Dear Parents/Caregivers

Last year, at the Year 6 Graduation Evening, the Year 6 parents and students managed to surprise us all by presenting us with a magnificent lemon tree. I have resolved to plant the tree where all the children and parents are able to enjoy it and so the tree will soon be taking up residence in the school grounds. We hope you can take the time to look for the tree and watch for the first appearance of lemons.

I would again like to thank all those involved in gifting the tree and I am sure that it will be enjoyed for many more cohorts of Baynton West students to come.

Last Wednesday saw the Year 6 students really step up to the challenge of preparing their election speeches for Student Councillor nomination. Their efforts were truly inspiring and both students and staff alike were wowed by their well-planned persuasive speeches. There were over 35 student candidates who asked the school to vote on their behalf and the results have now been tallied up and will be announced to the students at the Senior School Assembly next Wednesday.

Our intervention groups are now up and running, and our students are meeting daily with our specialist support team, Mrs Claire Copson-Pacal and Mrs Sarah Cameron. The children have been engaged through the teaching of targeted spelling strategies, drawn from the Western Australian Curriculum and taught through the evidence-based Letters and Sounds program.

Spelling Mastery classes are now well established and are being delivered by our Specialist Teacher, Mrs Mel Gardiner, who is passionate about teaching spelling. These classes are provided to students in Years 3-6 and are aimed at providing extra spelling support to those students who have been identified as eligible.

This week also marks the beginning of the GATE English program which aims to provide curriculum extension and challenges for our most able students. This year, alongside the already established Year 4, 5 and 6 groups, we are including a Year 3 group. The children have already been introduced their poetry-themed learning, which has led to lots of engaging discussion and recitals!
The Aboriginal Education Tutorial Scheme is an enrichment program now running two days a week. Our trained EAL/D teacher, Mrs Louise Woodvine and our Aboriginal Islander Education Officer, Ms Tracey Mulardy are working Two-Way together with our enthusiastic students to facilitate the EALD program.

Also beginning this week, we are excited to be beginning our GATE Stem (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program.

The program will have an emphasis on Critical and Creative Thinking Skills. Students in this course will be immersed in thought provoking tasks from the OptiMINDS program. To be successful in this program, students must ‘think outside the box’ to solve highly complex challenges. They must also demonstrate leadership, understanding, persistence, resilience and the ability to accept other children’s opinions. If you would like to know more about OptiMINDS, please visit http://optiminds.com/about-us

Our STEM program will include an engineering component, where students will be creating fascinating objects through the use of our new 3D Printer. This will include a thorough Plan-Prepare-Create-Evaluate process designed to provide students with ‘Real World’ problems to solve. GATE STEM includes an introduction to Robotics, using the NXT Mindstorms program and software. This provides students with explicit coding experiences designed to solve complex projects. It also follows a very detailed building and programming component to ensure robots are operated appropriately.

Canberra Camp Payments
Payments for the Year 6 Canberra Camp Excursion can be brought directly to the front office. We currently anticipate the cost to be around $1700. If you would like to set up a payment plan or discuss any questions you may have, please do not hesitate to contact our Deputy Principal Mr Jason Bushe-Jones, who is coordinating the excursion.

School Board nominations
Our School Board is calling for nominations. If you can commit to one evening meeting per term plus some extra duties when required, you may enjoy this challenge. Please note that a strong support of the school ethos and a willingness to work with others are essential qualities in a School Board member.

Please submit your nominations (of one paragraph only) to Lisa Ledger in a sealed envelope by 2:30pm 4 March. Your nomination will be published along with voting slips to all parents/caregivers in our school community for voting in the next few weeks. A ‘returning officer’, independent of our school board will be appointed to count the votes.

PLEASE NOTE: We are a ‘sunsmart no hat no play’ school. Keeping students safe from the sun is important to us at Baynton West PS. Please support your child’s social development by ensuring they bring a sunsmart hat everyday.

Have you checked out our new website?
It is interactive with our ‘app’.
Please type in the following address
www.bwps.wa.edu.au

Abbreviation
OTTPOS
EFTPOS
Coming Soon
Payment via app & website

Voluntary Contributions and P&C Donations:
The Voluntary Contributions and donations can be made at the front office via cash or EFTPOS.

Allergies
As we have quite a few students and staff in the school who have severe shellfish allergies, please do not send your child/ren to school with shellfish for their lunch.

Shellfish Free

Please Note: Baynton West Primary School is a NON SMOKING site, as are all Government Department sites. Please abide by this Government ruling at all times.

Latest News

National Ride 2 School Day
Tuesday March 1 Baynton West PS will recognise National Ride 2 School Day. The aim is to encourage students to cycle or use other active transport methods to help them meet their recommended 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Children 8 years old and younger should be accompanied by a parent or a guardian.

Our students will receive bike and road safety instruction during Health lessons prior to this event. To increase interest and awareness of this event, bike riding activities will be held during recess and lunch on the oval (Year 1-6 only).

A healthy fruit snack will be offered upon arrival at school for all students and parents who rode to school on the day. Please come to the bike racks next to the basketball court for your healthy snack and photos.

Don’t hesitate to contact me at Courtney.Jones@education.wa.edu.au if you have any questions about this event.

Weather Watch Station
Each week of the school year, students from 15 regional or remote WA schools will record their local daily weather conditions using a Scitech Weather Kit. Their results will be announced each week during the GWN weather segment. Students will use the kits to measure and record their local maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall.

Baynton West Primary School is participating in this program. Our recording day is Friday. Students from Mr Powers Year 3 class help Mrs Grochowski, the science specialist, to record the weather. The Weather Watch station is situated outside Room 12, block 4.

Students are encouraged to read the thermometer and rainfall gauge attached to the post opposite the flag poles.