

Term 4 11 December | Issue 18 The Beacon

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UPCOMING EVENTS

December 16

Year 6 Dinner Dance

December 17

Christmas carols at 2pm in the undercover area.

Last day of Term 4 and the 2020 school year

Dear Beaconsfield Primary School community

A huge thank you to our P&C for their organisation of the Community picnic that took place after our Open Night. It was a wonderful night and lovely to be together after what can only be described as an interesting year. Thanks to Gail Crawford for her oversight of the event, and Nicola Bagley and the rest of the P&C team who assisted throughout the night. The music students from Fremantle College were a hit and we have passed on our appreciation to Mike Gowland and Myles Draper for their support also.

There is no greater indication of the compassion of our community than the Beacy Primary Giving Tree. It is currently sitting in the front office and we have partnered with Centrecare and Fremantle Mental Health to collect gifts for families whose Christmas would be very different without the generosity of our community. You are welcome to come and collect a tag from the tree and then purchase a gift. Please attach the tag to your wrapped gift and write on the back of the tag what the present is (this will be removed later). All gifts must be returned to the office by Monday 14 December. We will present these gifts to the organisations at our Christmas Carols on 17 December. A big thankyou once again to Sara Bell and Anna Clippingale for their organisation of this event. Today was the final assembly for 2020. A bit different to the online assemblies conducted during COVID times! It was wonderful to present all our incredibly hardworking students with their book awards and to acknowledge our graduating class of Year 6 students. Earlier this year, we did not know if it would be at all possible to run a live graduation event. I'm glad that the situation in Western Australia was such that we have not had the significant disruption to school, as some of the Eastern States have had. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of everyone in preparing for today's assembly. Events like this just don't happen, particularly at this time of the year. Our Year 6s will attest to the many hours of preparation and practice that has taken place. From our classroom teachers, Amy Borrill, Janette Tuttle, Lauren Osborne and Celeste Franklin who have worked towards this moment all year. To Avril Mulligan and her work with the IMSS students, the choir and the Year 6 song, Veronica Wood, Andi Hill, Leonie Femia and Deb Gillespie for their decorative touches, Lauren Osborne for her technological wizardry and Chris John for his logistical oversight and for making today actually happen!

I have included my final address to the Year 6s below.

Thank you for another wonderful year. Have a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to seeing you back her next year.

Kirsten Dicker Principal





To the graduating class of 2020

Just last Friday at Kindy orientation, I stood in the Kindergarten classes with the Year 6 leaders as they remembered their first days in school. While they struggled to remember they were ever that little, they fondly recalled playing in the outdoor space, the care of their teachers, the friendships they made, and the trepidation they had in those first few days. As I joked with the incoming Kindergarten parents that in a blink of an eve, their wide eved, excitable three and four year olds, would soon take the place of the Year 6 children standing beside me, I know for the parents here today, it is no joke. Families, friends and teachers are all sitting grappling with the emerging here, independence, adolescent attitudes and strong-willed natures, wondering exactly where did those eight years go?

That time, those eight years, have potentially been the most formative years of your life. A period of rapid growth and development. A roller coaster of ups and downs. And between home and school, we have shared the load. Together, we have watched, we have guided, we have set boundaries and we have cheered you on. We have marvelled at your accomplishments and sympathised with your disappointments. We have seen friendships flourish, hearts break, tears flow and faces light up. Your teachers and families have lived this journey alongside you. And now, just like you, we are excited about what lies ahead. We are ready to leap with you into the next phase and all that entails. And I know that you are more than ready.

Anyone who has spent any length of time with these Year 6 students will know they are not only ready, but that our future is much more positive than many would have you believe. These kids who sit before you epitomise the optimism and positivity of the youth of today. Some of their many qualities include:

- A strong sense of justice, and a willingness to stand up and defend it.
- A passionate and devoted commitment to a cause, that is shared and debated with measured thoughtfulness, and a respect for opinions that vary from their own
- An understanding that rewards don't happen without hard work, patience and practise.
- The bravery they show when they interject to right a wrong, and their readiness to admit when they themselves have wronged.
- Compassion, empathy and tolerance, with a growing awareness of their privilege and an understanding of how they may use this to help others.

I have been so fortunate to have spent the last few years getting to know them and I am telling you - **The kids are alright.**

But it wouldn't be one of my graduation speeches if I didn't leave you with some words of advice! You're not getting away that easily. As you move into highschool and beyond, I want you to remember the following: **Be open:** Remain wide-eyed and in awe of all that is on offer. Keep your eyes open for new friends, new interests, new opportunities. Make connections outside of your comfort zone. Be open to every available opportunity that presents itself.

Be brave: Get out there and try new things. Mistakes will happen, people might laugh, you may get hurt. But nothing is gained if you don't try. The times you fail will prove even greater life lessons than those times you succeed.

Be aspirational: You are capable of achieving the very best for yourself. Do not settle for anything less. Maintain that growth mindset and the 'I can do it' attitude. Make goals, set targets and go and get them, even if you know that it might not come easily to you. Anything worth having is worth working hard for.

Be kind: Always, always choose kind. Treat others how you want to be treated and be respectful - you don't know their story and your kindness might be the only shining light in their life. Be kind to others, not because they are or what they've done, but because of who you are. Most importantly, be kind to yourselves.

Be you: There will be times when people want you to be something or someone you are not. This will test you. As hard as it is, don't compare yourselves to others or change yourself to please others. There may be times when you don't want to hear this, but you are perfect as you are. I cannot stress this enough.

Finally, and most importantly, I want you to remember that you are always a **Beacy Kid.** You will always be welcome here; for a catch up, for advice, to lament on a disappointment or celebrate one of your many successes. We will be here and we will be waiting for you.

Kid, you'll move mountains.

Class Structure and Teachers for 2021

Please find below a provisional structure for classes and staffing for next year. In 2021, we sadly say goodbye to Janette Tuttle, who has taken a wonderful opportunity to teach closer to home at Millen Primary School. Brooke Gray has also taken a part-time position at Honeywood Primary School which she will combine with her Dyslexia Speld Foundation, Talk 4 Writing role in Semester 1. She will return to us in Semester 2 on a part-time basis. Mercedes Ascencio will be taking leave for 12 months. We wish these teachers well on their varied journeys and thank them for their time at Beaconsfield Primary School.

K Orange	Sarah Billingham
K Purple	Sarah Williamson
K Yellow	Dani Sukys
K Turquoise	Penny Wallace
PP Seahorse	Hilary Bradbury
PP Starfish	Adrienne N & Sonnai Q
PP Stingray	Di Nottage & Shannon Boot
Year 1	Nicola Jacobs
Year 1	Kyle Oakley & Carolyn Park
Year 1	Rochelle Taylor
Year 2	Alex Wilson
Year 2	Emeli Telenta
Year 2/3	Julia Reay
Year 3	Louise Glassborow
Year 3	Brett Morellini
Year 4	Julie Lea
Year 4	Rebecca Tibbels
Year 5/6	Lauren Osborne
Year 5/6	Kate Langoulant
Year 5/6	Amy Borrill
IEC Jnr 10	Nurul Casotti
IEC Snr 17	Celeste Franklin
Rottnest	Caroline F & Jenny P
Literacy Coordinator Carolyn Park	
Numeracy Coordinator Kyle Oakley	
LSC	Kerry Kelton
ECE DOTT	Deanne Hughes
IEC Support	Mel Hopkins
Art	Veronica Wood
Music	Avril Mulligan
PE	David Andersson
Italian	Mimma Harrison
Sustainability	Sarah Lechte

Teachers v Year 6 Tee Ball Game

It was a very hot and competitive atmosphere at the teachers and Year 6 student Tee Ball. There were some spectacular hits and catches on both teams. There was so much excitement that we forgot to keep score!



Chess Tournament

Congratulations to Nathaniel Herriman, Ollie Bell, Alex Bauk and Jasper Craigie for reaching the final stage of the Chess tournament. On Wednesday the 9th, Alex Bauk and Ollie Bell will go head to head in the Grand Final match. The winner will win the chance to play against Ms Dicker next week, which is sure to be a challenge!

I would like to extend a huge congratulations to all the children who have competed in this

Chess vear's Tournament. It has been amazing to watch the sportsmanship and positive attitude that each competitor has demonstrated. We have some very talented chess players here at Beacy and I look forward to more chess games and tournaments in 2021.



Considerate | Courageous | Community

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<u>When:</u> Monday week 10 at 2pm <u>Where:</u> The side oval <u>Who:</u> Whole school <u>What:</u> Bring an old white t-shirt (or any shirt) and come and join in the fun!

The graduating year 6 students have organised an afternoon of colourful chaos.



Swimming Lessons Rotto Style

All the students from PP to Year 5 had swimming lessons this week. We completed one week of 80 minute lessons in the ocean at North Thomson Bay, a few minutes walk away from the school campus.





We have had quite a few dramas to add to the usual swimming excitement this year! The first day we had to contend with winter temperatures, together with a howling wind! By the end of the lessons, all the students were a nice shade of blue.

Fortunately, the next day was sunny and a lot warmer, so there was no need for blankets and dressing gowns. This week has been packed with activity, as we count down to the final week at school for this year.

Monday was the Kindy Orientation for our island four year olds. They had a lovely morning joining in with the regular Kindy students by making a Christmas decoration, listening to a Christmas story and having a play session in the sandpit. The adults had morning tea with all the school's students and then we said goodbye to our new families until 2021.



On Wednesday, the whole school set off on the 8am ferry to Fremantle, caught the 9am train to the city and got on a bus to Kings Park. The day was very warm and the fire danger was extreme, so our planned activities in the Nature scape bushland area was cancelled. Luckily we were still able to participate in our educational experience where we were introduced to a wonderful Noongar presenter, who explained the important historical indigenous connections to Kings Park. She demonstrated bush tucker, bush medicine and how it was sourced, by taking us on a walk in the immediate surroundings. We learned about traditional hunting skills and the art of sand stories. The students were given time to try their hand at 'hunting for yonga' (kangaroo) and to use symbols to represent their own stories.

After a picnic lunch, we were escorted to the nearby Ivy Watson Park for some playtime. Everyone was suitably exhausted when it was time to leave.

Soon it was time to get on the bus, train and eventually the ferry to get back to the island. Everyone enjoyed the 'Big Day Out' and we are looking forward to making the journey to Beaconsfield on Friday for the Presentation Assembly.

Chappy's Chat – Transitions

Yesterday I heard a lovely perspective on 'transitions', which was perfect timing for the



last newsletter for the year. There can be three ways people approach transitions. Those who glide seamlessly from one year to the next, almost as though there is no change in date! Or, those who are expectant and feel excitement and exhilaration for all the

newness and change ahead. Then there are those who experience anxiety towards the unknown and unfamiliar. Where do you fit with transition and change? Where does your child sit and how do they manage from one transition to the next?

Term 1 can be daunting for students and parents as they start the year with a new teacher, new room, new friends, and for some (especially year sixes) perhaps a new school. It is important as parents not to project our own anxieties onto our children but to help them navigate this time together. Most importantly, take it easy through transition times. Know that it will pass and slowly become more familiar. The best tip I was given as a parent of three for Term 1 was do a little less: commit to less at times of transition as it will naturally be busier and more fraught with emotion. Down time and family time can solve a great deal of angst just by hanging out together and caring for one another.

Kate Berardo's 5R's of Culture Change looks at the five main areas affected when change

occurs; routines, reactions, roles, relationship and reflections about ourselves.

Here are some tips around each of these areas to help promote smooth transitions, or manage behaviour around the unpredictable nature of change.

- Routines guide behaviour through providing predictable structures and help to foster a sense of belonging. Realise that establishing new routines takes time and be easy on self and others through the transition period. Hold on to some old routines and add in the new ones where necessary.
- 2. Reactions from others can impact our own emotions and behaviour around change and transition. Be mindful that others' reaction to change may be different from our own. Identify people who can help

you make sense of unexpected reactions and give yourself (or your child) time to understand new ways, environment, people.

- Roles form part of our identity and give us meaning and purpose. Gain clarity on new roles and responsibilities as soon as you can. Help your child to focus on the positives of a new role and highlight the new responsibility, ie. higher year level; new learning experiences.
- 4. Relationships are crucial to our wellbeing as they help us to flourish in our humanity and increase our resilience. Determine the most important relationships for you (and your child) and find ways to maintain them through transitions. Be proactive in establishing new friendships and increasing your (and your child's) support network.

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5. Reflections on self are key to learning. Acknowledge that change is a natural life process. Self-reflect on the change experience and how it feels and help your child to reflect on the change experience and how they are feeling.

Berardo, K. (2012). Framework: The 5Rs of Culture Change. In Berardo, K., & Deardorff, D.K. (Eds.), *Building cultural competence: Innovative activities and models* (pp. 193-199). Stylus Publishing, LLC.

Fremantle College – Gifted and Talented Education



Applications for

Gifted and Talented Academic Selection at Fremantle College closes on Monday 8 February 2021. Parents of all current Year 5 students are reminded to apply via the below link:

https://www.education.wa.edu.au/gifted -and-talented

Students who choose Fremantle College for Gifted and Talented Education will also have the opportunity to apply to our Specialist Programs:

Specialist Marine Studies Specialist Contemporary Music Specialist ICT

For further information, please go to our College Website <u>https://fremantlecollege.wa.edu.au/</u>



