

# The Gecko News

## Principal's Word



Last Friday was a wonderful day. Congratulations to Mr Dowding for his tremendous organisation of the Faction Athletics Carnival. The day ran smoothly from start to finish. Thank you to all staff for their efforts in training the students and organising placements in races and games. Thank you also, to the parents who gave up their time to assist throughout the day and to the P&C for the running of the sausage sizzle and canteen sales.

## Congratulations to Shark!

Shark continued their winning streak, coming away with the win for the third year in a row.

Congratulations also, to our running champions. You should be very proud of your efforts –

### Champion Girls

Year	Champion	Runner Up
1	Emilia	Charley
2	Bonnie	Chayelynne
3	Lorelei	Mikayla
4	Estelle	Harper
5	Scarlet	Gabriella
6	Eve	Ivy

### Champion Boys

Year	Champion	Runner Up
1	Jaelym	Eoin
2	Cruz	Rhys
3	Ollie	Cohen
4	Blake & Zach	Jacob
5	Angus	Bailey
6	Mitchell	Benjamin



Melanie Buller  
Principal

## Student and Parent Police Talks

Social media can make the world for our children a scary place to be. As parents, it can be difficult to keep up with the latest trends and apps, and what they really do! To assist, we have arranged for Sergeant Gary Benzies, Community Engagement Coordinator-Mandurah District, to run a session for all parents/carers titled 'Think U Know'. This will focus on social media use amongst children and things parents/carers can put in place to ensure their child is safe whilst online. The parent session will occur on Monday, 20 September from 6:00pm-7:00pm. A light supper will be provided. An invitation to attend will be sent home to all parents. Please note RSVPs will be required.

Sergeant Benzies will also be coming out to speak with our Year 5 and 6 students this coming Monday, 13 September. He will be focusing on safe and appropriate behaviours at school, in the community and online.

## Assembly

Our junior assembly (PP – Year 2) is on tomorrow, hosted by Room 9 (Year 2). The assembly will commence at approximately 8:30am. Please note that the ribbon presentation for our Year 1s and 2s for the jumps and throws will also be held at this assembly. If you wish to attend, and want to confirm your child has received a place ribbon, please email Mr Dowding at [Thomas.Dowding@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Thomas.Dowding@education.wa.edu.au)

## PP – Year 2 Swimming Lessons

In-term swimming lessons for our PP-Year 2 students commence on Wednesday next week and will run each day until the end of term. We wish all of our junior primary students and staff an enjoyable eight days at their swimming lessons.

## Year 6 Camp

Camp information and permission forms have been sent out to all Year 6 students. This information is due back by Thursday, 23 September. If you require any assistance, or have not received this information, please contact the front office.

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### NAPLAN 2021

Data for our 2021 NAPLAN testing is beginning to arrive. We are yet to receive our whole school data, however individual student reports have been made available. These will be sent home with your child (Year 3 and Year 5 students only) over the coming days. The reports will be accompanied by an information leaflet, outlining how to read your child's report. If you have any questions on receiving your child's report, please speak with your class teacher or contact the office for assistance.

### Attendance

Our current attendance rates are listed below. Congratulations to the Year 3 and 5 cohorts who have our highest attendance rate, and our Year 1 cohort with the lower rate of unauthorised absences!

Year level	Attendance rate	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence
Kindy	88.4%	75%	25%
PP	88.1%	80%	20%
1	91.5%	93%	7%
2	89.7%	80%	20%
3	93.6%	75%	25%
4	89.5%	68%	32%
5	93.4%	79%	21%
6	89.4%	75%	25%

### Do you need help with school refusal?

School refusal is when a child regularly displays high levels of distress and reluctance about going to school, leading to prolonged absences. Your child may say that they feel sick, either prior to leaving for school or during the day through repeated visits to the school nurse or sick bay. Behavioural symptoms may include tantrums, crying, avoidance or defiance. If you are struggling with school refusal, please contact your classroom teacher or the administration office for strategies and support.

### Useful information

Be You - School Refusal Fact Sheet (2019)

<https://beyou.edu.au/fact-sheets/development/school-refusal>

Headspace - Understanding School Refusal (2019)

<https://headspace.org.au/friends-and-family/understanding-school-refusal>

Learning Potential - School Refusal, Australian Government (2020).

<https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/articles/school-refusal>

Miss Thomason

### St John's First Aid Sessions

This week the junior students have been fortunate to attend First Aid sessions provided by Vanessa. They have learnt what an emergency is, how to make an emergency call and what to say to the first responders. Years 1 and 2 now know DRS.

**D – Danger** – Look for danger around the injured person.

**R – Respond** – Try to get a response from the injured person (talk to them, ask them to blink then squeeze their shoulders)

**S – Send for help** – Call 000 for help. Year 3 extended on this to include AB:

**A – Airways** – check to see if the victim's airways are clear.

**B – Breathing** – Check to see if the person is breathing.

They then learnt how to put the victim into a recovery position. Have them show you at home – the victim should look like a running dab position!

Next week, Kindy and Years 4-6 will have their turn.

It was surprising to see the number of students who did not know their home address. Some students will come home with an emergency card of things they should know. Take the time to sit down with your child to learn their address and to see where the emergency call button is on your mobile phone. Another useful tool to put on your phone is the St John's First Responder app. When the user clicks on the 'Dial 000' button, your location automatically becomes available to the First Responder when you are connected.



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## Term Dates

Week	Day	Event
8	Fri 10/9	Jnr School Assembly Yr 2 Rm 9
9	Mon 13/9	Yr 5 and 6 Police Talks
	Wed 15/9 – Fri 17/9	PP – 2 Swimming MARC
10	Mon 20/9 – Fri 24/9	PP – 2 Swimming MARC, Parent 'Think U Know' session 6-7pm
	Fri 24/9	Snr School Assembly Yr 3 Rm 22

## P&C News

## Community News

Nominations are now open for the City of Mandurah Community Citizen of the Year Awards 2022 to be presented on Australia Day. There are four categories:

- Community Citizen of the Year
- Community Citizen of the Year (Senior)
- Community Citizen of the Year (Youth)
- Active Citizenship Award (for a group or event)

If you know of a deserving individual, group or event, we would love to hear from you. To enter visit <https://www.citizenshipawards.com.au/nominate/>

# HOCKEY

## SUMMER EDITION

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### FREE COME & TRY DAY

Juniors & Seniors Welcome

FREE Session

Equipment Supplied

Saturday 18th Sept 2021,  
11.30am–1.00pm

Ever wanted to try Hockey?

This is a fun session where you can get a taste of what the sport is about, have a try and see if you enjoy it.

Where is it Held?

The Sporting Globe Stadium  
(Mandurah Hockey Stadium)  
Fuchsia Place, Halls Head

Book online at: [peelhockey.com.au/try](https://www.peelhockey.com.au/try)

Tuesday Competitions	Thursday Competitions
<b>Goldstix</b> School Years 1 to 4	<b>Maxi 7's</b> School Years 7 to 10
<b>Mini 7's</b> School Years 3 to 6	<b>Social 7's</b> Senior & Junior Players School Years 10+
<b>Masters 7's</b> Senior Players Age 35+	

For more information visit  
[www.peelhockey.com.au/summer](https://www.peelhockey.com.au/summer)

Nominate now

Presented by: CITY OF MANDURAH

Media partners:

Keep looking UP...  
THERE MAY BE A

# RAINBOW

waiting FOR you.