Dear Friends

Here we are half way through 2010 and I am delighted to be able to share news from Perth College with you. As you will read in the next few pages, Perth College has really had an exciting start to the year and a selection of recent events have been highlighted in this issue of Community Link.

Earlier in the year our boarders participated in a walk to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. As our boarders represent rural Western Australia, this service is one that is close to their hearts and I am proud of them for giving so freely of their time to support this wonderful initiative. Further information about this walk has been included on page four.

The School recently ran ‘Positivity Week’ where a number of activities and events were planned to motivate our girls, particularly our senior students prior to their exams. Our Student Representative Council used this opportunity to raise funds for the Clown Doctors who visit sick children in hospitals.

There are always many wonderful activities happening within our School. Of course anyone who is interested in seeing Perth College in action is most welcome to attend one of our Community Tours, held throughout Terms 2 and 3. Please contact the Development Office to register your interest in attending one of our Tours.

As a School we are constantly looking at ways we can reduce our carbon footprint. I was delighted to introduce Gary Warden, the Executive Director of daysofchange.org, to our girls at assembly. Gary’s visit certainly inspired our girls to look at ways they could reduce their own carbon footprint and I’m sure you will be hearing more from Perth College on this project in the future as we are now an Ambassador School for the daysofchange.org program.

As you may be aware our Early Years Facility has commenced and is making good progress. I have been very impressed with Perkins Builders and how they are managing the project and minimising the impact on the community. I am very excited about the project and look forward to our girls enjoying the open play space created by the demolition of the white flats. We are hopeful that this new facility will be completed and available for use by April 2011.

On a final note I am greatly looking forward to our School Fete, to be held on Sunday 24 October. This is a great community day and I look forward to seeing many of our neighbours visiting the School and enjoying the many stalls and activities that will be on offer, including a few surprises!

Warm Regards
Jenny Ethell
Principal
Perth College Facilities Update

Development of St Crispin’s and St Rita’s

Construction and refurbishment of Perth College’s heritage facilities at St Crispin’s and St Rita’s in Queens Crescent commenced in February this year. These facilities are being significantly extended and rejuvenated to become the School’s Early Years Centre for students from Kindergarten to Year 2.

The demolition of the white flats at 30 Queens Crescent was also completed in February, with this land being utilised in the interim period for the provision of parking for building contractors’ vehicles. Once construction of the works are completed the space will be converted into a recreational play space for students, which will also be accessible to our local community. It is estimated that the site preparation works will be completed by the end of July. This work includes earthworks and the construction of form work, footings and retaining walls. It is estimated that external building works at St Crispin’s and St Rita’s will be completed by the end of October, with internal work of the buildings completed by February 2011.

We would like to sincerely thank all our neighbours and local community members for their understanding as the building works continue on our School site. Our School is keen to minimise the impact of this building work on others and have worked closely with the construction contractor, Perkins Builders to implement actions to manage dust, traffic and noise. All contractors have also been briefed about their responsibilities, with induction processes implemented by Perkins Builders in regards to the professionalism required on the project.

Information detailing the actions being taken by Perth College to minimise the impact on our local community has been distributed to our neighbours in surrounding streets and can also be accessed on our website www.pc.wa.edu.au, in the “Community” section. Further information updates will be provided in coming months.

Pine Trees

Perth College acknowledges the interest that some community members have in regards to the pine trees that are on our School site in Queens Crescent. The builders have been instructed not to impinge on the trees on the St Crispin’s development site and have put in place procedures to maintain the integrity of the trees. The School has also engaged an arborist to check the condition of all trees on the site and to provide advice on how they can best be maintained.

Red Flats Upgrade – 28 Queens Crescent

The red flats at 28 Queens Crescent have also had a significant makeover, with a total internal refurbishment and some external improvements being undertaken. All parking for the red flats will remain on site. All flats are being tenanted, as was the case in previous years.

Electrical Transformer

Construction of an electrical transformer has also been undertaken at the corner of the existing School car park on the corner of Beaufort Street and Queens Crescent. The construction of this transformer is being undertaken in conjunction with Western Power and will improve the continuity of electrical services to the local area, as well as provide power to Perth College’s facilities.

Who to Contact

If you have any queries or concerns regarding the renovation and construction work being conducted at St Crispin’s and St Rita’s, please contact Mr Dean Tierney from Perkins Builders during business hours on 0419 938 672.

For issues that can’t be addressed by Perkins Builders, please contact Mr Tony Gooey at Perth College during business hours on 08 9471 2100.
A Perth College Fete is truly an event to be celebrated right throughout our community and in 2010 all our old favourites will be returning, as well as many new attractions and stalls.

Already we have 100 confirmed stalls and activities running the length and breadth of the School, with our garden stall to be located on the west side of Beaufort Street, near our Pavilion, offering easy access and pick up for plant buyers at the end of the day.

So attendees can park with ease, we will offer a shuttle bus service from Edith Cowan University car park in Central Avenue, Mt Lawley, and buses will be running both ways all day. Of course our local residents will have the added bonus of being able to walk to our Fete.

Lynnley McDonald, Perth College’s Community Development Officer and Perth College parent Stuart Manifold are jointly co-ordinating this event with a dynamic group of parents and staff from the School.

“At our most recent meeting it was phenomenal to see the level of enthusiasm, it was like people had auditioned for a play and were just finding out what role they would play.” Stuart said.

“I continue to be amazed at Perth College’s core values; this event is more about friend-raising than fund-raising. This sets up a great foundation for our Fete.” he added.

The easiest way to stay in touch with what we are doing is by requesting our friendship through our Facebook site ‘Perth College Fete 2010’. All the latest news, including auction items, will be listed on this site.

Days of Change

Perth College has become an Ambassador School for the daysofchange.org program and this simple approach uses a social networking website to connect people to support environmental change. The program works by reaching people on a large scale, providing a forum in which they can make public commitments to reduce their carbon footprint and then supporting them in making the changes to fulfill their commitments.

As an Ambassador School, our girls will be encouraged to make a personal pledge to reduce their impact on the environment. Perth College will also be looking at how we can reduce the School’s carbon footprint and will publicly acknowledge our support for the program through the daysofchange.org website, in turn encouraging other schools to get involved.

Executive Director of daysofchange.org, Gary Warden, visited Perth College to talk to our girls at assembly, talking about the program and explaining how simple it is to get involved. We look forward to sharing further information on our involvement in the daysofchange.org program in future issues of Community Link.

If members of our local community would like to find out more about this great program, please visit the website daysofchange.org where a range of information is available.
Despite the lingering summer heat Perth College Boarding House girls walked from Perth City Centre to Mount Lawley on Sunday 14 March to raise money for The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS).

Over 100 girls and Boarding House staff joined the walk along Beaufort Street to support the RFDS. During the walk the girls spoke to the public about the work done by the RFDS. Year 12 Head Boarder Imogen McKay said of the event: “We chose the RFDS because they are an important resource in regional WA. Many of us come from families in the country who may at any time need urgent medical attention and the RFDS is always there for us, so we wanted to give them our wholehearted support. It was a great way for us all to become involved together, and we were happy to increase public awareness about the wonderful service the RFDS provides.”

Walking to Support Others

Paul Dillon Parent Evening
Monday 19 July, 7.00pm - 9.00pm
An informative presentation on your teenager in the Judith Cottier Theatre. Tickets are available from the School reception.

Community Tours
Wednesday 4 August, 15 September and Thursday 21 October
A tour of the School will be taken on each of these days for interested members of the community. Light refreshments will be provided after the tour. Please ring and reserve your place as numbers are limited.

Sing, Sing, Sing
Tuesday 10 August, 5.00pm - 6.30pm and 7.30pm - 9.00pm
Experience the choral performances of our junior and senior students in two performances in this showcase of the Perth College Choral programme.

Perth College K - 12 Student Art Exhibition
Monday 13 September - Wednesday 15 September, 9.00am - 5.00pm
Come and see all the wondrous creations and talent of our students from Kindergarten to Year 12. Open viewing from 9.00 am in the morning.

Perth College Fete
Sunday 24 October, 9.00am - 4.00pm
The Perth College Fete promises to be the best ever yet with over 100 stalls and activities for young and old. All are welcome.

PC Auxiliary Annual Garden Walk
Sunday 7 November, 1.00pm - 4.00pm
This annual event is going from strength to strength. Come along and enjoy afternoon tea and market stalls at Perth College and view the many wonderful gardens open on the day. Tickets available from reception.

The Witches
Thursday 18 November - Saturday 20 November
Come along and enjoy the fabulous Year 7 – 10 students in their dramatic performance of this Roald Dahl favourite in the Judith Cottier Theatre over three consecutive nights.

For enquiries or more details on these events please email development@pc.wa.edu.au or contact the Perth College Development Office on 9471 2124.

Doors Open at Perth College

There are many opportunities to see what is on offer at Perth College, and particularly for people not familiar with our School, our Open Day and our Community Tours offer insight into the ethos and values held by our students and staff.

Community Tours have now been up and running for over a year and have been incredibly successful, with the Perth College Development Office treating groups to the best the School has to offer. These Tours are conducted on normal school days with opportunities to see the girls participating in subjects across the diverse curriculum.

Although many attendees have an interest in their daughters attending the School, we have also had members of our local community, and on our last Tour day we even entertained two ‘Old Girls’ who were interested in seeing how the School had changed since they attended.

If you are interested in attending one of our Community Tours, please contact our Development Office by email: development@pc.wa.edu.au or via our main switchboard: 9471 2100.