



Grow with Respect

The Davallian

27th February 2026

No. 2

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Dear Parents and Community Members,

C3 Assembly

What a fantastic assembly we had yesterday. Miss Pickering's Year 3 class, C3, did a wonderful job educating us all on celebrations across a vast range of cultures. Dressed in red and sporting Chinese New Year symbols, the Year 3's delivered an entertaining and very informative assembly. Mr Leaning said the singing and public speaking was of the highest standard throughout. Well done Miss Pickering and amazing C3.

Our next assembly is set for Thursday the 12th of March and because it falls during NAPLAN, we have scheduled a 2.25pm start. Also, on this day, it is 'Boardies Day' at Davallia PS and we will be raising money for the Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club. The club does a fantastic job looking after us when we do our beach swimming lessons and when our staff do their annual Surf Rescue requalification later in March.



HELPERS NEEDED - School Vegie Garden – Volunteers Needed Urgently

Wanted! Volunteers to help in the school vegetable garden.

We would love some expert knowledge to help grow some delicious vegetables. Friday lunchtime would be ideal, to support students to access the garden.

Expressions of interest - please email katy.chapman@education.wa.edu.au



Davallia Primary School
6 Juniper Way
Duncraig WA 6023

T. 9246 8750
E. davallia.ps@education.wa.edu.au

www.davalliaps.wa.edu.au

SMS student absences to
0408 924 839

Enjoy your long weekend and have a great fortnight.

Remember, 'It's not hard to be kind!'

Principal's Message (Continued)

Beach Swimming Lessons for Years 4—6

I know many of our parents would be looking at our Beach Swimming lessons and thinking, 'Why didn't we get to start our school years doing that?'

It has been a tremendous week, and apart from yesterday, the weather has been incredible. The children have been enthusiastic, responsible and respectful at all times and I know that the swimming teachers really enjoy working with them.

Attending beach swimming lessons for the first time, our Year 4's have been fantastic. Brave, and prepared to have a go, they have overcome their worries to prove that they are well and truly ready for the challenge. Mrs Kendrick, often in the water herself helping students, has reported that even the children who were very unfamiliar with beach conditions persevered and have been showing improved confidence and dare. I guess you'll never know what you are capable of if you don't at least have a go.

As usual, I am so proud of all of their efforts.



Early Close – Provided for Working Parents

On Wednesday the final siren sounds at 2:45pm and children can either go home, go to after school care or go to the new under cover area to be supervised by admin until 3:10pm. Kiss & Drive operates at 2:45pm and again from 3:10pm. Students who use the early close supervision are walked by admin staff up to Kiss & Drive close to 3:10pm. At 3:10pm all children except for Pre-Primary children are dismissed from the under cover area. Pre-primary children who have not been collected by 3.10pm are escorted to the Administration.

All children who use early close supervision must bring a book to read. Early close supervision is provided to support working parents who would find it difficult to be at school at 2.45pm. All other parents are expected to collect their children at 2.45pm each Wednesday.

Kiss and Drive

Mr Leaning mentioned at yesterday's assembly that should children need support from Mum, Dad, Grandma, Grandad, brother, sister or the dog, to exit the car, Kiss & Drive is not for them. For Kiss & Drive to operate properly, children must be able to get in and out of the car and onto the footpath unassisted. If bags or instruments are in the boot of vehicles, staff will assist. Drivers never exit the vehicle. Remember also that Kiss & Drive works best when leaving Juniper Way drivers turn left as you exit Juniper Way. Turning right impacts everyone trying to use Kiss & Drive even further along Davallia Road well before Juniper Way turn off.

Finally, never put your children in danger by encouraging them to enter the car on the roadside of the vehicle. Make sure ahead of time that access to the car is simple from the footpath and everyone will be safe and Kiss & Drive will work smoothly. Children have been reminded to get to Kiss & Drive quickly, so parents are not forced to wait or asked to do a loop. We definitely don't want to change our world-famous Kiss & Drive's name to Park & Wait!

Boardies Day – Come on Davallia! Show us your boardies!

We will be holding a Boardies Day at Davallia Primary school on Thursday 12th March. Boardies Day is a bit of fun to acknowledge the fantastic work of our and Lifeguards and volunteer Surf Life Savers. We are fortunate to have the team at Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club with their watchful eyes protecting our students and community. So on Thursday 12th March 2026, bring along a gold coin donation and wear your boardies to school!

Kindy kids who do not attend school on this day will be provided with another date so they don't miss out. So come on Davallia Show us ya boardies!



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Principal's Message (Continued)

School Operational Times

School times are as follows:

Monday to Friday

8.40 am	Classrooms Open	Students arrive at school, attend class and ready for the day
8.55 am	Period 1	Siren sounds for the start of the day
9.40 am	Period 2	
10.25 am	Period 3	
11.10 am	Recess	Siren Sounds (20 min recess time)
11.30 am	Period 4	Siren sounds and children return to class
11.50 am	Period 5	
1.00 pm	Lunch	Siren Sounds (40 min lunch time)
1.40 pm	Period 6	Siren Sounds and children return to class
2.25 pm	Period 7	
3.10 pm	School Concludes	

NB: Each Wednesday the school closes at 2.45pm

Enjoy your long weekend and have a great fortnight.
Remember, 'It's not hard to be kind!'



John O'Neill
Principal

Help Needed – We have no Traffic Warden—Just 10 hours per week!

Traffic Wardens Needed– Are you interested? Do you know someone who may be interested?

Currently the Traffic Warden State Management Unit of the WA Police Force are experiencing a significant shortage in traffic wardens and are unable to fill vacant positions, including here on Davallia Road.

A number of years ago, I would man the crosswalk in the absence of a Traffic Warden, however, I was informed it was illegal for me to do so as only a trained Traffic Warden or a Police Officer is legally permitted to stop traffic.

What is the eligibility criteria to become a Traffic Warden?

Having spoken to the Traffic Warden State Management Unit this morning, they have informed me the initial criteria for a Traffic Warden is:

- to have access to email
- a full driving licence with access to a vehicle and
- be able to work the full 10 shifts per week. The shifts will be an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon. Initially they would be a relief warden covering at various crossings within a 10km radius of their home.

How do I apply and what is the process?

If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a Traffic Warden, you/they can contact the Traffic Warden State Management Unit of the WA Police Force on 6274 8735 to obtain an application pack. Once the application is submitted it will be passed to the Personal Security Vetting Unit of the WA Police Force and if they support the application, the applicant will then be sent a medical assessment form to take to their doctor. Once this has been passed, the applicant will then be invited to attend a training day in Midland.

If you or someone you know maybe interested, please contact the Traffic Warden State Management Unit of the WA Police Force on 6274 8735 to obtain an application pack.

Associate Principal's Message



THAT'S ME

2026 is my twenty first and final year at this incredible school, Davallia. I will be retiring in December, proud to say I believe I have made a difference.

I received my first teaching position at 21 years of age, I won the deputy principal position at Davallia in the year I turned 42 and, as I embark on my 21st year, I will have invested half of my career in helping make Davallia the great school it is. There's a bit of symmetry in those numbers and a lot of satisfaction in what I've achieved over the 42 years I've been an educator.

Over the course of this final year, I am going to write a series of newsletter articles reflecting on the past twenty-one years and the change I have seen and been a part of. For much of this time I have been lucky enough to work alongside our amazing Principal, Mr John O'Neill. Without his support and shared vision, I know very little of what we have achieved would have been possible. Keep in mind that Davallia was over thirty years old when we arrived, and sadly looking its age. Built last century in 1974 before any of the technology we use today was invented, Davallia required a lot of work to make sure it was suitable to provide 21st century teaching and learning.

When Mr O'Neill and I assumed leadership at Davallia, we didn't have an ECE or administration building, high speed cabling, anywhere near enough power points or the robust infrastructure to support more power points. Power would routinely go out if you turned on a kettle at the same time as an overhead projector. There were no nature playgrounds, no iPads, no touch screens, no VLS, no computers in classrooms, no NAPLAN, no faction shirts and an inconsistent and dated looking uniform. Classrooms still had chalk boards, dated furniture, original carpets, very few education assistants and outside there were bitumen courts, portable netball goals, no soccer goals, no undercover area PA or stage extension, and instead of the bright and colourful play equipment our children enjoy today, there was an old blister inducing steel climbing frame and a couple of concrete pipes to play on. The school looked tired.

When I look around now, it is hard to remember how our school used to be. Yes, some of the buildings are over fifty years old, but inside and outside the changes have been enormous. The way we teach has changed substantially. What we teach has changed too. The one thing that has never changed is the wonderful school community we are lucky to have. Davallia always has been a very special place. We have the best students, the best parents and a culture that takes decades to develop. We have a school culture built on mutual respect where our students thrive. They are challenged and encouraged to take risks and have a go, while always knowing they are supported and safe. We acknowledge effort and celebrate success. We are inclusive and we are innovative. Best of all, we have that intangible thing, that feeling, that vibe that all Davallians know well. Even strangers to our school know what I mean when they visit .

And remember. Once a Davallian, always a Davallian.



Look out for my next newsletter article where I will be reflecting on one aspect of Davallian school life and how it has evolved during my twenty-one-year stay.

Mark Leaning
Associate Principal

Chaplain's Corner

Here at Davallia, we are well into Term 1. All the best to the Year 4, 5 and 6 students, who are currently undertaking beach swimming lessons! The children are enjoying themselves and persevering well.

The staff at Davallia actively encourage all students to be inclusive and to make friends. Spaces are created that encourage these actions, including designated environments in the classrooms, the buddy benches around the school, the construction club and friendship games club. These are just a few to name.

The reason behind this is, because at Davallia, we acknowledge that healthy friendships are essential and important to all children. Research shows that friendships boost children's self-esteem, reduces stress and fosters empathy. It also provides them with a sense of belonging.

As a parent, I know that friendship conversations with your children probably come up quite often. You can support your children by encouraging healthy friendships in a number of ways:

- ◆ By modelling social skills. Demonstrating kindness, sharing and respect.
- ◆ Discuss friendships openly with them, listen and validate their feelings.
- ◆ Facilitate interactions. Encourage involvement in clubs or sports and arrange playdates.

As a school community, we can discuss and explain to children that healthy friendships means:

- ◆ Supporting each other when needed.
- ◆ Working together and taking turns.
- ◆ Having fun.
- ◆ Treating each other with respect.
- ◆ Offering to help.

Providing support to your children in this area is worthwhile, as in turn they will most likely be happier. You are also equipping them for their future.

Mrs Carolina

Davallia Primary School Chaplain

At school on: Monday & Thursday



P&C News

Many thanks for all the donations of new and lightly used stationery in week 3. The P&C sustainability team is delighted to share that a whopping 22kg of stationery has been collected and donated to Give Write, a charity that helps children less fortunate.



Thank you!

Community Notices

Care For Kids @ Davallia Primary School

Care for Kids OSHC run a great program on site at Davallia Primary School. Qualified carers, great activities, afternoon tea, ECRU accredited. To book, please call 9246 9551 or email the centre:
duncraigoshc@careforkidswa.net.au

