notes so promptly. Years 3-6 will be participating in swimming lessons on February 2, 2015 (Day 1 in Term 1).

Year 3—9.10am-9.50am
Year 4 and Year 5—9.55am-10.35am
Year 6—10.55am – 11.35am

From the Deputies

When The Bell Rings
The attendance patterns of more than 415,000 primary and secondary students in Western Australian public schools has led to significant findings about how school attendance affects academic performance. A comprehensive study by the University of Western Australia’s Telethon Institute for Child Health Research analysed Department data on school enrolments, attendance and NAPLAN achievements from 2008 to 2012. Winthrop Professor Stephen Zubrick says it shows that every day at school really does count.

Does it really matter if a child misses a bit of school here and there?

The evidence is clear that yes it does. Importantly, the findings show that academic achievement declines for every day of absence – in other words, every day of attendance counts and there is no ‘safe’ level of absence that students can get away with. It really makes a difference if students attend every day and, when they have to be absent, to have opportunities to make up for this.

The findings also show that children develop their ‘attendance careers’ very, very early. In Year One a student’s pattern of attendance is already well established and will, in all likelihood, repeat from year to year. This tells us that part of what children learn at school is about attending school. So, part of their early learning is learning to ‘show up’. After all, life is about showing up at school, in relationships, at work, at home and in sport. The findings show that school absences are a ‘long fuse with a big bang.’ This is because the effects of being absent from school add up over time. Earlier absences in primary school have impacts that can be seen in later years; so it’s important that students not only learn to ‘show up’ but to do so throughout their student careers.

Students who experience unauthorised or unexcused absences also fare much more poorly. But where parents and teachers communicate about the reasons for a student’s absence, the effects of being absent are lessened considerably. Families are urged to ensure that your children are only absent from school when they are sick as clearly does count.

Bike Safety
Recently there have been several incidents reported to the office of students from our school riding carelessly on roads and not wearing their bike helmets while riding. It is the law that helmets be worn while riding a bike.

Helmet Laws
Bicycle riders travelling on WA roads and paths must wear an approved helmet. The helmet must be of a standard approved by the Director General of the Department of Transport. At present, these only include helmets that comply with AS/NZS 2063:2008—Bicycle helmets. All approved helmets must be sold with a compliance sticker attached. A child carried in a child carrier seat and the passenger in a trailer being towed by a bicycle must also wear approved helmets. Retention straps of helmets must be fastened at all times. For more information go to: http://www.transport.wa.gov.au

Joanna Hayes & Johan van Wyk
Deputy Principal
Thank you to everyone who contributed to our free dress day held on 5 December. We raised $180.

ENPS P&C and ITalkTravel Narrogin

The ENPS P&C have aligned with ITalkTravel on Fortune St Narrogin to help raise funds for the P&C and also keep business local when booking your next travel expedition be it a large overseas trip or a simple overnight stay in Perth, Albany, Bunbury etc.

It’s simple, ITalkTravel will donate $200 to the P&C in return for the P&C advertising their association with ITalkTravel and getting school and community members to "Like" ITalkTravel on Facebook and also subscribe to their online newsletter.

ITalkTravel will also donate a percentage of any booking made through the ITalkTravel website or directly in store with their travel agents when you (the customer) mention East Narrogin Primary School P&C. It is hoped that, through our broader network of family and friends all utilising the services of ITalkTravel when making any travel bookings the P&C will establish a “royalties” type passive income source.

This is a WIN WIN system for all involved so please get on board and support ENPS P&C through supporting ITalkTravel a locally owned and staffed company who also have branches in North Perth & Kojonup.

Safe car trips at Christmas

Wheatbelt families will travel a lot in cars over the upcoming weeks. So, before you head off on holidays – don’t just check that your vehicle has been serviced, but also that your children are safely restrained.

Remember that kids need to be in an appropriate car restraint until they are 7 years old. It is unsafe for young children to sit in the front seat, or use a lap-sash seat belt.

The law says children:

- From birth to 6 months are to be restrained in a rearward facing child restraint.
- From 6 months up to four years to be restrained in either a rearward or forward facing child car restraint with inbuilt harness.
- From 4 years up to 7 years child to be restrained in either a forward facing child car restraint with inbuilt harness or booster seat restrained by correctly adjusted and fastened seat belt or child harness.
- Under 4 years must be in the rear seats of a vehicle if the vehicle has at least 2 rows of seats.
- Between 4 years and up to their 7th birthday are not permitted in the front seats of a vehicle, unless all rear seats are occupied by children less than 7 years of age.

If you have further queries about your children’s car seats, contact the Child Car Restraint Information Line 1300 780 713 You can also visit:- http://www.roadwise.asn.au/child-car-restraints.aspx

Go Health!

From the Canteen

Thank you to our helpers Ebony, Louise, Val and Anna.

We will be open in 2015 from 9.30am—1.30pm on:

- Thursday 29 January
- Friday 30 January

Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New year!

Ros, Jo & Lorraine
Canteen Managers

The Fairies
Jump Jump Star – Live in Concert


All details at thefairies.com

WANTED!
Your unwanted magazines

Mrs Dyson is looking for magazines for the teaching of specialist viewing next year. If you have magazines taking up space around your home, she would love them. Please drop into the library at your convenience. Thank you.

Community Notices

Perth Zoo Free Dress Day

WANTED!
Your unwanted magazines
P&C Christmas Raffle
$2 per ticket

First Prize – Popcorn Machine

2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th & 7th Prizes – Hampers

Please return tickets and money to Mrs Ford in ECC Room 2 Before Thursday 18 December 2014 – 9am

Prizes Drawn: Thursday 18 December 2014 – 12noon

Additional tickets available for Sale from ECC/2

Staff at ENPS
Wish You a Safe and Happy Holiday!