



Grow with Respect

The Davallian

15th May 2026

No.6

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Dear Parents and Community Members,

Here's hoping you all had a wonderful Mother's Day last weekend and that all our fabulous Davallia Mums had a very special day. Our Davallian Mums (and Dads) do a fantastic job, and it is great to have a chance to celebrate them and show them how much they mean to us.

B3 Mother's Day Assembly

Congratulations to B3, who put on a wonderful assembly yesterday celebrating International Day of Families, with a special focus on mums and Mother's Day. The students recognised that there all sorts of families and acknowledged that at Davallia we appreciate difference and are all lucky to have people who look after us and help to make us who we are. School Mum, Dad and Greatgrandfather all made brief appearances, much to the amusement of the audience, with school Mum (Mrs Kendrick) asking the students to help her record a message for her son who forgot to contact his mum on Mother's Day. B3's assembly was sprinkled with great humour and some very clever skits. One skit that was uncomfortably accurate showed Mum finding a lost hat in a school bag in a matter of seconds after it had been thoroughly searched for by her son, who was convinced it was absolutely NOT in there. Mrs Khandan's Year Fives finished the show with a tightly choreographed dance routine to the hit song 'We're All in This Together'.

Well done B3 on a fabulous assembly.



Swimming Lessons

The PP-3 swimming lessons at Craigie Leisure Centre are now complete and they ran seamlessly.

Our little PPs have been very independent and our Year 1-3s have been great role models. The weather has been quite kind to us and as a result attendance rates were excellent.

I'd like to acknowledge the efforts of parents in readying the children for the challenges of swimming lessons and my staff, who have done a great job coordinating the groups and ensuring the safety of all our students, particularly those with specific and complex needs.

Swimming pools and beaches are a big part of the Western Australian lifestyle. Ensuring our children can swim competently and safely is a must for all families.



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Absences- Please submit via
Compass

Principal's Message (Continued)

Reconciliation Week

Week 6 (25th – 28th of May) is Reconciliation Week and as part of recognising the significance of Sorry Day, and this week of reflection, students at Davallia will be engaged in a range of cultural experiences including a special assembly on the 28th. Reconciliation Week provides an opportunity to celebrate the oldest continuing culture on earth, recognising the resilience, contributions, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It brings people together to challenge racism, address inequality, and build a future based on mutual respect and understanding.

National Reconciliation Week 2026 encourages all Australians to get "All In" and commit to reconciliation every day.



School Development Day (Long Weekend)

Our next School Development Days will be held on Friday 29th of May and with Monday 1st of June a Public Holiday, students will enjoy a 4-day weekend. Staff will be participating in professional learning on the Friday and will be joined by staff from other schools across the district. Staff will be engaged in curriculum discussion and listening to guest speakers sharing their expertise. These days are a great way for our staff to share knowledge and best practice while building networks with teachers outside of Davallia.

Dress Like a Pirate 20th May



Dress Like a Pirate Day in Australia is primarily a charity event to raise funds for The Kid's Cancer Project. Davallians are encouraged to dress up, wear eyepatches, and donate to support childhood brain cancer research. Brain cancer is one of the most difficult and most aggressive cancers to treat. Approximately 120 Australian children and adolescents are diagnosed with brain cancer each year. The brain is hard to penetrate with chemotherapy and radiation, and quite often this leads to permanent side effects, such as deafness, cognitive impairment, growth issues and secondary cancers. The funds raised on Pirate Day, will help to provide childhood brain cancer researchers the resources they need to find less harmful, more effective treatments.

In Sickness and in Health

As winter approaches, and with it flu season, we encourage everyone to practice healthy habits. Wash your hands regularly, avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth, cover sneezes and coughs using a tissue or your elbow and don't come to school when you know you are sick. A great way to help children stay well and promote a strong immune system is by encouraging regular sleep, exercise and a healthy diet.

School Uniforms

Just a reminder that the School Board approved items are the only items considered part of the Davallia PS school uniform. Please support the school by making sure your children come to school in the school uniform jumpers or jackets as the weather changes leading into winter. It is also important to make sure every item is labelled, especially during swimming lessons and when children are participating in sport and get warm.

Have a great fortnight and enjoy your weekend.

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
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—Mr Leaning

In this my final year, I have decided to share my reflections of my twenty-one-year experience at Davallia. This issue, as PP-3 Swimming Lessons draw to a close, I thought it appropriate to look back at how much swimming lessons have evolved over the years here at Davallia.

Swimming

In this article, seeing as we are about to conclude another series of PP-3 swimming lessons at Craigie Leisure Centre, I wanted to reflect on how swimming lessons have changed and remained so important over the twenty plus years I've been at Davallia. When I arrived at Davallia we had a very different arrangement for providing these free lessons to our students. In-term swimming lessons have always been provided free by the state government, it is only the cost of buses and pool entry that incurs a charge.

Back in 2005 when I arrived at the school, Davallia held all their swimming lessons at a pool located at Carine Shopping Centre. Lessons were conducted indoors in a 25m pool that was located at the eastern end of the complex. As well as being the Deputy back then, I taught a Year Five class for four days a week in what is now C2. For swimming lessons, the children would wear their bathers to school under their clothes and then they'd remove their uniforms and walk with a towel down the footpath past Juniper Park to Carine Glades Shopping Centre. Staff would sit on the side of the pool as the lessons were taken and then we'd walk our classes back to school, wet.

This was the routine for every class from Year 1 to Year 5. We always did the lessons in summertime and the cost to parents was comparatively small because there was no bus required.

I'd come from Hillarys Primary School, where the older students had been doing their swimming lessons at the beach and I was a huge fan of this and the way it challenged the children in ways the pool never could. Although the arrangement at Davallia was convenient and inexpensive, it wasn't very challenging for some of the older children. When eventually the Carine pool was due to be decommissioned, I suggested we investigate if it was possible for our Year Five students to be included in a beach swimming programme along with the Sixes and Sevens. The rest of our students were moved to Craigie Leisure Centre. Unfortunately, the Education Department didn't share my enthusiasm for the idea in those early days.

Some years later when Year Seven was moved to High School, the department did offer us the option of a Year Five programme at the beach. We immediately took up the offer, and it wasn't long before we set our sights on having Year Fours join the Fives and Sixes at the beach. Watching the Year Fours complete lap after lap of the pools at Craigie, untroubled by the environment, it was clear they were also ready for more of a challenge. It took a few years of lobbying the DoE, but eventually we were successful and now, Davallia is one of the very few schools that offer a Year Four beach swimming experience. And it is so worthwhile.

One of our four school values is perseverance. In trying to develop resilience and an ability to persevere we teach our students that to do their best they need to put in their best effort and always work hard on the things they may not be all that good at. Overcoming doubt, trepidation and even anxiety often requires getting outside your comfort zone. Beach swimming lessons pose a challenge and every year you can't help but be impressed with the children who have had a go when it would have been much easier to just not go swimming. For every little doubt and fear these children have overcome they will be bolder and more confident next time. Pushing through those little moments of discomfort has resulted in a feeling of achievement and self-worth that they'd miss out on by walking away.

This week we finish the last of the in-term swimming lessons and as usual the children have impressed. There's so much more to swimming lessons than learning to swim. The littlest ones have to manage their things, dry themselves and dress themselves, sometimes for the first time without Mum or Dad there to help them. By the second week, everyone seems so much more independent, and you're left wondering what all the fuss and bother was about and why did we worry at all? Next year the pre-primaries will be big, experienced Year Ones, veterans of the swimming lesson routine. And our Year Threes, now Fours, will be confidently looking forward to tackling the fresh challenge of beach swimming lessons and doing just as well as they had done in those early days of swimming at the pool.

Chaplain's Corner

A Morning Routine Helps to Start the Day Right.

Mornings can be a busy and challenging time for families. Research shows that having a morning routine helps children arrive at school ready to learn.

At Davallia, we encourage children to come to school ready to learn and to participate in the activities of the day. If children have an organised, calm morning this will help them to feel positive about the day ahead.

Some suggestions that may help you to achieve this are:

- Create a morning list.
Think about what you need to achieve in the mornings. Create a list that your children can refer to, to help them. You can prompt them by asking "What's next on your list?". This will build their independence skills and will help them to learn what is expected every morning.
- Do some preparation the night before, to assist with a calmer morning.
Many things can be done the night before. For example, prepare and set out the uniform and school bag for the next day.
- Focus on connection.
Rather than scolding, motivate and encourage your child with positive attention. This will help your children cooperate and feel positive about their day.
- Wake up 10mins earlier if needed.
This will help you, and your children, to avoid rushing. It will allow some time for you to communicate with them about their day ahead and what they may be looking forward to.

As a parent, I understand the struggle that busy mornings may bring and that it is not easy to always find a good balance. The good thing is that, over time, morning routines may get easier.

Davallia, let's keep moving forward with Term 2 as we have so many good things in store!

Mrs Carolina
Davallia Primary School Chaplain
At school on: Monday & Thursday

"Find peace in the morning rush and you will have a good day". Michael Dolan.



School Notices

Dress Like a Pirate Day Wednesday 20th May

Ahoy me hearties!

On **Wednesday 20th o' May**, the good ship *Davallia* be takin' part in **Dress Like a Pirate Day**, hoisted high by the fine crew at the **Kids Cancer Project**. It be a jolly day where all hands be invited to don their finest pirate garb – aye, the school'll be swarmin' with wee Long John Silvers, Captain Kidds, and Jack Sparrows aplenty!

But avast! Whilst we be laughin' and carousin', let us not forget the true mission behind this grand day – **to shine a lantern on childhood brain cancer** and raise **pieces o' eight** for mighty important research.

So grab yer stripy shirts, slap on yer eyepatch, perch a parrot on yer shoulder, and bring a **gold coin** in yer pouch come **Wednesday 20th o' May**. Every bit o' treasure helps in this noble quest.

Hoist the sails, Davallia... let's plunder for a purpose!



Why do we have Dress Like a Pirate Day?

The first ever Pirate Day was held in 2014 and founded by Nathan Colgan after his son Conor was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumour. Doctors told Nathan that **research was the only way to find a cure** for Conor and kids like him, which prompted his mission to raise money for childhood cancer research. The pirate theme was inspired by Conor's need to wear an eye patch because of his surgery and treatments. The Pirate Day at Conor's school was an overwhelming success and Conor decided he would write to all Australian primary schools to ask them to hold their own Pirate Day.

Over \$700,000 has been raised by pirates for childhood brain cancer research since Conor's first Pirate Day.

We hope the Davallian community will continue to show their support and enormous generosity in supporting this worthwhile cause.

Something exciting is underway... but we're not revealing everything just yet!

What we *can* tell you is this: our students are working together to create a **mystery art mural** using recycled plastic lids — and we need your help to bring it to life!

In Western Australia, thousands of tonnes of plastic waste end up in landfill each year, and small items like bottle lids are often too small to be recycled through regular kerbside systems. That means they can easily end up polluting our environment and waterways.

How can you help?

Start collecting clean plastic lids (all different sizes) from:

- Drink bottles
- Milk bottles
- Medicine containers
- Laundry and cleaning products

Pantry items (e.g. spreads, sauces)

Students can bring them straight to the Art room, or lids can be dropped at the office.

Unfortunately, we cannot make use of pop-top lids and tall lids, so please only send in short lids with flat tops.

Let's work as a community to reduce waste, get creative, and make a difference — one lid at a time!



P&C Notices

Pirate Day Icy Pole Fundraiser

Set sail and join in the pirate fun with an icy treat at the Davallia Primary School P&C Pirate Day Fundraiser! K3 to Year 6 can join us on Wednesday 20 May 2026, and grab a delicious icy pole for \$1 from the C Block Outdoor Stage, Junior Undercover Area or K/PP Undercover Area at lunchtime. Every icy treat sold helps raise funds to tick off items from our Wishlist.

**Don't worry K1 and K2, you can also join the pirate fun with Icy Poles being available on Thursday 21 May 2026.*

A poster for 'Celebrate You with an evening of fashion and style'. The poster features a woman in a pink suit, a rack of clothes, and a handbag. The text includes 'DAVALLIA PRIMARY SCHOOL P&C INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE YOU with an evening of fashion and style'. It also mentions the guest speaker 'Natalie Dignam from The Other F Word' and provides details about the event on Wednesday 3 June 2026 at 7:00 PM. The ticket price is \$30.00 per ticket. The poster includes a QR code and a link to purchase tickets online: <https://davalliapspc.square.site/s/shop>. It also features logos for Davallia Primary School and The Other F Word, along with a note that all parents, carers, and community members are welcome.

Celebrate You with an Evening of Fashion and Style Wednesday 03 June 2026

Celebrate you with an inspiring evening of fashion and style. Join Davallia PS P&C, and guest speaker **Natalie Dignam** from **The Other F Word**, as she shares practical tips to help you feel confident, build a versatile wardrobe, and elevate your everyday look. Connect with other parents, carers, and community members while enjoying a relaxed, stylish night out — tickets available now online at <https://davalliapspc.square.site/s/shop>

P&C Notices

Semester 1 DISCO - 18 June 2026

Get ready to show us your dance moves! Join us in a fun-filled night of music, lights and laughter at The Semester 1 Disco.

- ⇒ Thursday, 18th June 2026
- ⇒ Davallia PS Old Undercover Area
- ⇒ Juniors Disco (K-Y3*): 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM
- ⇒ Seniors Disco (Y3*-Y6): 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

*Note: Y3 students can attend **either** the Junior or Senior Disco (but not both).*

- ⇒ Tickets are available online until 4.30pm on Friday, 12th June 2026. Purchase tickets here: <https://davalliapspc.square.site/s/shop>

Please note, this is a Student only event. Any parent staying, we ask that you stand to the back to allow the kids to dance and please leave prams at home. Babies in carriers are allowed; however siblings or friends not registered at the school are unfortunately not allowed. Further, in-line with the schools 'Student Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy', students are not permitted to use their phones during the Disco.

Here's how to buy tickets:

Select your disco: Choose "Junior Disco" for Kindy-Y3* or "Senior Disco" for Y3*-Y6 (\$12)

Choose your ticket option (to include pizza & drink, click Ticket Food & Drink Optional): Select "Pizza & Drink" (\$3).

Enter your child's information: Fill in your child's name and class.

☑ Add to cart: Click "Attend" to add the ticket to your cart.

☑ ☑ Repeat for additional tickets: If you have more children attending either disco, repeat steps 1-4 for each additional child.

Checkout: Proceed to checkout to complete your purchase and make payment for all tickets in one transaction.

Don't forget to bring *cash on the night to purchase any food, drink, treats or accessories.

Tickets can also be bought at the door for \$12.

Please contact Davallia PS P&C if you have any questions: fundraisers@davalliapspc.org.au



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

