



# UPPER SWAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

An Independent Public School

1204 Great Northern Highway, Upper Swan 6069

Telephone: 9296 4622

## Newsletter

Volume 17 Term 4

15 November, 2017

### *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](http://www.upperswanps.wa.edu.au)

**Editorial** If you wish to contact the Principal - [Stephen.Green@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Stephen.Green@education.wa.edu.au)

### **Is Your Child Worth Two Minutes?**

At Upper Swan we are keen to teach your children the value of respect underpinned by the virtues of kindness, fairness, honesty and safety. Teachers, parents and adults who are significant to your children are important role models in the development of these virtues.

When dealing with the frustration that comes with picking your children up in the peak afternoon period, it is of vital importance for every one of us to be safe, honest, fair and kind in all that we say and do. Courtesy and consideration of others is of paramount importance when queuing up to enter the parent car park / kiss and ride as well as when you're exiting on to the highway.

Nobody wants the two minutes you're trying to save to be the last two minutes of your child's life.

### **Student Arrival and Departure Times**

Ideally your children should not be arriving at school until after 8:15. Some children are here at 7:30 and sometimes earlier. Children arriving before 8:15 should be in before school care. In the afternoons all children who aren't going to our on-site after school care (Camp Australia) should be picked up by 3:15.

The information below may help you out.

### **Before School Care At Upper Swan Primary in 2018**

From day 1 in term 1 2018 (Wednesday, January 31) here at our school Camp Australia will be starting before school care. They will open from 6:30am then take your children to class from 8:30 to 8:45.

Families already registered with Camp Australia simply need to log in to their website to book your "before school" places. (Please note the website has our school name as **Upper Swan Valley Primary School**).

Families registering for the first time are able to visit the website, create a log in, then book places for before and after school care. The website is:

<https://www.campaustralia.com.au/Parents/New/>

Remember to look for Upper Swan **Valley** Primary School.

Camp Australia holiday programs run in several locations in the Ellenbrook and Aveley area. Children registered at Upper Swan are able to book in to these programs. The nearest one is at Swan Valley Anglican Community School.

For the last five years Camp Australia has run after school care at our school. The standard of care has been excellent plus we make a reasonable amount of money from hiring our facilities to them. With the additional of before school care, we will be able to charge more. This means more resources and better facilities for your children.

### **Pillow Case Project**

This sounds like a charity, but what it really is about is having the Red Cross come to our school to teach children how to prepare for an emergency house evacuation. As we are in a fire prone area, it is a topic that is relevant to our community. If you have a child in rooms 8, 9 and 19 you may have heard from them the special session they had last Wednesday about "Pillow Case".

As we will soon move into summer, the Red Cross is increasing its preparedness education by running a series of RediPlan sessions for adults. This is a free preparedness information session of 1 hour for adults on how to get prepared using the Red Cross RediPlan tool.

If you are interested in a session run here at our school, please reply to this email. Please state which time suits you best: 1:30pm or 6:30pm. If enough people are interested, I will book in a date.

### **What has the P & C Ever Done for Us?**

Volunteering is a community building and school building experience where the ultimate reward is seeing those you have helped have a better life and a better education than they otherwise would have had.

Our school and your children benefit greatly from the work of volunteers. Our volunteers act as mentors; support children with reading and spelling; act as general assistants in the classroom; and attend camps, incursions, excursions, busy bees and school events; Book Fairs and Book Club, school banking, Woolworth's Earn and Learn, Subway and Toastie Tuesday lunches and sausage sizzles. I'm certain you can think of many other ways volunteers help our school.

The most active volunteer group is our P & C. Every year their tireless efforts result in many thousands of dollars being spent on things we could not afford. When you think an average year at least \$10 000 is donated, it soon adds up. Here's a list of things that spring to mind:

- 60 iPads and two charging stations.
- 10 interactive white boards.
- Nature play garden equipment.
- Sensory garden and outdoor classroom spaces in the kindy and pre-primary classes
- Vegetable garden beds
- Library refurbishment.
- Free buses for the concert day.
- Subsidised travel for children representing our school at inter-school events.
- Re-cabling the computer network in the senior block
- Buying a whole reading series
- Play equipment for our junior primary 'loose parts play shed'.
- Extra shed storage for the kindy and pre-primary classes.

Of course all fundraising events rely not only on the brilliant organisation of our P & C members, they rely on your support.

On behalf of our P & C, I appeal to you to consider if you have the time to volunteer your support to our school by attending P & C meetings to share your ideas. Being a P & C member does not mean you get a job to do. Sometimes it's just attending meetings to share your thoughts and helping our P & C to make informed decisions. Anything beyond that is up to each individual to decide. Can you volunteer?

### **New Sports Faction**

The advisory committee last evening held an open meeting. Ten people attended – six committee members plus four parents and friends. The colour has pretty much been set. The technical name for it is garnet. It is one of the standard shirt colours, meaning the cost is the same as existing faction shirts.

The image gives you an idea of the colour. It will be in the same style as the other faction shirts.



I am seeking further feedback from the committee and school board members on the name and logo. The names discussed were Stirling, Minchin, Haddrill and Irwin – all to do with European exploration and settlement. Some of these families have historical links to our school. We also discussed Wandoo. Wandoo is a local tree species synonymous with the Swan Valley. It is commonly known as white gum. The Wandoo Heights Nature Reserve is located at the eastern end of Loton Road, Padbury Avenue and William Street. The names most favoured at the meeting were Stirling, Wandoo and Minchin. This will be considered when making the final decision.

Our aim is to have the new faction in place for the beginning of next year. Soon we will be calling for volunteers to join the new faction. Those with a faction polo will be able to bring their shirt in the uniform shop and do a free trade in for a new 'garnet' shirt. We hope to have the new shirts available by the end of term 2, in time for the cross country and term 3 athletics carnival.

### Office Reception

Our school officer, Mrs Karen Lee, is on leave for the rest of the year so she can care for her husband as he is unwell. On behalf of our community I send Karen and Roger our best wishes and positive thoughts. In her absence we have Mrs Lisa Jones working most days with support from Mrs Rebecca Pedrotti.

Mrs Alicia Peden is our Manager of Corporate Services. She is on a contract until mid-March, 2018. The job will be advertised on the Jobs WA website early in January. The selection process will take place in February. The successful applicant will begin on March 19.

### Dance Concert – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November

By now I trust you are well aware of the dance concert taking place next Friday, November 24.

Please be aware it is a highly stressful day for staff as they work very hard behind the scenes to get things organised and to keep your children calm. For this reason I ask you to take our staff and your children in to consideration as you read through these key points.

1. **Doors Open** around 11:45am. There is a chance it could be a bit earlier. The first item begins at **12:00pm**. Finish time is around **2:00pm**.
2. **Transport:** There is an expectation that all children attend school in the morning then travel to the venue on the bus with their class. Travel is free as our P & C is covering the cost. Children should then return to school on the bus where you are able to pick them up either at the normal finish time of 2:50pm or a bit earlier if that is what you want to do.
3. **Parent Transport:** If you plan on taking your children to venue and / or picking your children up from Midvale at the end of the concert, can you please write a note to your child's teacher outlining the **essential reason** for doing so. It is important for child safety that at all times we know where your children are and who they are with.
4. **Staying to the end:** Out of respect for all year levels, every audience member should stay until the last item is completed. Children from earlier items can't be collected early then allowed in to the audience area to watch the rest of the concert.
5. **Photography** is allowed as this year there is no video. If taking photos, please stay in your seat and think of the people sitting behind you. Photos can only be used on social media if your child is the only person in the photo. You are not allowed to upload group and class photos that have children other than your own in them.
6. **P & C Christmas Raffle** – tickets will be on sale as you enter the venue. \$1 per ticket. Your support will be appreciated.

**Assembly this Friday**, November 17, is being hosted by Mrs Slater and her amazingly talented Year 4/5 class. Start time is approximately 8:50. The weather is meant to be raining and cool, so be prepared.

## P & C News

### Colour Run Fundraising

The website to make donations to the Colour Run is not available. Unfortunately this means it is not possible to make online donations. Please keep up the fantastic effort to supporting this event. The Colour Run is also the reward for all children who have achieved Silver, Gold and Platinum badge awards. Your support for this event will make is a memorable occasion for your children.



**Commonwealth**Bank



### **SCHOOL BANKING**

Every **Tuesday** 8.15am – 8.45am in Library

Regards Helen Ainsworth - School Banking  
Coordinator

### **Uniform Shop**

Tuesday afternoons 2.30pm – 3.00pm

Thursday mornings 8.30am – 9.30am

Enquiries: Jenelle 0411 183 099

# Upper Swan Primary School CoLoUR RUN 2017

Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> of December is the date for the combined reward/ P and C Fundraiser

## CoLoUR RUN.

Students will be running the course at two time slots.

Our Year 3-6 students will be coloured from 12:15pm.

Our Kindergarten – Year 2 students will be coloured from 1:50pm.

The time includes guidelines, warm up and the donning of glasses. Students will go in waves (classes). The course spreads over the whole school with many opportunities for students to add to their colour and be cooled! Everyone receives an icy pole at the end to congratulate students on their efforts.

We have asked teachers to walk the course with students prior to the day, so students are familiar with where to go. We are hoping to have heaps of adults on the course to assist on the day.

The gates to the school will be closed for this time (approx. 12:00pm-2:45pm), as the car parks are a part of the course.

We are still waiting on the shirts but are assured they will be here. For the day, apart from your new white shirt, old clothing is recommended. The colour is meant to come out but let's not take a chance with good clothes or school clothes! A hat, closed in shoes (old runners) and sunscreen are essential as students will be on the course for 30 minutes. As there will be water along the course a towel to dry off may also be a good idea.

To make this day the best it can be we need heaps of parent volunteers.

If you are able to help on the day- junior, senior or both, your help would be greatly appreciated. We will go over duties with you before the day, but it will be tasks such as colour throwers (dressed in the colour of your station), assisting with students going in the right direction, at the water station, supervising obstacles, helping set up and pack away, motivating, cheering and laughing.

Please let Jess Staggard, your P and C President know or contact me and I will put you on the list.

Thank you all in advance in making this a fantastic day for our students. Woohoo!!

Beth Kerry

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