



Merriwa Education Support Centre

Dear Parents & Families,

We are fast approaching the end of the school year and a very busy time. Please add the upcoming events to your diary. It has been wonderful to visit classrooms these past weeks to see the students engaged in a variety of activities and to reflect on how far they have come this year.

All of our students are enjoying various excursions as part of our Community Access Program (CAP) this term. The visits have included visits to the WA Museum and Scitech for the senior students and local community excursions for the younger ones. Room 23 have been learning about community helpers and visited an ice cream parlour. This was definitely a big hit with children and staff.

Reports - Let's Get Connected

Teachers have been busy compiling the final reports for this semester which will be available on CONNECT from Wednesday 11th December. If you require a hard copy, please contact the office. Please note that there have been some changes to the report format as per the instructions from the Department of Education.

Booklist

The ESC will purchase necessary stationery items for the 2025 school year, so there will not be a booklist for student requirements. The \$60.00 stationery fee can be paid in February along with the voluntary contributions and charges of \$40.00.

Enrolments for 2025

Expressions of Interest for enrolment into ESC are being accepted at the ESC office.

New parents enrolling for Kindy next year were invited today to attend an afternoon tea/information session and had the opportunity to meet and talk with myself, the classroom teacher and our Associate Principals.

Kind Regards
Karen Macri, Principal

What's On ?

Social Dance Invitation

Parents and Families are invited to the final dance lessons Yr2 - Yr 5 on Wednesday 4th December
Yr 2/3 - 10-11am
Yr 4/5 - 11.35-12.30pm
Free Dress!



Christmas Concert Friday 6th December



Year 6 Graduation Tuesday 10th December 10.30am - 2.00pm



Book Awards & Semester Reports Wednesday 11th December



Last Day of Term Thursday 12th December

Merit Certificate Recipients from week 6
Congratulations

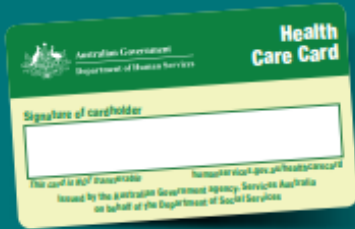


Louis - Room 24
Aliyah - Room 25
Antony - Room 29
Michael - Room 30

Room 28 - Term 4 HASS

This Term, the students of Room 28 have been eagerly learning about Australia's wonders. From The Great Barrier Reef to The Sydney Harbour Bridge, it has been wonderful to see each student's curiosity blossom and to track each landmark on our class map of Australia. Well Done Room 28!





Do you have a health care card? You could be eligible for Saver Plus.

For every dollar you save, you'll get a dollar from ANZ to spend on educational costs, up to \$500.

To join, you need to meet all of these requirements:

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
- ✓ Get a regular income (can be you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops



1300 610 355 saverplus.org.au



Could Saver Plus help with your education costs?

Google

Q Saver Plus YouTube

to see our quick explainer video and find out if you're eligible.



Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and social justice organisation the Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL).

It is delivered in partnership with not-for-profit organisations The Smith Family, Berry Street and BSL.

ANZ and the Department of Social Services fund it.

saverplus.org.au

Terms, conditions and eligibility criteria apply.



Your Move School Crossings Research



KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE ON THE ROAD

The City of Wanneroo needs your help!

Your feedback is crucial to improving road safety and promoting walking, riding, and catching the bus to school in your area.

Take our survey to help us identify challenges and find solutions.

Scan the QR code to take the survey online.

Or, pick up a paper survey at your school's administration.

The survey will be open from 4 November to 1 December.



For more information

Speak with the City of Wanneroo's Traffic Services team
 P 9405 5000
 E traffic@wanneroo.wa.gov.au



Rotary Club of West Perth are proud to host International Entertainment Australia's...

2024 World Festival of Magic

A dynamic and inclusive live theatre show featuring exciting acrobatics, quick-witted comedy, and mesmerising circus and magic acts.

The World Festival of Magic is a FREE EVENT for children and young adults with diverse and disadvantaged abilities and backgrounds, their families, carers and peers.

Enjoy an accessible and flexible environment with a relaxed attitude to audience noise and movement, where you can be yourself without restriction or judgement.

Featuring moving, flashing lights, upbeat and sometimes dramatic music. Showtime is approx. 1 hour with no interval. Suitable for all ages.

Scan the QR Code to watch highlights from past shows...



VENUE

DATES

SHOWTIMES

Astor Theatre Perth, Mount Lawley	Sunday, 8th December	11.30am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm
Astor Theatre Perth, Mount Lawley	Monday, 9th December	10am and 12pm

To book complimentary tickets, please email your ticket order and contact details to meredithnewman@showintent.com.au or text/call 0404-367-782

*Bookings are essential - Bulk and individual ticket orders from schools, organisations, families, carers/support workers etc. are all welcome...

Please include the following information when booking:

*Your Name and Email Address.

*Preferred Date/s and Showtime/s.

*Number of Tickets (one per person required).



Training Objectives

Provide participants with a plan for teaching:

- themes of child abuse prevention education
- core concepts of child abuse prevention education
- strategies used in teaching child abuse prevention education to children

Provide participants with functional resources so that they can feel confident implementing child abuse prevention education.

Training covers:

Two themes of child abuse prevention education

"We all have the right to feel safe all of the time."
"We can talk with someone about anything."

Child abuse prevention education concepts:

- ✓ Yes/SAFE Feelings and Touches, and No/Unsafe Feelings and Touches
- ✓ Safety Continuum
- ✓ Early Warning Signs
- ✓ Safety Team
- ✓ Public and Private
- ✓ OK to say "No"
- ✓ Three Safety Questions
- ✓ Secrets and Secret Enablers
- ✓ Cyber Safety

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Up to 30 per cent of children experience some form of childhood sexual abuse and between five and 10 per cent experience severe abuse (Ogloff, Cutajar, Mann & Mullen, 2012).

Children with disabilities are up to seven times more likely to be sexually abused than their non-disabled peers (Briggs, 2006).

One of the most challenging aspects of being a parent is preparing your child for the potential challenges that exist in the world. How do you achieve this without scaring them, wrapping them in bubble wrap or providing them with too much information?

The Safe4Kids child abuse prevention education program is a proactive life skills program that teaches children the language and principles of child abuse prevention education in a holistic and integrated way. The program helps children acquire invaluable skills and strategies to identify unsafe situations and protect themselves from potential harm.

With a strong foundation in empowering children and building resilience, the Safe4Kids program can also be extended to embrace anti-bullying, drug awareness and youth suicide prevention programs.

Is child abuse prevention education being taught at your child's school or childcare centre? If not you may like to cut off the training part of this flyer and forward it to the person in charge.

Safe4Kids

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There are better ways to protect your kids



safe4kids.com.au

Parent Tips

- 1 Always listen to your child. If you can't speak right at that moment, tell your child when you will be able to give him or her your full attention. If your child needs to speak urgently, stop what you are doing and listen.
- 2 Tell your child that he or she can tell you anything. Demonstrate this by putting it into practice and listen without over-reacting.
- 3 Reinforce to your child the belief that he or she has the right to feel safe, and they also have a responsibility to respect other people's right to feel safe.
- 4 Use the language of child abuse prevention education to help your child understand the reasons for your decisions. Avoid saying "because I said so" as this does not explain "why".
- 5 Model speaking about your feelings. This includes unhappy as well as happy feelings. Everyone has the right to their feelings.
- 6 Explain the difference between dobbing and telling. Dobbing is to get someone into trouble – telling is because you feel unsafe.
- 7 Praise your child appropriately. People who bully or prey on children choose those whom they perceive as having low self-esteem.
- 8 Have a secret family code in case of an emergency. It might be a word, a phrase or something of significance in the family. You can use it when you need to send someone the child does not know to pick them up from school, or for occasions when you need your child to stop what they are doing and listen to you.
- 9 Keep computers in a public place in your home. Use applications that help you monitor what websites your child is visiting.
- 10 Help your child make a Safety Team of five people they trust and feel safe with, and who will listen to your child. These people should be known to you. There needs to be dialogue with these people so they are aware of what is required of them as a Safety Team member.
- 11 When going into a crowded or unfamiliar place, have an emergency plan in case your child becomes separated or lost. Talk about who would be the best adult to speak to when needing assistance; a police officer, security guard, a lady with a pram, a shopkeeper.
- 12 Teach your child the Three Safety Questions they need to ask themselves before doing any unsupervised activity:
 - 1 Do I get a yes or a no feeling from this?
 - 2 Does an adult I live with know where I am?
 - 3 Can I get help if I need it?

- 13 Teach your child about their Early Warning Signs. They are our body's way of telling us when we feel unsafe. Early Warning Signs include sweating, feeling hot, heart beating fast, clammy hands, shaky knees, the need to go to the toilet quickly, and so on.
- 14 Teach your child that he or she can say "No" to anyone if they feel unsafe. If they get their Early Warning Signs, regardless of whether this person is an adult in authority or someone they would usually be expected to obey, they can say "No".
- 15 Have a family rule that mobile phones are not to be in the bedroom after a certain agreed time. Everyone in the family can leave their phones in a central place overnight.
- 16 Teach your child their name, address and phone number. Also teach them that they do not have to give out this information to anyone who asks. It is for use in emergency or unsafe situations.
- 17 Teach your child emergency phone numbers.
- 18 It's OK to break the normal rules in an emergency situation to keep yourself safe. You may need to interrupt an adult while they are speaking; you may feel safer to use the disabled toilet than the regular one; you may need to tell a secret that someone has shared with you; you may need to say "No" in a situation where you would normally comply.
- 19 Don't use police as a threat to control your child's behaviour. Teach them that the job of the police is to keep them safe.
- 20 The concept of strangers is hard for children to grasp. A stranger is simply someone they don't know. Explain to your child that you can't tell if someone is a safe person or an unsafe person, just by looking at them. Sometimes it is okay to ask a stranger for help.
- 21 Encourage your child to be a safe risk-taker.
- 22 Use the correct names for private body parts.
- 23 Keep no secrets about any kind of touching.
- 24 Refrain from making your child kiss or hug someone they don't want to. There are other ways to show respectful affection such as shaking hands, giving a high five, or kissing a hand. If your child has objected to showing affection to someone in particular, check with your child later and find out why.
- 25 Encourage your child to persist in all areas of his or her life. If they start something, encourage them to stick with it. Also, if there is a time when they feel unsafe it is particularly important they keep telling an adult until they feel safe again.
- 26 Be a good role model... remember that children are watching you all of the time.

Safe4Kids



Building resilience and empowering children.

Holly-ann Martin is the founder and Managing Director of Safe4Kids.

Safe4Kids unique approach to child abuse prevention education is

underpinned by a whole-of-community focus.

This focus is on providing safer communities for children through engaging school staff, parents and carers, local police, health workers, Department for Child Protection staff, early years educators and other community members.

The Safe4Kids program develops a language and culture of safety for children and adults alike, improving communication and highlighting and broadening the networks available to children when they are feeling unsafe. The sustained delivery of these programs is the key to creating a positive influence on both individual and community behaviour.

Email: holly-ann@safe4kids.com.au

Child protection needs to be a priority for everyone!

safe4kids.com.au