Dear Parents and Carers

National School Opinion Survey

On 5 April 2012, the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood (SCSEEC, from July 1, 2014 known as Education Council) acknowledged the importance to schools, schooling systems and jurisdictional authorities of gathering and analysing school opinion information and changes to that information over time.

This information can be invaluable to educational practitioners in understanding and responding to their communities’ perceptions, and providing leaders with data for consideration for continuous improvement in their schools, schooling systems and jurisdictional authorities.

Reporting

Schools are required to report on student, parent and staff satisfaction under the National Education Agreement and the Schools Assistance Act, and are also required to include a link to the My School home page alongside their school satisfaction reporting in their annual reports.

Staff, parents and senior students are being provided with the opportunity to complete the online surveys. Parents can access the survey by clicking on the link below and I encourage ALL families to make the time to complete it. The more families responding, the better the quality of data the school will have to inform our future decisions.

Parent Survey Link:
http://www.schoolsurvey.edu.au/s/vGWKNQbX

Peter
Peter Blackford
Principal

Thought of the Week
A good angle to approach any problem is the try-angle!

You don’t need to join Facebook to see our page! Simply Google Search “Facebook Poseidon Primary School Heathridge” to find our regular posts about upcoming events and school news.
National Quality Standards in Education

Three weeks ago four staff completed two days of training to develop our understanding of the National Quality Standards in Education and the implications for our K – Yr 2 program. These new mandatory standards apply to all services that provide child care throughout Australia and were developed to raise the standard and quality of child care in these formative years. There are seven standards that contain a total of fifty eight elements that have to be met in order for a child care service/school to be accredited as meeting these new standards. Poseidon Primary will start process implementation and assessment of how we are meeting the standards in 2015.

Electronic School Zone Signs

The school has received confirmation that electronic school zone signs should be installed in the near future. These signs are a small, but vital additional step to improve the safety of our students.

Poseidon Spelling Competition

This week students in each class have been competing in the class level spelling tests to determine the top four students in each year level. These top four students will participate in the finals that are scheduled to be held on Monday, September 22 in the Undercover Area. It would be great to see parents, grandparents and family friends in the audience supporting all the finalists. Students in Years 3 to 7 who finish in either first or second place will then go on to represent the school at the interschool competition to be held in Term Four at Ocean Reef Primary School.

Footy Colours Day

On Friday September 26 the Student Councillors, in conjunction with the The Canteen, are organising Footy Colours Day. For a gold coin donation, students are allowed to wear favourite team colours to school for the day. The Canteen is organising a special Footy Lunch - order forms will be sent home next week. There will be no other Canteen lunch orders on this day.

Giggling Gecko Vacation Programs

Attached to this newsletter is Giggling Gecko’s Vacation Programs for Term 3 School Holidays. Please contact Jodie and the team on 0405 310 648 or email her at gigglinggeckosc@yahoo.com.au for more information.
Faction Athletics Carnival

Last Friday, in perfect weather conditions, the school conducted its 29th Annual Faction Athletics Carnival. The day was superbly organised by Mrs Porro and Mr Wright with the support of the rest of the staff, who had trained the students throughout the term and organised them into the various teams. It was a pleasure to see all students competing for their factions to the best of their ability, supporting each other and enjoying the day. It was a close competition all day between the three factions which in the end saw our Blue Oceanus Faction as the eventual winners. Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and friends who came along to enjoy the day and support the children. The final results and individual year level champions were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 4 Girls</th>
<th>CHAMPION</th>
<th>RUNNER-UP</th>
<th>3RD PLACE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alex Turner</td>
<td>Sharae Szkudlarski</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Moroni</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brandon Sutherland</td>
<td>Ryan Boardman</td>
<td>Dylan Gray</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Greenhalgh</td>
<td>Ellie Warwick</td>
<td>Jordyn Lee-Baily</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kobi Aiesi</td>
<td>Sam Turner</td>
<td>Griff John</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe Putelli</td>
<td>Danielle Parr-Roome</td>
<td>Jaime Dillon</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacob Flavelle</td>
<td>Rylee Wilkinson</td>
<td>Cameron James</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Piper Taylor</td>
<td>Tiah Squires</td>
<td>Yazmin York</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kai York</td>
<td>Flavius Decan</td>
<td>Zac Baseley</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A HUGE thank you to the P & C for providing an amazing array of food, starting with bacon and egg burgers for breakfast, cakes for morning tea and a delicious sausage sizzle for lunch. The coffee machine produced great coffee worked hard all day and was appreciated by everyone. On their behalf, I would like to thank the school community for supporting the P & C with one of their major fund raising events of the year.

**WINNER OF THE 2014 ATHLETICS SHIELD**

**OCEANUS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACING</th>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>OCEANUS</td>
<td>940</td>
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<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>TRITON</td>
<td>892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>ANTAEUS</td>
<td>790</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS CAPTAINS AND VICE CAPTAINS**

- **GIRLS**
  - CAPTAIN: Piper Taylor
  - VICE CAPTAIN: Chloe Putelli
- **BOYS**
  - CAPTAIN: Kai York
  - VICE CAPTAIN: Jacob Flavelle

The *Interschool Athletics Carnival* will be held at *Heathridge Primary School* on **Friday September 19**. More information will be provided to the families of the students who are selected to represent Poseidon Primary.

**Safety Suggestions for Students**

The school has received a number of reports through our regional office in recent times of suspicious incidents that have been reported by students attending northern suburb schools when either walking to or from school. To help ensure the safety of all students when travelling to and from school, I’d like to remind families each term of the simple, but important ways they should regularly discuss and reinforce with their children.

Here are some simple suggestions to help children stay safe:

- Always travel in company
- Walk on the right hand side of the road so you face oncoming traffic
- Wherever possible, leave space between yourself and the roadway
- Stay in areas that are well lit
- Stay in view – avoid going into areas that are hidden from view (such as parkland bush or behind shopping centres) and plan trips to avoid such locations
- Be alert – earphones and headphones can reduce your awareness considerably
- If you have a mobile phone, have it turned on and ready to dial an emergency number
- If a passing car stops nearby never get too close
- Do not hesitate to run from a situation in which you feel at risk
- Provide this advice to brothers and sisters, especially if younger
- Report suspicious behaviour to parents, school and the police, noting number plates of cars and/or clothing or distinguishing features of individuals.

Police Information - for students to take care when going to and from school, and to report anything suspicious to parents, school and the police – call **000** in an emergency or **1800 333 000** to reach Crime Stoppers.
RSPCA Cupcake Day

We had a fantastic day with so many delicious and delectable treats to be had. Together we raised $564.25 for the RSCPA!! This annual community fundraising event is important for our students, and promotes our school values of relationships and collaboration, and inclusivity and caring. Congratulations everyone!!

If you sent in a box or plate with your treats and it didn't come home, please check in the Undercover Area - it might be waiting for you.

Parenting Ideas

This week’s Parenting Ideas is titled “Beyond Their Years”. As TVs, tablets, smart phones and other digital devices become more commonplace, so do the myriad types of content available on them. Lakshmi Singh looks at the important role parents need to play in monitoring and controlling the exposure of early primary school children to content beyond their years.

P & C News

Firstly, a HUGE thank you to everyone at Poseidon Primary for their support of the recent P & C fundraising events. We have had a number of great events in Term 3, including our inaugural Quiz Night.

Entertainment Books: The sale of the books has now finished, with 71 books being sold (41 more than last year!). We had a different approach this year, with each family taking a book home – only one book wasn’t returned! Thank you and congratulations to Katie for her commitment to this project. Thank you also to the teachers for co-ordinating the distribution and collection of the books.

Amount Raised: $924.

Inter-School Carnival: Poseidon Primary hosted this year’s Inter-School Cross Country at Heathridge Park. The P&C served light refreshments to parents. Thank you to Bec, Debbie and Vicki for running the canteen.

Amount Raised: $155.

Let’s Get Quizdiculous Quiz Night: Our first Poseidon Quiz Night was a resounding success, with 140 people pitching their wits against each other. Thanks to our generous sponsors and donors, we had loads of great prizes, raffle items and silent auction lots. Thank you and congratulations to the entire P&C Team.

Amount Raised: $5600.

Total Amount Raised in Term 3: nearly $6700!!!

(plus Faction Day BBQ – $ in the next newsletter!)

A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS
WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!!

Welcome to Our New Secretary

We would like to welcome our new P&C Secretary Melinda McAndrew and we hope she enjoys this exciting and busy role. Many thanks to our departing Secretary Shona Long for her commitment and service to Poseidon Primary. We will continue to see her in varying roles within the P&C through the year.
Meet Our Sponsors
Jan Norberger, MLA

This week the P&C wish to acknowledge Jan Norberger, MLA for Joondalup, as one of our major sponsors for our Quiz Night. Jan has been extremely supportive of Poseidon Primary and the P&C are delighted with his ongoing commitment to our school.

Jan with Yvonne, Cameron and Peter at this year’s Easter Hat Parade

Thanks Jan for providing first prize for the Quiz Night, with 8 lucky winners visiting Parliament House for a personal tour with Jan and silver service dinner.

Jan Norberger, MLA
Member for Joondalup
Email: Jan.Norberger@mp.wa.gov.au
Website: www.jannorberger.com.au

2014 Commemorative Tea Towels

After the success of our 2012 tea towel fundraiser, we’ve been asked to do it again. The students and staff have been busy creating their drawings and these will be arranged into one commemorative design and screen printed onto high quality tea towels. They make a great Christmas present for grandparents and family, are light and easy to post, and are a great way for your children to remember their friends and teachers forever. Order forms will be sent out this week and can be returned with payment (cash, cheque or EFTPOS available) to P&C Central in the Undercover Area before school. Delivery will be mid-November to allow time for posting overseas for Christmas. Come on in to P&C Central and have a look at the 2012 edition so you can see how fabulous they look. We are also be doing a re-print of the 2012 tea towel so if you missed out last time, this is your chance to pick one up.
Canteen News

CANTEEN CLOSED ON INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY
Please note that the Canteen will be closed on Interschool Athletics Day, Friday September 19.

END OF TERM
When ordering lunches, please check with canteen staff that items are available as we are running down stock levels to prepare for the end of Term 3.

PLEASE FINALISE YOUR CANTEEN ACCOUNT BY FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 19
EFTPOS facilities available.

$1 VANILLA BILLABONGS
These delicious treats are still available at lunch time.
New and exciting ice creams coming in Term 4.

THANK YOU!!
Thank you to Claire, Elaine and Rebecca who helped prepare the Faction Day lunches last Friday.
Thank you also to the students that were sent to collect the lunches - they waited patiently without grumbling.
And lastly, thank you to Debbie for looking after the Canteen’s slushy machine and ice cream freezer.

😊 Bronwen, Claire & Sheree 😊

Contact the P & C
Next P&C Meeting: Wednesday September 17
If you are interested in finding out more about what the P & C is, what they do and how you can be a part of it, come along to one of our meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm in the staffroom. We are also on Facebook - simply search for Poseidon Primary School P&C and request to join our group. Or you can contact us via email at poseidonpandc@gmail.com.

Major Sponsors of the 2014 Quiz Night

Jan Norberger MLA
State Member for Joondalup

PEARD REAL ESTATE
premium property people

BLACKBURNE PROPERTY GROUP
As TVs, tablets, smart phones and other digital devices become more commonplace, so do the myriad types of content available on them. Lakshmi Singh looks at the important role parents need to play in monitoring and controlling the exposure of early-primary school children to content beyond their years.

The TV left on the latest hit crime drama while you’re cooking.
The family iPad unlocked with access to Game of Thrones.
The gaming device on which Dad has been spotted playing Grand Theft Auto.
The drive to school with the radio playing songs full of sexual promise and expletives.

These are just some ways in which young children might interact with content that is beyond their comprehension.

As the saying goes, ‘children are not mini-adults’ and seven to eight-year-olds in particular do not have the worldly knowledge or mental capacity to set apart events happening a world away from them, nor the maturity to rationally process content beyond their years.

As the saying goes, ‘children are not mini-adults’ and seven to eight-year-olds in particular do not have the worldly knowledge or mental capacity to set apart events happening a world away from them, nor the maturity to rationally process content beyond their years.

Fiction vs. reality

Although most kids between seven and eight years of age know the difference between fiction and reality, the ‘type’ of reality portrayed in reality TV shows may not be something that they easily grasp, says Lynne Jenkins, author and clinical psychologist.

“If what they are watching is scripted to be more dramatic, then that is how it is for them, unless an adult lets them know otherwise,” she says.

The strung-out tensions between contestant teams, fabricated cat-fights and prolonged focus on habits that annoy each other could all come across as normal, unless kids are told otherwise, she says.

“Of course in real life kids will come across bitchiness and things like that, but I don’t think shows like these are necessary to teach those lessons,” says Nathalie Brown, child behaviourist at Melbourne based consultancy Easy Peasy Kids.

She cites The Bachelor as such a show that has settings which are very far from reality.

“The dramatic statements made on the show can also create false impressions and wrongly influence young minds, she says.

“Do we want little girls thinking that this is the be-all and end-all if you don’t have a man in your life?”

Concepts beyond their understanding

While children of this age may be exposed at school to some adult concepts like the dangers of smoking, they don’t necessarily understand in great detail the information presented in health programs, for example says Jenkins.

“They will need a sensible adult to explain what they are seeing in a way that won’t cause them to take on too much information that they aren’t really ready for, or don’t really need to know about yet. For example, at seven or eight children don’t really need to know about drugs leading to death and disease. That can be something to be discussed at least in senior primary.”

In a similar vein, rite-of-passage concepts are better passed down from parent to child, says Brown.

“I believe it is okay for children to have knowledge on puberty but that initial talk should be from their parents, not from a movie. It depends on emotional maturity; if it comes up in a movie it may just go right over their heads or scare the living daylights out of them.”

Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael’s NEW Parentingideas Club today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.
The same concept also applies to games and apps, she says. “Children believe what they see. Parents have to communicate that a movie or game is not real life,” she says.

Even if exposure is inadvertent, the impact can be very obvious, she says.

“If a child is constantly playing or watching violence their understanding in handling their own emotions can become aggressive. What a child sees repeatedly is what they learn. It becomes acceptable to be aggressive and they can become desensitised to violence.”

**Conflicting values of shows/themes**

Certain themes like revenge may not be ideal to teach your seven to eight-year-old, but they do get portrayed in movies. The important point is that labels need to be given to shows and games that deal with such plots and an explanation given as to what the characters are doing.

“Revenge does occur, this is a how the movie plot is dealing with it, it is something the parents have to discuss with their child,” says Brown.

Sometimes culture and religious beliefs mean parents limit or screen what their children can watch. Here, an honest explanation as to why parents believe their children shouldn’t be viewing or interacting with such programs may be in order, especially if there is a risk that they may go behind your back and source it, says Jenkins.

“If the reason given is something like: ‘Just because’ or ‘Because I said so’ a child with a certain personality might go looking for it themselves to find out why they can’t watch it. If, however, a parent acknowledges that their child would like to watch the show and explains that the reasons have to do with their family values or culture for instance, it might be better received,” she says.

**More harm than good?**

The brain of a child who’s seven or eight does not have the necessary processes in place to exercise the judgement necessary to make sense of M-rated games, says Brown.

“Again it depends on the emotional maturity of the child and how much the parents have explained to them. I find that a lot of the parents aren’t even aware that the ratings are there for a reason.”

At this age, looking for big banks to loot and zombie monsters to kill will not be something a child can do with the strategic mindset or understanding demanded by these games, she says.

However, they might have a more poignant influence psychologically and result in the child having nightmares.

“These graphics at the moment are so realistic, bloody and gory,” she laments.

Regular exposure to M-rated content where the language might be peppered with profanities and disrespect may also impact an impressionable seven or eight-year-old’s speech, says Jenkins.

“If they are exposed to expletives regularly, whether on a show or in their house, they will absorb them as ‘normal’. This ‘sponge-like’ phenomenon applies more to younger children, but if a seven or eight-year-old has been exposed to such things for most of their life, they will become normal for them. And if they start watching this material at age seven or eight and the adults in their life don’t say that they can’t watch it, or don’t turn it off, or at least don’t comment that it is wrong, then the kids won’t have the understanding that using expletives is not okay.”

**Words of wisdom from the experts**

1. Set boundaries from early on in children’s lives. Instil the message that we only watch G or PG material in our family.
2. Watch news programs when kids have gone to bed. This is especially important if a child (of any age) is anxious or has a predisposition to anxiety or worry. If they do come across tragic events, reassure them that even though these events have happened in real life, the child, their family and friends are safe.
3. Be prepared to keep pace with children as they grow older. Assess whether an M-rated show might be appropriate for a particular child’s personality, intelligence and maturity by watching it first. Be available for explanations and fast-forward any questionable parts.
4. Always encourage open discussion about content your children interact with, allowing them the confidence to ask questions when confused.
5. Don’t allow TVs and other devices in kids’ bedrooms.
6. Use parental locks and passwords but try to invest more in gaining their trust.
Giggling Gecko Out of School Care
Vacation Care Program

Provides fun and exciting activities in a safe and friendly environment for children aged Kindergarten to Year 7.

Bookings:
- Children must be enrolled.
- Please fill in a booking form and hand it in at one of our centres before the closing date.
- Cancellations will not be accepted after the closing date and full fees must be paid even if your child is sick or absent.
- Only once you receive confirmation, your bookings have been accepted.

What to Bring:
Please bring morning tea, a packed lunch, water bottle, sensible shoes & hat each day unless specified (the centre provides afternoon tea).

Mullaloo Heights
Primary School
27 Charonia Road
Mullaloo WA 6027

Ph: 0430 308 697

PLEASE BE AT THE CENTRE BY
9AM ON EXCURSION & INCURSION DAYS

Mullaloo Heights
$60/session
Includes all Excursions and Incursions unless specified
Primary School
27 Charonia Road
Mullaloo
0430 308 697

Poseidon
Primary School
Roderick Court
Heathridge
0405 310 648

Giggling Gecko Out of School Care Pty Ltd
Main Office: Mullaloo Heights PS
27 Charonia Rd
Mullaloo WA 6027

PO Box 1653, Wangara DC WA 6947

Ph: 0430 308 697

PLEASE BE AT THE CENTRE BY
9AM ON EXCURSION & INCURSION DAYS

Giggling Gecko Out of School Care
Vacation Care Program

Tuesday 30th Sep to Monday 13th Oct 2014

Open Hours: 7am to 6pm

Staff may change the program without warning due to low bookings and unforeseen circumstances; however, backup activities have been planned in case these issues occur.

jodie.gigglinggeckoosc@gmail.com
Please do not book your child/children in unless you are certain they will be attending as FULL fees must be paid even if your child/children are sick or absent. Fees will be charged 2 weeks in advance and must be paid by the due date otherwise bookings may be cancelled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 1</th>
<th>CLOSING DATE Fri 19/09/14</th>
<th>WEEK 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 29th September</td>
<td>Tuesday 30th Sep</td>
<td>Monday 6th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>PEBBLE PAINTING AND CRAFT</td>
<td>SEWING DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There are many fantastic ways to use a pebble.</td>
<td>Today we will be learning how to sew. Make your own mini pillow pet or create your own masterpiece.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Create a paper weight character</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Create a pebble picture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>...and much more.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1st October</td>
<td>Thursday 2nd Oct</td>
<td>Tuesday 7th Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWAN VALLEY CUDDLY ANIMAL FARM</td>
<td>BOOT CAMP</td>
<td>DECA DANCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Today we will be feeding the farm animals, taking a ride on a small train and having fun on the bouncy castle.</td>
<td>It is time to get into shape. Today we will be doing many fun sports obstacles and games so don’t forget to bring your sports shoes.</td>
<td>Time to get our groove on at Deca Dance. Have fun disco dancing. Participate in the many games and win a prize.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depart: 9.00am Return: 3.00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Depart: 9.15am Return: 12.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 3rd Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCIENCE ALIVE</td>
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<td>Science Alive will be visiting us today at 10.30am and we will be participating in the “Sounding Off” hands-on activities that they have prepared for us. Today will be so much fun😊.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th Oct</td>
<td>Thursday 9th Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>MULICULTURAL THEME DAY</td>
<td>HIGH FLYERS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Today we will be exploring everything Asian.</td>
<td>It is back! This is the children’s favourite excursion. Have fun jumping on the trampolines and swinging through the air on a rope. Don’t get stuck in the foam pit.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Enjoy cooking an Asian meal and eating it with chop-sticks.</td>
<td>Depart: 9.15am Return: 12.30pm</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Asian themed art/craft ...... and much more.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 10th Oct</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day Monday 13th Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLOWNING AROUND</td>
<td>POLICE VISIT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time to have fun clowning around. Try your hand at juggling. Have your face painting and make your own clown name.</td>
<td>Experience what it is like to be a Police Officer. See what it looks like in the Police Car.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>