Dear parents and carers, staff, students and community members,

**Class Meetings:** By the end of the week, all class teachers have held their meetings to inform you of their approaches to classroom management, structures and focus for the room. Please avail yourself to opportunities to meet with your child/ren’s teacher when you have a concern or information to share. The work of our school is strengthened by the partnership our teachers make with you and their students. If you missed the class meeting, please see the class teacher for the information notes that were distributed.

**National Assessment Program Literacy & Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2015:** Primary school students in all Australian schools in Years 3 and 5 will participate in the National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) in the week 12 -14 May, Term 2. Students will be assessed in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy using common national tests. Parents of students in Years 3 and 5 will be provided with a parent information brochure with today’s Newsletter. This has been provided well prior to the testing to ensure you have time to follow-up with any queries or concerns you might have regarding your child’s participation in the testing. As part of preparing our students for this type of testing, teachers will be giving our students practice tests in order to teach test taking strategies and reduce anxiety.

If you wish to withdraw your child from the testing, please make an appointment with Mr Martin. Applications for withdrawals / exemptions must be submitted before 2 April 2015.

**Attendance:** Regular attendance at school is fundamental to your child’s learning. Consistent attendance and participation are essential for your child’s social and academic learning.

As parents or legal guardians of an enrolled child, you are responsible under the School Education Act 1999 to ensure the attendance of your child at school every day. It is important to assist your child’s achievement and learning by making regular school attendance a priority in your child’s life.

The Department of Education’s Student Attendance policy requires parents / carers to provide an acceptable explanation to the school for any absence of their children.

Please remember:
- going to school is a legal requirement
- every day at school matters
- children need to attend school regularly so they can take advantage of ALL the educational opportunities available
- school enables children to build on their knowledge and skills each day, each week and each year
- Consistent poor school attendance and lateness to class can affect children’s educational progress
- patterns of punctuality and regular school attendance are developed at an early age
- good attitudes toward attendance that are well established will help prevent problems as children progress to secondary school, helps children build confidence in areas such as communication, teamwork, organisation, social skills and children who miss school may find it difficult to keep up friendships in the class.

**New Staff:** We would like to welcome Mr Tony Stokes in Room 8 on Mondays and Tuesdays for terms 1 and 2 and Mrs Kym Meaton in Centre 1 on Fridays for term 1.

Darryn Martin
Principal

Jeff Scott
Associate Principal
**Swim Trials**

With our Interschool Swimming Carnival at the end of this term, we will be holding swim trials on Wednesdays 11, 18 and 25 March 2015 from 7.30am to 8.15am at Albany Leisure and Aquatic centre.

Parents will be responsible to drop students at ALAC and return them to school.

Mr Scott and helpers will meet the students at the swimming pool on those days for the trials.

Please make sure you return the excursion forms that was send out last week. On this form you enter your child’s swimming stage which would help us in determining who could be a candidate for the swim trials.

---

** Contribution Payments**

Thank you to those families who have already made their contribution payments. These funds are used to provide resources for all students across the school.

A reminder that as well as EFTPOS facilities, we can now offer you the convenience of Direct Deposits when making payments to the school - see details below:

**DIRECT DEPOSITS NOW AVAILABLE FOR ANY PAYMENTS TO THE SCHOOL:**
Account name: Little Grove Primary School
BSB: 016 510
Account number: 340 910 473
Reference: Oldest child surname and first letter of name

---

**Sustainability**

Welcome back to another event filled school year. Please remember to keep collecting these recyclable goods for our school:
- Small Boxes, Small garden pots
- Wool, Cotton, Lace
- Material, Bread ties, Glass jars
- Meat trays, plastic lids
- Milk/orange juice bottles
- Ice cream, Yogurt or Baby milk containers

The whole school benefits from these collections for Art and Craft, Science, design and making activities. Bring them to Room 6 anytime and we will redistribute and store them for use.

---

**Albany Speedway Club World Series Sprint cars**

Students had an up close and personal view of how these amazing cars work while also having time to chat with the driver about his career and ask questions of the driver and his team about speedway racing.

We would like to thank Albany Speedway club for extending us the privilege of the sprint car visit and their donation of some free child entry passes for the nights world series event. Class teachers handed these to deserving students.

---

**Canteen Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18 Feb</td>
<td>Rachael D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20 Feb</td>
<td>Nicole T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 25 Feb</td>
<td>Lesley G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27 Feb</td>
<td>Melanie M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 4 Mar</td>
<td>Loraine L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vacancy

Cleaner in Charge (6hrs/day)

Little Grove Primary School

Please see advert and apply online at [www.jobs.wa.gov.au](http://www.jobs.wa.gov.au)

Vacancy number: IPS/SS347324

Or collect an application form and information during office hours (Monday to Friday, between 8.30am and 3pm), and submit it to the school reception before the closing date and time:

6th March 2015 at 3pm

LGPS Helper Register

Parents or community members willing to volunteer their time to help out across the school are very welcome. We need your help in a variety of ways including helping the choir, in the Library, cooking, resource making, sporting events, listen to children read, mentoring, working with small groups of students or one on one etc.

If you are able to help please email [Littlegrove.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Littlegrove.ps@education.wa.edu.au) with:

- Your name
- Contact details
- What days you are available and times?
- Is it regular days or random days?
- What are you willing to do.
- What areas of the school are you willing to help? Eg. Junior or Senior block, library, office etc.
- Do you have any areas of expertise to offer?
- Have you got a Working with Children Check (volunteer category)?

This information will then be collected and sorted into a Helper Register.

Names/contact details will then be passed on to relevant staff for them to contact you and arrange for you to come in and help.

Note: This is not necessary if you only want to come in and help in your child’s own classroom. Just contact your child’s classroom teacher direct.

School Choir Helpers needed

Parent or community members is also required to help our school choir co-ordinator. This will involve being available to help with the coordination of performance events such as assemblies and eisteddfods. This is a voluntary position but you will be required to obtain a working with children check. Please contact the front office on 9844 4888 if you are interested or need more information.

Fitness Club

A reminder that Fitness Club starts next week 25 February 2015.

Wednesday and Friday mornings

8.30am

Everyone is welcome to join in the fun and exercise

Community Notice Board

Please see the School Notice Board for community notices

Recently Added:

- Cleaner in Charge Vacancy
- P&C Uniform helpers needed
- SK8, Scooter and BMX competition
**Importance of Play and Risk Taking**

Play and exploration is a fundamental human right for all children, regardless of age, gender, culture, social class or disability. This must be reflected in the range of play environments and outdoor learning opportunities we offer children to ensure that all are able to engage in experiences that help improve their quality of life.

“Although the term ‘risk-taking’ often has negative connotations, the reality is that the willingness to engage in some risky activities provides opportunities to learn new skills, try new behaviours and ultimately reach our potential. Challenge and risk, in particular during outdoor play, allows children to test the limits of their physical, intellectual and social development” (Little, H & Wyver, S, 2009).

This does not mean all risks will be eliminated or continually reduced. It also does not mean that accidents will not happen. So striking the right balance between protecting children from the most serious risks and allowing them to reap the benefits of play is not always easy. It is not about eliminating risk. Nor is it about complicated methods of calculating risks or benefits. In essence, play is a safe and beneficial activity. Sensible adult judgements are all that is generally required to derive the best benefits to children whilst ensuring that they are not exposed to unnecessary high risk.

---

**POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR PROGRAM**

Little Grove is continuing its journey in implementing the Positive Behaviour Program.

The key behaviours expected by all members of Little Grove Primary School community are:

- Open to learning
- Be responsible
- Show respect
- Build resilience

The students will be taken through the matrix over the next few weeks and taught the expected behaviours.

This week’s focus is: **Take responsibility for your own actions**
Next week’s focus is: **Be Friendly and Kind**

Last year Red faction had the most Groovey Grover’s at the end of the year and was treated to a BBQ at Mills Park.

Groovey Grover’s tally so far:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---