



# NEWSLETTER

26 Iberia St Cervantes WA 6511  
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10 February 2025

Term 1, Issue 1

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11th Feb** - Early Close 2.30pm
- 12th Feb** - SC Parent Information Session 3pm
- 13th Feb** - MC Parent Information Session 8.45am  
- JC Parent Information Session 3pm
- 17th Feb** - Swimming Lessons commence for the week

## BACK TO SCHOOL

Welcome back to the 2025 school year. It was fantastic to see all the smiling faces last week and catch up on their holiday stories. We started the year with 51 students and welcomed our eight Kindergarten students, Kye, Darcy, Bailey, Nessa, Sarah, Jaxon, Maddie and Mary for their first day on Thursday. The Junior Class is again going to be a busy, vibrant place with the largest class!

We have had minimal staff changes, just some rearranging of times and the classrooms they are in! Please try to come to the parent sessions this week to find out the important information relevant to your child. (Times are listed in this newsletter).

I am sure you have heard that I will be taking Long Service Leave from Term 2 to the end of the year. The Regional Director of Schools will be running a recruitment process soon to replace me for that timeframe. We will hopefully know the successful applicant later in the term so I can do a thorough hand over.

## PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

We invite parents to come and meet teachers to hear about what is planned for your child's classroom, this week:

- ◆ Senior Class Wednesday 12 Feb 3:00pm
- ◆ Middle Class Thursday 13 Feb 8:45am
- ◆ Junior Class Thursday 13 Feb 3:00pm



## THUMBS UP



Our sincere thanks goes to Lewis Harvey who restored some of the benches in the gazebo after they were damaged during the holidays.

## CHANGES TO PERSONAL INFORMATION



We will be sending a summary sheet of the personal information we have for your child. Please read through carefully, note any changes and return them as soon as possible. If we do not receive anything back, we will presume all details are correct.

## SWIMMING TIMETABLE

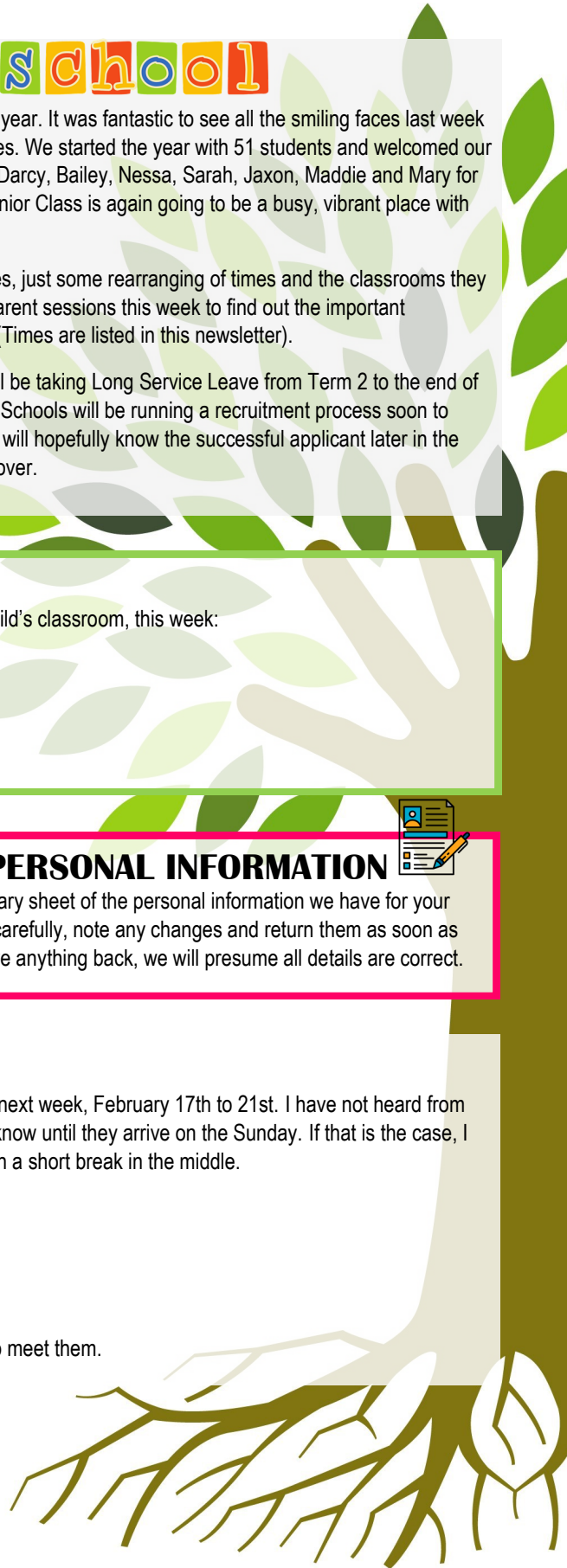


I will send a detailed letter this week with the relevant information for swimming lessons next week, February 17th to 21st. I have not heard from the supervisor to inform us which beach they will be holding the lessons, and I may not know until they arrive on the Sunday. If that is the case, I will text you all. As lessons are over 1 week the students have two 40minute lessons with a short break in the middle.

### Draft Timetable

8:00 – 9:30	9:35 – 11:05	11:30 – 1:00
Stage 1 and 2	Stage 3 and 4	Stage 5 - 9

Kindergarten students attend school as per normal and a staff member will be in class to meet them.



## ADMINISTERING MEDICATION



I would like to seek your assistance in managing the administration of medication to students when they are in the school's care. Except in an extreme emergency, e.g. unexpected anaphylaxis, medication can only be administered by school staff if appropriate documentation has been completed by parents/carers. This applies to both prescribed and non-prescribed medication.

For administration of short term (up to 2 weeks) medication such as a course of antibiotics, and long term medication our school requires written authority from parents/carers. This authority can be provided by completing a Short / Long Term Medication Form 11. These forms can be obtained from your teacher or from the office.

## CONTRIBUTION AND CHARGES



Thank you to the many parents who have already paid these voluntary fees. Last year we spent over \$466 on each student for learning resources and the \$60 Contribution helps us to ensure we cater for all students.

Please see Stella at the office if you would like to arrange a payment plan.

## NAPLAN



The year 3 and 5 students will take part in the Literacy and Numeracy assessments between the 12th and 21st of March. An information brochure will be sent home with these students today.

If you have any questions, please see me or the class teacher.

## ATTENDANCE



Our school attendance rate for 2024 was below the state average and in Semester 2 we only had 27 of our 50 students attend regularly (90% or more of the days).

Attending school is a requirement by law and every child needs to attend regularly so we can support them to reach their 'pinnacle'. I hope that parents can help their child reach their true potential by reiterating the importance of an education and making sure they come to school.

If your child is unwell then we certainly endorse keeping them home and this is noted as a reasonable reason. Sick days rarely lead to a child not achieving regular attendance. Please use the school mobile phone, email, See-saw message or a written note to notify us when your child will be absent and the reason why.

## STUDENTS PERSONAL FACTION POINTS



Cervantes Primary School has traditionally recorded personal faction points for students to work their way towards reaching some big number goals, a badge for 50 points, a medallion for 75 points and a trophy at 100 points.

To earn one personal faction point the student must attend 10 days and follow the values and behaviour expectations (i.e., not receive a yellow slip) during that time. Therefore, if your child could earn at least 18 personal points every year (taking public holidays and school development days into account) from pre-primary to year 6.

## RECESS AND LUNCH BREAKS



After staff reflection and discussion, we are trialling adding 5 minutes to recess to allow students more time to eat and play to re-energise their brains! So, break times for the next 4 weeks will be:

**Recess 10:45 – 11:10am      Lunch 12:50 – 1:25pm**

I ask you to pass on any feedback that your children give you. I will also be asking them before taking it to the School Board for any permanent changes.



## BUSHFIRE ZONE

The Department of Education (the Department) is committed to maximising the safety of its students and staff. Cervantes Primary School is on the Bushfire Zone Register. Inclusion on this register means that the school may be required to invoke a pre-emptive closure on a day for which an Extreme Fire Danger Rating (FDR) has been declared for the Shire of Dandaragan or Cervantes town site. An Extreme FDR means that if a fire starts, it is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving.

### What does this mean for our school?

When given advance warning by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) that a Catastrophic FDR has been forecast for a given day, the Deputy Director General, Schools may direct the pre-emptive closure of Cervantes Primary School. If the school receives such a direction, you will be informed of the possible planned closure by a letter, Connect Notice or SMS. Parents of students absent on the day this information is sent home will be contacted by telephone, so please ensure the school has up to date contact details for you.

In the intervening period between the declaration of the pre-emptive closure and the day of planned closure, DFES will keep the Department informed of any change to the FDR forecast for the declared day. The final decision to pre-emptively close the school will be confirmed with the principal no later than 4.30pm on the day before the planned closure. If the forecast changes after that deadline, the closure will stand, regardless of improvements to the weather conditions later in the afternoon of the day before the planned closure or overnight. The intention is to limit confusion or uncertainty for parents and to allow you ample time to make alternative child care arrangements.

### How will I know when the school is reopening?

It is anticipated that the school will typically only be required to close for a single day at a time, but this will depend on the weather. You will receive an SMS to advise you whether the school will reopen the day after the planned closure, or whether it will remain closed. The school website and Facebook page will also contain a notice to advise you of the current status of the school closure and when it is expected to reopen.

**I ask that you monitor local media for current information about fire danger ratings and notification of schools reopening. Staying tuned to ABC Local Radio in your locality is advisable. You can also check with DFES on 13 DFES (13 33 37) or [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au). Alternatively, you can call me on 0428557974 or the Midwest Education Regional Office on 99561 600.**





# CLASS CHATTER

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## JUNIOR CLASS

The Junior Room of 2025 have started the year wonderfully! It has been full of excitement as we have welcomed 8 new kindy students to our class. We have Bailey, Darcy, Jaxon, Kye, Maddie, Mary, Sarah, and Nessa. We hope they have a fantastic first year at school, full of learning and fun. Alongside these kindies, the Junior Room also has 4 Pre-Primary students and 8 Year 1 children. Mrs Simione is another welcomed addition to our class, she will be teaching on Wednesdays to allow Miss Curtin her DOTT time. Welcome to school, Junior Class of 2025!






## MIDDLE CLASS

Hooray! The exciting summer holidays are over, and back to school we go. The Middle Class had so much fun during their first week. They are excited to start a new school year full of fun and learning. In Design and Technologies, students were asked to design and build a tower out of spaghetti and marshmallows, creating a structure that would support a small jar of vegemite. They developed possible design ideas and worked collaboratively to construct their towers. Students then evaluated its success by measuring the height of the supporting platform and the period of time the jar was supported for. Finally, students reflected on the construction process of their spaghetti tower.



## SENIOR CLASS

Mrs G introduced the Learner Expectations to the Senior Class students last week. We will be focusing on one expectation each week across the school. Students can earn value tickets for a chance to visit Mrs Dennis's Treasure Chest if they are seen following these expectations. This week we are remembering to use our manners to reinforce our respect for everyone.

Respect	Responsibility	Relationships
Listen to learn.	Do your best and join in during class activities.	Work together with classmates and teachers.
Know we all learn differently.	Persist – try and try again.	Ask for help.
Always use your manners.	Use feedback to help improve.	Build each other up.
 Reggie Respect	 Rocky Responsible	 Rosie Relationship

*Natalie Dennis*  
Principal

*The Pinnacle Of Learning And Growing Together*

