

Sensory Processing and Learning

Supporting students with sensory processing difficulties is an area that has been identified by Carson Street School as requiring specific attention in order to ensure quality of service and confidence in practice by all staff.

- Sensory processing is the ability to organise, make meaning and respond to information that we receive from our senses.
- Our senses include:
 - Vision (*sight*)
 - Auditory (*hearing*)
 - Tactile (*touch*)
 - Olfactory (*smell*)
 - Gustatory (*taste*)
 - Vestibular (*balance*)
 - Proprioception (*body position in space*)
- For children with poor sensory processing, the sensory input structures are usually intact; however the difficulty occurs as the brain attempts to use that sensory input to respond to task and environmental demands.



The school's occupational therapist, Courtney Waters, has been working in collaboration with parents, teachers and external therapy providers to identify and assess students with sensory processing difficulties and develop individualised programs to support their participation and performance at school.

It is fundamental for occupational therapists to collaborate with and empower teachers and education assistants involved in supporting students with sensory processing difficulties.

In light of this, Courtney has been heavily involved in providing ongoing professional development and training to education staff on sensory processing.



The professional development and training has a strong focus on best practice occupational therapy services at school, which involve:

- Provision of resources and information for teachers and families about sensory processing and functional significance in school participation
- Assistance for the education team in early recognition of key behaviours related to sensory processing, environmental adjustment and general strategies to reduce or enhance sensory experiences in the school day
- Contribution of information and strategies about sensory processing into the student's individual education plan

This approach supports an inclusive model of education as once trained, staff are better able to select and implement evidenced-based interventions within the context of the classroom that are efficacious, sustainable and cost-effective.

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From the Principal's desk

We are having a very busy Term Two with the arrival of the first heavy rains and the discovery of new leaks in the school roof.

Recently I attended the junior assembly which was organised by Banksia class, to hand out certificates to students for achievement, and they wore their colourful pirate outfits to complement their singing. Well done Banksia.

Days one and two of the term were spent on professional development for all our staff. On day one we split into groups with the teachers, education assistants and administration staff all joining their peers in our Education Support South Network for topics which were pertinent to our work area. Day two was spent at school where Teacher Alicia Bani lead teaching staff through the fundamentals of the Four Blocks Literacy Program and Occupational Therapist Courtney Waters demonstrated to class groups how to maximise the use of our fabulous facility, the Sensory Room. In fact **Sensory Learning** is the theme for this newsletter. My thanks to both these staff members for sharing their expertise with their colleagues.

Parents will be aware that in line with Department of Education Policy both years six and seven will be graduating at the end of the year to commence their secondary schooling. To this end several parents recently attended an open morning at Kensington Secondary School to see their facilities and learn of the programs available. I would encourage parents of students who will be graduating to take up these open morning opportunities or ring the school and make an appointment to look at the programs available.

Many of you will remember Registrar Julie Holding who has been seconded to Central Office for the past two years. Julie has just informed us that she has been appointed to Hampton Senior High School as their Business Manager and will be commencing there shortly. On behalf of the school community, I would like to thank Julie for her dedication to our students and her guidance in the area of administration for the considerable number of years she spent with us. Julie, who introduced us to the world of the Independent Public School and the now familiar one-line budget, will be a considerable asset to her new school.

Parents are invited to attend the next Board Meeting on **Thursday 5th June at 8:30am** as this is our designated Open Meeting for the calendar year. Board Chair, Les Ozsdolay will be absent from the meeting as he will be having a well-earned holiday overseas. Our staff offer their best wishes to Les for a great holiday. Parents may not know that, as well as his role as Board Chair, Les is our school Technical Officer and over many years has been a very valuable asset when it comes to minor repairs, school building

improvements and maintenance as well as keeping our swimming pool squeaky clean.

I would particularly like to add my thanks to Gary Leach (husband of education assistant Nette Leach) and the myriad people who volunteered their goods and expertise to make the new bike track for the school playground. We are currently working on the landscaping of the area but already several students have tested the track out.

Deputy Principal Ros Hamling has been very busy of late. She has just returned from the Australian Special Education Principals' Association Conference (ASEPA) which was entitled "Reflect, Shift, Transform" and was centred around creating an inclusive school environment. Now, as conference convener for the WA Education Support Administrators Association (WAESPAA), she is fine-tuning our State Conference entitled "Lead: Learn: Inspire: - Riding the Surf of Education Change" which was held in Fremantle on the 22nd and 23rd of May. In addition, two staff members prepared displays for the conference. Speech Pathologist Katy Payne and Occupational Therapist Courtney Waters topic was the Integrated Service Model, while Teacher Natalie Fitzpatrick provided information on the path to her PODD Presenter Accreditation as the recipient of a Landsdale Farm School Scholarship.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank our hardworking P&C President Liz Green and her dedicated team for their continuing support of our school and its students. Their valuable fundraising efforts over the past few years have led to considerable changes to the school playground in order to provide fun and challenge during breaks. However, there is always room for new faces, and so I would encourage you to come to the next meeting on **Wednesday 11th June at 9:30am**. One of the main goals of the P&C is to provide support and information to our families. Families can always learn from others and this is an opportunity to share experiences about how to navigate through disability land.



And lastly, the school community has been saddened by the death of Nikki Gay who passed away after a long period of ill health. Our condolences go out to her mother Sue and family on the loss of this young student.

Kind regards

John Exeter, Principal

P&C News . . .

The Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) is made up of parents and a few community members. Our main aim is to fundraise to provide much needed extra resources for our children. We do this through raffles, our annual Quiz Night and grants. In past years we have funded air conditioning, a Liberty swing and most recently a new challenging play ground.

We meet on the Wednesday of weeks three and seven during the school year. Meetings are held at school in "Bottlebrush" at 9.30am and usually last about an hour. It's a great way to meet other parents over coffee and be involved in your child's school.

The P&C also organises the school uniforms. As we are a small school we don't hold a lot of stock. Order forms are sent home at the beginning of each term and we send on our requests to our supplier..

Thank you to all who supported the Mothers' Day Raffle: This was drawn on Friday 9th May. Congratulations to the following students: Jermaine, Robbie, Alex, and Lefaye and staff member Roberta Taylforth.

If anyone has any questions or queries regarding the P&C please feel free to email lizgreenpnc@hotmail.com or phone 9291 7290. **Next meeting, 9:30—10:30am, Wednesday 11th June**

Notice of Open Board Meeting * Thursday 5th June from 8:30am

Please RSVP to Corina Botica by 3rd June
by calling 9361 7500 or emailing corina.botica@education.wa.edu.au

From Marian, Community Support Officer

Welcome to Term 2 everyone! We have had our first Parent Information Morning Tea and we were really pleased to welcome Halina Krapez and Nihal Iscel who spoke about their services offered by the Ethnic Disability Advocacy Centre.

A quote from one of the leaflets they left reads: "EDAC can assist people with disabilities from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds and their families with advocacy, support and information on matters relating to disability. EDAC is a not-for-profit community organization which has been in operation for 12 years, advocating for the rights of people with disabilities and families to obtain equitable and fair services".

They also publish a monthly **EDAC NEWS BULLETIN** and have a half hour **radio program entitled "EthnicAbility"**. This Radio program goes to air every Monday from 7.30pm to 8.00pm (WA time) on 95.3 6EBA FM. Both the Bulletin and this Radio program would be informative on a variety of topics relevant to people with a disability from an ethnic background, for example topics such as the National Disability Insurance Scheme. Their contact details are:

Website: www.edac.org.au
Tel: 08 9388 7455

Email: admin@edac.org.au
Freecall: 1800 659 921

By the time this Newsletter goes to print we also will have had our **First Family Picnic Day** at the School—a time for parents, families and students of this school to be able to get together socialize and network, and also a time for siblings to also enjoy the company of other siblings of students of this school.

Our Next Morning Tea:

DATE: **Tuesday 17 June**
TIME: **9am**

PLACE: **Carson Street, Room 8**

GUEST SPEAKER: **Susan Thornton and colleague from Centrelink and Medicare.**
(There is NO COST to attend this morning tea.)

I welcome opportunities to catch up with parents and am available for a confidential chat on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. My contact details are Marian.Tetlow@education.wa.edu.au or 0432 570 768

Odyssey

An Underwater Adventure



Room 9
students have been
involved in the Sensorium
Theatre's "Odyssey" towards the end of

Term 1. Each session involved meeting characters from the story (Crab, Turtle, Jellyfish) and engaging in sensory activities about each area....the beach, the shoreline, the waves and deep below the sea. Frankie, Jamie, Michelle, Rachael and Amity used music and instruments, catchy songs, tactile objects, tasty jelly and a multitude of other sensory approaches to engage the kids. Each day was different and the kids returned to class with crabs and turtle hats as mementos of their journey. There were no complaints from the kids or the adults, and everyone engaged at their own level.

The journey ended with a parent performance of the whole show on Tuesday 25th March where a lot of the parents joined their child on a special journey.

I would like to thank the Sensorium Theatre for the opportunity to join them on an interesting and very worthwhile experience.



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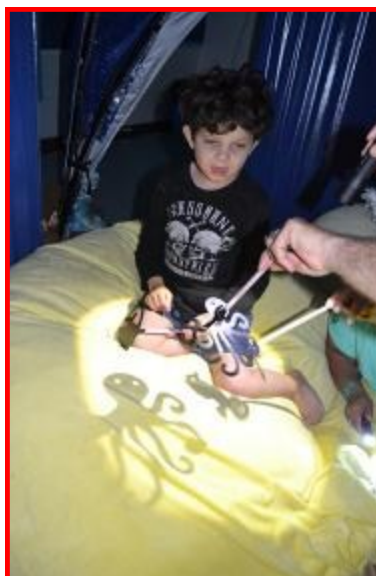
Room 5

Room 5 has been exploring the Sensory Room and that's really benefiting the students to calm down and focus on their learning skills. They can sit for longer durations and join in activities as their sensory needs are met. Special thanks to our OT Courtney and EA Suzanne Hall for initiating this process and designing a sensory program for our children.

Now Room 5 has two groups which follow a Sensory Program and a Numeracy Literacy Program in the mornings from 9am to 10am. Not to miss the ever-enthusiastic staff(Marie, Kat, Tyran,) who have all worked in collaboration to make this a success and progressing the students into "Being Becoming and Belonging" which is the mantra of the Early Years Learning Framework.



We also attended 'Odyssey', the Sensory Theatre last term which kept all our children engaged, and not only the students, but also the staff enjoyed participating in it as it was musical and hands on.



Wattle Pirates

Aaarrhh..Ahoy there me hearties! Wattle have been checking out pirates, fairies and superheroes this term!

As part of sensory learning we have been painting our hands to experience the feel of slimy, wet and cold paint oozing between our fingers to construct pirates!

Other activities to note where by Wattle students are practising using their senses are using their hands to search for buried treasure in sand, taste testing our gluten free banana bread treasure chest cake and listening to the sounds of ocean through shells to name a few!



Room 7—Countries and Traditions:

Our theme this term is Countries and Traditions. With so many countries in the world, we will be studying the countries represented by the staff and students in the class. So far we have been learning about New Zealand, and the children enjoyed learning about art and craft in New Zealand. We had samples of items made from flax, some of which they tried on.



The children enjoyed touching and feeling the textures of the items as well as touching the flax we got from the garden. We made some simple flowers and head bands from flax we got from the garden.



Dream Cricket

On Friday 28th March the Carson Street students had a visit from the Rotary sponsored DreamCricket team and participated in two hours of skill development including bowling, batting, fielding, throwing and catching. The morning's activities were followed by a barbeque for all the students and helpers.

The sponsor is Get Approved Car Finance and Insurance, who also supplied the staff to man the activities and work with the children. The Rotary club of Perth West led by Siri Siriwardene and 8 members including DG elect Brian Eddie and Belgian exchange student, Alexandra.

A representative from the Sports Commission WA was also present and very impressed with the program.



DreamCricket introduces primary school students with a disability to the game of cricket by using a series of activities aimed at teaching skills such as fielding and batting as well as the laws of the game. It was first held in NSW in October 2010 with 80 children participating.



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New Bike Path

Carson Street School is very pleased to announce the completion of a new bike track at the Berwick Street end of the school. The new track is a fantastic addition to our playground area and will not only provide enjoyment for our students but will help sharpen their cycling skills and competency on our wide range of bicycles. The project could never have been completed without the help of several generous people and companies who offered their help to us. We are greatly indebted to Gary Leach who project managed the whole venture and enlisted the help of other industry colleagues at no cost to the school. Other companies who worked to complete the project were C and L Ceilings and Advance Formwork who both supplied labour and equipment. C & L Ceilings supplied the concrete and a concrete pump was provided by Advance Formwork. The finished product looks fantastic and the school owes a very big thank you to both of these companies and the people who worked on the project.



Yellowgum's Veggie Garden



When the days got colder and wetter, the Yellowgum students decided to plant veggies.

Neville helped us by planting peas, oregano, beans and potatoes. Now we are going to watch the growth of our veggie patch and

we will make sure to look after it.



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Belmay Banner Designs



Belmay students recently attended a workshop at the Digital Hub in Victoria Park—a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their technology and design skills. The workshop consisted of a two hour session where each participant was given the opportunity to use new media in order to contribute to the design of the Town of Victoria Park's banner. The participants' quest for innovation and uniqueness meant that all topics were up for display and relentlessly questioned. When introduced to Izzy (tech guru) and Alex (Neighbourhood Enrichment Officer from TVP), each student was eager to advise on possible concepts and colour selection for the banner design and this was truly an engaging experience.

Here are the three final designs developed using the students' illustrations that aim to reflect the vibrancy and excitement of the Town of Victoria Park. The colour palette is a mix of traditional organic colours from the land and brighter tones associated with youthful, forward thinking outlook. All elements of the design have been inspired and reference the participants' experiences and observations within the Victoria Park region.



Values Education & Assembly

This Term's Value is Being Kind to Others. The main key points which will be discussed and reinforced across the school are:

- Respect the rights of others
- Be polite and use good manners
- Don't bully or put others down
- Seek a 'fair go' for all
- Cooperate and be a team player
- Value family life

Some of the strategies that will be used to help teach this Value will include using relevant picture story books, craft activities and key word signing to practice saying 'please' and 'thank you'. During the Assembly the children will become more familiar with the Australian National Anthem and those that are able will be encouraged to learn the key word signs for the Anthem as well.



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CECWA Program

Member for Southern River, Peter Abetz MLA and wife Jenny, visited our school along with CECWA President, Shane Jez, to have an overview of the Conductive Education Program and meet the staff and students. They were shown the lying task program in action by CE Coordinator and Teacher Conductor, Shona Ballantyne.



CECWA Dinner for Dreams



Photos courtesy of
Splash 22 Photography. View images
from the Goof Booth at [http://
www.youtube.com/watch?
v=vkbgaFDEFFg&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkbgaFDEFFg&feature=youtu.be)



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Family Support WA

My name is Emily Croy and I am from Family Support WA a not for profit organisation providing services and supports to people with disabilities. Family Support WA have been operating north of the river for some time but we are now focusing on south of the river as well. Here is some information regarding the services that we provide to people with disabilities. The funding streams that we can manage are:

- Alternatives to Employment (ATE/PSO)
- Intensive Family Support (IFS)
- Family Living Initiative (FLI)
- Accommodation Funding

The supports that we offer are:

Future Planning: We use templates to help you think about the possibilities that the future holds and help explore your goals and aspirations. Then we work together to put a plan in place to help support you achieve these goals and aspirations.

Fun with Friends: Explore existing and potential relationships, having fun and making meaningful connections.

Neighbourhood Networks: Connect with people in your local community. Accessing your local resources to enhance your networks.

Work Alternatives: CONNECT provides inclusive recreation and life skills activities for people with a disability who have left school but are unable to work. Eligible people receive 5 to 25 hours of service each week and are supported to engage in a wide range of activities according to their own preferences and abilities.

Family Welbeing: Our respite services are flexible in nature and tailored to the individual and their family's respite needs. Services can be provided in or out of home and include overnight stays, community access, personal care, independent living skills and recreation. These services are designed using a person-centered approach. Services can also be provided within a Host Family. A Host Family provides a safe home environment, supervision, role modeling and a family structure for children and young adults with a disability who are accepted as part of the existing family.

The Hub: The Hub is a place that you can use at anytime, as apart of any program or activity. It is run and owned by Family Support WA Inc. and it is located in Darch next to the Landsdale Farm School. The Hub is a great place to improve and learn new skills, to use as a base and to just catch up with friends and people you know or to just relax.

We also offer a brokerage service and shared management.

If you have any questions about the information below please do not hesitate to contact me.

Emily Croy,

Manager Individual and Family Support (SOUTH)

emily.croy@familysupportwa.org.au .

Phone: 9405 1885- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Impact of Work Life on Children and Families: A Survey Have your say as part of the Working Parents Research Project!



- Are you a working parent?
- Do you have a child aged between 2 and 12 years?
- Are you willing to provide 30-45 minutes of your time?

Researchers from the University of Queensland are looking for working parents to take part in a survey looking at the effects of working life on Australian children and families. We are particularly interested in **Fly-in/Fly-out (FIFO) and Drive-in/Drive-out (DIDO) workers** but value and encourage input from all kinds of working parents.

The survey will take between 30-45 minutes to complete. Your involvement will help the field to learn more about the effects of different work circumstances and settings on children and families. Your participation will also assist in developing ways to properly support working parents in the future. For further information and to take part in the survey, please visit: <https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/workingparents>

Contacting Parents – 0 - 4 Programs

Most children attending the 0 – 4 programmes will do so with a parent. If the child is upset or an issue/incident occurs then the parent will deal with it directly and school staff will follow normal school procedures.

On occasion however, the child may attend with a carer. These guidelines are to be utilised on such occasions.

- The carers will assume responsibility for the child and will make decisions on their behalf, if required, assuming 'in loco parentis'. It is the carer's responsibility to share any information from home and to also inform parents of any concerns/issues/incidents which occur in group.
- The 0 – 4 group leader will contact parents, as soon as reasonably practicable, to inform them of any concerns /issues/incidents. This will be followed up as required.
- The 0 – 4 group leader will follow school procedures and fill in relevant paperwork etc. should an incident/accident occur.

KidSport funding availability

What are the eligibility criteria?

- Applicant must be aged 5-18 years.
- Applicant must have a Health Care Card or Pension Concession Card or be referred by a recognised referral agent.
- Applicant primary place of residence must be in the local government area they are applying to.
- It is preferred that applicants register with a club that is in their local government area.

What else?

- Funding will cover the cost of fees to join the nominated sport or recreation club (*this may include other related costs as identified by the club*).
- Maximum of up to \$200 per child per calendar year.
- Fees are only for the nominated registered season.
- No retrospective fees will be paid.
- No limitation to number of applications per family as long as criteria is met.

For more information, or to download an application form, visit the KidSport website at <http://clubsonline.dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport> or ask at the School Office.



Happy Birthday to You!

Ryan
Alex
Dex

Belmay
Room 2
Room 5

8th May
12th May
14th May

Gangmin
Tyler
Adrian
Iziah
Madison

Room 7
Redgum
Redgum
Belmay
Room 9

17th May
22nd May
22nd May
23rd May
24th May

What's on . . . what's coming up . . .

Monday 2nd June	WA Day Public Holiday—NO SCHOOL
Friday 4th July	Last day of Term
Monday 21st July	Staff Professional Development Day—NO STUDENTS

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