Dear CSOTA Community

What a flying start to the last term of the year! I have been sitting in Ms Bevan’s principal’s chair while she has been enjoying her honeymoon. All reports are that she and Neil had a wonderful wedding and we’ve even added some pictures from the special day for you in this edition.

NAPLAN results were sent to all families at the beginning of term. The reporting structure has changed slightly from previous reports, so if you have any questions regarding the NAPLAN results please contact me. NAPLAN provides us with a snapshot of student skills and understanding in literacy and numeracy. We use the data to assist us in planning for whole school improvement in learning areas; however, we use a range of assessments to paint the best picture of how students are performing. We understand that students may have struggled to perform under a formal test situation, but we believe it is a good experience for students who will be exposed to formal testing more and more in their future schooling.

This week we have had the privilege of hosting the Deep Blue Orchestra on Centra, which was an amazing experience. The soul soothing sounds of the violin, viola, cello and the double bass were beamed via satellite to our families, much to their delight. The Deep Blue Crew were amazed at how our students learn and how keen they were to ask questions. Hopefully it might encourage our budding musicians to play an instrument for enjoyment or even a career……there’s nothing quite like playing an instrument!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Year 4/6 Assembly - 8am Friday 14th November
- Year 7 Assembly - 8am Friday 5th December
- Presentation Concert/Muster students leave for Perth - Mon 8th December
- Transition Seminar for K-3 parents and students - Tues 9th and Wed 10th December
- SOTA Muster students return - Tues 16th December
- Last Day of Term 4 - Thurs 18th December
- First Day of Term 1 2009 (students) - Monday 2nd February
Thanks to Mr. McCloy, our resident MC, for hosting the Deep Blue Centra session. The teachers were treated to a performance at the Civic Centre that night which, again, was amazing.

Welcome to our new School Councillors, parent representative Gail Hopkinson and Home Tutor representative Jacintha Page, who joined Rachel Maslen, Rachael Percy, John McClay and myself for a council meeting yesterday. Their contributions were invaluable. Thank you to all councillors for giving up their time for meetings.

A reminder to all students about completing the Gascoyne Circuit Challenge before the end of the year, otherwise there will be no prize.

Well, as I mentioned earlier, the weeks are flying past and we are now in the final phases of teacher visits, preparing for reports and planning for Graduation, Transition Seminar and Perth SOTA Muster. Please ensure that you have signed and sent all permission forms as soon as possible so we can organise key aspects such as catering, accommodation, flights and student numbers. I can’t wait to see you all again and look forward to another fantastic Graduation, Transition Seminar and SOTA Muster!

Signing off
Jim Peletier
Acting Principal

Our current skill for life is

Resilience