

Welcome to our second newsletter!

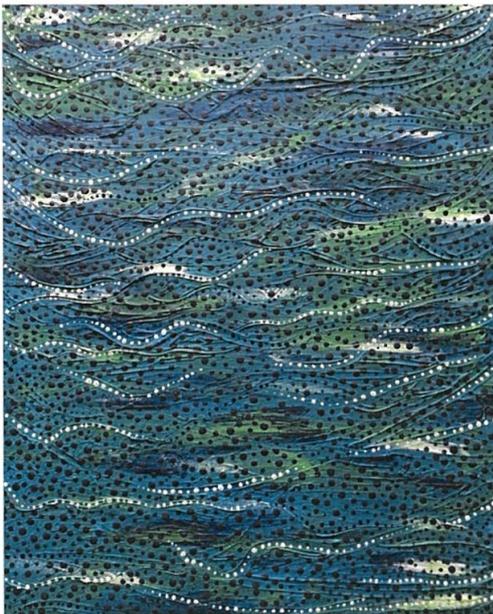
We've had a very big day in the history of Sheoak Grove today with the school being officially opened by the Hon Mark McGowan the Premier of Western Australia, and the Hon Sue Ellery, Minister for Education. You can read more about that below.

We have a few other big things happening over the next fortnight too. We are right into the swing of things now.

Official Opening

As described above, both the Premier and the Minister were at Sheoak Grove today to open our school officially, unveiling a plaque that will sit at our school for as long as it is open.

Also on the stage was an art piece by Mrs Rosie Paine, one of our wonderful staff members. She presented it this morning in tribute to our big day. It will also be displayed in our school as long as it stands.



"Shine Connect Grow"
A painting from Mrs Rosie Paine that represents change, growth and thriving. You can view the painting and read about its meaning in full in our Administration Building.

Our ceremony was hosted by our MC and Deputy Principal Mrs Donna Oliver, who did a fantastic job on stage all morning.

Mr George Walley, a most respected Noongar Elder gave us a wonderful Welcome to Country and told the story of our name and explained its cultural links. That was followed by a wonderful contribution by two of our Year 6 students, Lilly Rasulova and Cooper Herd, who did an amazing job in reflecting on what it has been like to be a foundation student at Sheoak Grove.

We were then officially opened by the Premier. He spoke about how special it is to be part of our new school and acknowledged our community for the work we have done together, our students for the way they have taken to their new challenges, our staff for the way they have built connections with students and families, and all of the building contractors, architects, tradies and Department officers who have worked so effectively to build our beautiful facilities.

Other dignitaries included:

- Hon Reece Whitby, MLA, Member for Baldivis
- Ms Lisa Rodgers, Director General of the Department of Education
- Mrs Rosalba Butterworth, Assistant Regional Executive Director
- Cr Barry Sammels, Mayor of the City of Rockingham
- Cr Matt Whitfield, Baldivis Ward Councillor, City of Rockingham

They were joined for morning tea by our School Board and P&C Executive and other invited guests.

Huge congratulations to our students who were absolutely fantastic at their first assembly together. Well done to everyone on

a big, big milestone for our school community.

Our school community is entitled to feel very proud of itself again today!

Our New Class

As I wrote in the note that went home on Monday, we will be welcoming a new class to Sheoak Grove very soon.

We plan it to be a year 2/3 class and movements across the school will involve students from year 2-5. As explained, this was not considered lightly, and in fact has become absolutely necessary. Our staff are working on our new school structure and parents will be notified about these moves well before they happen. Students will be transitioned into their new classes in a planned manner that will be clear and organized.

We are still taking enrolments of students from our Local Intake Area regularly. Making these necessary changes will give us much smaller class sizes and, with some luck, room to accommodate all of our expected enrolment growth over the rest of the year.

We are currently going through the process of identifying our new teacher. I expect that this will be completed next week and we can then start the process of arranging their move to Sheoak Grove from the school they are currently at. I expect that this will take a little time and that we might look to have our new structure in place to start week 6 of term, on Monday March 9.

Parent Communication

We plan to have Connect available to parents before the long weekend in March. As a new

school, we needed to wait until after our census was completed for a few technical things to fall in place before we could move on with this development. It will be an important tool in our communication suite and we are very much looking forward to it being available.

We have also just introduced a broad text service called *Outreach*. This will enable us to contact parents in the event of unexplained absences and, importantly, enable us to text everyone in the event that we need to contact you urgently. That might be anything from letting you know that a bus is delayed returning from an excursion to updating you on an emergency situation such as a bushfire. We may do some testing of that service through next week.

Please continue to check our website at www.shoakgroveps.wa.edu.au for all of our updates. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Before School Arrangements

Please remember that our classrooms are not open until 8:30 am. We ask all students and families who arrive at school before that time to come to our Covered Assembly Area to meet and play some games together. Supervised areas include 'Tamworth Square', the grassed quadrangle behind our library, the primary playground and our basketball courts.

Parents are encouraged to join in and enjoy an important daily transition time for our students.

It is an important time in the morning, and really helps to build a fun routine for our students to set up an enjoyable and engaging school day.

Upcoming Events

Swimming Carnival

Mr Pilling will take our first group of students to compete at an interschool carnival in our school's history when we go to the BASSA Swimming Carnival on March 5. Participation is voluntary for our students, but depends on them meeting minimum swimming stages achievements. Parents of students in Years 4-6 will receive a permission note to explain the requirements.

Life Education Van

The Life Ed Van will be visiting Sheoak Grove this Term. On March 19 and 20 our students will be engaging in their programs across the school. This is an educational incursion and a note including cost details will be going home in the next few days.

Assemblies

Our whole school assemblies will be held fortnightly on even weeks of term. They will be held in our Covered Assembly Area on Friday mornings. Our first whole school assembly will be in week 6 of this term.

Children's Crossing Guard

Our application for a crossing guard across Baldivis Road had gone through the next stage of the process, with the Children's Crossings and Road Safety Committee now collecting independent data about the pedestrian and vehicle traffic on the road at crucial school times. Once that data is gathered, we should have feedback for our school community.

We would like to acknowledge the City of Rockingham for their assistance in this matter, particularly Cr Matt Whitfield.

P&C Meeting

Congratulations to our P&C who held their first general meeting in our Library on February 17. Well done to our President, Adrienne Turner and our Executive for this milestone. Our first fundraiser is just around the corner with a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle day. Please keep an eye out for an opportunity to volunteer some time for that one.

Dogs on School Premises

While many of us love dogs, and it is great to use the walk to school to give them some exercise, please note that they are not permitted on our school premises. This is not dependent on dog size or breed, but an across-the-board policy. Of course, service and assistance dogs are exempt from this rule.

Contributions and Charges

Thank you to all of our families who have paid their contributions already. This contribution is very important to us, particularly in our foundation year, and helps us to fund resources that complement our learning programs. The contributions can be made in cash at our office or by direct debit into our account:

Bank:	ANZ
Account Name:	Sheoak Grove Primary School
Account Details:	BSB: 016-010 Acc No: 317335044

Please enter the family name and room number/s as a reference. Please also

consider emailing us to confirm your payment at sheoakgrove.ps@education.wa.edu.au

We will soon have EFTPOS at our school office, so parents will very welcome to come in to use that facility to make the contribution at drop off or pick up time from that point.

Our contributions are \$60 for students from Kindy to Year 6. There is also a \$10 family P&C contribution. Our schedule was distributed in term four of 2019 and will be placed on our website for reference very soon.

Local Sport at Sheoak Grove

The Baldvis Basketball Club now has junior teams based at our school. It's great to welcome them to the Sheoak Grove Community.

A local Judo club will hold a free demonstration after school on Wednesday March 18 in our Covered Assembly Area. This is in order to promote their sport and club in our community. If it is a successful afternoon, they will hold some introductory judo classes for students at our school. Please keep an eye out for details in the lead up to that event.

Our school has no association with either of these clubs other than providing training and practice facilities. Any contact with either club should be made directly with club office bearers.

We're looking forward to seeing you in our school over the rest of the term. Please remember our first school assembly in Week 6.

Craig Stanners
Principal



This page and next: Scenes from our Official Opening Ceremony

