**Calendar Dates**

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<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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**Dear Parents and Caregivers**

Thankyou for your patience while the school was closed as a result of Cyclone Rusty last week. We were able to reopen on Friday after minor repairs were carried out to some ceiling panels and the removal of broken branches.

All members of the School Board have completed their school board training. The board met again this week to develop the school board terms of reference. Votes were counted for the amendment to our school motto “We Care”. The results were:

- Inspire, Believe, Achieve– 98 votes
- We Care, We Lead, We Succeed– 86 votes
- Achieving Greatness Together– 58 votes
- We Care: Inspire, Believe and Achieve will now be used for school marketing.

Shadow Councillors were announced at assembly today. Congratulations to:

- Semester 1 Shadow Councillors
  - Taylah Edwards, Rhylie Townsend, Rhett Bauchop, Bayleigh Derschow
- Semester 2 Shadow Councillors
  - Nyah Gibson, Shakira Hewitt, Olliver Stanitzki, William Vincent

Students in Pre-Primary, Year 1 and Year 2 have been involved in On Entry testing over the last few weeks. This is a standardised online test where staff individually test students in Literacy and Numeracy. The assessment is reissued in Term 4 to measure development of concepts.

John Fleming coaches staff at Cassia PS in using explicit teaching. Mr Fleming will be at Cassia PS on Wednesday 20th March. He is a highly sort after presenter across Australia with a wealth of knowledge on how to get students reading, writing and understanding maths regardless of their ability. The School Board is in negotiations with Mr Fleming to present an overview of the explicit teaching model to our parents/carers on Wednesday 20th March from 7-8pm at Cassia Primary School. If you are interested in attending this presentation please reply to the SMS text the school sends out early next week or contact the front office by Thursday 14th March. If there is sufficient parent interest in this meeting the School Board will finalise the details with Mr Fleming.

We have tentatively booked our Year 3-7 Swimming Carnival for Thursday 28th March (day before Good Friday). If the South Hedland aquatic centre is open this carnival will go ahead. We are also hopeful to have in term swimming lessons for Year 1-7 during Term 3 this year.

**‘We Care’ Mission Statement**

‘Our purpose is to develop a caring, supportive and safe school environment in which all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential and for them to contribute to society in a positive manner’.

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**Janine Kinninment**
Principal
Congratulations to the following students who each received Merit Certificates this week!

TA1  Lindsie Jack & Nathan McFarlane
TA2  Scott Thomas & Tahlia Musulin
TA3  Joel Guest & Corey Robson
TA4  Ava Maciuba-Holland & Taj Derschow
TA5  Billy Ryan & JT Thomas
TA6  Dakota Deegan & James Happ
TA7  William Vincent & Ben McLaughlin
TA8  Annabella Knight & Oliver Stanitzki
TA9  Julian Zielke & Janelle Wheate
TA10 Abby Scott & Shaquille Tucker-Love
TA11 Asia Cabungan & Jackson Webster
TA12 Ryan Hackshaw & Dakota McDonnell

SPORTS  Lola Weaver & Tyrone Thompson

When your child becomes stuck on a word try to remind them of a strategy they could use. If the word is difficult feel free to tell them the word and come back to look at it together later and encourage them to use one of the following reading strategies.

**Self Questioning:** When the reader questions what they are reading, e.g. “Does that sound right?” or “I wonder why the dinosaurs died after that explosion?”

**Re-reading:** Re-read a passage, sentence or whole text to clarify meaning or try alternatives to missing words because they were hard during the 1st reading.

**Reading On:** Skipping an unfamiliar word and reading on to the end of the sentence to gain clues to determine an unknown word. Sometimes children may need to read the next 2 or 3 sentences for clues.

**Adjusting the Reading Rate:** Slowing down to understand new information, clarify meaning, create images in their mind or ask questions. Also, reading faster when the material is easier to understand.

**Chunking:** Breaking words into parts, e.g. ca-ter-pil-lar.

**Sounding Out:** Slowly saying each sound then blending them all together e.g. c-a-t cat or r-ai-n rain.

I am very excited about my move to South Hedland and taking on the role as Physical Education and Health Specialist at Cassia Primary School. The semester is off to a busy start with our Year Seven students setting up the Morning Fitness program, encouraging fitness and focused minds in our school. The Year Six students have also shown their leadership skills, working alongside myself in developing our Year One students’ fundamental movement skills. This semester the Physical activity focus will be on maximising participation and confidence in a variety of sporting contexts. Students will cover a range of health topics from nutrition and the human body to social and emotional understanding. I am looking forward to Cassia Primary School's up and coming swimming carnivals, to be held later this term. I would like to thank all staff, students and the broader community of Cassia Primary School for the warm welcome my family and I have received.

Don't forget you can view this week’s Newsletter online at:  www.cassiaps.wa.edu.au

**Opening Hours**
Every Thursday
7.45am—8.45am
Payment by Cash or Eftpos

Please remember Cassia Primary School is a NUT SAFE SCHOOL
We request nut products are not sent to school.
Our school has registered to be part of the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, being held nationwide on Friday 15 March 2013. The National Day of Action is a day where school communities across Australia, Take a Stand Together against bullying and violence.

Cassia Primary is dedicated to creating supportive school environments, free from bullying, harassment and violence. By working together at Cassia Primary, we are sending clear messages to young people that bullying and violence, in or outside of school, is not okay - at any time.

The National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence is a major activity organised by Bullying. No Way! (www.bullyingnoway.gov.au). The Bullying. No Way! website, created by all Australian education jurisdictions, offers practical resources and information to help schools work together against bullying, harassment and violence. As such, Cassia Primary classes will be undertaking a range of activities on this day to support our current No Bullying policy.

Students and parents can also download the free iPhone app Take a Stand<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/take-a-stand/id507931486?mt=8> to keep tips and advice on dealing with bullying close at hand.

CASSIA NOTICES

Crazy Hair Day – 15th March

On Friday 15th March 2013, Cassia Primary School is hosting a ‘Crazy Hair Day 4 Kids’ for the Leukaemia Foundation’s World’s Greatest Shave! We are encouraging you to send your children to school on this day with crazy hair and a gold coin donation. Crazy hair can include a crazy style, coloured hairspray or a funky cut. Cassia Primary School support an asthma free environment and as such, we are not able to spray hair at school. Please do not allow your child to bring hairspray to school.

Since 1998, $120 million has been raised to fund blood cancer research and free services to support Australian families affected by leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma. By joining them this year, we hope to raise even more than last years Cassia Primary total of $264.75. Sponsorship can also be made online on our team page at http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/CassiaKids

Thanks for your support.

EASTER HAT PARADE—27 March

Students may make their Easter themed hat at home and bring it in on the day. There will be class prizes for the most fabulous creations! Parents and friends are invited to come along to join in the fun and see some amazing hats. Any year level may participate this year at their wish

YEAR 7 EASTER RAFFLE

This year we are fundraising for our Year 7 Graduation with an Easter Egg Raffle. We would appreciate if the parents in our school would be willing to help by donating an Easter Egg to go into the raffle. Donations can be made before Friday 15th March.

Thank you
Cassia School Board 2013

Janine Kinniment
Principal

Harry Taylor
Community Representative

Tim Turner
Community Representative

Aaron Thomas
Parent Representative

Anne Mitchell
Parent Representative

Lisa Armstrong
Community Representative

Sara Hands
Parent Representative

Sara Pittman
Staff Representative

Megan Dunkley
Staff Representative

Harry Taylor
Community Representative

Student Councillors

HEAD GIRL
Reecie Townsend

HEAD BOY
Anthony Grace

Genevieve Angel

Jess Ransfield

Jaiden Wilkinson

Tan Siamsak