Dear Parents and Community Members,

**Voluntary Contributions**
Congratulations to all parents that have paid Voluntary Contributions—this is actually 91% of you. Well done! In actual dollars, this equates to $21,506. To date, we have spent:
- $13,096 on Curriculum resources
- $1,187 on photocopying
- $8,620 on a combination of library books, medical, graduation and computer maintenance.

**Kindergarten Enrolments for 2016**
Parents with children who are eligible to attend Kindergarten in 2016 can enrol at the office anytime. Students must turn four before June 30, 2016.

**School Photos**
For your information, school photos through Kapture Photography will take place on Wednesday 17 June, 2015. Envelopes will be sent home with the next newsletter.

**School Camp**
Next week, our Year 6 students will be attending camp at Bridgetown. I would like to wish all staff and students a productive and enjoyable week.

**Faction T-shirts**
There has been some confusion about when students should wear faction t-shirts. To clarify the position, students should wear faction t-shirts on their sport day and every Friday.

**SING FEST—Singing Festival**
The children from rooms 1 and 2 will be performing in the ‘South Metro District’ Singing Festival—SING FEST. The Sing Fest will be held at the Melville City Council on Thursday 21 May commencing 10:00am.

**Connect**
Connect is the Department of Education’s online environment which will provide teachers, students and parents with secure access to a collaborative online learning environment via the internet.

You can view a brief video providing an overview of Connect at: [https://vimeo.com/102803473](https://vimeo.com/102803473)

The aim of Connect is to provide a secure internet service that will allow teachers to provide information about the teaching and learning activities occurring in their class. Participation in Connect is optional for parents; if you would like to take part you will require internet access and a computer. No additional software is required. The Department of Education will issue you with a unique user name and password which will provide you with access to Connect.

Initially, Connect will allow teachers to provide general class information to you about the teaching and learning activities that his/her class are undertaking. In the future, the service may be further developed to allow more flexible communication between parents and teachers as well as providing personalised information about your child’s learning activities and progress.

In order for you to take part in Connect, please review the attached Conditions of Use and, if you agree, please sign the Connect Registration for Parents form and return this to the school. You will then be confidentially issued with your unique user name and password as well as access details for Connect.
**MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE**

**SCHOOL HOURS**
Commence: 8:45am
Conclude: 2:55pm
Morning recess: 10:50am-11:10am
Lunch Recess: 12:40pm-1:20pm

**CANTEEN DAYS**
Monday and Friday
9316 4003

**BANKING DAYS**
Wednesday Mornings before school commences

**CAMP AUSTRALIA**
**Before and After School Care**
Before School: 7:00am—8:35am
After School: 2:55pm—6:00pm
0452 247 189

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**Being an allergy-aware school.**

Allergies occur when the immune system reacts to substances that are usually harmless. Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and can be life threatening. For people at risk, anaphylaxis occurs quickly after contact to the food, insect or medicine to which the person is allergic.

It is very important that people at risk of anaphylaxis avoid *any contact* with the trigger (allergen). This is especially important with food allergy – a severe reaction can occur if the allergic person comes into contact with even a tiny amount of the food.

Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency. And staff at school have gone through training to recognise reactions, and to respond quickly. Parents of these children have already liaised with staff on the suitable health plan for their child.

**So.... What can children and parents do to support those with severe allergies at school?**

- Find out if there is someone with severe allergies in the classroom. Then consider alternatives to include that child. Ask the child what food they can have for birthday celebrations or distribute non-food treats like stickers.
- Discourage children from sharing food and drinks. This also includes cups, drink bottles, utensils.
- Wash hands before and after eating – good hygiene as well as reducing chance of cross contamination.
- Washing hands after eating reduces likelihood of food ending up on school toys and equipment.
- All food products must list common allergens. If a product states ‘may contain xxx’ – it could have this allergen and must not be given to that child who is allergic. Specific permission from that child’s parent must be given.
- Educate your child about other children with allergies and why it is important to practice the above strategies.
- Talk to the school about how children can let a teacher know quickly if anaphylaxis is happening, so teachers can administer first aid immediately.

**What are the signs of Anaphylaxis?**

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction which can be life-threatening. It causes closure of the airway and/or a drop in blood pressure. Look for one or more of the following;

- Difficult or noisy breathing
- Swelling of the tongue
- Swelling or tightness of the throat
- Wheezing or a persistent cough
- Difficult talking and/or a hoarse voice
- Persistent dizziness or collapse
- Pale and floppy (especially in young children)
- Abdominal pain or vomiting (if following an insect bite or sting)

It is important to lie the person flat and get help fast.

**Do you want more information?**

There are some great resources out there. Here are a few websites;

- Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy [www.allergy.org.au](http://www.allergy.org.au)
- Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia [www.allergyfacts.org.au](http://www.allergyfacts.org.au)

Belinda Laing-Hughes  
Ph: 9339 1362
FLEXIBILITY
Flexibility is being open to change. It means not always having to have your own way. Many unexpected things happen to us that we cannot control. When things happen that upset us it can mean that we need to do things differently or improve in some way. Flexibility means you see difficult things as a challenge, and that you are willing to make changes to become a better person.

P&C
Entertainment Books are available through the school, order your new Entertainment Book or Digital Memberships today. This is a great fundraiser with $13 from each book sold going to the school. You can order online or there are spare order forms available at the office. Prompt delivery made to your child's classroom. Any queries please contact Marg Prestage margprestage@hotmail.com or mobile 0439 182 218.

HONOUR CERTIFICATES

BLUE

RED

GREEN
All students will receive a sticker