Mr Hugo de Ridder is on well deserved long-service leave with his wife Judy. He returns to us next week, 19th September, just in time to fly off to Bali with our Indonesian students for this year’s Bali Mission Trip on Friday, 23rd September.

**Indonesian/Bali Trip: 23 – 28 September**
A group of students in Year 9 and 10 will be going on a trip to Bali, which will include a visit to an orphanage and present opportunities for students to reflect on the blessings of their lives in Australia.

Students will be making a donation in support of the orphanage, and having a wonderful time exploring the culture and traditions of the people. They will be accompanied by Mr and Mrs de Ridder and Mrs Stasse.

**Welcome to our new families**
It is with great pleasure we welcome two new families to our school. We trust that you will all settle quickly, will be made to feel very welcome by our existing families and form firm friendships in the months to come.

- Hugh and Janine Mitenko (from Canada): Samuel – PR; Benjamin Yr 6; Max Yr 8
- Ryan and Jo-Anne Leslie (from South Africa): Robyn Yr 2

**Cyber-bullying** - Mrs Diane Hackney : Head of Senior School

Online interactions are undoubtedly here to stay and provide wonderful opportunities for friends and family members to stay connected. However, it is with great concern and sadness that we are noticing a significant increase in the number of students who find themselves the victims of online bullying and character attacks.

Last year I would perhaps have a student come and see me about this every month or two; now I either have a student who has been victimised, a concerned friend of a student, or a parent contact me almost weekly about an incident of cyber-bullying. Regrettably there is also a growing risk of this impacting students in our Middle School.

Realistically, there is very little we can do as a school about stopping this. Sites like Facebook and My Space are blocked at school and students are prohibited from using phones during the day, which might otherwise give them access to social networking sites. Students are educated as part of their Computing course about the dangers of cyber-bullying and this topic has been addressed in assemblies and in dialogue with individual classes.

Nevertheless, students are falling victim to vicious attacks on their character and finding themselves ostracised by their peers as a result. As far as is possible, we deal with issues that spill over from the outside world and present themselves at school, but it is very difficult to follow up on matters that occur in the domain of online interactions. We can only reasonably address issues that manifest themselves at school and impact on interpersonal relationships on the school grounds.

This is where your role as parents should not be underestimated. Parents are the primary safe guard for their children when it comes to ensuring that they do not fall victim to cyber-bullying, particularly as this ostensibly takes place while they are at home. We appeal to parents to please check what their children are doing online and talk about the impact of their online conversation on their emotional and social well-being. It might be helpful to check who their ‘friends’ are, and what they are posting.

Hopefully together we can assist our children in making wise choices in their use of this communication medium and avoid the heartache that comes about when these interactions do not go well.
**Year 12 Mock Examinations**

Students in Year 12 will be writing Mock Examinations from 23-30 September. Your prayers for these young folk as they sit their final examinations and complete their formal education will be much appreciated.


With the introduction of the new Australian Curriculum next year and to ensure our students will meet the prescribed standards, a new text book will be introduced for our Year 7 students costing approximately $70. Please contact Mr Pierre Meyer with any queries in this regard.

**Administrative processes**

A reminder to parents to please direct queries to the appropriate administration staff member as follows:-

- **Mr Hugo de Ridder**: Principal
- **Mr Colin Stillman**: Business Manager – all matters relating to property and financial management.
- **Mrs Diane Hackney**: Head of Senior School – all student matters from Year 9 to 12, including complaints or other concerns relative to these year groups.
- **Mr Pierre Meyer**: Head of Middle School – all student matters from Year 4 to 8 including complaints or other concerns relative to these year groups.
- **Mrs Donna Holman**: Head of Junior School – all student matters from Kindergarten to Year 3, including complaints or other concerns relative to these year groups.
- **Mrs Fiona de Ridder**: Bursar – all matters relating to fees or other monies owing.
- **Mr Kez Forsyth**: Records Officer – all matters relating to record management including school reports etc.
- **Mr Garry Hewett**: IT Manager – all IT related matters, including student login details etc.
- **Mrs Lea McDonald**: Principal’s Assistant – all matters for referral to the Principal.
- **Mrs Sandra Dinkeliman**: School Services Officer – all matters relating to student school life, absentee notifications, data updating etc.
- **Mrs Marie Waite**: Enrolment Officer / Reception – all matters relating to new enrolments and general enquiries.

**School Reports (Term 3)**: Students will be issued with their Interim School reports on the last day of the school term. If for any reason, your child will not be at school on the last day, could you please contact Mr Kerry Forsyth to arrange for collection of their report. Note: Reports not collected prior to the end of term, will need to be collected from Student Services at the beginning of Term 4.

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**Infectious Disease Control**

**“Slapped Cheek or Fifth Syndrome”**

There seems to be an increase in the number of children presenting to the office with possible “Slapped Cheek”.

As you will find by reading the information supplied below, there is little that can be done to prevent the spread of the disease, except for increased hygiene. **Slapped Cheek is spread by touching or breathing in the coughed or sneezed fluid drops from an infected person.**

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**Grace Notices**

**Term 3, Issue 3**

All classrooms have a hand pump bottle of disinfectant/ hand sanitizer and teachers are reminding children of the importance of using disinfectant hand sanitizer before going out and after coming in from recess and lunch, as well as after bathroom visits. We are asking parents to please speak to their children about the importance of this practice, to try to stem the spread of this and other infectious diseases.

Below is information on “Slapped Cheek” which will hopefully be of some help to you. Further information can be found by googling “Slapped Cheek” on the internet.

**What is Slapped Cheek**

- “Slapped cheek” is a viral infection caused by a virus called parvovirus B19. It is also called ‘fifth disease’ or erythema infectiosum. This virus is different from the Parvovirus which affects cats and dogs.
- Slapped cheek usually affects children between the ages of 4-10 but can happen at any age, even in adulthood.
- Most infections do not have any symptoms. Six out of ten people in the population have had the virus by the time they are adults.
- It is not life threatening and complications are rare.

**Signs and symptoms**

- Symptoms can take between 4 to 14 days to appear after getting the virus. The symptoms are usually so mild that many people don’t even know they have had the virus.
- The first symptoms can include runny nose, fever, headache, stomach upsets, aches and pains. This is the time when the virus can be spread to others, mainly through saliva.
- A bright red rash appears on the cheeks three to seven days after getting the virus. The cheeks look like they have been slapped, hence the name Slapped Cheek.
- Your child may also have a different rash on the chest, back, arms and legs. The infection looks like a pink lace pattern on the skin. The rash can come and go for several weeks, especially if the skin is exposed to sunlight or after exercise.

**How is it spread?**

- Slapped cheek is spread by touching or breathing in the coughed or sneezed fluid drops from an infected person.

**Treatment**

- Most children do not need any treatment except for resting and allowing the body to fight the infection. Fever may be controlled with paracetamol. Antibiotics will not work because slapped cheek is caused by a virus.

**At home care**

- Once you can see the rash on the face, children cannot spread the infection to others. Children can keep going to school or day care.

**Follow-up**

- There is usually no specific follow up needed. A few children may develop swelling and pain in the joint of their hands and feet. If this happens they should see a doctor for advice on how to treat these symptoms.

**Special considerations**

- You should speak to your child's medical team if you suspect your child has slapped cheek and your child is taking long term steroids or is immune-compromised (i.e. on chemotherapy or has had an organ transplant).
- Contact the medical team or your family doctor for advice if
your child has sickle cell anaemia or severe anaemia (low level of red blood cells in the blood).

- If you are pregnant and exposed to someone with slapped cheek, ask your family doctor to test if you had human parvovirus B19 in the past by performing a parvovirus IgG serology test.

Remember the person with slapped cheek disease is infectious two weeks before the rash appears. If you have already had human parvovirus B19 then there are no concerns for your unborn baby. If you have not, your unborn baby can get a type of anaemia (low level of red blood cells in the blood). This is rarely serious and usually resolves itself. Your obstetrician can provide more advice. The virus does not cause any other problems for the baby.

Key points to remember
- Slapped cheek is caused by a virus and antibiotics will not work to treat it.
- Symptoms can vary between children but many won’t even know they have had it because the infection shows up with very few symptoms.
- Once there is a rash on the face, the child with the rash is not infectious and cannot spread the infection to others.
- They can go to school or play centre as usual.

Lost Property

There is a large amount of lost property in the office. In particular Bathers, goggles etc.

Could parents and students please check the lost property box as soon as possible.

Also, could parents please check their child(ren’s) jumpers and jackets to ensure they have not taken the incorrect one home in error.

Labelling your child’s clothing — All items of clothing should be clearly marked with iron-on or sew-on labels. Writing on the garment label is not sufficient as these are often very difficult to read, or can be cut off.

- Iron-on label order forms are available from the school office, or visit www.identitydirect.com

  Pricing: A$17.95 per 50;  A$24.95 per 100

- Sew-on label order forms are available through the front office and are a very effective way of preventing the loss of your child’s clothing. Highly recommended.

  Pricing: NZ$20.50 per 50;  NZ$31.80 per 100. Delivery time is approximately 2 weeks.

  Thank you!

Grace Notices

For more information and to join Neighbourhood Watch go to www.nhw.wa.gov.au or contact the Senior Constable Steph Smith on 97222046. It doesn’t require a lot of time and the information sharing helps everyone.

ECU Scholarships open from September

With the support of an ECU scholarship, you can realise your ambitions and reach your destination. September is the time to apply, visit www.ecu.edu.au/scholarships.

Ballroom Dancing Classes

Winter Sport finished? Try Ballroom Dancing

Bring this Newsletter for “One FREE Lesson” any Thursday during school term 2011. Medal Class commencing now!

- Where : Studio: 1 Arthur St Bunbury
- 4.30pm- 5.30pm : Boys & Girls (7-15 years old)
- Cost : Term four fee $90 Casual rates $12

www.bunburydancestudio.com  Ph:9791 8900  Mb: 0438 913 791

Eaton Family Centre Vacation Care

Enrolments are now being taken for the October Vacation Care Programme, which is specially designed to encourage both creative and fun interactive play to suit 5-12 year olds, in a safe, fun and welcoming environment that allows children to feel at home.

- Daily cost of $41.00 includes healthy morning & afternoon teas, just bring lunch and water bottle.
- Open 8am to 6pm Monday – Friday except public holidays.
- CCB and 50% Government Rebate available for eligible families through Family Assistance Office. Ph: 136150

The Eaton Family Centre is an accredited and fully licensed Child Care Centre. For programme and booking information please call 97251655 or call into the Centre at Charterhouse Street, Eaton.

Email: seatonfc@optusnet.com.au

The Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival—FREE Entry

Saturday, 15 October, 2011

- 10am-5pm Festival
- 5pm—9pm Evening Entertainment

Kids monster activity tent, Primary School sprint races, circus performers, street procession, stalls, fire sculpture and much, much more. See: www.bullandbarrel.net.au

Leeuwin Voyages

The Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation has been running this youth development program since 1986, and so far over 33,000 young people have experienced a unique ocean adventure focusing on developing their leadership, teamwork, and communication skills and creates a strong sense of community.

Leeuwin Voyages in 2011 are booking out quickly! We still have berths available for the following voyages:

- YOUTH EXPLORER VOYAGE TWELVE : departs Fremantle 09 Oct
  - 5 places left
- YOUTH EXPLORER VOYAGE THIRTEEN : departs Fremantle 16 Oct
  - 18 places left
- YOUTH EXPLORER VOYAGE FOURTEEN : departs Fremantle 06 Nov
  - 22 places left

Bunbury Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch is about the community and police helping each other to protect our property and quality of life. This combined partnership helps to reduce crime and encourages greater communication to develop a strong community spirit.

Preventing crime has become an issue for every member of the community to be a part of and community members are the best eyes to notice unusual or suspicious activity within their area.
• **YOUTH EXPLORER VOYAGE FIFTEEN**: departs Fremantle 15 Nov arrives Fremantle 21 Nov - **11 places left**
  The voyages are open to anyone from the time they turn 14 and are **endorsed by the Curriculum Council**.
  Participation in a voyage and completion of portfolio of work earns 5 points towards students WACE.
  Scholarships to cover part of the voyage fare are still available and application can be made by visiting [www.sailleeuwin.com](http://www.sailleeuwin.com)

**Southern Cross Cultural Exchange Programme**

As Marcel Proust, a late 19th century novelist, wrote: **"the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes"**.

Host an international high school student in February 2012 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in February for one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Scandinavia, Japan and the U.S.A. They will attend a local secondary school, are fully insured and have their own spending money.

Call S.C.C.E now on 1800 500 501, email scceaust@scce.com.au or visit our website (www.scce.com.au) to be part of this rewarding experience.

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**DARDANUP BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION**

**REGISTRATION DAY**

**on Thurs 19th Sept from 3.30pm - 6pm**

for all Junior Grades from u/9’s - U/18’s at the Dardanup Recreation Ground.

All past and new players welcome.

For further details contact 0407 489 097 or 0408 648 251

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**POSITIONS VACANT**

♦ **Early Childhood Teacher**
♦ **Physics and/or Mathematics Teacher**

**Start : Term 1, 2012**

Grace Christian School is an independent Christian school affiliated with Christian Schools Australia, catering for approximately 470 students from K - 12.

The successful applicant will be a committed Christian in regular church fellowship, who is an experienced teacher, keen to support the school and its parents in providing expert tuition for an education of excellence, taught from a Christian worldview.

Application Form and Position Description enquiries should be made to:

Principal’s Assistant, Mrs Lea McDonald
Email: lmcdonald@grace.wa.edu.au

Applications close:
4pm, Friday, 14th October, 2011