

Update from Baldvis Gardens Board Meeting 1st August 2017

Baldvis Gardens Primary School Board met last Tuesday 1st August, the first meeting for term three. It was with great pleasure that Board members welcomed a second community member, Lee Downham, Baldvis Ward Councillor for the City of Rockingham. Also accepting a Board position as parent representative is Katherine Lothian, who is taking the place of Sherrilee Fish. Although Kat was unable to attend the meeting, Board members look forward to meeting and working with Kat in the near future. A welcome was also given to Tamra Law who is currently the Manager Corporate Services in our front office. Tamra's role as minutes secretary is greatly appreciated by the board members.

An important item on the agenda was the presentation by Deputies, Mel Stewart and David Batt of 'on entry' data gathered from the comprehensive testing of students earlier this year. The data collected from pre- primary to year two students, outlined base line information of the overall attainment in literacy and numeracy in these year levels. Individual student information was not presented but the year level attainment data will provide a base from which teachers will be able to develop education programs to meet the specific needs of all their students.

A second item discussed was a review of funding sources to support special programs in the school. Two projects were discussed: the building of a fitness track on the oval and the creation of the Foundation Year Mural backing onto the library wall. This tile mosaic art work will showcase a progression of student artwork depicting a 'Forest to Garden' theme. Several sources of funding were considered and will be pursued in support of these undertakings.

On the Tuesday the 15th August, Board members will be attending a Board training meeting at the school. The training will focus on the role of school boards in Independent Public Schools and will outline the responsibilities and parameters of the Board in supporting the education in, and administration of, these institutions. Earlier this year, Principal Jayne Ebsworthy, Deputy Mel Stewart and Board chair, Judith Hill attended a two day training run by the Department. They in turn will share this with the rest of the Board at the Tuesday training evening.

The next Board meeting will be held on the 29th August. This will be an open public meeting in which interested members of the school community will be welcome to attend as observers.

Judith Hill (Board chair)