



Grow with Respect

The Davallian

6 June 2025

No. 8

In this issue

- Principal's Message
- Associate Principal's Message
- Chaplains Corner
- School Notices
- P&C News
- Community Notices

Dear Parents and Community Members,

B1 Assembly

Congratulations to Mr Ekert and his amazing year 5/6 class who hosted yesterday's assembly. They presented an assembly all about friendship that was filled with humour, wisdom and dance. The messages were beautifully communicated and very appropriate. Interestingly there appeared to be a significant number of very recognisable staff in the cast. Sadly, Mr Leaning's head was a little too big for his body (and his hair). Apparently, based on the amount of laughter, the jokes used by the students were much better than Mrs Kendrick and Mr Leaning's ever reliable 'Dad Jokes'.



Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week 2025

What a great success our Sorry Day gathering and recognition was last Monday. The gathering was appropriately thought provoking and beautifully presented by an assortment of students from across the school. Miss O'Neil did a fabulous job coordinating the event and bringing together so many of our students both on stage and in the dynamic audio-visual presentation.

If you'd like to see the audio-visual presentation yourself, go to

<https://vimeo.com/1090744341/d12a31bee6>

Sorry Day kick started a fantastic week of acknowledgement with activities running throughout Reconciliation Week in classrooms, in the library and in the new under cover area. It was great to see staff from across the school reading Indigenous stories in the library during lunch breaks. These reading sessions were very popular with the children. Davallia does so many things very well and acknowledging Sorry Day and Reconciliation week was no exception. Congratulations to everyone involved.

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SMS student absences to
0408 924 839

Principal's Message (continued)

Staff Development Day

Last Friday, Davallia's staff were joined by staff from Carine, North Beach, Marmion, Karrinyup and Poynter Primary Schools for a series of very valuable professional development opportunities. Topics included Supporting Sustainability, AI For Teachers, Diversity in Reading, Maths Additive Thinking, Mindfulness, Science of Reading, Literature and Poetry in Writing, Models of Equitable Reading and network level discussions for each year level. Presenters were sourced from across the network including WA Author Sally Murphy, Dr Helen Adam from ECU, staff from Carine SHS, Marmion PS, North Beach PS and West Coast Language Development Centre. Not only was the networking of great value to teachers across schools it was also an opportunity to validate our own judgements across the curriculum. Understandably we are very proud of our school and several of our visitors complimented us on our facilities, the high standard of student work on display and the way our school was presented on the day. Sometimes I think we take for granted how great our school is, and it is lovely to have outsiders notice and remind us.



Helping Children Build Healthy Friendships

Friendships are a vital part of childhood, they help children learn about themselves, develop empathy, and gain confidence. As teachers and parents, we can guide children in recognizing the difference between healthy and unhealthy friendships, encourage kindness and inclusivity, and support them in managing emotions in a positive way.

What Does a Healthy Friendship Look Like?

Healthy friendships are based on respect, trust, and kindness. Good friends listen to each other, celebrate one another's successes, and work through conflicts calmly. They don't always agree, but they do treat each other fairly and support one another through challenges.

Principal's Message (continued)

Spotting Unhealthy Friendships

Unhealthy friendships often involve exclusion, manipulation, or unkind behaviour. If a child feels anxious, left out, or pressured to change who they are to fit in, it may be a sign the friendship is not a positive one. These situations are opportunities for conversations about boundaries and self-respect.

Being Kind and Inclusive

Encourage your child to include others in games and conversations, especially those who may seem left out. Small acts of kindness, a smile, a compliment, or a helping hand can make a big difference and help strengthen our school community.

Managing Emotions in Friendships

Friendships come with ups and downs, and learning to handle big feelings is key. Help your child name their emotions, take deep breaths when upset, and talk things out calmly. Teaching them to say sorry when they've hurt someone, and to forgive others, helps preserve and strengthen friendships.

By helping our children understand and practice these skills, we give them the tools to form meaningful, lasting relationships and grow into kind, confident individuals.

Interschool Sports

This week Davallia takes on Sorrento in the next round of CDSSA Winter Sports Fixtures. Sorrento are hosting, so games will be played on Robin Reserve (Football), Percy Doyle bottom oval (Soccer) and at Sorrento Primary School (Netball & Volleyball). The undefeated Davallia Football team will come up against an undefeated Sorrento team on Friday, so this should be a great game that will likely decide the winner of the Eagles Cup. We wish all our Year Five and Six students participating this week the best of luck. So far, their behaviour and sportsmanship in competition has been exemplary.

After the Sorrento games, we have two more fixtures, On the 13th of June Davallia is away to Glengarry and on the 20th of June we host Poynter Primary. Winter sport will conclude on Thursday the 3rd of July at the Lightning Carnival at Kingsway Sporting complex.

The Hidden Dangers of Unrestricted App Use Among Primary Students

As digital platforms become more embedded in our children's daily lives, it's increasingly important for parents to be aware of the risks associated with apps like TikTok, YouTube, and others, especially when children are using them without supervision.

While these platforms can offer fun and creativity, they also expose children to inappropriate content, adult themes, and online trends far beyond their developmental stage. Also concerning is how quickly this exposure can influence their language, attitudes, and behaviours at school.

From Screen to Schoolyard

Many children are now adopting "Alpha" slang, 'Italian Brain Rot' and meme-speak popularized by online influencers. Phrases like "rizz," "sigma," or using terms meant for teens and adults are becoming part of playground language—often in ways that exclude, mock, or confuse other children. What starts as imitation can easily turn into verbal bullying or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

What Can Parents Do?

- **Set boundaries:** Avoid giving children unrestricted access to TikTok, YouTube, or similar apps. Use parental controls where possible.
- **Stay informed:** Keep up with trending slang and content your child may be seeing.
- **Open dialogue:** Talk to your child about what they're watching and how it makes them feel.
- Encourage empathy and respectful language.

Model screen habits: Show what healthy, mindful media use looks like at home.

By staying engaged and setting clear limits, we can help ensure that children enjoy the digital world safely without bringing the worst of it into the classroom or playground.

Principal's Message (continued)

STEAM Week 23rd – 27th June.

As it gets closer, we are all getting very excited about STEAM Week in Week 9. STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) activities will be running all week across the school along with extra Construction Club sessions during lunch breaks. Students will be engaging with the Water Corporation, SERCUL, Science Alive and the Gold Industry to name a few. It promises to be a memorable week with something for everyone including a STEAM Dress-up Day on Thursday 26th June. Congratulations to our team of staff (*STEAM Team*) on putting together such a fantastic programme for us.

Barker Eggs

Sadly, some of our less considerate neighbourhood dog owners continue to refuse to pick up after their animals. On Wednesday a couple of Year Four girls had to spend time outside class washing their shoes after briefly venturing into the Junior Primary grass area. This is where our Year Ones and Twos play. With the cross-country training and interschool sport in full swing, these barker eggs are a constant hazard. I spent the first ten minutes before our home game last week, picking up dog droppings so both teams could play safely on Juniper Park.

As the Year Four girls pointed out, it is so disappointing the signs are ignored. I'm not sure what more we can do.

Winter Uniform

It was fantastic today to see 100% of today's student audience at the assembly in the Davallia school uniform. They looked so good. Now that the cooler months are upon us, it is probably time to bring those winter uniform items out of storage. If you need new ones, please consider the second-hand uniform shop run by the P&C. The uniform shop operates from behind the stage on Thursday mornings (8.30-8.45) and Friday afternoons (2.30-3.15) We encourage the wearing of uniform items throughout the colder months and prefer parents not to reach for the other winter items that don't fall within the uniform code.

Finally, please take the time to label everything. The downfall of uniform items is that by nature they all look the same and can easily be lost or confused with other children's property when discarded as students warm up.

In an Ideal World

There are three great things in place to protect the children of Davallia on our local roads. All of them contribute to the safety of our families as they commute to school.

The only one that was here at Davallia when Mr O'Neill and I arrived was our crosswalk. Kiss and Drive came years later and only recently by comparison, the 40kmph School Zone on Davallia Road was put in place. These three innovations all play an important role in creating a safer environment, but sometimes each one can complicate another.

Firstly, Kiss and Drive can cause traffic headaches. This is due to the fact that most of the cars arrive either before the end of school and fill the bays, or straight after and join the queue. Kiss and Drive is meant to be a procession. No cars should be still longer than a minute. This should be long enough for four or five cars to pick up and drive on. The system breaks down when cars sit in the bays waiting. In an ideal world they'd wait their one minute then join the loop to come back a second time. A big queue forms around the corner on to Davallia Road when cars are stationary. And for some inexplicable reason, a number of drivers insist on turning right on to Davallia Road causing queues back to Kiss and Drive as they obstruct both options for cars leaving Juniper Way.

Next, this gridlock causes a problem at the Davallia Road crosswalk. Some drivers refuse to leave a gap in the queue for the crosswalk attendant as they pull to the side to join the queue.

Principal's Message (continued)

Children can't see over cars and drivers can't see children as through traffic tries to continue on. In an ideal world, as drivers identify there is a queue they should continue on down Davallia Road and loop around for a second run. When the drivers refuse to travel this extra 500m we end up with a dangerous situation for the crosswalk attendant and the families using the crosswalk. It has been reported to admin that some parents actively engage with the crosswalk attendant when she asks them to move on, refusing to do as she asks and even telling her they are entitled to pull over in this spot. Of course this is incorrect. The crosswalk attendant or traffic warden is authorised by the Commissioner of Police to exercise the same powers of a police officer regarding traffic control. They must be treated with respect and their position taken seriously. Remember they can enforce road traffic rules and will report Incidents to the police. And, if they feel threatened and unappreciated, we may end up without a cross walk attendant.

Finally the 40kmph School Zone. It may be frustrating when you're in a hurry but it has made a huge difference to how safe Davallia Road is for anyone crossing. On days when there is no cross walk attendant and even on days there is, I regularly see high school students running the gauntlet across the carriageway. When I recognise Davallia students doing it I make time to have a follow up chat. A student has been hit and badly injured by a car on Davallia Road in the past, before the 40kmph speeds were introduced. Regularly now the police set up speed cameras on Davallia Road during the 40kmph times (7.30 – 9am & 2.30 – 4pm). Sadly it does prove worthwhile as a number of drivers get caught.

So in conclusion, let's all try a little harder to do the right thing, aiming for that ideal world.

- Observe the School Zone speed restrictions.
- Treat Kiss and Drive as a genuine pick up and drop off zone where we don't linger. It should be quicker than a Maccas drive thru!
- Don't turn right from Juniper Way during drop off times.

Be respectful and appreciative of our traffic warden and her authority. We need her.

Safe commuting everyone.

Long Service Leave – John O'Neill

Mr O'Neill won't be returning until Monday 16th June. In his absence, I am available either by phone via the front office or via email Mark.Leaning@education.wa.edu.au.

Have a great fortnight!

Mark Leaning
Acting Principal

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

Associate Principal's Message

Celebrate WA

How was your long weekend? Mine was full and for the most part, very enjoyable. I did get annoyed watching the Eagles lose yet again, but even more annoying was listening to the broadcast and hearing the complete lack of understanding the commentators showed towards what WA Day was.

As all sandgropers know, WA Day is celebrated on the first Monday in June each year. It's a day we celebrate all Western Australians, recognising our Aboriginal history, early European settlers and the many of us from all over the world who have made, and continue to make, Western Australia their home.

It's a day for each of us to reflect and celebrate all the great things about our people, our lifestyle, our culture and our potential. Did you know that prior to 2012, WA Day was known as Foundation Day? Originally it marked the day when the first European settlers, under the command of Captain James Stirling arrived from Britain to settle the Swan River Colony in 1829. So, in four years time it will be the 200th anniversary of this historic event. When we were looking through the contents of the 1979 Davallia Time Capsule last year, there was a Sunday Times newspaper inside with a special feature from what was the 150th celebration WAY'79. In the years since, WA Day has grown into a vibrant reflection of our diverse cultural identity and shared achievements. A special day dedicated to recognising the people, places, and stories that make WA unique.

WA Day is not just about marking a historical date though; it's about acknowledging the depth and richness of our heritage. From the ancient cultures of the Noongar, Yamatji, and other Aboriginal peoples, whose connection to this land spans more than 50,000 years, to the waves of migrants who have contributed to building a modern, multicultural WA, this is a time to listen, learn, and pay respect. Our 'State Day' is intended to be inclusive of all people no matter how long they have called themselves Western Australians.

WA Day also invites us to look forward. What kind of future do we want for our state? How can we protect our natural wonders, support sustainable growth, and continue building inclusive communities? Whether you're a lifelong local or new to the region, WA Day is a chance to connect with neighbours, celebrate our achievements, and reflect on the path ahead. It is a fabulous time to come together to honour the spirit of Western Australia—resilient, welcoming, and full of promise.



Chaplains Corner

Chaplain's Corner

We are halfway through the term, and it is proving to be a great and exciting one at Davallia. All the students have been very proactive participating in the activities on offer and doing very well. One thing that always stands out to me about Davallia school is that staff and students alike, always give their best efforts and do so well at any task or school event that is presented. This is an indication that Davallia school actively promotes a growth mindset in students in all school spaces and environments.

Studies show that a growth mindset is when we believe our abilities can be improved with effort and right strategies. It is about having an open mind and attitude when confronting challenges, having a passion for learning and viewing failure as an opportunity to learn or persevere. In contrast, a fixed mindset believes that abilities cannot be altered in a positive meaningful way and mistakes are viewed in a negative light. *A Growth Mindset says: abilities grow through hard work. A Fixed Mindset says: you either have a talent or skill, or you don't.*

There are many benefits in encouraging and promoting a growth mindset in children. Children with a growth mindset are more likely to embrace challenges, see mistakes as learning opportunities, and persevere through difficulties. Having a growth mindset is linked to happiness and achievement in life.

To help children develop a growth mindset:

- ⇒ You can focus on praising effort
- ⇒ Encouraging to face challenges
- ⇒ Modelling a growth mindset
- ⇒ Encouraging children to see mistakes as learning opportunities and focusing on the process of learning rather than the outcome can also be beneficial.

Let's all continue to build and foster a growth mindset in the students so that Davallia carries on pursuing excellence, improvement, achieving more and becoming stronger.

Mrs Carolina
Davallia School Chaplain
At school on: Monday & Thursday
carolina.lopez@education.wa.edu.au



"Every problem has a solution. You just have to be creative enough to find it". By Travis Kalanick.

Zero (0) Waste Lunch (O.W.L)

At Davallia Primary, our aim is to limit the amount of rubbish and waste we have in our school community. On **Wednesday 11th June (Week 7)** we will hold our next Zero Waste Lunch Day.

The goal is to see how many people can bring a lunchbox filled with NO WASTE! This means, packing your Crunch and Sip, recess and lunch with no plastic clingwrap or bags that will end up in landfill.



A great alternative to these includes:

- o Using reusable wraps, such as Beeswax Wraps, instead of plastic clingwrap.
- o Packing your Crunch and Sip, recess and lunch in reusable lunch boxes.
- o Purchasing products that are not individually wrapped.
- o Using a reusable water bottle.

The classroom with the most students that have ZERO WASTE will earn extra recess or lunch time and have the honour of having the OWL trophy displayed in their classroom until the next Zero Waste Lunch Day.

Last term, we saw some fantastic results, with SIX classes having Zero Waste and winning the prestigious Golden Owl trophies! We hope to continue to see this during 2025. If we work together, we can continue to reduce our waste!



School Notices

Clever Kids program

We are pleased to offer Clever Kids, a social-emotional wellbeing program specifically designed for students with dyslexia, at Davallia Primary School. Developed by the Dyslexia-SPELD Foundation, Clever Kids is based on the Success and Dyslexia program created by Nola and Firth and Erica Frydenberg. Consisting of nine weekly sessions, Clever Kids is designed to help students with dyslexia develop positive coping strategies in relation to their learning difficulty. Participation in the group also allows students to share their experiences with others, feel validated, acknowledged and supported.

This nine-week program will be offered to Year 5/6 students at Davallia Primary School with a diagnosis of dyslexia in Term 3 2025. It will run from 8.20 am to 9.20 am every Tuesday morning from 29th July (Week 2, Term 3) to 23rd September 2025 (Week 10, Term 3). The program is free and will be run by School Psychologist, Erin Dunstan. Please feel free to contact Erin at Davallia Primary School to register your interest or find out more about the program.

Dealing with disappointment

By Professor Matt Sanders

Despite what certain sport shoe commercials might have you believe, life isn't always about winning.

It is equally important for the development of healthy self-esteem that children learn how to deal with disappointment.

As a reaction to not getting what they want, such as being chosen for a team, children may sometimes put themselves down, saying things like: "I'm dumb", "you hate me" or "I'm just stupid". If this happens, try to avoid being too sympathetic. Instead encourage your child to try again after the set-back and to enjoy the activity or game even if they aren't the winner.

Rather than simply reassuring your child that everything will be okay, you can help your child develop their own sense of worth by letting them know that you understand their feelings of disappointment and that you are there to help them work out a reasonable way of dealing with that disappointment.

Remember too, when you're helping your child with an activity or with homework concentrate on effort not results. Praising your child for trying and making an improvement will motivate them to continue trying at a difficult task.

Professor Matt Sanders is founder of the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program®. For more information go to www.triplep-parenting.net

Busy Bee Success!

On Saturday 24th May, lots of eager volunteers from the school community came down to help with our first Busy Bee of 2025. There were trees planted, nature playgrounds painted and garden beds beautified. Not to mention the reinvigoration of our school's vegetable patch. With all the native seedlings, a few larger banksias and a couple of jarrahs along with a huge pile of donated agaves, we well and truly hit our target of 51 trees planted for the school's 51st anniversary! If you haven't already, check out the new stepping stones (donated by Suzy's family and hauled all the way from Bridgetown) installed around Camel Rock in the junior playground.



Despite the forecast, the rain held off and we were able to get everything finished. We couldn't have done it without you all, so a heartfelt thanks again to all the volunteers. Thanks also to the generous support of Care for Kids (afternoon tea) and City of Joondalup (banksia and jarrah tree donations).

To all students, we ask that you please take care around the new plants and make sure you don't disturb them as they need time to grow and establish themselves!

Suzy, Tess and Amy
P&C Sustainability and Grounds Coordinators



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

