Congratulations to our Year 6 Graduating Class!

Wow! Can you believe how quickly the year has gone! What an outstanding year it has been. There have been many highlights this year due to our dedicated and caring staff and major achievements of our students and the support of our school community. 2017 is also going to be a brilliant year with a continued growth in enrolments. Parents old and new really do value the programs we offer and everything we do for our students at Westminster Education Support Centre. Here are a just few highlights of this semester!

A new ESC playground was installed and is now complete with 2 shade sails. Excursions this term, included AQWA, SciTech and our Christmas picnic. The year 6 camp at Landsdale Farm organised by Mrs Deans was brilliant and the year 4’s and Year 5’s joined the Year 6’s for a day camp which they thoroughly enjoyed.

In Term 4 we had the opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our staff. Mrs Tilbrook and Mrs Collins were both nominated for the Western Australian Education Support Principals and Administrators Association (WAESPAA) Education Assistant of the Year Award and we were also nominated for School and Principal of the Year.

Mrs Utting has also been representing our Centre after receiving the WAESPAA Landsdale farm scholarship last year. This gave her the opportunity to receive professional development on childhood trauma. This Semester she has been delivering this professional learning to many staff on Childhood Trauma within the Western Australian Education Network, Schools and Centres. Mrs Dunn has also been representing our school across our Network working on a Professional Learning Matrix and also coordinating a new curriculum (ABLEWA) in our Centre. These initiatives which Mrs Utting and Mrs Dunn have implemented, place our school at the forefront of Special Needs Education, providing high quality teaching and learning opportunities for our students.

I would like to wish our year 6 students all the best in starting a new adventure when they move to their new Senior High Schools in 2017.

Finally, I would like to thank the School Board, the P&C, the Primary Schools and the Child and Parent Centre for your continued support of us and our students.

Happy holidays!!!

Gary Hobson
The Kindergarten children have had another action packed term. In term 4 the children have been allocated their own desk where they do work when they first arrive in the morning. After writing their name they do an activity from each of their drawers which include number, letter, colour, shape and fine motor activities. The children have delighted in showing the Kindy staff how much they know. All the children have made advancements in their learning and are so happy to be at school. They have certainly come a long way from the timid little children that began the year.

We visited AQWA and saw all the ocean animals that the children have been learning about. Our theme for Semester 2 has been the ocean. The children loved the touch pool!

The children have a new play area thanks to Bunnings Balcatta. A shade tarp was put over a new garden bed that the children are using for a dinosaur habitat. Bunnings supplied the tarp, sand and the garden bed and Frank and Alannah did all the labour. Thanks so much!

The Kindy children spent some time with the school free range chickens. There were two chickens that they picked up and petted. All the children were fascinated by the chickens and the chickens did not seem to mind all the attention from the curious Kindy children. I am going to miss the Kindergarten children as I have really enjoyed teaching them and want to wish them a fantastic holiday and a great start to Pre Primary. Thanks to all the support staff who have worked in Kindergarten and given great support and care to our students.

The term began with an Aboriginal Art Workshop with 2 artists from Urban Indigenous. This was made possible by the PALS grant we received from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs. The students thoroughly enjoyed decorating masks and boomerangs.

We joined with ESC1 and ESC2 for an excursion to Scitech. We spent some time exploring the exhibits and then watched a show about the science of light and then a puppet shoe about dinosaurs.

A highlight of the term was the Camp. The year 5/6 spent 2 nights and 3 days at Landsdale farm participating in a range of fun activities organised by WADSA. The students had a great time and were an absolute delight to be with. Thank you to the year 4’s also who joined us for a day and enjoyed playing with the remote control cars and having a go at archery. The students were very well behaved and represented Westminster ESC with pride.

We finished the year with a Christmas picnic at Yokine Reserve. The students had a fantastic time playing on all the equipment and receiving a present from our special visitor!

The staff in room 9 would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and thank you for all your support this year. Your children have been an absolute delight to teach and we wish the year 6’s all the best for high school. Make sure you come back and visit us!
Room 3 has had another exciting term with many action packed activities. The students have continued their learning and have shown great personal progress. Our portfolios areoverflowing with beautiful work.

Students participated in the PALS workshop, where they used traditional Aboriginal colours and decorations to create their own artworks. They watched a traditional dance and were taught some of the moves. This was very entertaining to watch.

AQWA was an amazing day and the students loved visiting the Aquarium, especially the touch pool. The students had a wonderful day with their friends, and it was great to see some of the Sea Creatures we have been learning about in class.

With the hot days approaching we have enjoyed our Play-based learning outside and have thoroughly enjoyed the new nature playground. The water activities are a big hit, with all students participating and creating valuable friendships with their peers. The new Dinosaur park is extremely popular.

We are beginning our Xmas activities and decorating the classroom for the festive season.

Pre Primary

Term four has flown by with Christmas and holidays almost upon us! We have had another fantastic term in the Pre-Primary enjoying the sunshine and outdoor weather. The students have been busy having fun with water play and spending time with new friends in the mainstream playgrounds.

We had a great adventure visiting AQWA this term and continued our learning about animals that live under the sea. The students loved looking at all the different animals and exploring the ocean and amazing sea life. We all enjoyed lunch together in the park after our excursion at AQWA and had an excellent day.

Our assembly item was a big hit and the other school members really enjoyed seeing the students perform their songs. It was great to see so many of the children participate and wonderful to see them having so much fun performing. The new nature playground in the junior area has been exciting for our students this term. They love to play in the fishing boat and explore the fairy garden. The dinosaur enclosure is a popular area for the children in room 4 and they often play there with their friends from mainstream.

It has been lots of fun working with the Pre-Primary students this year and fantastic to see them enjoy learning at a school. I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Christmas and holiday break.
Wow, 2016 is almost over and what a fabulous year we have had in Room 1! The students have been very busy working hard, learning lots and having fun at school every day.

They absolutely love playing and exploring the new nature playground in the junior area, especially the fishing boat, fairy garden and dinosaurs.

We had a wonderful excursion to SciTech where we continued our learning about ‘How Things Move’. The students loved looking at all the different exhibitions and exploring the different interactive displays.

Our assembly item was a great success and it was wonderful to see so many of our children participating and having fun.

We are all looking forward to a lovely, long and well deserved summer break and would like to take this opportunity to wish the ESC families a meaningful Christmas and a happy 2017! Looking forward to see you all back at school in the New Year.

It has been another fun, busy and productive fourth term in Room 2. It has been great to see our class developing their confidence at standing in front of the class to tell their news, and demonstrating improved listening skills with their peers as well. In the mornings we have enjoyed singing songs about bugs, counting to 100 and skip counting in 2s, 5s and 10s – you should see our moves! After recess we love practising our best dance moves by playing the latest hits on Just Dance. We have been working on co-operating and taking turns by playing all kinds of games with our buddies in Room 1. We have also enjoyed playing card and board games in our class. We have learnt lots of cool facts about water in Science and participated in lots of interesting experiments. We can’t wait to share our sea animals with you which we created in Art. You won’t have a fridge big enough to display them on!

We enjoyed the workshop on Aboriginal Art where we got to paint a boomerang or mask and we couldn’t stop talking about our trip to Scitech! We hope you enjoyed the songs we performed at the assembly – we practised a lot so we could look and sound our best. We have enjoyed our Music and Physical Education lessons with our mainstream friends – ask us to bounce a ball for you. And we especially loved having Music lessons with Mrs Hawker again! We have learnt protective behaviours we can use to help keep us safe. What a busy term! No wonder we are tired. But each and every class member should be proud of their achievements in 2016. Enjoy a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to 2017!