



Produced by Dwellingup Primary School

Dec 14th 2023

Established 1911

"Choose Respect"

Dates to Remember:
2024 Office Opens: 24th January 2024
2024 Students commence: 31st January 2024

www.mathletics.com.au
www.studyladder.com.au

Weekly Events in Dwellingup:
(Please note: Playgroup finished for 2023)

Warm Welcome to Neil



I congratulate and send a warm welcome to **Mr Neil Montgomery**, the successful applicant for the principal position at Dwellingup Primary School. Neil has been the principal of Cue Primary School for the past three years. I am delighted that an applicant that comes from a small school context is coming to Dwellingup. I have met Neil and I congratulate the panel for making such an excellent choice!

Neil is extremely excited about coming to Dwellingup. He will be in Dwellingup after Christmas to meet with me to complete a thorough handover.

Years 4/5/6 Assembly

On Tuesday 5th December, the students in years 4/5/6 presented a **"Science Show"** for their assembly item. We were 'wowed' by the number of concepts covered and thank **Mrs Holster** for putting so much effort into planning and preparation.



Victor's and Lenny's experiment used red cabbage juice to test the PH of a range of liquids. Red cabbage contains a chemical call anthocyanin which acts as an acid / base initiator.



Lucas, Nate, Luca and Capri used lemons to make an LED light up. The source of electric energy in this demonstration is the combination of copper and zinc strips in the citric acid of the lemon.

The citric acid of the lemon reacts with the zinc and loosens electrons. Copper pulls electrons more strongly than zinc, so loose electrons will move towards the copper when the electrodes are connected by wires. Moving electrons are called an electric current, which is what lights up the bulb.



Sienna, Anika, Ambrosia and Wesley experimented with a combination of guar gum, water, bauxite and glucose to create a molecular network called a colloid (commonly referred to as slime).



The last experiment was the bottle rocket! Indi, Alby H and Alby B used two states of matter to create a third. Vinegar and bicarb soda were mixed to create CO₂. When this CO₂ is trapped in the bottle using a cork it builds up pressure. Eventually, the pressure is realised,

blowing out the cork and creating the power which propels the rocket.



Above: The item had a spectacular grand finale with Alby B launching the rocket in the car park.

Merit Certificates

Victor Barton ~ Fantastic behaviour and demonstrating a superb level of interest when attending the 'Nutcracker' ballet.

Alby Birmingham ~ For his fairness and kindness to others, for his active participation in mathematical review rotations and to encourage him to always do his best.

Jackson Hanstrum ~ For his excellent results in semester 2 PAT testing. Jackson achieved at the 92nd percentile in Mathematics. Well-done Jackson.

Alby Hughes ~ For always doing her work as well as she can, for her polite and positive behaviour and for the consideration and kindness shown to others.

Otis Hughes ~ For his continuous hard work this semester. Otis, your determination to do your best is amazing! Keep it up.

Lenny Thompson ~ For his outstanding reading and writing skills, for immaculate bookwork and presentation and for funny, intelligent conversation and debate.

.CONGRATULATIONS!



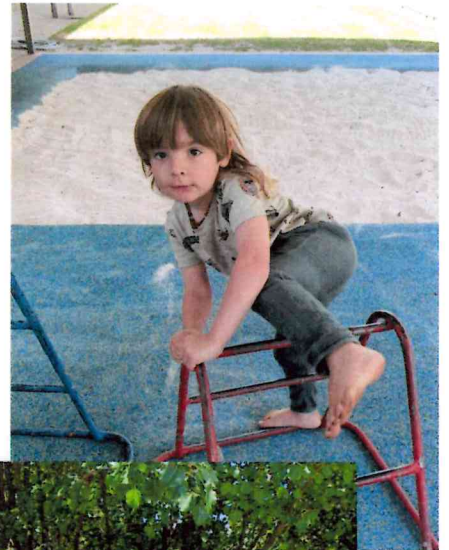
Above: Lenny, Alby, Otis, Alby, Jackson, Victor

Welcome 2023 Kindy Students (and their families)

On Friday 8th December we were delighted to welcome our kindy students for 2024. The children came to school with their parents and participated in some fun and educational activities.



*Left: Colton
blows some
bubbles.*



Right: Foxxy



Above: Parents Ben (Lachie), Megan (Harley), Linx (Foxxy), Jackson (Colton) & Tiana (Colton) all attended Dwellingup Primary School ~ what an endorsement for our school!

*Right: Lachie
takes Harley for
a ride on the
tandem bike.*



*Left: Addison
making a car.*

Graduation Dinner

Last Wednesday evening, year our graduating students enjoyed a get together at Cicerello's in Mandurah. We enjoyed a walk around the foreshore looking at the Christmas lights and Mrs Lamb and I, who accompanied the students were delighted that our graduating students enjoyed a game of chasey on the playground equipment!



Above: Last days at primary school ~ Logan, Lucas, Capri, Lenny, Nate, Luca and Indi.



Above: Mrs Lamb very kindly presented each student with a book.



Above: Alby B, Alby H and Nate enjoying mulberries straight from the tree.



Right: Evie preparing to zoom down the slide into the recess area.



Playtime at Dwellingup Primary School

It is always a delight being on duty at Dwellingup PS as it is invariably harmonious and friendly and I am always delighted how students fully utilise their amazing playground. The range of activities they engage in never ceases to amaze us.



Above: Lily, Vinnie and Bronte carefully cleared away all of the leaves etc before making their campfire.



Left: Bella 'rowing' her friends along.



Below: Students in years 4/5/6 made a 'caterpillar on wheels'.

Recycling

Many people enrolled in the Dwellingup '100' event but failed to arrive. This resulted in a large number of plastic registration numbers in envelopes together with brochures for local businesses and the Bibbulmun Track. The senior students utilised their fruit break time effectively by 'sorting' each envelope. The envelopes went into the paper recycling bin, the plastic went into the rubbish bin (to join the 2.1 million tonnes thrown out in Australia each year with just 9% being recycled) and the brochures were returned to the Visitors Centre / businesses for re-use.



"Talk for Writing"

Mrs Lamb was delighted with two students, "Hot Tasks" last week. Prior to commencing a learning unit, students are given a "Cold Task". After the unit has been taught, a "Hot Task" is completed and work is assessed. Mrs Lamb was extremely impressed with the progress that all students have made but was particularly impressed with the work published below:

Students were required to use imagery to create a scene. Here are two fabulous pieces of writing:

ON THE NIGHT OF THE STORM...

On the night of the storm, the sandstorm flickered like a light on the crackling window. On the night of the storm, the blizzard lashed the old cackling tin roof. On the third night of the storm, fog and mist came rushing in like a Formula-1 car on a track. On the night of the storm, destruction broke out like a desperate prisoner escaping. On the night of the storm, ice fell like darting bullets aiming for our roof. On the night of the storm, debris threw itself like a monkey on a tree.

Lucas



ON THE NIGHT OF THE STORM...

On the night of the storm, the soft rain dribbles on the window like petals falling off the tree outside the window.

On the night of the storm, the hard crashing thunder is like ten drums playing, two trees falling onto a wet road and bullets hitting a roof.

On the night of the storm, the strong tornado is spinning faster like the speed of lightning crashing; it swirls like when you pull the plug of a bath or a sink, it sucks all sorts of things like bushes, trees, sheds or maybe houses.

On the night of the storm, the hail bangs on the roof and window, the hail drums as hard as rocks banging on glass and almost breaking it.

On the night of the storm, the snow is delicately falling onto the ground as petals or leaves are falling off a tree just outside my door.

On the night of the storm, the floods are gushing through the town and turning into a river, the rain is like rocks making a giant pool.

The fire is burning hot like hot lava moving from hill to hill, up and down.

The fire is as hot as the sun moving from city to city, town to town, burning houses, trees and bushes.

Pearl

TALK FOR WRITING developed by Pie Corbett, supported by Julia Strong and the [Talk for Writing team](#), is powerful because it is based on the principles of how people learn. The movement from **imitation** to **innovation** to **independent application** can be adapted to suit the needs of learners of any stage.

Talk for Writing has had an outstanding impact on schools. Typically, schools have found that children initially double their rate of progress and, where the approach has been applied systematically across a setting, many schools have moved from dire results to outstanding success. Schools already performing well have not only increased attainment, but also enjoyment and engagement.

Presentation / Graduation

Our **Presentation / Graduation** event was held on the last day of term. All students' efforts throughout the year were acknowledged. Congratulations to the following students who were the recipients of awards:

YEAR	AWARD	RECIPIENT
1-2-3	Academic	Tahni Case
1-2-3	Endeavour	Macy Rickard-Hall
1-2-3	Citizenship	Matilda Duyn
1-2-3	Environment	Evie Myles
1-2-3	The Arts	Otis Hughes
1-2-3	Sport	Byron Alers
1-2-3	Junior LOTE	Jackson Hanstrum
1-2-3	"Talk for Writing"	Lily Hanstrum
4-5-6	Academic	Lara Goncalves
4-5-6	Endeavour	Anika Vanelst
4-5-6	Citizenship	Alby Hughes
4-5-6	Environment	Sienna Panotidis
4-5-6	The Arts	Ambrosia Sheridan
4-5-6	Senior LOTE	Luca Coxon-Zahra
4-5-6	"Talk for Writing"	Lenny Thompson
4-5-6	Sport	Capri Sellenger
1-6	"Choose Respect"	Nate Fort
6	DUX	Luca Coxon-Zahra

We thank the following organisations and their representatives for their donation of awards and thank the representatives who attended on the day to present the awards: **Dwellingup Community Association, the Dwellingup R.S.L., Lions' Club of Pinjarra, Longriders Dwellingup the Rotary Club of Pinjarra and Robyn Clark M.L.A.**

Thank you to **Shelley Coxon** for preparing the slide shows. The 2023 Slide Show has been sent as a separate document. Thanks to **John Laird** who assists Mr Warren to collect and return the chairs to the hall every year.

A big thank you goes to the students for presenting such amazing entertainment and to the staff for all of the work that they put in before, on and after the day.



Above and below: "Waltz with a Twist" ~ K/PP



Above and below: Years 1/2/3 performed "Deck the Shed".





Everyone loved the sensational **“Junkadelic”** performance at the end of the event. The whole school participated in this vibrant and lively activity. “Junkadelic” formed part of the year 4/5/6 Arts Curriculum in term 4. Many thanks to **Shani Holster** for her initiative in organising “Junkadelic” and the funding. Thank you to **Newmont and the P&C** for funding this program. The school cannot provide programs such as this without external funding.

Newmont™

P & C Report 2023

On behalf of the Dwellingup Primary school P&C I would like to congratulate all our students on a wonderful year of achievements, learning and growth. Having watched most of you thrive from kindy to year 6, you have just become the most amazing human beings. Looking around we truly are so fortunate to have such a wonderful little school.

The P&C would like to offer our sincere thanks to all our past and present committee members, staff, parents, all of our volunteers and of course our fabulous kids.

We would like to make a special mention to two of the most generous souls that have dedicated endless hours to volunteering their time at every event over the past 20 years and so much more behind the scenes. The school could not have run so well without you two amazing people Colleen Sing & Nola Kinal. So thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

The past year the P&C has been fortunate enough to support some amazing events and needs of the Dwellingup Primary school. These have included;

The Food & Fibre & Design & Technology run by Shani Holster.

The Story Time / History Excursion to Pinjarra.
End of Year Reward Excursion to see the “Nutcracker” at His Majesty’s Theatre.

Ukuleles - Purchasing of the ukuleles for the Music programme with Edith O’Neil which was also partially funded by ALCOA

Junkadelic which was organised and run with Shani Holster. This was also funded with **Newmont Boddington Gold** in conjunction with the P&C.

Year 6 Sydney Canberra Camp including a sneaky trip to the snow, which was also partially funded by Alcoa.

Year 6 Leavers’ Shirts.

Year 6 Graduation Dinner – Cicerellos Mandurah.

Mosaics - Noongar / jarrah forest bird & animal mosaic plaques that are just amazing and can be seen on the hallways and over at kindy pre-primary area. The **boo book owl (gogomat)** example is pictured above. Other mosaics depict a

brush-tailed phascogale (wambenger), a blue wren (djourrdjilya), pygmy possum (mandarda), an echidna (nyingarr), a red tailed black cockatoo (karrak) and a motorbike frog (kwooyar).



The P&C is such a vital part of our school and plays a huge part in supporting activities and applying for funding opportunities for our kids.

Building relationships between our little school and local companies open up funding opportunities that in turn give our children access to exciting new adventures that larger schools don't often get. So a huge thankyou to Alcoa, Newmont Boddington Gold and all our local businesses who continue to support our little school.

So again thankyou to everyone who has given up there time to help out.

Lucinda Sellenger ~ President



Fire Brigade Hose Down

One of our school traditions is the hose down that all students receive to end the year. We thank our amazing local **Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade** for making this memorable activity possible. We also thank the volunteers for spending countless hours and when necessary, placing themselves at risk to keep our community safe. Thank you to the volunteers **who** were **very effective** at dousing students (and others)!



Thank you to **Kelly, Nova and Kayla** for providing the Graduation and Fire Hose Down photos. Again, thanks to our **Volunteer Fire Brigade**.



2023 ~ The Year That Was...

We have had a busy year with many quality educational excursions and experiences. Highlights have included the P & C Welcome Event at the beginning of the year, Fremantle Symphony Orchestra visit, Sculpture by the Sea, Harmony Week Activities (Māori culture – Lee Rickard & her dad, Philippine Culture Excursion), WA Ballet performing Peter and the Wolf in Mandurah, a visit to the Bindjarep Noongar Cultural Centre in Pinjarra, participation in Hospital Centenary, “Million Paws” RSPCA Walk, participation in ANZAC and Remembrance commemorations, students in years 4/5/6 visiting the Forest Discovery Centre to make bird houses, visits to the Lost Eden Gallery, our participation in the UCI “Parade of Nations” and contribution to town decoration, “Future Careers Forum”, Significant Elders Lunch, our whole school journey to His Majesty’s Theatre to see the WA Ballet Company perform ‘The Nutcracker’, the year 6 Parliament House Tour and lunch with Robyn Clark MLA, the year 6 camp to Canberra / Sydney and ‘Junkadelic’. I would like to thank our **P & C**, the **Dwellingup Community Association**, **Alcoa**, **Newmont** and our **community** who made these experiences possible. Without this support, these enriching experiences would not have been possible.

Thank you to our staff who vastly exceeded expectations and go “above and beyond the call of duty”.

I believe the highlight of the year has been our academic success across the school.

Our school was contacted by the Phonics Initiative team because our school achieved “higher than expected performance” in Literacy. Our school performed “above Like Schools” in NAPLAN in all learning areas tested in year 3 and all areas in year 5 with the exception of Numeracy where we were close.

Another very impressive feature of our NAPLAN data was that, compared to Like Schools, Dwellingup P.S. had far fewer students achieving in the bottom 20% of students tested. We believe that this is because of our rigorous testing / intervention that occurs.

On Entry Testing – It is mandated that all schools conduct On-Entry testing of pre-primary students. Tests are completed at the commencement of pre-primary and at the end of the year as well as at the beginning of year 1. End of year testing has shown fantastic results with some children achieving 100% in year 1 end of term 1 spelling.

In addition to NAPLAN, we complete school wide testing using **PAT (Progressive Achievement Testing)** which has been developed by ACER (Australian Council of Educational Research) and is used by many schools Australia wide. Students in years 1 to 6 are tested twice a year in **Maths, Reading, Grammar & Punctuation, Science** Reading ages of students are progressing well.

Analysis of data from these assessments indicates that most year 3 students are reading well above their age level with several reading at 11- 13 year old level. One year 3 student has the reading age of a 15 year 5 month old.

PLD – Preventing Literacy Difficulties and S.A. Spelling All students (PP – 6) are tested in Week 7 of each term. Intervention occurs if students are not performing as expected. Years 1/2/3 spelling results have just been finalised (delays occurred due to illness) with all children excelling.

Some fabulous results came in with one student leaping 2 years in one year and 4 students leaping 1.5 years in one year.

Lexile Reading - A Lexile measure serves two functions: it is the measure of how difficult a text is OR a student’s reading ability level. The Lexile Framework was developed by MetaMetrics®, an educational assessment and research team, funded originally by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. A student receives his or her Lexile measure by taking a school-administered **SRI (Scholastic Reading Inventory) test**, which is specifically designed to measure Lexile or reading ability. If a student gets a 550L then he or she is a 550 level Lexile reader. Progress is accurately monitored.

In 2023, the program was extended down to students in year 3 and forms part of the before school / morning reading program. Pleasing gains in reading have been noted.

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL?

- Quality Teaching
- Regular assessment and targeted intervention.
- Referrals to and support by allied professionals eg. School Psychology Service; Dyslexia - Speld Foundation; Chaplaincy; SSENDBE (School of Special Educational Needs, Behaviour & Engagement).
- Evidence-based programs in place.
- Multi age classes facilitate students working above year level.
- Above formula staff student ratio.
- Morning Reading program years 1/2/3.
- Extension on Lexile reading program used in years 4/5/6 to year 3.

Special mention must be given to **Geoff Warren** for creating the beautiful setting for all of us in which to work and learn. His environmental programs, including “Containers for Change” are an inspiration to all, including the wider community and provide incredible learning opportunities to students on how they can help their planet. In addition, the huge role that he plays at sports carnival is invaluable. This year, we thank Geoff for all of the support that he provided during the year 6 camp to Canberra-Sydney.

Our small community is blessed with many individuals who support the learning and healthy growth and development of the children in it in many ways.

Lainee Vanelst volunteers her time to support the amazing Friday afternoon art program for students in years PP-3. In addition, Lainee has run the Playgroup this year and has put an unbelievable amount of creativity and work into providing quality education activities for our youngest community members. Lainee, her husband Lee as well as family members organise the annual Christmas Tree event for all children in the community. Fifty-six students and their families attended this years’ event.

Edo O’Neill volunteers her time and talents to teach music on Friday afternoons. Edo commenced volunteering last year, and the

program was extended this year with the addition of a ukulele program.

Thank you to **Pam Laird** for all of her ‘behind the scenes’ work. Pam spends countless hours covering books and gluing in student work.

Thank you to our **P&C** who support the school in so many ways, give parents an opportunity to have a voice and provide learning experiences for our students that we could not otherwise afford. Thank you to outgoing President **Christine Reid** and incoming President **Lucinda Sellenger and their committees.**

Thank you to the **School Council.** This year we welcomed new members – **Christina Gray, Ryan Myles, Edo O’Neil and Lee Vanelst** onto our Council. They join **Shani Holster, Pam Laird, and John McCooke.** We thank our Chair, **Anne Sinclair**, for supporting change processes that have been occurring with the School Council and for the unstinting support that she gives to the school.

Thank you to all parents for supporting your child’s learning, helping in many ways around the school, and helping to create a friendly atmosphere.

Staffing 2024 (Projected)

Please note: Schools are required to provide a projected budget / school structure for the following year. Schools are funded on what is called a “Student Centred Funding” model so student numbers significantly effect funding received. A student census occurs in term 1, week 2. The incoming principal, Neil Montgomery, will then determine 2024 arrangements.

School structure – Due to the lack of housing in Dwellingup school numbers have declined as follows:

2021	2022	2023	2024 (projected)
52	48	48	43

Our projected arrangements are to have a two and a half class structure ~ K/PP - 0.5 and a years 1/2/3 class and a years 4/5/6 class. The PP students will join the years 1/2/3 students on the other days.

Roles	Staff	Education Assistants
Principal	Mr Neil	
K/PP (2.5 days per week)	Ms Natasha Leggatt	Mrs Wendy Bell
1/2/3	Mrs Heather Morgan	Mrs Wagenaar
PP/1/2/3 (2.5 days per week)	Mrs Heather Morgan	Mrs Wendy Bell Ms Jude Wagenaar Mrs Laine Vanelst
4/5/6	Miss Stephanie Fisher	Mrs Lamb
“Talk for Writing”	Mrs Juliet Lamb	
PLD Early Intervention	Ms Jude Wagenaar	
Duties Other Than Teaching Relief	Mrs Shani Holster	
Indonesian	Taught on-line by SIDE.(yrs 3-6)	
Library	Mrs Carol Hovey (Mon)	
Manager Corporate Services	Mrs Kate Pook (Mon – Fri)	
Chaplain	Mrs Lisa Ferraro (Wed & every 2 nd Tues)	
Gardener	Mr Geoff Warren	
Cleaner	Ms Janine	

It is proposed that the years 1/2/3 class may move to the ECE 2 building to facilitate arrangements when the PP students join them. Movement between the sites would be lessened also. The senior class which will contain 19 students are very cramped in their existing room and will move to the Room 2, where the years 1/2/3 class is currently situated. Room 4 (the current years 4/5/6 room), will be fully utilised by **Shani Holster** as an art room. At this stage kindy students will attend Wednesday – Friday one week and Thursday, Friday the following week.

Please note: These are **projected** arrangements only. As in most schools, adjustments are made at the commencement of the new school year and we have quite a few variables in place including a new principal, new staff and uncertainty regarding final student numbers.

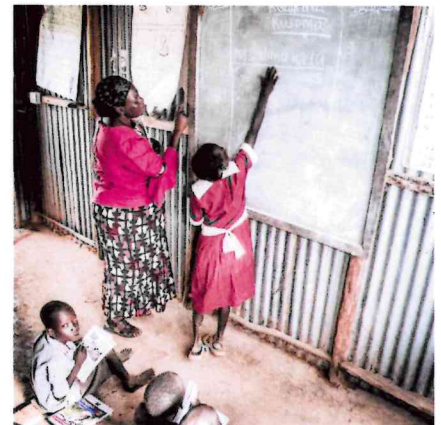
Final Word from Colleen and Nola

Nola and I thank the school community for the kind words, best wishes and generous gifts that we received.

We both feel privileged to have been part of the lives of the children and families who have formed our school community over the years. We thank our wider community for embracing our school and it has been a privilege to have many organisations and individuals supporting the school, students and staff including ourselves.

We feel a large debt of gratitude for the wonderful memories that this school has provided us with. We cannot imagine a better place to have spent a major part of our respective careers.

We wish to give something back and our gift to the school is to sponsor a program “So They Can” that enables a few of the 100 million children in



Africa to access education. We hope that our gift provides the students with a valuable learning opportunity. The students at Dwellingup P.S. will receive updates about the school in Africa being supported.

“Obtaining a quality education is the foundation to improving people’s lives and sustainable development.” United Nations.

Thank you!