



Dear Parents and Citizens,

We meet this evening after a wonderful two weeks of Term 4. The pace has been blistering and the weeks ahead offer no let up from the usual and not so usual events of the final term.

### **Building Program**

You would be aware that we magically moved five transportables over the vacation and had them ready for student occupancy on Day 1. This relocation has been an enormous task and on many days Greg and I would be well advised to wear a hard hat to school. Thanks to Greg and staff for their great efforts in achieving this outcome. Particular thanks to School Councillor and P&C President Janet Pettigrew for noticing the workload and doing something very positive to assist. Janet is a wonderful advocate for public education and never hesitates to ensure that Deanmore is supported in its endeavours and challenges.

Tonight I table the design for the entry statement at Ryan's Corner near the Tuart Grove Suites. Jo and Greg have met with the architect to choose locations for the BER funded play equipment. All else on the new Deanmore scene is going according to plan with the tender out for application.

### **Early Childhood Forum**

Jo Marwick, Dr Melinda Harris and I attended this forum at the UWA Club on Friday 23 October. It was a wonderful networking opportunity with guest speakers from all sectors of schooling. It is vital that we join with other Australian states to embrace a national framework for early learning years. *The Belonging, Being and Becoming* Framework was distributed to all School Council members at our Term 3 meeting and I am sure they would be happy to share this document with you. Extended Kindy hours will be introduced in West Coast in 2013. As the Kindy will have to remain off site until the completion of the New Deanmore Greg will try to secure from the Crown, the little plot of vacant land that adjoins the Kindy.

### **School Staffing 2010**

We are beginning to receive notice of transfers and appointments for 2010. Until we have our full quota we will not finalise classes. Our numbers are expected to increase significantly with a huge influx in the early learning phase. Deanmore is a school of choice for many parents and we receive daily enquiries about vacancies for 2010. Many parents who are currently living overseas have sought enrolments for their children at Deanmore. When the District Director conducts his School Review on 10 November we will raise the impact of increased enrolments with him.

### **Year 7 Camp**

This amazing half cohort will be heading for Pemberton next week and due to the low numbers we have experienced the usual logistical challenges. However Clint Holland and Greg have determinedly planned for a great camp experience for this small group. Greg will be asking for some P&C support to cover the unusually high costs of the 2009 camp.

### **Celebration Walk 13 November**

This is a joint school and P&C venture and parent helpers would be greatly appreciated. Greg will put out a plan for the day closer to the event. It is important that our wonderful students feel valued and acknowledged for the patience and resilience they have demonstrated during the “buildings journey”.

### **Interactive Whiteboards**

Jo Marwick is really looking forward to her very costly Whiteboard! The price has increased significantly during the time we had to wait for room relocation. The school now has to find \$2000 to provide this resource for the Pre Primary students.

### **Water Wise Assembly**

Tracy Wacker’s class will host a Water Wise assembly on Friday 30 October. Tracy has led a comprehensive program throughout 2009 on water saving solutions and is to be commended for the leadership with programs that have embedded good practice and strategies across classes. The Waterwise portfolio is tabled here tonight.

### **Flowerdale Journal**

Each year as a project that reaches out to others we have produced a Journal of Student work for a community in need. This year Flowerdale has been our focus with teachers planning segments of work to support the project. Parent Katrina Hunter has been magnificent in her efforts to work with me to co ordinate this extremely time consuming task. We have finally produced the finished product and it will be posted to Flowerdale this week. I table it for the P&C’s enjoyment. In 2010 our focus will return to the Deanmore Journals and again Katrina Hunter has offered her time and artistic talent. These projects are embedded in curriculum planning and form elements of studies across all learning areas.

### **Online Teaching and Learning System (OTLS)**

Deanmore is fortunate to be part of this innovative DET program. Funding has been allocated for 2009-2010 to train teachers in the six OTLS modules. Students with parental consent will be offered an online service account. The program will allow students to have access to the internet at school and at home under parent monitoring. Students will also have access to OTLS which provides learning items and activities prepared by the class teacher. Students will be able to submit work and complete homework online. Staff training commence on 16 November.

### **(H1N1)**

The human swine flu vaccine (Panavax) is now available to all Western Australians aged 10 years and over. Panavax is an Australian developed vaccine. Vaccinations are available from a range of locations including GP offices, vaccination clinics, hospitals and health centres.

*Thank you for your support of this great public school. We still have much work to do and many challenges to face. I ask that you continue to consider the legendary commitment of staff and understand that many of our familiar teaching faces will almost certainly not be continuing the journey with us in 2010.*

**Jeanette Metcalf**  
**School Principal**  
**26 October 2009**