



Dear Parents,

We are now well and truly into “finals” territory. We have had our final School Council meeting for 2008 and tonight we meet as a P&C for the final time for 2008. These events always have a tinge of sadness about them as we realise some of us may not meet in this Deanmore forum again or at least for some time. The years at Deanmore just keep on getting better as we work in a united group to achieve what I believe few others P&Cs in Western Australia or perhaps Australia can achieve.

Women’s Weekly Award

Congratulations to the Deanmore P&C and my best wishes for the “finals” in Sydney on 20 January 2009.

The Big Deanmore Walk

Thank you to the community members who accompanied the students on their first walk challenge. It was a wonderful event and we are already considering destinations for 2009.

School Security

At The School Council Meeting on Thursday 20 November I tabled a draft School Security (Visitors) document to upgrade visitor entry practices at Deanmore. Unfortunately we need to be increasingly vigilant about who is on or near school premises. We have tracts of bushland adjoining the school which can conceal people who should not be lingering near our play areas. These policies need to be revisited often in the light of current events. As quickly as possible I undertake to communicate to parents, visits to school premises by strangers I consider may threaten the safety of our school community members. Obviously we need to consider ease of student supervision as we plan our new school layout.

Buildings & Grounds

This week we will meet for the third time with the New Deanmore Buildings Committee to consider layouts for the new school. Parent comment at this stage is vital if we are to achieve the best possible outcome for our project. I sincerely thank the parents and community representatives who are already hard at work with suggestions. The cost of enclosing the covered assembly area may be a worthwhile fundraising focus for the P&C. This is not covered in the scope of the project and is more economical to do during construction than after the event.

School Voluntary Contributions

Each year we rely on these voluntary fees to provide additional texts and resources. If you would like to pay these fees and are not sure if you have to date please contact Jan in the office and she will advise you of your fee position. I shall put a final reminder in the next newsletter.

Community Awards

The School Council has made a decision on two most worthy recipients. These awards will be presented at the Awards morning on 12 December. These awards in no way take away from the massive contribution of so many parents and citizens. The awards seek to acknowledge a wonderful job well done.

Deanmore Stage Production 2010

School Council considered the idea of writing a mini I production to farewell the old school. Not quite on the same scale as *Phantom* but an opportunity for all students to be involved in a dramatic production. It would be two years in the planning and we have some amazing staff and community talent that could make the event memorable.

Values School Awards

Staff have chosen their recipients and I ask the P&C for their support to assist with the payment.

BMIS

Boisterous play has resulted in a lot of work for Greg and other staff as they counsel students about the danger of high flying off play equipment. Out of school use of the equipment is not sanctioned by the school and we ask that parents ensure that it is not their child visiting the school and using the equipment in dangerous ways.

Staffing

In 2008 we farewell Michel Wells and Atsuko Yazawa – both very difficult to replace. We welcome Alison Mc Auliffe (.4) and Marion Connelly (.2) As yet we do not know if Annie Motherway and Dan Rodgers will return to Deanmore but we have been advised that Clinton Holland has been reappointed and will teach a senior class. The District Director is yet to advise who will cover my Term 1 LSL.

New Enrolments

Advice by parents that they will be enrolling their children at Deanmore in 2009 has led to another shuffle of class lists. It is something we live

with in schools and presents interesting challenges for Admin on a daily basis.

Customer Survey

This is on a green sheet and I ask that parents take a moment to complete the survey. I am also seeking comments for the Annual Report to promote any aspect of Deanmore that you have found noteworthy.

I will sign off now for the 2008 P&C year and sincerely thank the members who gather here each term to create a better deal for Deanmore students. It is a total privilege to work and share lots of laughter with such amazing people. In particular may I thank the executive of the P&C so ably lead by President Janet Pettigrew. Together we have achieved so much and I ask that you keep the home fires burning brightly and safely until I sail back in Term 2, 2009.

Jeanette Metcalf
School Principal
24 November, 2008.