



Grow with Respect

The Davallian

4th July 2025

No. 10

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Dear Parents and Community Members,

A3 Assembly

Well done to Mrs Chapman and her Year 1 students from A3 on their hosting of last week's aSTEAMBly! It was all about STEAM this week and A3 were fantastic in sharing the meaning of STEAM and told us about some very STEAMy people, including Benjamin Franklin, George Nissan and Louis Braille. Well done A3 on a very informative aSTEAMBly.



STEAM Week 23rd – 27th June.

Wow! Congratulations to the Davallia PS STEAM Team, who created an amazing week of learning and fun. Remember, STEAM is not a subject, it's a mindset — one that begins with curiosity and grows with creativity. It was a great week of incursions, excursions and a dress-up day and the Davallian STEAM team should be very proud of their achievements.



Interschool Winter Sports Lightning Carnival

Yesterday saw our Year 6's, and a number of Year 5's, compete in the 2025 Winter Sports Lightning Carnival. Not only did our teams represent Davallia PS in their usual outstanding manner, they competed well and were successful. Well done to our AFL, who went undefeated during the home and away series and also were success in taking out the double by winning the Lightning Carnival as well. Also congrats to Soccer A-team who won B Division, and Volleyball C who won their competition. Well done to all coaches on another great season of winter sports.....now on to Athletics!

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SMS student absences to
0408 924 839

Principal's Message (continued)

WARNING – Be careful around parks and our school grounds!

I wish to inform the school community of an increase in undesirable behaviour in the local area. We have, on a few occasions recently, located unwelcome paraphernalia in and around our school. If using the school facilities or Juniper Park over the holidays, please be vigilant.

New Playground Equipment

Over the holidays, some new equipment will be installed in the playground outside of C6 and also in the Year 1/2 playground. It should be an exciting return to school!

Closes Today

The **WA Student Assistance Payment** helps with school costs — don't miss out.

\$150 for each Kindergarten and primary student

\$250 for each secondary student

Claim now through the ServiceWA app, online or by post in a claim form.

Claims close Friday 4 July 2025.

Visit www.education.wa.edu.au/wasap for eligibility info and how to claim.

The graphic is an orange rectangular box with rounded corners. At the top left is the Department of Education logo. The main title 'The WA Student Assistance Payment' is in bold black text. Below it, a subtitle says 'Helping you get the things you need for your kids. Claim by 4 July 2025.' There are two white boxes with black borders: the left one says '\$150 For each Kindergarten and primary school student' and the right one says '\$250 For each secondary school student'. At the bottom left is a red button that says 'Find out more'. At the bottom right is a circular icon with the text 'Claim on the ServiceWA app' and a small WA logo.

On behalf of the staff I wish to thank the school community for your ongoing support of your children and our school. The P & C have had an amazing start to the year having funded the majority of items from their wishlist. Thank you to the community for getting behind the ventures of the P & C and making them a huge success.

Wishing you a fabulous two weeks with your children. Looking forward to seeing you all back on Monday 21st July, as we commence Semester 2 of the 2025 school year.

John O'Neill

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

12.15 pm 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

Term 3 Commences Monday 21st July 2025



Associate Principal's Message

Five Long Years Ago

As the first semester draws to a close and winter sport winds up, I was reflecting on past teams and past carnivals. Davallia has had great success, and some disappointments too, over the years, but our winter sport involvement has always been something the whole school gets behind.

There are always challenges and an unpredictability during this time of the year. Weather, sickness, injuries, concussion protocols and alike can all derail the teams we have prepared. Just last year the weather ruined our lightning carnival. We had promising teams, including an undefeated soccer team, who sadly missed out on competing for another prize.

Five years ago, Davallia, negotiated the biggest challenge any of us had faced in our careers. We all found ourselves pivoting daily in response to the Covid19 pandemic, and despite it all we somehow managed to maintain a winter sport competition. I can vividly remember training a football team that wasn't allowed to tackle each other, using flag belts. How we ever able to go ahead with any sport is amazing. We did it all without anyone being able to come and watch, as parents were not permitted on school site or at games. It seems silly now, but half a decade ago, we wondered if anything would ever return to normal.

Back in 2020 our newsletters portrayed a very different Davallia. There were extended periods where parents were encouraged to keep their children home. We had a Kiss & Drive Library Exchange, a resource pickup station on the oval, Webex virtual classrooms and Jump Jams at home. From one week to the next we weren't sure if things would alter for the better.

It must have been most telling on our new Kindy Kids and the PPs who were supposed to be attending full time schooling for the first time. These children are our 2025 Year 4s and 5s. I guess we will never fully know how much Covid restrictions in 2020 impacted those littlest Davallians. At the time we were very impressed by their resilience and independence.

When the majority of our students did return to school, our parents couldn't. Assemblies were held on the PA, children said goodbye long before the classroom door and the usual routines were all a little different. Our principal Mr O'Neill, did an incredible job responding to government directives, keeping the community informed and keeping the children safe, while all the time supporting us, his staff. He still holds the record for the biggest Aussie of the Month winner I've presented to. And as far as I'm aware, he's never worn his badge in the shower. So, in 2025 we are largely back to 'normal' and are celebrating our latest sports carnival achievements, just like we always have. This is fantastic, but let's not forget the lessons we learned in 2020. A lot the habits we embraced and the things we did so diligently and back then have slipped away and yet Covid and influenza are now running rampant in our community. I know a number of people who have been impacted quite severely by both viruses this winter. Immunising, routinely washing hands, staying home when sick, wearing a mask in high-risk settings were all good practices. In 2025 we just seem to have moved on and stopped routinely employing these sensible strategies to protect ourselves.

We learned so much during the pandemic. During that crazy time back in 2020, hardly anyone caught a cold and influenza was unheard of. Even common gastro conditions eased. There's a lot to be said for taking a little more care, particularly during these winter months.

Take care everyone.

Mark Leaning
Associate Principal

School Notices

Buckingham House Excursion

The Year 2 classes have visited Buckingham House in Wanneroo as part of our History unit, learning how people lived in the past.

Buckingham House was built between 1880 and 1890. The Year 2's learned about farming, how seven children all slept in the same room, and how to do the laundry the hard way using soap, a washboard and a mangle.

The potty under the bed was quite a fascination! They had a lesson in an old fashioned school room, sitting at wooden desks in rows, using chalk and practising cursive writing. They also learnt that if they misbehaved, for example chatting in class, their punishment would be the cane!

The Year 2 students were awesome and received many compliments on their listening, manners and behaviour. They made a fabulous effort getting dressed up in their olden days costumes. It was a fabulous learning experience.



School Notices

New Shed coming to Davallia!

A big thank you to Charlize and Harvey McKenzie's dad, Brentan McKenzie, for pouring the concrete slab in preparation for the new shed. We expect the shed to arrive early next term. Looking forward to seeing the finished product!



A Fundraising Update from the P&C's Sustainability and Grounds Coordinators

Davallia PS is fortunate to be located in an area frequented by some species of black cockatoos, despite their endangered status. While walking to or from school you may have heard groups of black cockatoos feeding in trees surrounding our school or flying overhead.

Earlier in the year, the P&C committed a small amount of fundraising to sponsor the manufacture and installation of a Black Cockatoo nesting box. With the expert advice of Dean at Carnaby Crusaders, a not-for-profit, we can confirm the nesting box has now been installed. Whilst it wasn't recommended to have a nesting box installed on our school grounds, it has been installed in a location that school families can visit in Yellagonga Regional Park in Joondalup (see map). If you do go to visit the site, look for the nesting box marked with 'DPS', and remember, look, but don't touch.

Dean has promised to update us later in the year to advise whether Davallia's nesting box has been successful in rearing a chick so watch this space!

Tess, Suzy and Amy
P&C Sustainability 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

