Dear Students, Parents and Community Members,

A reminder to all parents and caregivers to please observe the road rules in the car park and Kiss & Drive to keep all our children safe. **If you have young children please ensure that you keep hold of them for their own safety, please do not leave them in the car in the car park.** Thank you.

**SCHOOL SAFETY RULES IN CAR PARK**

**DRIVE SLOWLY 8KMH**

**CAR PARK:** Don’t walk through car park, walk around the outside of the car park. Reverse parking only.

**KISS & DRIVE:** Drop Off and Pick up ONLY

No Parking - only for pick up after 3.05pm if child is waiting.

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### Student Leadership

Congratulations to the student leadership team for their organisation in running the first assembly for 2014 last Friday. This year, the team represents both year 6 and 7 students which reflects the historic change the public schooling system will be undergoing when nearly 40,000 year 6 and 7 public primary school students across the State will be moving to secondary school in 2015. The impact at Orange Grove will affect 19 year 6 and 7 students who will be graduating together for the first and last time.

### Parent Achievement

I would also like to extend congratulations to one of our parents, Carol Dowling, mother of James and Curtis, for her achievement in receiving the National Human Rights Commission award for radio. The award is for a 30 part documentary series “The State of our Children’s Hearing” which Carol was involved in collaboration with Noongar Radio 100.9FM. She has also completed her doctorate in Social Sciences which is no mean feat when working full time and looking after a family. Well done Carol and best wishes in your new job at Curtin University.

### Class meetings

Teachers will be contacting parents regarding class meetings to provide an overview of their class requirements and expectations. This is not a time for personal interviews. If you wish to speak to the teachers regarding your children please make a separate appointment.

### Last Paper Newsletter

This newsletter is the last paper edition. Future newsletters will be posted on the school website and through the Orange Grove Skoolbag app or by email on request. A paper one will be posted on the school noticeboard.

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### On-Entry Assessment Program For Schools With Pre-Primary, Year 1 and Year 2 Students

The program (Module 1 Literacy and Numeracy) for Pre-primary students will be conducted in Weeks 3 to 6 from 17 February to 7 March 2014 and participation is mandatory.

The program for Year 1 and Year 2 students (Modules 2 and 3 respectively, Literacy and Numeracy) will also be conducted in Weeks 3 to 6 from 17 February to 7 March 2014. Data collected in assessments will be linked to previous assessments.

### Student Attendance

I have some concerns regarding the regular attendance rate of students at Orange Grove Primary School. The regular attendance of students in 2013 semester 1 was 74.1% which was an improvement on 2012 data, however in semester 2 the regular attendance dropped to 63.9% which is very concerning. The target for us should be that every child attends school on time everyday unless there are strong mitigating circumstances such as illness. If a student attends 90% of the time, it is generally regarded as attending regularly, but they will still miss schooling for:

- 1 day a fortnight
- 1 week a term
- 4 weeks a year
- 1 year by the end of year 9
- 1 semester between year 8 and year 12.

This has ramifications for student achievement and achievement in the National Assessment for Literacy and Numeracy Program.

### Lates

Since the start of the school year on 3 February, we have had students arriving late to school 41 times, some are late regularly. Literacy and Numeracy lessons are held in the mornings and students coming in late affects their achievement in these learning areas apart from the fact that they disrupt and distract the rest of the class.

*Please make an effort to arrive at school between 8.30 and 8.45am before the start of lessons. Classrooms are open from 8.30am.*

### P&C

The Annual General Meeting for the Orange Grove Primary School P&C Association is being held on Tuesday 25 February 2014 at 6.30pm in the school board room Administration office. All office bearer positions will be declared vacant. I’d like to encourage parents who can spare some time to assist the school to consider nominating for a position which can be very rewarding and keeps you up to date with school functions (see attached note from the current P&C President, Helen Sherlock).
Welcome back to another year of saving!

School banking is held every Wednesday morning in the art room between 8.30am—9.00am. We have lots of new and exciting prizes to be claimed this year!! Don’t have a Commonwealth Youth Savers Account? Don’t worry, just come and see us.

I look forward to meeting lots of new bankers

Bronwyn Bresland—School Banking Co-ordinator

Voluntary Contributions and Charges
A reminder that voluntary contributions of $45 per student are due and a discount is available bringing the fees down to $40 per student if paid by the end of March. Please consider paying the voluntary contributions to the school as it assists towards the cost of resources for students attending the school. We are only a small school and every contribution helps. Last year only 59% of contributions were paid to the school. Part payments are available please see the office to setup a payment plan.

Sadly there were a number who did not pay for various excursions and incursions in 2013 but attended the activity, and as a result it was left to the school to pay the balance of all outstanding money owed. This has created pressure on the schools finances and this is no longer sustainable. As of 2014 no child will be able to attend any excursion or incursion unless they have paid for the activity by the due date.

City of Gosnells—Homegrown Festival
We invite you back to the City’s annual Homegrown festival celebrating arts, culture, music and the vibrancy of our community.

With a range of free events and activities including concerts, exhibitions, outdoor cinema, workshops and heaps more there’s plenty for the whole family to enjoy.

Opening event—Illuminate Street Party featuring Sneaky Sound System Live.

When: - Saturday 22 February
Time: - 3pm—9pm
Where: - Centennial Pioneer Park, Gosnells

For more information or for a festival brochure call—9397 3111 or visit www.gosnells.wa.gov.au

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WATER SLIDE DAY TERM 4 2013