



UPPER SWAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

An Independent Public School

1204 Great Northern Highway, Upper Swan 6069

Telephone: 9296 4622

Newsletter

Volume 02 Term 1

21 February, 2018

Our Purpose

We will create a caring learning environment that provides students with the opportunity to develop the academic and social skills they need to achieve their individual potential.

School Website: www.upperswanps.wa.edu.au

Editorial If you wish to contact the Principal - Stephen.Green@education.wa.edu.au

Safety Announcement - Afternoon Student Pick Up

To keep your children and you alive and well and your car in one piece, I would like to emphasise the following safety rules.

1. Don't drive in the bus lane.
2. Don't drive down the footpath – especially between Nolan Avenue and our school.
3. Parking along the edge of Nolan Avenue then walking up to school is a sensible option.
4. If you're staying in your car, you have to come through the Kiss 'n' Ride parent car park to pick up your children.
5. If you park, you need to go to classrooms to collect your children.
6. When walking back to your car, please use the crosswalk outside Room 11 or the paths. Please don't walk through the parent car park unless you're using the crosswalk.

I understand the frustration caused by a lack of parking and the 2:40pm to 3:10pm traffic jam. Patience, tolerance and courtesy will go a long way to avoiding a catastrophe.

Student Census

The student census was conducted last week. We almost made it to 500 with an enrolment of 499. This figure is used to work out our funding for the year. Each student has a "dollar value". As with all schools, almost all of our money is spent on salaries. We allocate approximately \$175 000 to cover all resources, buildings and grounds and utilities. All schools must spend a minimum of 96% of their funding in the year it is received.

Camp Australia – Before School Care

For families who drop children off before 8:15, remember that Camp Australia run before school care in the Junior Block Activity Area from 6:30am every morning. It's great to see several families are making use of the service.

P & C Meeting – Great Success

I was unable to attend last night's meeting so I don't have the details on who makes up the 2018 executive team.

However, I am able to report all positions have been filled and our P & C is full of enthusiasm for the year ahead.

I commend to efforts of all members on their commitment to our school and acknowledge the efforts of last year's executive team for their contribution to our school. Special mentions go to Jess Staggard (retiring President) and Natalie Gasson (retiring Treasurer).



Term 1 Calendar – Changes

There have been some additions and alterations to the calendar.

- Subway Lunch Dates: Friday March 2 and 16, April 13
- Year 3, Room 1 Assembly: Ms Poulter and Mrs Spencer – now Thursday, March 29. The day before Good Friday
- Easter Tuesday, April 3, is definitely a school holiday for all staff and students in public schools.
- Summer Team Sports Carnival; Years 5 and 6; Thursday, April 5
- Valley Voices Choir Showcase hosted by Upper Swan PS; Friday April 6

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 Feb	19 Swimming Lessons Group 1 Classes	20	21	22	23 Assembly Student Council
5 March	26 Swimming Lessons Group 1 Classes	27	28	1	2 Subway Lunch
6 March	5 Labour Day Holiday	6	7	8	9 Assembly Year 5, Room 12 Peta Holmes

Nolan – Student Volunteers Needed

This is my last appeal for students to volunteer to join our new faction, Nolan. If I don't have enough volunteers then it may come down to a lottery to determine who moves.

Students who already own a faction polo will be able to exchange their polo for a new Nolan polo at no cost.

Volunteers are needed as listed below. Volunteers need to be spread evenly between Belhus, Loton and Shaw. I may need to turn down some offers. When the process is completed I will publish the updated faction lists.

- Pre Primary 2 girls + 3 boys
- Year 1 3 boys
- Year 2 5 girls + 3 boys
- Year 3 5 girls
- Year 4 7 girls + 5 boys
- Year 5 6 girls + 3 boys
- Year 6 4 boys (Not from Loton) + 5 girls



Nolan Logo
Designed by Ryan Wilson
Raw Creative

Nolan – Volunteers to Change Factions

Please place slips in the box in office reception by Friday, March 2

Our child is / children are happy to move to Nolan.

Names:.....

Year Levels: **Current Faction:**

Parent Signature: **Date:**

Learning at Home – Reading

Reading Stages

Your children go through different stages as they learn to read. Most children pass through the stages below in the first four years of school (K to 2). Children learn in different ways and at different rates. Be patient and always encourage your children's efforts.

Stage 1: Role-play readers

As your children grow and develop, they begin to take an interest in books and the words they see around them. They may start to imitate you by holding books the right way up, turning the pages carefully, and pretending to read by using the pictures and their memory to retell stories. They also learn the difference between the front and back of a book, understand that words and pictures are different, and that printed words contain messages.



You can support your children by:

- reading with them every day
- encouraging and praising any attempts at pretend reading
- showing them that pictures help tell the story
- reading their favourite stories again and again – familiarity builds confidence
- not criticising them when they make mistakes – learning to read takes time.

Stage 2: Experimental readers

During this stage, your children often read by looking at the pictures and using their memory of a story. They also recognise some words, but their focus is on the meaning of a text rather than reading every word properly.

You can support your children by:

- reading with them every day
- encouraging them to have a go at reading and praising their attempts
- talking with them about sounds, words and interesting features in books and other texts like labels, shopping lists and newspapers
- talking with them about book characters and storylines
- encouraging them to express opinions about what happens in a story
- continue reading their favourite stories again

Stage 3: Early readers

At this stage, children are able to read familiar texts. When they read new texts, they may read slowly and deliberately as they focus on each word, trying to read exactly what is on the page. Your children may also begin to tell you what they think about the things they have read and why they think it.

You can support your children by:

- reading to them often and encouraging them to talk about the story
- encouraging them to express opinions about the things they read
- pointing out and talking about common words
- encouraging them to try different ways to work out a word they don't know such as sounding out
the word, using picture clues and other clues you give them, reading the sentence again, and reading on to the end of the sentence
- asking them about why they think something happened in a story, and why they think a character
said or did something
- encouraging them to talk about how they worked out a word they didn't know
- writing notes on a message board for them to read and encouraging them to leave notes too.

It's important to give your children lots of praise when they are learning to read. Avoid criticising if they get something wrong, even if it seems easy to you. Some children need lots of practise and encouragement.

Community News

Paid Advertisements – if you wish to advertise in newsletter, the cost is \$5.50 per week

Residents of Upper Swan - Proposed ratepayers' and residents' association.

You are invited to a public meeting to determine whether there is sufficient interest within the general Upper Swan community to form a ratepayers' and residents' association for Upper Swan.

Jessica Shaw, MLA, has kindly offered to attend to explain the benefits of having such an association. The meeting will be held at - **Caversham Hall, Lot 34, West Swan Road, Caversham** On **Thursday 1st March 2018 at 7.00 pm** for registration with 7.30 pm for meeting commencement.

If agreement is reached to form our own association, we will then need to:

- establish a name such as
 - Upper Swan Residents and Ratepayers Association
 - Upper Swan Ratepayers Association
 - Upper Swan Progress Association
 - Any other suitable suggestions from the floor
- elect office bearers
 - Chairperson
 - Vice-chairperson
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
- determine the number of committee members and elect same.

As tea, coffee and biscuits will be available, please RSVP via email or text by Tuesday 27 Feb 2018. Ann Winchester, 91 Apple Street. Phone 0430 355 853 / Email annw@mibs.com.au



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<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u> <small>(now sessions available due to increased demand)</small>
<u>Session 1</u> 3:45 – 4:45 MATHS YEAR 6 1 place available	<u>Session 1</u> 3:45 – 4:45 ENGLISH YEAR 7/8 3 places available	<u>Session 1</u> 3:45 – 4:45 MATHS YEAR 6 3 new places available
<u>Session 2</u> 5:00 – 6:00 COMBINED MATHS/ENGLISH YEAR 4 2 places available	<u>Session 2</u> 5:00 – 6:00 MATHS YEAR 8 1 place available	<u>Session 2</u> 5:00 – 6:00 MATHS OR ENGLISH 4 new places available <small>(This session is currently vacant therefore the grade and subject will be determined by the first student to attend)</small>