

# Kingsley Bulletin

Term One 2021



Help me to do it myself.



# Principal's Message

Dear Families,

It has been nearly a whole year since I joined this wonderful community. Apart from missing my family, I have been delighted with my decision to move from the East. However, not being able to visit Melbourne has been disheartening. All things being equal, my family will be able to visit for the first time this holiday break.

The start of the 2021 school year and lockdown reminded us that the 'safe' WA bubble was just as vulnerable to the pandemic as any part of the world. Fortunately, we are still able to once again enjoy the relative freedom West Australia experienced in 2020. I am sure we all are looking forward to a time where we may move with ease both interstate and overseas.

Despite the delayed start to the school year, I am delighted with the way students and staff have approached Term 1. Due to a high level of retention, a growing interest our school, and Montessori education the student population has grown slightly. As a result, many of the physical spaces have been redesigned, upgraded, and finally the new adolescent space was ready for its new tenants. I am thankful to all the staff who put so much energy to prepare the environment for the commencement of the year. The hard work has allowed the students to settle into their learning. It is always a delight to observe the students going about their work.

Our community is outstanding and continues to impress me. No greater examples were the recent Wanjoo family concert and the whole school excursion to the combined Montessori schools picnic at Kings Park. The coming together of many and support for such events contributes to maintaining and building a quality community. "There is respect for the environment and for the individuals within it, which comes through experience of freedom within the community." (Maria Montessori). There are many who constantly volunteer their time to the school. This includes, but is not limited to, the School Board and its various subcommittees, parent reps, Open House hosts, laundry helpers and many other unseen volunteers. If you have a skillset and interest in volunteering your time, please make a time to meet with me.

This year, we will start to reach out to the school's alumni to ensure an ongoing connection with families of the past. We will also be working towards a grand celebration for the 60th anniversary of our school in 2022.

I once again extend a warm welcome to all new families and staff to our school and I look forward to supporting the community through this year.

Enjoy the coming break with family and friends.

**Des Reuben**  
**Principal**





# The Montessori School Kingsley

Our story began in 1962 when Willemien Duyker-de Vries founded our school, first in Scarborough, before relocating to Kingsley a few years later.

We are Australia's longest running Montessori school and the first in the world to offer the International Baccalaureate (IB). We have a rich tradition grounded in the philosophy of Montessori education and the science of how children learn.

Today, we remain true to the Montessori philosophy, focusing on the holistic development – physical, intellectual, social – of every child – in a safe, inclusive environment.

We carefully prepare our learning environment to promote curiosity, resilience, independence and connectedness to self, to others, and to the natural environment.

Our mixed-age classrooms mirror real life, creating a supportive culture that fosters empathy, mutual respect and leadership.

We cater to children aged 3 to 18 in mixed-age classrooms. From pre-primary education to the International Baccalaureate programme (a globally recognised tertiary entrance qualification), our individually tailored learning pathways equip your child to thrive as a confident, resilient young adult in a world full of possibilities.

Our structure is as follows:

- 3 x Pre-Primary Classes (ages 3 to 6 years);
- 3 x Lower Primary Classes (ages 6 to 9 years);
- 2 x Upper Primary Advisories (ages 9 to 12 years);
- 1 x Lower Secondary Cohort - Divided into two academic classes with two advisors (ages 12 to 15 years);
- 1 x International Baccalaureate Cohort (Year 11 Year and 12).

It is an education designed with and for your child, providing the structure, freedom and guidance they need to learn at their pace, in a way that fosters respect – for self, for others, and for learning.

## Dr Maria Montessori

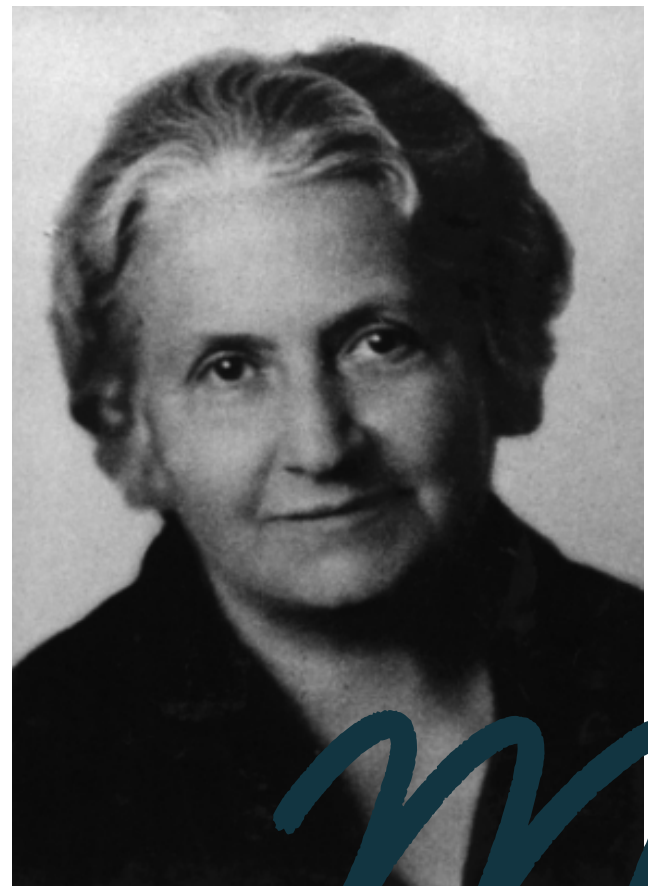
Born in Italy in 1870, Maria Montessori was one of the first women to attend medical school in Italy, and she qualified as a doctor from the University of Rome at the age of 26.

Soon after, Dr Montessori began practising medicine and, through her work with children, she developed an avid interest in education.

She opened her first education institution for children, Casa dei Bambini, in 1907 and published two seminal books – *The Montessori Method* (1909) and *The Advanced Montessori Method* (1917) – before establishing The Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) in 1929. Her aim: "Spreading of knowledge of how the children, immature and struggling to develop their own powers, may be assisted in the self-realisation of reaching their full perfection of growth." And today, there are over 22,000 Montessori schools in the world that are determined to pursue her work.

For her committed efforts on behalf of children, especially in the face of the fascism of World War II, Dr Montessori was nominated three times for a Nobel Peace Prize (1949, 1950 and 1951).

At The Montessori School Kingsley, we have a special connection to Dr Montessori as she trained the founder of our school, Mrs W. M. Duyker-de-Vries.





# Who's who?

Teaching Staff			
<b>Pre-Primary Classes</b>	<b>Pre-Primary 1</b> Maria Vaioleti-Ponga Shanie Do - Assistant	<b>Pre-Primary 2</b> Ria McBennett Debra Beach- Assistant Eavan Coughlan - Assistant	<b>Pre-Primary 3</b> Ciara Foley Audre Mare - Assistant
<b>Lower Primary Classes</b>	<b>Lower Primary 1</b> Salwa Guirgis Kate Tottle Eavan Coughlan - Assistant Julie Fitzpatrick - Assistant Zoe Judge - Assistant	<b>Lower Primary 2</b> Ian Chapman Eavan Coughlan - Assistant Julie Fitzpatrick - Assistant Zoe Judge - Assistant	<b>Lower Primary 3</b> Sunny Steffanoni Eavan Coughlan - Assistant Julie Fitzpatrick - Assistant Zoe Judge - Assistant
<b>Upper Primary Advisories</b>	<b>Upper Primary Advisory 1</b> Sue Hoolohan Chantal Mare - Assistant Vicky Brown - Assistant	<b>Upper Primary Advisory 2</b> Michelle Hayes Chantal Mare - Assistant Vicky Brown - Assistant	
<b>Lower Secondary Cohort</b>	Lena Streiff Kosok - Advisor / Humanities / Language Emma Seeber - Advisor / Lower Secondary 1 Maths / Lower Secondary 1 Occupations Katharina Stillitano - German Fern York - Arts Kristijan Pekic - Lower Secondary 2 Maths Diana Schuler - Lower Secondary 2 Science		
<b>International Baccalaureate Cohort</b>	Katharina Stillitano - International Baccalaureate Diploma Coordinator / German / English Literature /Extended Essay (EE) Coordinator Emma Seeber - CAS Coordinator Fern York - Visual Arts Jaromir Kulir - Geography / Theory of Knowledge (ToK) Kristijan Pekic - Maths (Applications & Interpretations) Diana Schuler - Biology / Chemistry		
<b>Specific Area of Teaching</b>	Adin Livnjak - Physical Expression (Pre-Primary, Lower Primary and Upper Primary) Anja Reid - German (Lower Primary and Upper Primary) Debbie Engelbrecht - Creative Expression (Pre-Primary and Lower Primary)		

## School Office

Des Reuben \_\_\_\_\_ Principal  
 Queenie Massie \_\_\_\_\_ Business Manager  
 Rachelle Edwards \_\_\_\_\_ Bookkeeper  
 Alison Grondein \_\_\_\_\_ Registrar  
 Brittany Watson \_\_\_\_\_ Administration  
 Nicola Pattison \_\_\_\_\_ Administration  
 Julie Gravel \_\_\_\_\_ Marketing Administrator  
 Graham McMillan \_\_\_\_\_ Grounds Person



# What's on?

## Discussion Nights

Our discussion nights are short talks given on some aspect of Montessori education or philosophy, followed by a discussion amongst staff and parents.

We encourage parents to attend these meetings to hear the talk, ask questions and to meet with other parents and teachers.

- Term 1: Monday, 29 March - Cosmic Education with Lower Primary Staff
- Term 2: Monday, 31 May
- Term 3: Monday, 30 August
- Term 4: Date TBC

## Open House

Once per term, we open our doors to the public so that prospective families can observe for themselves how a Montessori education works.

We sometimes call for volunteers on these days, so feel free to attend if you'd keen to share your experience with prospective families.

- Term 1: Monday, 22 February
- Term 2: Monday, 10 May
- Term 3: Monday, 9 August
- Term 4: Monday, 1 November

## Montessori Information Mornings

- Primary: 12 June, 9am to 1pm
- Secondary / International Baccalaureate: Saturday, 19 June 9am to 10.30am

## Classroom Observations

We welcome parents and visitors (one adult per class) to observe in any of our classrooms and we encourage you to observe in your child's class at least once per year.

To have a good view of the natural activities and atmosphere within the classroom, as well as to minimise disruptions to the children as much as possible, we request that observers remain seated and refrain from engaging with the teachers and the children.

Observation times may include lunch, so let us know at the time of booking if you would like to schedule lunch with your child.

Classroom observation bookings are available in **one-hour sessions**, in pre-primary, lower primary, upper primary and lower secondary classes

- Morning only: 9am - 10am
- Morning observation followed by play and lunch: 10:30 - 1:00pm
- Afternoon only: 1:30 - 2:30pm
- Lunch and afternoon observation: 12pm to 2pm

## Bookings Essential

To book any of the events above, please call our School Office on 9409 9151.

We recommend you check our website to confirm the dates ahead of your interested event.

## Parking

We would like to remind all families that parking on Montessori Place is reserved for parents / carers of young children (children under the age of three), as well as for our expectant mothers.

If your child/children is/are in lower primary or above (and you do not have children under the age of three), we recommend that you park in nearby streets, such as Wandearah Way, Talbot Drive or Goollelal Drive.

In addition, you need to be aware that parking outside parking bays in the cul-de-sac is strictly prohibited. Also, we have people who regularly park in the disabled bay and, as you are aware, this is also prohibited unless you have an ACROD permit.

The City of Joondalup regularly patrols our cul-de-sac and issues infringements.

For parents of older children who wish to 'kiss-and-go', you can use the cul-the-sac to drop off your children, as long as you do not park or double park. Alternatively, you could drop off your children on nearby streets.

In the interest of sustainability, we encourage parents to carpool, children and parents ride to school, or, for those who live nearby, walk to school.

As some of you have relatives or friends picking up your children, we ask that you share these rules with them.





# Welcome to the Pre-Primary 1 Class

It has been a delayed start to the year with an extra week of school holidays, but it has been so lovely to see the children back at school. They have been working together and selecting jobs of interest from the shelves, as well as choosing our new outside chalkboard job, which was carefully made by our Grounds Person Graham for our children. This year, we have had seven new children joining our class and we welcome them and their families to The Montessori School Kingsley.

We are started to explore living and non-living things. We have begun the term using the language of how we know things are living, such as we know people, plants and animals breathe, move and grow, excrete and have babies.

After reading and discussing how we know whether something is living or non-living, we started to look at the characteristics of different living animals in the animal world, which led to a high volume of exploration in the playground for caterpillars and birds and the many insects in our nature walk around the firebreak. This exercise allows the child to draw their attention to their surroundings and develop an interest and awareness.

Many children were able to identify animals that are mammals, with some of the children naming the various mammals they have seen or have as household pets, while others spoke about their favourite reptile. Some children then decided to create little booklets identifying the different parts of different animals. This has been a favourite activity amongst children and is a great way of building vocabulary and creating attention to detail. Alongside this activity, some of the older children have been cutting and gluing their own animal word lists independently.



We are also exploring invertebrates and vertebrates and the children were interested to look and gently touch the various backbones of the vertebrates from our small collection, which then led to naming and sorting a few of the invertebrates and vertebrate animal cards.

We have had a few class picnics on the School grassed area under the large trees at lunchtime, which has become a class favourite.

We were fortunate to have had a donation of lemons given to us by the children and this spurred on a whole class lesson of making lemon juice, with everyone joining in to wash, cut, juice and drink the tasty lemon drink during lunch time. After juicing a few of the lemons, the children showed their care of our environment by washing and drying the utensils, cleaning the wooden boards, and setting the kitchen ready for those who wanted to have snack. This activity was a beautiful display of care for the environment and care for others at work in our classroom.

**Maria Vaioleti-Ponga**  
**Pre-Primary 1 Teacher**





# Welcome to the Pre-Primary 2 Class

We have had a wonderful start back to the new year, and we were delighted to welcome five new children into our class this term. We also extend this welcome to their families, many of whom are new to the Montessori community. All the children have all settled back with ease, and it has been lovely listening to their stories of their holiday adventures. We began our year with retelling holiday stories and from this exercise, the children drew pictures or wrote about their about their favourite events or outings. We heard many happy stories of spending time with their families, camping, swimming, visiting the zoo, or simply going by going out for walks.

This semester (Term 1 and 2), we are focusing on all things living and, to start this topic, we identified what living and non-living means and how we could classify the two. We discussed this in depth and questioned the children on their understandings, taking their ideas and confirmed that all living things breath, move, grow, feed and reproduce. There was a lengthy discussion about plants and the children came to the conclusion that they must be living as plants also drink water, grow, feed, breathe and reproduce. Some of the children took this activity further by writing lists of things that are living and non-living things, while some of our younger children classified pictures of living and non-living items. We are now investigating the parts of and use of seeds, roots, flowers, stems and leaves. The children started this study by listening to information about seeds and learning about the parts of the seed. We then grew little bean plants in cups, so the children could see the seed opening and identify the parts. There was much excitement when the first seed started to grow.

Although we will not move onto animal kingdoms until next term, we have taken advantage of our living theme to introduce some spiny leaf insects into our room. The children have been delighted to learn about, discuss, observe and hold our little visitors.

Amongst all the other exciting things planned this term, we decided to extend the “all about me” wall that we started at the end of 2020. To find out more about the children in our room, we are going to be looking at each child individual heritage and culture and, if possible, we would love to find out some more information on your family including nationality or extended family’s nationality (grandparents / great grandparents), special cultural or family celebrations, languages spoken in the home, etc. Anything relevant to your family would be fantastic. Furthermore, if your child would like to bring in something for our culture table to share with the class, that would be most welcome. We would like these lessons and our display to represent your family, and for the children to enjoy sharing their own personal knowledge and experiences. I am happy for you to email me or send in any information with your child if you are happy to do so.

With the return of cooler temperatures, we would like to remind parents that slippers are advised for indoor wear at school. While there are many styles available, the children require slippers that covers their whole foot and a pair that does not promote shuffling as this is difficult to sustain throughout the day. Please come in and have a chat with us if you are unsure or would like advice on suitable footwear for the room.

Thank you and we look forward to the semester ahead.

**Ria Mc Bennett**  
**Pre-Primary 2 Teacher**







## Welcome to the Pre-Primary 3 Class

We have had a wonderful start to a new school year in our class. The children and teachers are enjoying our new beautiful new Montessori environment. We are delighted to have some new children join our class this term. Welcome Lily, Yar, Isabelle, Liyana and Aria. It was heart-warming to see our older children helping them with the routines and jobs in our class, ensuring they settled in with ease. We love to see these benefits of the mixed aged Montessori classrooms. As Maria Montessori said, "There are many things which no teacher can convey to a child of three, but a child of five can do it with ease".

This term our focus area has been the study of botany. We have learned about the life cycle of plants, the needs of plants and the different parts of leaves, flowers, roots and seeds, giving the children the scientific vocabulary associated with these. A favourite activity was placing some seeds in a clear cup with cotton wool. Every morning, the children rush to see their seeds and they carefully examine its progress. We watched as the radicles emerged, the roots grew, and the seed coats came off. We dissected a flower and looked at the different parts under a microscope, identifying the stamen, corolla, pistil, and calyx. We collected a variety of flowers around our school to carefully place in our flower press. We look forward to taking these out at the end of the term.

We are happy to welcome our new Physical Expression Teacher, Adin, and our Creative Expression Teacher, Debbie, to our school. The children are enjoying these new lessons immensely and look forward to Thursdays each week. The Noongar song "Wanjoo", which means welcome, is a one of the children's favourite song and we can often hear the children singing it throughout the week.

A new activity we introduced this term, which has been a huge success, is the upper primary children coming to our classroom to read to small groups of children in our class. It is beautiful to see the children sharing their love of stories and this is a great way to build relationships across the different areas of our school.

We want to remind parents that children can borrow books from our class, once they bring a book bag to school to safely carry the books. We also encourage children to bring their favourite stories from home to share with their friends at story time.

**Ciara Foley**  
Pre-Primary 3 Teacher







# Welcome to the Lower Primary 1 Class

Starting this year, Kate and I will be the two teachers of the Lower Primary 1 Class. Kate is a graduate of our school and is a wonderful Montessori teacher. I will work Monday to Wednesday and Kate will work on Thursdays and Fridays.

We welcome the new children and the families to our lower primary part of the school. Most of the children are settling in happily, observing our routine and exploring their new environment. This year, it is quite a different space at the lower primary level as we now share it between three classes. All the material is shared and we are still exploring where everything is, and sometimes the children kindly remind us!

This year and for the first time, we have a Physical Expression Teacher, Adin. He is a very experienced teacher, with a great deal of Montessori experience and we are delighted to have him join our school, and the children are thoroughly enjoying their sport time on Tuesdays. On these days, we require that the children wear appropriate clothing, namely shirts that covers their shoulders, appropriate sports shoes, hats, and they must not forget to bring their water bottle to school.

Another new addition to our school this term is Debbie, who takes the children for Creative Expression on Thursdays. The focus of this term is on music and the children are learning the names of notes, what they look like, and how to keep time to the beat by clapping and using their bodies.

We have also been busy with on-entry assessment, which is a Government requirement, but this is done in a very calm and relaxed manner.

**Salwa Guirgis**  
**Lower Primary 1 Teacher**

We started the term with a telling of the first Great Story: The Coming of the Universe. We looked at scientific theory of how the universe and Earth were created, and conducted a series of experiments to demonstrate what one might have seen or experienced at that time. This story has led us into exploring more about light, sound, states of matter and the planets and Earth. Some children are researching the solar system, others are learning about night and day, and others are investigating the types of rocks on Earth and how they are formed.

All the children have been excited to watch videos of the recent Perseverance Rover landing on the surface of Mars. We have been talking about how Earth and Mars are similar and different, and why scientists are so curious to find out more about Mars. Other work happening in class is about the parts of the globe – the poles, hemispheres and the equator and tropics. As we work across science and geography, the students are covering various aspects of each curriculum, but also seeing how it is part of the same thing, working together to form our understanding of the place and structure of Earth.

After telling the Great Story, we had a discussion about how many people have diverse beliefs about the creation of the world, and we read together the Noongar Dreaming story 'The Caretakers of Everything' as told by Elder Noel Nannup. The children were fascinated to hear such a different perspective, and wondered about how we can know what is true and what is not. Some shared that they have different beliefs, and we discussed the importance of being respectful and listening to one another, even if we do not agree. I have encouraged the students to find out more about what their own family may believe, so I hope this leads to some rich conversations for you all.

**Kate Tottle**  
**Lower Primary 1 Teacher**





## Welcome to the Lower Primary 2 Class

This term began a little later than planned but we have hit the ground running.

We have welcomed new children and their families into the new lower primary space and it has been a term of discovery.

The new space we have created for the three classes has proven to work well. It is of course not without some hiccups, so we are making minor changes but, overall, we love our new space. It has been so exciting to watch the children from all groups explore and discover, not only the space, but new jobs that we made for them over the holiday period to enhance our space.

New jobs have included maths cards that relate to our materials beautifully and the children have been busy working with them already. We also now have three specialist teachers to aid the children Anja (German), who has worked with our students for many years, and we welcome Adin (Physical Expression) and Debbie (Creative Expression) to our school. The children have already been working well with these new teachers and enjoying learning the new subjects.

We started the term with a bang, literally as we told the first Great Story. As always, the children then became inspired to explore more timelines and history from just that one story. I am sure they will keep the momentum going as there are four stories more to go, which we will explore throughout the year.

As a class, we have had a focus on maths and geometry this term, and learned new shapes and angles, as well as new concepts within the maths curriculum.

This term has also seen the construction of a model Titanic, which has proved to an exciting build for everyone involved. It has been a challenging process so far, but the children remained focussed on the planning and then construction.

We held an information night at the beginning of the term, and it was great to see so many adults attending – we hope those who attended took something away from the night. We have had a few exciting ventures this term, including a trip to Kings Park as part of the annual Montessori Schools Picnic, as well as an excursion to the WA Museum.

The chess club has also been busy again this term and it is great to see so many children playing, many of them telling me they go home and teach their parents and friends how to play chess.

**Ian Chapman**  
**Lower Primary 2 Teacher**







# Welcome to the Lower Primary 3 Class

We started our year literally with a Big Bang! As part of the Montessori Cosmic Education Curriculum, We present Great Stories to the children, with the first one of these being The Coming of the Universe. The children loved hearing about the movement of particles, their slowing and cooling over time to create the universe as we know it. We cover many scientific concepts such as the formation of solids, liquids and gas. We have a number of these science experiments within the classroom for the children to explore in their own time. The other great stories are The Coming of Life, The Story of Numbers, The Story of Writing and the coming of Human Beings. These stories will be presented over the coming year.

On the first day of school, the children chose a flower from a bunch of flowers. I explained to them that they are each like the flower they chose, unique and one of a kind, but just like the individual flower we are part of a whole, family and our class, extending this they are part of a larger community – the School. To demonstrate this idea, we took a tour of the whole school, looking at each working space, all administration offices, Graham’s workroom (Grounds Person), and of course all the other classrooms, including the International Baccalaureate Class. This exercise gave them a visual picture of the school as a whole, as well as the people within it, and the parts that they play in keeping our school running. When the weather cools down, we will be going on a walk along the local path looking at the broader community, of which the members are also a part.

The focus for the school this term is ‘Care’. We spoke as a class about what this means and what it looks like. You’d be pleased to know that your children all have caring, loving hearts and really do not need

much encouragement in this area, just a checking in every now and then, or a recognition of care being shown. Care relates not only to each other but also our environment. In line with this thinking, some the older children thought about and created a table of chores to ensure our environment was well cared for. The children are grouped and are allocated a specific set of chores each day (these are rotated weekly). Some of the chores are: sharpening pencils, tidying and dusting shelves, emptying bins and maintaining a neat bookshelf.

Also, as part of the looking the broader community, we learned about the festive occasions around the world and within Australia. The recent Chinese New Year gave us a chance to explore this interesting celebration, what it is, and the importance of it to 20% of the world’s population. The children also had the opportunity to create Chinese characters using ink and brushes. A few of the children are even creating a short play about the Chinese New Year - dragons, and all!

We are busy preparing our garden beds for the cooler weather. The children have been pulling out weeds and unwanted mint in these beds and the surrounding garden. We have ordered some manure and hay, which will help enrich the soil. We have also revitalised the worm farm and, in conjunction with the younger students in the pre-primary classes, we will be caring for this worm environment throughout the year to ensure a cycle of waste and renewal is achieved.

It is an honour and a privilege to work with such an amazing group of children and colleagues, and I am really looking forward to a wonderful year.

**Sunny Steffanoni**  
**Lower Primary 3 Teacher**







# Welcome to the Upper Primary Class

Although we had a slightly delayed start to the year, the Upper Primary Class has been very busy and productive from Week 2. We had quite a large group of new children, most from our lower primary classes, and a few from outside the School. With help from our Montessori children who were already confident in the environment, we guided the new children in their new classroom.

We were delighted to have the extra space in the building and were able to move furniture to open up the whole upper primary space. The children contributed to the new lay out by submitting their own designs of how they would like the space to operate. We were able to obtain some new materials to add to the prepared environment, including new maths cards and a language cabinet. These new tools have enabled the children to work independently after their lessons.

We also have a new donated fish tank and a baby fish, which has added some interest to the classroom. The children's daily chores were expanded to include sweeping of all the classrooms on a Friday afternoon, taking over from the lower secondary students who are on the farm that day. The children are also interacting with pre-primary students by reading to them on a Monday afternoon. Both the upper primary and pre-primary students are enjoying this exercise.

We had a really well-attended Information Night, when we introduced our new staff members (Chantal as our full-time assistant and Adin as our new Physical Expression Teacher). We also showed parents our very popular bush classroom. Our lessons so far this term have included chemistry, technology and cosmic education (The Great Stories and Timelines). Most children have started their first Great Work for this term, and we look forward to seeing their presentations!

**Sue Hoolohan & Michelle Hayes**  
Upper Primary Teachers







# What's new in the primary classes?

## Creative Expression

I was, as an avid supporter of the performing arts, honoured when offered the position to teach Expressive Arts at The Montessori School Kingsley. I want to thus extend my gratitude to everyone who welcomed me and made my introduction to the school so pleasant.

In the first term, the focus has been on learning more about music. The students in the pre-primary classes as well as in the lower primary classes have been introduced to the elements of music (pitch, beat, rhythm, form, dynamic, tempo, melodic shape), which is the foundation of their music knowledge. In addition, both levels have been introduced to a range of songs, with many of these songs being quite new to some students. Their ability to perform these songs is ongoing as the students become more comfortable with expressing themselves using their voices. New songs taught include the Australian National Anthem (new version) and the Noongar Welcome Song (Wanjoo) by Gina Williams. Wanjoo requires the students to sing in a language unfamiliar to them and requires intense concentration to master.

Other songs learned that are appropriate to each age level include Penguin Song, Hello Hello, See you later Alligator, Bingo, and Baby Shark (for the pre-primary classes).

The lower primary students have focused on learning Nobody Nose, and A Boom a Chika Boom. Both songs are informal and fun and allow the students to use voice and actions to express themselves in a non-confronting and non-judgemental environment.

As a trained dancer and dance teacher, I am particularly looking forward to Term 2, as we will focus on dance and movement. In this art form, the body is the primary tool used for movement. Using Hip Hop as a form of dance, the students will be exploring the elements of dance (space, time, dynamics and relationships) and how it can be used as an expressive form.

**Debbie Engelbrecht**  
Creative Expression Teacher



## Physical Expression

For those who have not met me yet, my name is Adin and I am a new member of The Montessori School Kingsley teaching staff. My role is to deliver physical expression (sport) lessons with all the primary school classes (pre-primary, lower primary and upper primary). I have been teaching physical education / sports, as well as martial arts, for the past 15 years, and I also teach at another Montessori School in Perth. I have been also involved in Tae Kwon Do for the last 26 years and I own a club in Bull Creek, where I do my martial arts teaching.

So far this term, our pre-primary and lower primary classes have been working on their fundamental movement skills. The pre-primary classes have been focusing on games and skills associated with running as well as bouncing and controlling the ball. The lower primary classes have been focusing on overarm and underarm throwing games and skills. While our upper primary classes have been taking part in basketball lessons, focusing on dribbling, passing and small team games.

I would like to thank all the staff, students and parents for making me feel very welcome and I look forward to working together with you all.

**Adin Livnjak**  
Physical Expression Teacher







# Welcome to the Lower Secondary Class

Despite being well into the first term of the new year, students and advisors are still finding their feet in the new space. We are establishing new routines and optimising the learning environment, evaluating what works well and what impedes on concentration. The spacious layout, the new furniture, and most importantly the new air conditioning has been welcomed by all. With Emma's return, after full recovery, advisory meetings can resume to establish good learning strategies. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Fiona for taking care of Emma's classes in her absence. It was helpful that most students knew her well to ease possible difficulties with the transition into the Lower Secondary (LS) Class.

In Humanities, LS1 (Years 7 and 8) has been looking at working conditions and what elements influence work satisfaction. They interviewed their parents about their jobs, and compared Australian work conditions with those of workers in developing countries. The students have now designed a board game that aims to improve work conditions. LS2 (Years 9 and 10) has studied a fundamental force in human endeavours: fire. We looked at fire risks as well as all human development spurred on by fire, such as warmth, cooking, inventions, communication and spiritual significance. They too have embarked on individual projects.

After many weeks away from school recovering, Emma is glad to be returning to her full days and classes. She looks forward to getting to know all her advisory students now that we are back to running advisory groups.

The hope for all curriculum areas in a Montessori space is to have the child working independently of the adult, being spurred on by their own interests and ideas. However, before we reach this place of freedom of learning we first have to ensure that we have a good understanding of our basic concepts. The students in LS1 have spent much of this term ensuring they understand how to work scientifically. Once we know they have grasped their science inquiry skills we move on with the work of engaging them in deeper understanding of topics. We are now investigating the categories of rocks, this ties into the work done in humanities regarding raw earth mining. In the coming weeks, we will dig further into rocks and minerals, discussing their place on the timeline of Earth and their place in our society today. As many of you so graciously contributed old tech items, we have lots to take apart and explore. The students will be recognising the parts of these devices and where in the Earth they come from. We look forward to sharing the progression of this work in their final projects at the end of term.







## Micro-Economy

The Micro-Economy Program has been a buzz over the last few weeks as we look into investments planned from last year, and then begin to make plans for new products this year.

As many are aware, the Honkey Nuts Cafe have now invested in a double group head espresso machine. A machine of this size and capability was always the dream and we are very proud of the students for the continued efforts in getting to this point. The machine had its first run with some teething issues, but after some discussion and a Bunnings run, they should now be all sorted. The barista training course will be going ahead for those that participated in the cafe in 2020, with a four-hour certified course to be attended. Those that have just come to LS in 2021 will be receiving onsite training of 2-3 hours to start their barista journey.

Thank you to all who contributed our survey pertaining to our range of products. The students have decided to move ahead with a few products, handmade soap and scented candles being two of the biggest requests. There will also be a return of some of the Honkey Nuts favourite reusable products. Over the past few years of the Micro-economy program, there has been much continued discussion regarding the offering of school lunches. It has by far been the most popular service in every survey! It is once again in discussion... So stay tuned for the chance to not pack a lunch in the future (maybe distant).

We are grateful for your continuous support.

**Lena Streiff Kosok & Emma Seeber**  
**Lower Secondary Generalists**





# Welcome to the International Baccalaureate Program

Although most of us thought that the COVID affected modes of learning and lessons were well behind us, we started our International Baccalaureate (IB) studies during the lockdown week of February 2021. Our IB staff and students transitioned very smoothly from planned face-to face classes to online lessons and ensured that all IB students made contact with their subject teachers to begin the year without being disadvantaged.

The results of November 2020 IB examinations were mostly fair, but also surprising for some of our students. The Year 12 students worked very hard during their second year of their IB studies and had to complete numerous internal assessments as well as their examinations at the end of the year. Due to the global pandemic, many schools were struggling with very challenging learning conditions, and the International Baccalaureate Organization had to adjust their examinations and assessment weightings, allowing each school to choose whether external examinations could be safely administered. They were also looking to find a fair way to make grades between students comparable whether they had sat examinations or handed in Internal assessments.

Our students sat their examinations under the usual conditions as it was deemed safe for everyone involved at the time. Perhaps because of what must have been a logistical nightmare, some of our students' results were surprising. However, all our students are moving on, some are looking at gaining a degree in business and commerce while some are working or taking a gap-year.

At the end of last year, we had to say good-bye to our maths teacher, Kamel, who, we believe is enjoying his well-deserved retirement. As a result, we have welcomed Kristijan Pekic, who has joined us from the International School in Beijing to teach IB Mathematics (Application & Interpretation) at Standard Level and Higher Level.

Emma Seeber has taken over the coordination and organisation of CAS (Creativity, Activity and Service). While Emma had to reduce her timetable in the beginning of term 1, Fiona Corner provided relief for the first five weeks and was busy planning Harmony Day and Harmony Week 2021 with the Year 11 IB students.

While the Year 11 students were busy preparing Harmony Day, the continuing Year 12 students have worked hard over the holiday period, composing their Extended Essays and Written Assignments. One of them is diving into exploring gender stereotypes and gender fluidity in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, while another one is examining to what extent video games are a form of art. These essays are understood to be an opportunity to delve into a topic that is meaningful and intriguing enough for them to spend a year engaging with the topic, researching, describing the concepts involved in the topic, analysing and evaluating their discovery, as well as editing their essay. It is indeed a mini academic thesis, which requires focus, perseverance, initiative, organisational and communication skills. Best of luck to the Year 12 students with their Extended Essay.

**Katharina Stillitano**  
**International Baccalaureate Coordinator**





## Did you know?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) started back in 1968 and, today, there are more than 5,000 IB schools around the world. In addition, an IB education is research-based, widely-recognised, internationally-focused and its governing body is independent from political or independent interests.

The IB is designed for students aged 16 to 19, is a balanced and academically challenging programme of education with rigorous assessment. It prepares students for success in higher education and encourages them to become active participants in an increasingly global society. The programme has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities.

### Why the IB?

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who help create a better and more peaceful world.

An IB education is the perfect combination to a Montessori education because an IB education has many parallels to the Montessori method:

- It focuses on the learner;
- It develops approaches to teaching and learning;
- It works within the global context;
- It explores significant contexts.

### Ten attributes that IB learners:

1. Inquirers
2. Knowledgeable
3. Thinkers
4. Communicators
5. Principled
6. Open-Minded
7. Caring
8. Risk-Takers
9. Balanced
10. Reflective

### Curriculum

The curriculum is made up of three core elements as well as six subject groups.

#### Core Elements

Theory of knowledge, in which students reflect on the nature of knowledge and on how we know what we claim to know.

The extended essay, which is an independent, self-directed piece of research, finishing with a 4,000-word paper.

Creativity, activity, and service (CAS), in which students complete a project related to those three concepts.

#### Subject Groups

- Studies in Language and Literature
- Language Acquisition (German)
- Individuals and Societies
- Sciences
- Mathematics
- Arts

If you have any questions about our International Baccalaureate Diploma, please book a meeting with our Principal Des Reuben.





## School News

### Email Out & SchoolStream In

As many of you would know, we introduced SchoolStream last year as a way for us to communicate with our parents. As subscription to the app grew, we received very positive feedback.

SchoolStream is a reliable means of communication, which assists us in our goals of improving efficiency, being more sustainable by reducing paper use, and making communication easier for our parents.

As such, from Term 2, 2021, we will be using SchoolStream as our primary communication tool with our parents. This means that we will endeavour to limit our correspondence to SchoolStream instead of sending emails via our administration software. However, please note that there may be instances when we do need to use email to communicate with you.

If you are yet to download the app, you can access it via the App Store or the Google Play Store on your phone. Stream website.



### Term 2 Dates

Please note that Term 2, 2021 will begin on Tuesday, 20 April, as the School has a pupil-free day on Monday, 19 April.

Here are other important dates for Term 2:

- Monday, 26 April: ANZAC Day
- Friday, 4 June: Pupil-Free Day
- Monday, 7 June: WA Day

### Waste Wise School

We are happy to report that our School has successfully gone through the accreditation process and is now a "Waste Wise School", which means that we have demonstrated our ongoing commitment to waste reduction and waste recovery.





# Thank you!

## School Board

The administration of our school is managed by Board members, all of whom are parents and or staff at the school. Our directors draw on their diverse skillsets and collective wealth of experience to ensure good governance and oversee the strategic direction of our school.

While a lot of the work the Board does is behind the scene, we know that being a Board Director takes a lot of their time, with meetings often going until 10.30pm!

So, we would like to thank them for donating their time to our school:

- Angela Chew - Chair
- Hannah Zhang - Treasurer
- Celine Royet - Secretary
- Des Reuben - Principal
- Alex Zavros
- Jarrod Burns
- Laila Miller
- Rob Carruthers
- Tash Tourabaly

## Chess Club Stars

Our school community would like to thank Ian Chapman, Zoe Judge, Ciara Foley, and Ria Bennett for donating their time to run our beloved Chess Club, as our numbers are quite high, especially for a school our size

The kids are not only having fun, they are improving their analytical thinking and visualisation skills. Also, they are teaching their friends and, in some cases, their parents!

Chess Club runs every Wednesday from 3pm to 4.30pm.

## Laundry Volunteers

Laundry: it's a chore most people don't like, although some people find folding laundry quite therapeutic.

We have a team of volunteers who gladly do the school laundry and we are very grateful!

Thank you:

- Melinda Shreeve
- Nova Arnachellum
- Doulene Steyn-Walker
- Carrie Walsh
- Anna McNulty
- Kate Tait

## Fundraising Milestones

As mentioned above, our school participates in a few fundraising events each year. You may be wondering where this money is going so we thought we would give you an update.

Over the last few years, we've raised money for a few different projects:

- Sports Shed: this space was badly needed to store our sports equipment.
- Soccer Goals: our lower secondary students put a business case together to request replacement soccer goals as the old ones were falling apart, and we approved their well-written business case.
- We recently purchased 40 heat-treated wooden pallets for students of all ages to build woodworking projects, such as benches, a role-play shop and tee-pees.

We are now fundraising for the enhancement of our play spaces. This evolving project includes the front section, where the pre-primary and lower primary students play, as well as the back area, near the lower secondary rooms and the oval. This ensures that all of our students will enjoy and benefit from the enhanced areas. There are some great additions coming in the near future. To determine what to add to the existing spaces, late last year the staff were asked to complete a play space survey, which featured questions about what they, and their students, would like to see added to the play spaces. A mini-survey for parent input is in the works too, and will be emailed out to everyone when it is ready. We are also applying for grants to fund bigger projects. Watch this space!







# Communication & Engagement

As part of our Engagement and Communication Sub Committee, our parent volunteers and class representatives put on amazing events each year. Our main goal is to have events that bring our community together.

## Class Representatives

Each of our classrooms have a Class Representative who is a liaison between the teachers and the parents. They also manage our school events and are aware of just about everything that goes on at our school.

This year, our class representatives are:

- PP1: Kate Tait
- PP2: Nikky De Oliveira
- PP3: Melinda & Phil Shreeve
- LP1: Jo McFarlane
- LP2: Clare & George Eksander
- LP3: Amanda Weall
- UP: Chloe Bond
- LS: Maryke Koster Hansen

## School Events

We endeavour to have at least one fundraising event per term, and this year, our events are sure to not disappoint!

- Wanjoo Family Concert - Gina Williams & Guy Ghouse: Friday, 19 March, on our school grounds.
- Disco: Friday, 21 May, at the Warwick Hall.
- Scitech Night: Friday, 13 August, at Scitech in West Perth.
- Montessori Makers Market and Fair: Sunday, 28 November, on our school grounds and sure to impress everyone!

And at the helm is Annette Advani, the fearless and highly organised coordinator who is our part of our Engagement and Communication Sub Committee, and is the glue that holds our parent volunteers and events together!. Thanks Annette!







# Parent News

At our school, we have an amazing parent / carer community who care and support each other. Here are some news from these legends!

## Book Club

Do you love books? Our parents have been running a book club for over two years and meet about once per term. If you're keen, join in for some fun and bookish discussions!

Our next catch-up is on Thursday, 22 April, 7pm - 9pm. Anyone interested should speak to either Melinda Shreeve or Nikky De Oliveira, at school, via text or Facebook messenger.

The book club is currently reading "Contacts" by Mark Watson and "Firefly Lane" by Kristin Hannah.



**"We shall walk together on this path of life, for all things are part of the universe and are connected with each other to form one whole unity."**

— Maria Montessori

## Lake Goollelal Walk

Every Friday during term, some of our parents take a walk around Lake Goollelal. The 4.5km walk in our beautiful surroundings is the perfect addition to your exercise routine.

Sometimes there's only a couple of people and other times, there's a dozen. So, if you're keen to join the group, make sure to wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and bring a bottle of water.

Human babies as well as fur babies are welcome!



## Exercise in the Park

Each Monday of the school term, Holly Carruthers helps members of our school community with a free fitness class. It starts at 8.50am and runs for 45-60minutes.

The session, which takes place at Barridale Park, includes a combination of stretching, body weight, cardio and strength work, and all fitness levels are welcome.

The park does have toilet and children (that are not in school yet) are welcome, under parent supervision.

Bring a mat, water bottle and, if you have them, some hand held weights of 3kg to 5kg.

Please note that Holly is not a personal trainer, she is just an enthusiastic member of our community.










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