ROCKINGHAM
Montessori SCHOOL Inc

REFLECTIONS NEWSLETTER - Edition # 9 2018

Our Mission

To provide a Montessori environment in which the needs of the whole child are met in a nurturing, safe and caring school, by encouraging independence, mutual respect and self-discipline so that students are prepared to take their place in the global community.

Diary Dates

Friday 14 September
Whole School Meeting
Year 12 Graduation

Wednesday 10 October
Students return

Thursday 11 October
Community Spirit Meeting

Friday 12 October
Year 12's last day

Monday 15 October
Family Zone Parent ED

Tuesday 30 October
AP Parent ED

Thursday 22 November
Year 6 Transition Day

Monday 3 December
Swimming Lessons Commence

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ROCKINGHAM Montessori SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Vanessa Aikins

I am delighted to share the news that our fantastic Education Assistant in the Penguins class, Natalie Wright is pregnant and thus will be on maternity leave for semester one 2019. We are currently in the process of backfilling Nat's position as is Amy from Our Place OSHC. We congratulate both Nat and Scott for this wonderful news and look forward to their new edition having lots of new aunts and uncles from staff.

From Thursday 6 to Sunday 9 September RMS hosted the sixth annual Meeting in the Middle Forum for Montessori Adolescent practitioners across Australasia. Our audience consisted of teachers from Brisbane Montessori, New Zealand's WaOra Montessori, Melbourne Montessori, New South Wales' Templestow Montessori, Jakarta Montessori, The Hills Montessori and Southern Montessori both from South Australia along with the five Western Australian Montessori Adolescent Programs. Our academic journey commenced on Thursday night at Beehive Montessori then Friday morning saw us visit The Montessori School in Kingsley and Treetops Montessori in Darlington in the afternoon. RMS proudly hosted the Saturday program and Sunday we visited Perth Individual which is a Montessori inspired school in Burswood.

I would like to thank our Adolescent Program and Upper Primary staff who attended and most importantly our wonderful Adolescent Program administrator Deb Bird for assisting with coordinating registrations, accommodation, travel arrangements, catering, liaison with presenters and overall program coordination along with ensuring with the help of Stella Onderwater, our Adolescent Program Education Assistant, that our Adolescent Program environment shone - literally. Thanks also goes to Tony Gillespie our Adolescent Program Deputy Principal for his presentation on the recent Senior School Odyssey and to Zac for presenting with me on his recent student exchange to Germany. A big thank you also to Deb Dwyer for assisting with catering and for Jenny Short and Asti Jorgensen covering the relief for Friday. The twenty various workshops over the five days were exceptional and our staff have not only absorbed as much knowledge as humanly possible but have been inspired with new ideas and have formed strong networks which will further enhance opportunities for our adolescents now and into the future. I will certainly be putting our hand up again in the future to host this and many other events as we received such positive feedback about the quality of our school and particularly our Adolescent Program which made us all so proud.

Part of our wonderful school community that I love is how our families work together to support each other in carpooling. That being said our teachers are not always aware of who has been arranged to collect children and this is essential. Please advise your child's class teacher of any arrangements you have in place for people other than yourself to collect your child from class. In the event that you have younger children asleep in your car on arrival to pick up and you ask another parent to bring your child to you, please phone or email reception@rms.wa.edu.au to advise this is occurring thus ensuring the teachers are providing their duty of care requirements.

I would like to thank all parents and students for completing the online MYP survey over the past two weeks. Your feedback is greatly appreciated and will help to shape the schools future directions. Please take a look at our new School website rms.wa.edu.au, whilst this has been a significant undertaking for both the administration staff and the School Board we welcome any feedback and we particularly thank Dee Dance for her commitment to this task.

I look forward to seeing all families at our Graduation Ceremony for our year 12 students on Friday and I hope families have a wonderful break over this extended holiday period.

Community Spirit Spring Fair

The Community Spirit Spring Fair was held on Thursday 30 August. Thank you to all who participated and to Ferne and Natasha who coordinated this fantastic event.

Maria Montessori Birthday

The children celebrated Maria Montessori's 148th year by cooking and enjoying pizza's for lunch.

ROCKINGHAM Montessori SCHOOL

Administration News

Up-Cycle Art Project Exhibition

Come and see what the Jellyfish students and the Adolescent Program students have created for the Up-Cycle Art Project Exhibition. They have worked hard with visiting artists in residence to create a sculpture out of recycled materials.

At: Rockingham Art Centre, 11 Kent Street, Rockingham
When: Friday 21— Monday 24 September 2018 10am—3pm daily

Absentee Notifications

It is very important to notify us if your child is absent. This can be done by phone call to the reception 95282118 , emailing reception@admin.wa.edu.au or by popping in to the office whilst delivering a sibling to school.

Please do not send absentee notifications through Seesaw, Thank you.

Community Spirit

The next Community Spirit meeting will be Thursday 11 October at 9am at the Primary school site. Topic of conversation is the up coming Carols on the Green event, everyone welcome.

School Banking

Volunteer Required

We are looking for another Coordinator to help with running our School Banking Program each week on Wednesday mornings in the under cover area.

If you are able to help keep this fantastic program running and would like to know more, please contact Dee in the office or come to the School Banking table on a Wednesday morning at 8:30am

Program Co-ordinator

"The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence." Dr. Maria Montessori

The current focus value at Rockingham Montessori School is: **responsibility**
The value of being responsible is having others trust you, others can count on you. You act and work with excellence. You take responsibility for your actions and possible consequences. In the likelihood of making a mistake you offer apologies and ways to help the situation, not excuses. If you are responsible and show your responsibility, it helps keep you and others safe.

Dr. Montessori informed us that freedom is essential to a child's development and this freedom is aligned with responsibility. At Rockingham Montessori School your child's teacher would gradually grant this freedom within the limit of responsibility. Children become aware that they are responsible for the environment, materials, friendships and their own behaviour. They are responsible to structure their own learning throughout the day, this includes time management to ensure they achieve their goals and complete work. Although, your child can choose their work, they may be guided by their teacher and must ensure it is completed thoroughly.

In Children's House, the teachers and assistants are carefully ensuring all materials are used with a responsible manner and are treated with the utmost care. These young children are forming their personal interests and making job selections within the room. They methodically work to completion before carefully putting away all materials. The children carry out chores, including: cleaning up after themselves after snack and in the event of making any spills, caring for class pets and packing away at the end of lunch time.

Children in Lower Primary are continuing on by making work selections, working to completion and packing away all required materials with care. Chores become a part of the daily schedule to ensure the classroom environment is well cared for and valued. They are beginning to record their learning through various work planners.

Program Co-ordinator

In Upper Primary the students are planning their day in the morning, in their personal journals and recording once it is completed against their work tracker. They complete chores throughout the school, including caring for the chickens, compost and worm farms. These students are exploring an extended 'going-out' program to strengthen their sports curriculum and pedagogy of place within Rockingham. The classroom teacher has granted these students with extra responsibilities outside the classroom and in the wider community, students in the Upper Primary need to take responsibility for their actions and understand others are counting on them.

The Adolescent students need to take responsibility for their learning and this includes long term planning where they select interest and teacher directed projects for the term. They also have work trackers to ensure they are keeping on schedule with their goals. These work trackers, planners and journals are reviewed by your child and their teacher regularly.

Through every cycle at Rockingham Montessori School students are granted a level of freedom and this is under the careful guidance of their classroom teacher. This freedom within limits is provided when students are able to demonstrate their growing independence and responsibility. Ultimately it is the responsibility of the child to ensure they progress in their learning with the guidance of their classroom teacher.

Rockingham Montessori staff will be exploring examples of responsibility within the classroom and playground. We would encourage you to discuss the value of responsibility at home and the wider community.

You can model **responsibility** by:

- Treating others, the environment and yourself with respect.
- Being on time.
- Being prepared for the day.
- Talking about making responsible financial decisions.

Asti Jorgensen
Primary Program Coordinator

Playgroup

With more friendly weather on the way we are finally able to start moving outdoors for story and song-time. Please remember to bring sun hats, long sleeves and sunscreen to each session to protect yourself and your child from the sun.

Term dates start on:
Wednesday 10th October, Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th October.

Thank you Nicole for helping out every Wednesday with our group. Thank you Emma and family for taking our plants home for some extra care during the holidays.

Enjoy the spring holidays and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Orla Dinneen
Infant Toddler Program Leader

School Camp

Last week the Lower and Upper Primary students had their bags packed for the adventure of the year 'CAMP'! They eagerly climbed aboard the bus, took their seats and waited for the next three days of activities and of course fun.

From kite making (and flying), orienteering, ultimate sports, beach games, sandcastle making, search and rescue missions, beachcombing and so much more the Lower Primary students enjoyed the activities on offer by Woodman Point. For many students, this was the first sleepover away from home and what a beautiful place to be. There were a few tears and missing home moments but once asleep they all slept soundly and awoke with smiling faces.

The Upper Primary students joined the adventures when harnessing up, walking (or crawling) to the edge and stepping off, zooming along the zipline, with bravery came upside down and arms out tricks. Rock climbing was a challenge for many and each time they took their feet off the ground and leapt for that first hand placement, they decided where their goal was; they were going to climb higher than the last time. Some important skills were learnt during search and rescue missions, surf lifesaving and first aid training.

Rest assured whilst the Lower Primary children were snuggled up in their beds, fast asleep, the Upper Primary students were enjoying 'Uppers Got Talent' and Minute to Win It activities.

Making beds, tidying rooms and being on time for activities were just some of the ways students demonstrated their growing independence and responsibility. Camp is such a wonderful extended 'going out' experience for students in many ways, including the extended amount of social time with students from other classes. Reflective writing and meal times were full of conversations and laughter, including discussions of favourite activities and the best parts of the day were a buzz through the dining halls.

RMS would like to thank all those who helped with the Woodman Point Camp for 2018. To the staff that assisted in camp preparations, you are valued and we understand this process has taken many, many months. To the staff that went along during the day and joined in with the activities we appreciate your flexibility and efforts. To the many staff who bunked in overnight, giving up their home comforts to embrace the experiences with the students, you are amazing. Of course to our parent helpers who came along to lend a helping hand overnight. For those parents who were nervous about sending their children off for not one, but two nights, we appreciate the trust you have in the RMS staff for ensuring your child will be taken care of. Most importantly, the students appreciate the efforts more than you know and without all of these people camp just would not be possible.

School Camp

Upper Primary Camp

Hi, my name is Amazon and I will tell you about the dorms at our camp. Asha and I were in a dorm with 2 girls named Shanita and Summer. While we set up our beds and chose our bunks we realised that we were all very great friends. We had a good amount of things in common. Whenever we were given time to hang out in our dorms we laughed while joking and we played games like 'truth or dare' and we did rank our 'girliness', of course I was the least 'girly' one! By Amazon

Hi, my name is Asha and I would like to tell you about a very important part of camp, food! The reason I am talking about this is because I am a vegetarian, so my food is a little bit different to everyone elses. Here is my input on the food at camp. It was the best camp food I have ever had and I don't know what everyone else's tasted like I am assuming it was delicious just like mine! The only difference was mine had vegetables instead of meat in it. I loved dessert! The first night we had chocolate cake and the next night we had chocolate mousse, which is my personal favourite. My favourite of all was the quiche which the vegetarians had for lunch. By Asha

On Monday 1st September I went to Woodman Point for my first school camp in my whole life. My three favourite activities were;
Zip Line. I loved the sinking feeling I got when I jumped off the platform.
Search and Rescue. I loved the way we had to find clues with a map and the enemy jumped out to scare us.
Hair Dying. I loved the colours and it made me look so pretty! By Tayah

Rockingham Montessori School Upper Primary Camp experience.
Tuesday morning I overdosed on five packets of vegemite.
I nearly got frostbite from the Surf Rescue.
Failed completely at Minute to Win it.
I got to see Ethan W. and Jayden T.
I eat I sleep and I eat more. By Ethan J

Adolescent Program

The sun has set on Term 3 at the Adolescent Program

What an amazing term, bookended with superb Adolescent Program highlights. We started our term with our inaugural Odyssey, a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the intrepid group that took on the challenge; we finished the term with the very successful *Meeting in the Middle*. Odyssey had our senior students broadening their horizons and stepping way outside of their comfort zones; *Meeting in the Middle* involved the staff also broadening their horizons, engaging in collaborative professional learning alongside adolescent program teachers and administrators from across Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia.

Without doubt the outcomes from these types of events can and will have a profound impact upon our students, staff and the programs we run. For our seniors, the focus of Odyssey was an emphasis on a *Pedagogy of Place*; understanding the unique history, geography, environment, culture and economy of Western Australia; and appreciating the attachment that others may have to their land. All this will aid our students own "sense of place" and their understanding of their place in the world.

More has and will be written about the wonderful *Meeting in the Middle.* Suffice to say the range of topics for professional learning was astounding, too long to list here. The most important take-away for me was the constant affirmation that we at Rockingham Montessori School have a very strong program, regarded as amongst the most innovative and highly regarded in our region.

Aside from *Meeting in the Middle*, our staff have engaged in a range of other professional learning activities, including: the Montessori Refresher in Sydney with emphasis on use of Montessori Maths materials (with American guru, Mike Waski); Big Picture Education Australia training, focusing on University entry via portfolio processes; leadership and teamwork development; training on dealing with Critical Grief and First Aid training; as well as sessions on dyslexia and literacy development through the Sounds Write program. Our ongoing focus and commitment to addressing each individual AP student's needs shaping the long list.

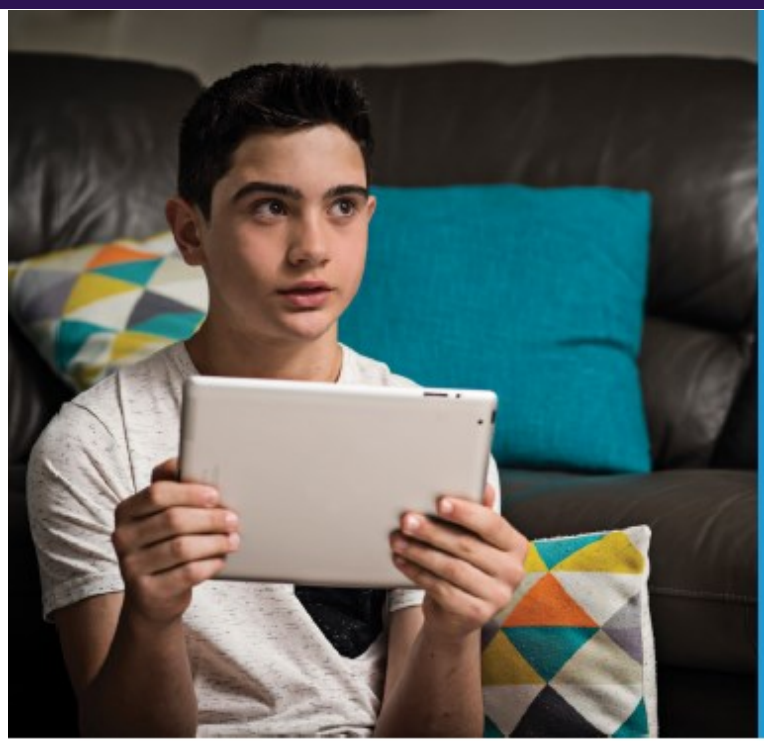
Cont….

Adolescent Program Cont...

Term 3 co-curricular events have also provided something for everyone. Our wonderful entry in this year's "UpCycle" recycled artwork competition is awaiting its Exhibition Opening date (Friday 21st Sept, Rockingham Arts Centre). As mentioned in the previous Newsletter, our Pedal Prix team crossed the finish line in Busselton, successfully completing the gruelling six-hour challenge. To finish the term for senior students, the Senior School Formal, at AQWA, was held in conjunction with senior students from Treetops Montessori, Kingsley Montessori and Perth Individual School. This wonderful annual event again presented an opportunity for our students to extend their social circles, with many new friendships formed.

Tony Gillespie
AP Deputy Principal

Family zone Parent ED



family zone

ROCKINGHAM Montessori SCHOOL

Protecting students

At school, at home and everywhere in between

family zone

- Removes adult content for safe searching.
- Manage use of social apps and in-app purchasing.
- Set routines for what they can access, when – plus give devices sleep times.
- Family Zone app and router works across every device, everywhere.

Rockingham Montessori School is proud to partner with Family Zone

Family Zone is a complete online cyber safety solution that protects your children at school, at home and when they are out and about.

Simple to set up, easy to use, and supported by a team of cyber experts, if your children are online you need Family Zone.

Cyber Safety Information Evening

with Cyber Experts from ySafe

Monday 15 October 6pm

Date to be confirmed

Installers available from 5pm - 8pm
Please bring your children's devices if you would like assistance activating your FamilyZone account

For more information and to register for the information evening visit:

familyzone.com/rmswa

ROCKINGHAM Montessori SCHOOL

School Community News

Cancer Fundraiser

New members to the School the Holmes Family, are participating in this challenging fundraiser:

The Great Cycle Challenge Australia takes place during the month of October, we ride our bikes and raise awareness and much needed funds for the Children's Medical Research Institute to help develop better treatments and find a cure for childhood cancer.
September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, as we get ready for our ride next month we remember those lives lost to cancer; and also support and celebrate those brave kids who are fighting cancer now. Because every 2 minutes, a child gets diagnosed with cancer.

We are doing this challenge as a team, because as a family we have had family members and dear friends fight cancer with lots of bravery. Our goal is to ride 200km and raise $500. We hope you can help us fundraise for this great cause.

www.GreatCycleChallenge.com.au/Teams/Holmes

"I hope they find many different ways to treat cancer so that people don't die from it anymore." Enzo

"It would be great to find a cure for cancer so I want to fundraise to help find a cure." - G

Community News

Up-Cycle Art Project Exhibition

Rockingham Arts Centre, 11 Kent Street, Rockingham

Friday 21 September until Monday 24 September 2018

10am - 3pm daily

Proudly supporting the Act-Belong-Commit Breakthrough Music Competition Finals held on **Sunday 23 September, 11am - 1pm** in the courtyard.

Up-Cycle Art Project is a competition of creative sculptures developed by local primary and secondary students, with sculptures being created from recyclable objects.
Primary Schools Competition sponsored by Alcoa and Secondary Schools Competition sponsored by Rockingham Lions Club.

For more information visit the City's website **www.rockingham.wa.gov.au** or contact **9528 0333** or **customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au**

www.rockingham.wa.gov.au

ALCOA healthway City of Rockingham

Community News

OctSwim

Enrol 2 kids for the price of 1!

Tuesday 25 September 2018 – Friday 5 October 2018
(Week day lessons only)

Lesson Times between 12.30pm – 2.45pm
Cost $70 per child for 9 x 30 min lessons

Drop form into pool or email
Swimschool@rockingham.wa.gov.au

61 Council Ave, Rockingham
(08) 9591 0835

www.rockingham.wa.gov.au

ENDORSED SWIM SCHOOL

Rockingham Aquatic Centre

Community News

Triple P Positive Parenting Program

Government of **Western Australia**
Child and Adolescent Health Service

Triple P Positive Parenting Program

You are invited to attend a Group Triple P. Triple P teaches positive, practical and effective ways to manage common issues which most parents will face.

Parents will learn effective parenting strategies such as ways to encourage behaviour you like, how to promote your child's development and how to prevent or manage common child behaviour problems.

The next **FREE** 8 week Group is held:

When: Starting 17 October 2018
Location: Darius Wells Library, Kwinana
RSVP: Bookings are essential and places are limited.

To book online:
www.trybooking.com/XNPA

Unable to book online?
Please call 1300 749 869

To find other available programs visit our website
www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/parentgroups

Community News

Parenting Education

Kids and Anxiety

For parents of children ages 3 -12 years

Whilst some feelings of anxiety can be a normal part of children's development, an increasing number of children are experiencing higher levels of anxiety that are impacting on their everyday life. This session aims to assist parents and caregivers to understand anxiety and provides strategies for parents and caregivers to use at home with their children.

Event Details

When	Thursday 22nd November
Time	6.15pm – 8.15pm
Where	Warnbro Community and Family Centre 1 Moreton Cres Warnbro
Cost	Free
Crèche	Unavailable

Further Information-

Contact KEYS on 9439 1838 for further information or to register.

Supported by

Meerilinga

KEYS

SOUTH WEST METROPOLITAN PARENTING PARTNERSHIP

Warnbro Community and Family Centre

COMMUNICARE
CREATING FUTURES

Community News

School Holiday Entertainment

KIDS' HOLIDAY COURSES

Enrol now in one of our Kids' Courses!

Kids' courses are back! Running Tue 25 Sep – Fri 5 Oct, FAC's holiday program is full of fun, crafty, creative workshops. Kids get hands-on experience, learning different art techniques to make their own pieces to take home and keep. With classes in animation, painting, fashion, felting, music, jewellery, pottery, drawing and more, there's something to suit all interests and abilities. Browse the schedule for younger kids (5–8 years), older kids (9–12 years) and teens and enrol your child to secure a place.

Browse the full program and ENROL here!

City of Fremantle | FREMANTLE ARTS CENTRE

Community News

LEGO Exhibition & Competition

Start building now, entries open 1st September 2018

Are you a Master Builder?
Bricktober – Perth is pleased to announce the 'Future Exhibitors Competition' for 15 year olds and under. You have the chance to be awarded the tile of "Master Builder" and exhibit at Bricktober-Perth 2018. The entry judged the best in each category will be invited to display their creation at the show as a "Master Builder".
The competition opens for submissions from 1st September 2018 and closes on 15th September 2018. But you can start **building now !!!** http://www.bricktober.info/pre-show-competitions

Other activities available prior to the event include:

- Shoe Box - Make Your Own Creation, to be run during the Sept/Oct school holidays. There are a number of different age categories from 3 years to adults.
-

Colouring competition, download a LEGO® picture, colour it in and drop it off at the Bricktober event to be in the draw to win LEGO themed prizes. Details at http://www.bricktober.info/pre-show-competitions
All details for each of these competitions can be found on the Bricktober website or Facebook page. The website is www.bricktober.info and the Facebook page is: www.facebook.com/Bricktober

DATE: Bricktober - Perth will be held over the weekend of 6 and 7 October 2018.
WHERE: Curtin Stadium, Curtin University, Bentley Campus
TIME: Commencing at 9.00am and finishing each day at 4.30pm.
TICKETS: Are available for purchase on-line, please nominate the day and time you would like to attend. Get in early and choose the time you prefer. Individual tickets are $10 per person, a Family of 4 ticket is $30. Children 2 years and under admitted free.

To pre-purchase your ticket please go to http://www.bricktober.info/booking-2018/ and follow the prompts.

ACTIVITIES at Bricktober - Perth include:

- Over 250 tables of LEGO® models built by fans of LEGO® in Perth
- A 'Brickpit' with over 30,000 LEGO® bricks where children can play.
- Animated LEGO® films on a big screen.
- Competitions - sign up on the day.
- Food and refreshments available for purchase.
- LEGO® items available for purchase.
- Appearances by Star Wars, Superhero and Princesses over both days, see website for details.
- Drive a LEGO® train or Technic remote-controlled vehicle.
- Lots of LEGO® to touch, play and build. Over 800m2 of LEGO® in the Interactive Zone

Community News

Perth Zoo

Eye to Eye

Dino-mad fans, young and old, this one's for you.

Meet some of our prehistoric friends and learn about what led to their extinction.

Depressing? Not at all! You'll be inspired to join us on our mission to save wildlife.

Finish up your tour with a special living animal encounter.

Available daily at 1:45pm.
PLUS 11:30am on weekends & school holidays.
Cost: $12

Playleozone

Little palaeontologists will have a dino-riffic time at our bespoke Playleozone.

They can get hands on, uncovering dinosaur fossils hidden in our special digging pits, or get creative with cool dinosaur col-ouring-ins!

Open every day from 9:30am to 3:00pm

Dino-mite Holiday Programs

Keeper Kids
Ages: 5 - 7 | Cost: $48
Learn more

Zoo Crew
Ages: 8 - 13 | Cost: $89
Learn more

Wild Vets
Ages: 14 - 18 | Cost: $120
Learn more

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Perth Zoo
SAVING WILDLIFE

Open 7 days 9am – 5pm
20 Labouchere Road
South Perth WA 6151
Telephone: +61 8 9474 0444