Carson Street School Celebrates Science Week

Celebrating Science with Redgum class

Redgum had a whole day of hands-on science madness, having fun with our ‘Wrapper Worm’ experiment. Students learnt all about straw paper and how it is made up of millions of fibres. When the straw wrapper is wrapped around the straw, these fibres are stretched out. As you crinkle the straw, these fibres are bent, curled and crushed. Then you add water and whoa! The student’s different reactions to the experiment were amazing and very varied. Here are some of the photos of the students in action!

Celebrating Science in Room 7

The Science week has been one of the biggest highlights this term. The theme this year was water and each class had an opportunity to prepare a lesson or experiment which uses water. The whole school had lots of fun participating in different water based experiments.

There were very interesting experiments and demonstrations around the school namely: floatation, shaving cream rain, tornado in a bottle, wriggly worms, the
rainbow jar, floating letters and the jet powered boat. It was good to see that all classes were actively involved in the activities. Every class had the opportunity to see what other classes prepared as well as an opportunity to participate in each experiment. The students had lots of fun and also learnt a lot in each of the experiments. Well done to all the classes and teachers for a successful Science day, we look forward to more Science activities in the future!

Celebrating Science with the Belmay Class

As part of Science Day, the Belmay class did “Will it Float or will it Sink?” Students did an experiment on floating eggs to see whether items would float or sink in different substances. They then had plenty of fun putting a variety of objects in the water to see if they would ‘float’ or ‘sink’ and then recorded their findings. We had a lot of laughs when Juanito decided to tip all the water all over the room! Thus making us go to plan B which meant relocating our activity!!

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From the Principal’s desk ....

Despite the recent inclement weather the term has been very busy although a number of students have been absent due to illness. We appreciate your cooperation on this matter because this avoids the spreading of the illness to other vulnerable children.

Portfolio Feedback
While compiling student portfolios at the end of semester one is a time consuming task it is comforting to learn how well they are received by our parents. Our survey on their utility received very positive feedback. My thanks to all those who replied to our survey.

Minister’s Visit
The Minister for Education Mr Peter Collier visited the school on August 5th and was given a tour of a number of our programs. He was very interested in how being an Independent Public School had changed the way we operated and the benefits of the Student Centred Funding model which was introduced this year.

Our School is a Shining Star
The school came fourth in the online voting for the Education Department’s “Our School is a Shining Star” competition. The school submitted a short thirty second video and the public were asked to vote. My special thanks to all our supporters once again.

Playground Upgrade
Despite missing out on a grant from the Department of Education the P&C are committed to the upgrade in the Junior Play area. The design of the equipment has been chosen and installation will commence in the near future. The school is indeed fortunate to have such an array of challenging equipment in the playgrounds many of them have been funded by our hard working P&C.

First Aid Training
A number of staff have completed their first aid course during the recent professional development day. It is important to have as many of them trained as possible and I thank them for their commitment to health and safety for both staff and students.

Vision Professional Development
All staff have had professional development on how to work with students who have a visual impairment. The course was led by Jill Leonard a visiting teacher from the School of Special Educational Needs: Sensory.

Science Day Wednesday 19th August
Water was the topic for Science Week which gave students across the school opportunities to experiment with some of its qualities. Thanks to all the staff who provided activities.

Woolworths Earn and Learn Stickers
Thanks for all your support in sending in the stickers. When the program finishes we will be able to choose some fabulous items for the library when we cash them in.

Best wishes
John Exeter
Principal
P&C News...

Our thoughts are with Liz Green, P&C President as she recovers from a mishap which resulted in a very painful broken hip.

We all hope to see you back on deck soon.

Student’s Personal Property:

The Department—and therefore the school—does not have cover for the accidental loss or damage of the personal property of students. If your child brings or uses personal equipment or items of value to school, we highly recommend that you arrange for your own insurance cover. Many Home Contents policies will provide cover for personal items outside of the home.

From Marian, Community Support Officer

Value for the Term—Be Kind to the Environment

Value lessons are up and running again. Our main value for this term is “Being Kind to the Environment”. In order to focus on this Value the children have been participating in activities around recycling, talking about and matching animals to where they live in the environment and discussing the importance of water.

It was very exciting for the satellite class (Belmay) as they received a visit from the Minister of Education Mr Peter Collier during a value lesson.

The value lesson was about recycling and the children were keen to sing him a song which they had just learnt. On behalf of Carson Street School, the children had the privilege of receiving a certificate from Mr Collier for the “Our School’s a Star” award.

Chaplain/Community Support

Progress has been a little slow in organising some events in which parents can network with each other. I should be in touch soon in regards to an Information Morning Tea later this term. I continue to enjoy catching up with parents and am available for confidential chats. My usual days are Tuesdays and Wednesdays and I can be contacted on 0432 570 768 or by email Marian.Tetlow@education.wa.edu.au.

Congratulations to students Stephen from Room 7 and Robbie from the Belmay satellite class.

They each received the Encouragement Award for Term 3, from Stacie Thompson, Promotions Coordinator at Belmont Forum

Well done boys!

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Vision Impairment Workshop

Teachers and Education Assistants each attended a workshop designed to increase staff awareness of vision impairment. Our facilitator Jill Leonard, a Visiting Teacher from the School of Special Educational Needs: Sensory (SSEN:S) also discussed the adjustments required to teaching and learning programs for students with vision impairment. Jill has provided information about the SSEN:S service below. Each student with vision impairment has unique needs. The Sensory Vision visiting teacher makes recommendations on relevant teaching and learning adjustments (strategies) that assist the student to access the class/school curriculum. While some teaching and learning adjustments (TALAs) may be generic, most TALAs are generally designed for specific students.

TALAs can be grouped into categories such as:
- Greetings
- Seating/Positioning (Organization)
- Lighting (Illumination)
- Contrast (Selection/adaptation of materials)
- Orientation and Mobility
- Organisation


TIP:
Student’s vision can vary during the day and is sometimes affected by tiredness and stress. Ways to minimise fatigue include alternating visual and non-visual activities.

From the Nurses

On Wednesday 16th September our school is taking part in The Great Aussie Crunch, joining with schools from across Western Australia to simultaneously crunch on fresh vegetables – and have fun doing it! The Great Aussie Crunch is part of Fruit & Veg September, aiming this year to educate students on the importance of eating more vegetables. Please ensure your child brings some fresh, washed vegetables to crunch on. Maybe a carrot or sugar snap peas, or cut up some capsicum, broccoli, cucumber or celery? Parents are very welcome join in!

More information is available here: www.crunchandsip.com.au

Stay in Bed Day

We would like to say a huge thankyou to you and the students of Carson Street School and Burbridge School for supporting the Australian Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (AMDF) in our ‘Stay in Bed Day’ by holding a PJ day on Friday the 26 June.

We made a whopping donation together of $347.50! The donation you have made will help fund research in finding a cure and continue to provide support to sufferers.

Stay in Bed Day is an event raising awareness of mitochondrial disease (mito) which came about as a way to raise much needed awareness to the general public about just one of the many side effects mito has on sufferers – having no energy and simply not being able to get out of bed.

Thankyou
Kirrilly, Val and Nola, Health Centre Nurses

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Life without Maureen!

It was with mixed emotions that we assembled to say goodbye to Education Assistant Maureen Page who retired after 39 years at our school.

Her ability to interact so positively with our special needs students enhanced their responsiveness and eagerness to learn, thus leading to greater educational outcomes.

Over the course of her time at Carson Street School she was actively involved in many initiatives including our unique program for students with physical impairments called Conductive Education. She has also worked one-to-one with our students teaching activities of daily living, self-independence and socialisation, always ensuring that the students’ programs were implemented at the highest possible standard.

It is difficult to summarize the important contribution she made to our students’ education over such a long time but she has been loved and respected by all members of the school community and we wish her all the best for life after school.

We will miss you Maureen!

RATs at Carson Street School

It’s not what you think! As an Education Support School, Carson Street School has a high proportion of students who require physical assistance on a daily basis. As part of our Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) branch, our Risk Assessment Team (RAT) comprises of seven experienced staff members, dedicated to creating the safest learning and working environment for our staff and students.

Having undergone extensive accredited training in the areas of manual handling, risk assessment, and in using a wide range of assistive equipment, our RAT members work together with classrooms and therapists to:

- Develop the safest way of assisting students with their various transfers throughout the school day.
- Build the confidence and expertise of all staff in using their body to move a load or person, and in using equipment.
- Assist in developing programmes for students with challenging behaviours.

Our RAT members are constantly on the lookout for new and effective ways of improving school safety. To learn more about the training we receive, please visit http://www.safeactions.com.au.
Room 9

When asked about a workshop with Tye, Violet’s response on her Dynavox was “I like tools. I need hammer”.

Most of the kids enjoy the extra special sensory experience getting up close and personal with some of the equipment…..the ticklish effect of the sander on the soles of their feet had Madi giggling and Angelica wondering just what was going on!!

Nathan, being our only boy, kept a close eye on Mikayla while the saw was being “explored”. Mikayla was gung ho of course, saying “Just give it to me, will you?”

Some of the children have been using their switches to place Space Invaders and other switch games. Muji was a little concerned with the placement of her switches but there was method in the teacher’s madness! Chin down equals yes (like a nod) and cheek to the side equals no (like a head shake). She soon got the hang of it all.

Isabelle loves her high tech devices, not happy with her own Vantage, she’s always go an eye out to use Violet’s Dynavox as well.
Bluegum

This term, the students of Bluegum have been learning about Birds. We went outside to look for birds in the garden of our school. We all had so much fun and we have discovered three different types of birds throughout our garden.

Also our helper, Alison brought in her daughter’s parrot, Henry. Henry was a bit shy around us, however it gave us the opportunity to observe him and learn about the features of a Rainbow Lorikeet. A special thank you to Alison for bringing Henry into the classroom!

Specialist Program —Swimming & Hydrotherapy

Carson Street School students participate in swimming and hydrotherapy twice a week. Aims of the swimming program are that students are participating and learning water awareness, water confidence and basic water safety, swimming and survival skills. Where the timetable permits some students will participate in deep water swimming at our local community aquatic centre. This allows students to become familiar with changeroom facilities and pool areas.

Hydrotherapy helps those students that have a physical disability, participating in gentle rhythmic movements to help promote relaxation. When students are relaxed they are then able to participate in gentle stretches and passive ranging of their limbs to help maintain movement. Hydrotherapy also provides stimulation to respiratory and circulatory systems which is beneficial to students’ wellbeing.

Our swimming teacher Kerry Atkins is a qualified Austswim instructor.

Education Assistants Kylie, Teresa and Anna assist Kerry in the pool. Kylie and Teresa both hold Austswim qualifications.
Concept Music Donation

The Music Program at Carson Street School has received a huge boost from CONCEPT MUSIC. Graham Hoskins of Concept Music is the Opa (or Grandad) of one of our students – Isabelle from Room 9. Concept Music held a big fundraising Quiz Night in July to celebrate 35 years in business, and raise funds to supply musical instruments to Disability Support Groups. This year, Graham approached Carson Street School and asked if we would like to be one of the beneficiaries. The answer was of course a Great Big Yes! Their Quiz night was so successful that they were able to offer us a Music voucher for $2,500.00 to spend at Concept Music on whatever we wanted.

I had a wonderful morning at Concept Music a few weeks ago spending all that money. I was able to purchase a set of Djembe drums with special stands that will allow students with limited mobility to independently play these African drums. I also purchased an amplifier to use with the Hand Sonic drum, several sets of sturdy drum sticks and additions to the collection of fruit shakers.

Graham came to Carson Street School on Thursday 20th July to deliver these goodies! Isabelle was there to greet her Opa and was keen to be the first to try out the new instruments.

A big thank you once again to GRAHAM HOSKINS, the Quiz night fundraising team and to CONCEPT MUSIC from all the staff and students at Carson Street School.

A message from Asha’s Mum

Last Friday we met with the staff from the Genetics Department at PMH and were told that Asha, aged 8, had been diagnosed with Pitt Hopkins Syndrome. This was determined by a blood test that indicated that Asha had a deletion of a gene on Chromosome 18. We were told that this is an extremely rare disorder with currently no more than 400 children world-wide diagnosed with this condition. At this stage, I have found only one other family in Adelaide and Tasmania in Australia who have a child with Pitt Hopkins.

People with Pitt Hopkins often have sight issues, a wider flattened nose, fine, neat eyebrows, narrow feet, full lips and spaces between their teeth. All are described as having a very happy disposition. Many dribble and play with or flap their hands. Most will not develop speech and those that do may only develop 2-3 words. Most cannot walk. All of this describes Asha to a tee! (They didn’t mention a cheeky personality – she has that too!).

The 18th of September is Pitt Hopkins World Awareness Day. Please go to the following link for more information. https://pithopkins.org/events/awareness-day-september-18-2015/
CECWA news

Dinner For Dreams 2016.
Planning for the 2016 Dinner for Dream is underway. We are happy to announce that it will be held on 28th May 2016 at the Hyatt Regency. Interesting in joining the planning committee? The first meeting will be held on Tuesday 25th August, 7pm at the Windsor Hotel in South Perth. Those who have been involved before can tell you how rewarding it is to help put the event together. There’s lots of ways you can get involved. Help planning the event, plan the entertainment, source donations for auctions and raffles, decorate the venue and many other things. If you want to be involved but can’t get to the meeting drop an email to events@conductiveedwa.com.au

City to Surf – CECWA Striders
The 2015 City to Surf is just around the corner on the 30th August. A bunch of us are getting together to raise funds for CECWA. Come join in the fun- walk or run. There are 4km, 12km, half and full marathon events as well as a 4km wheelchair events. Remember companion cards are also accepted. If you want to help fund raise funds join the CECWA Striders team or share our everyday hero page - https://chevroncitytosurf2015.everydayhero.com/au/team-cecwa-striders. This year we have created a super bright t-shirt so we can stand out in the crowd. See below for order details.

T-Shirts
Order your new CECWA T-shirt now for $15. We have yellow CECWA Strider shirts and yellow and black CECWA shirts (with plain black) available in kids and adult sizes. We are expecting delivery soon. To order contact Caroline Fitzpatrick at secretary@conductiveedwa.com.au.

New Website
The new website is up and running at www.conductiveedwa.com.au. Take a moment to have a look and share it amongst your community. We welcome all suggestions.

Key Dates
25 Aug 2015 Dinner for Dreams 2016 planning meeting – Windsor Hotel – South Perth – 7pm
30 Aug 2015 City to Surf – team CECWA Striders
15th Sept 2015 CECWA general meeting- Carson Street School—6.30pm—All welcome
28th May 2016 Dinner For Dreams – Hyatt Regency
Kids in Crisis Comfort Pack Appeal

Constable Care Needs Your Help…

Sadly some kids are victims of crime, neglect, or involved in traumatic situations such as road accidents. As a result they often can’t go home so in these times of crisis the Constable Care Child Safety Foundation Inc provides them with a Comfort Pack; an age and gender appropriate bag, for kids between 0-16 years, filled with essential items such as a toothbrush and toothpaste, pyjamas, socks, a blanket, teddy, and story book.

Constable Care provides these packs to front-line care and emergency service workers to make life a little more comfortable for these kids at a really difficult time. Since the program started in October 2014, Constable Care has managed the packing and distribution of over 550 comfort packs to kids in need all over the state. But these packs rely solely on donations so if you would like to offer any new items, make a cash donation or even volunteer your time to help pack these bags Constable Care would be extremely grateful. Please contact Jackie Byrde on (08) 9272 0000 or jackie@constablecare.org.au for more information.

AUTISM WEST TERM 3 HOLIDAY GROUP

5-18 years for people with ASD
FULL DAY: 9am-5pm $70
HALF DAY OPTIONS: 9am-1pm $40 OR 1pm-5pm $40

Morning and Afternoon Tea are provided, please pack your child's lunch if attending the morning session, water bottle, hat and sunscreen.

WEEK 1

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<td>9am-1pm (pack Lunch)</td>
<td>Welcome, Activities at the Autism West Centre</td>
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WEEK 2

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<td>Excursion to Movies (PAN)</td>
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<td>Excursion to Sci-Tech</td>
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Send in your EOI form to abbianca@autismwest.org.au or call 9383 6123 by the 21st September. Once parents have registered their interest attendees will be grouped according to their ages and abilities.

Autism West, 8/62 McCabe St Mosman Park WA 6012
www.autismwest.org.au

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HOMEWORK GROUP

Autism West is running Homework Groups for children on the autism spectrum, between 10 to 13 years old, starting this August 2015. The Homework Groups will provide a variety of activities, however focusing on supporting children with their homework. The activities will be tailored to cater for different ages and abilities of children with ASD.

Time: 4:00pm-6:00pm Tuesday & Thursday afternoons
Cost: $40 per session
Where: Autism West, 8/62 McCabe street Mosman Park
Afternoon tea will be provided

Once parents have registered their interest, we will group the attendees according to ages and abilities.

For more information contact us:
Autism West: 09 9298 8122
Or Email: info@autismwest.org.au

autismwest.org.au 8/62 McCabe Street, Mosman Park

Wishing our August & September birthday boys and girls a Happy Birthday:

Amelie—Parent & Child 8 Aug
Asha—Yellowgum 17 Aug
Iziah—My Time 23 Aug
Kailee—My Time 4 Sep
Matthew—Banksia 5 Sep
David—Room 7 9 Sep
Isabelle—Room 9 9 Sep
Blake—Banksia 11 Sep
Arshia—Room 5 13 Sep
Ashleigh—Room 7 18 Sep
Ollie—Parent & Child 19 Sept

What’s on . . . what’s coming up . . .

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Wednesday 3rd Sept</td>
<td>Whole-school Ten Pin Bowling excursion</td>
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| Week 9, 14th—18th Sept | Health Food Activity Week:  
- Wednesday 16th: Great Aussie Crunch  
- Friday 18th: Healthy School Lunch |
| Friday 25th Sept   | Last day of Term 3.                           |

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