I begin by sharing with you why I have so much enjoyed twelve years here as principal. A quote from a letter Mr Wilson received this week when our year six students were on their Big Week Out.

“I would like to thank you very much for arranging this beautifully behaved group of children to attend our art program at Kidogo Arthouse. We were all so impressed at how attentive and diligent all the children were. Each child kept on task, created a lovely sculpture and behaved very respectfully towards each other and our staff. It was an absolute pleasure to work with them.”

It reflects my observations over an extended period that we are extremely fortunate to have wonderful kids attending the school who are well supported by their parents and well educated by their teachers. In addition we have a terrific band of support staff and that collective makes for a very good school.

I guess another great example was the 50th anniversary event three weeks ago. And what an event it was. Brillantly organised, perfect weather, absolutely stunningly well attended and by all accounts a much appreciated day from beginning to end. I extend my congratulations and thanks to George Atartis as event coordinator, Stephen Johnston as master of communication, Sonia Pilkington and Gretchen Benedict-Bland as gatherers and presenters of outstanding memorabilia, Wendy Law for her technical genius, Francesca Renkema for her incredible persistence with commemorative items, Joanna Ashby ditto, Kristy Williams for all things voluntary and the many others who assisted throughout. In addition I thank the staff as a whole for their magnificent effort in showcasing the students and their achievements. If you read some of the student comments about why they like Rossmoyne as displayed in the library you can’t help but be both proud and impressed.

I would also like to acknowledge the donation back to the school / P & C of $300 by the Subdividers so thanks Rowan and the boys in the band. In addition Sabas from Madras House donated all the proceeds from his food sales to the school some $1195. If you also recognise he provided the food itself and his time as well as a staff member that is a substantial donation!!! Thanks Sabas.

What the event captured for me more than anything was the wonderful community spirit this school exemplifies. It was obvious when I first came and remains so as I plan to leave.

The remaining week will be taken up with last minute tidy ups, some additional planning for 2016 and of course the issuing of semester two reports as well as the graduation events for our year six students. In advance of that I would like to thank the graduation committee for their hard work in ensuring the events are memorable for the students and acknowledge the work of staff who make an extraordinary effort also to coordinate all things graduation.

I announced my retirement some time ago but I am not the only one retiring this year. Mrs Scott has been at the school for some 29 years in many different capacities and has taught years three to seven as well as undertaken library resource teaching roles, something she is passionate about. Her love of literature and the library as a hub of activity is well known and valued. I am sure you will all join with me in wishing her a very long happy and healthy retirement. I know she has great Rossmoyne memories and will undoubtedly keep in touch. Best wishes Leonie.

Department of Education Gifted and Talented and Specialist Programs for 2017 at a range of secondary schools are now open for application. Applications are due by Monday February 8th 2016 with a testing date of March 12th for GATE entry. Other dates for specialist schools and further information can be found on the DoE website at: http://education.wa.edu.au/giftedandtalented

On Wednesday 16th student reports for second semester will be distributed accompanied by Evidence Files. There should be no surprises in these and given the time of year interviews are unlikely to be helpful. However, I do encourage parents to discuss the reports with their children, celebrate the successes and note areas for improvement. It will also be helpful to make a note of any questions you want to raise with next year’s teacher. At the beginning of 2016 we use our school development days to have a handover period so teachers can discuss student needs prior to starting the school year.

We have nearly finalised our staffing for next year and will welcome two new staff members in Ms Jennie Richardson from Cocos Island and Ms Claire Scott who has been on parental leave for a couple of years. All other staff return in some capacity. We are still having enrolment enquiries so class lists will be published, most likely on the afternoon of Thursday January 28th.

School finishes for students Thursday afternoon and I wish all of you a safe and happy holiday and festive season with a joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year. School resumes for all students on Monday February 1st 2016 and I ask all families to make the effort to attend on day one.

I made the following statement to P & C last Monday night:

You are fortunate to have a dedicated band of parents, a professional team of teachers, equally committed support staff and of course delightful children. Your incoming principal who by now you will know is Ms Rochelle Williamson is one very fortunate educator. I am very confident she will add value to the school and community bringing with her a fresh set of eyes, which I applaud.

I conclude by saying it has been a great privilege to have been the principal at Rossmoyne Primary School and certainly the highlight of my career. I thank you all for the support provided to me over twelve years and wish you well for the future which I am sure will be rosy.

Late addendum. Thank you for the humbling and wonderful final assembly this morning and the exceedingly generous gift which I assure you will be put to good use. Maybe a visit to Melbourne to watch Freo in the 2016 grand final—or surfing USA!!! Geoff Anderson
HONOUR CERTIFICATES

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Children’s School of Contemporary Art

Creative classes for kids aged 5 – 16 years, in:

Fashion, Drawing & Illustration, Painting, Sculpture, Ceramics and Craft

ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN FOR TERM ONE 2016

Visit us at www.csoca.net for more information

DT 46

This centre will be closed

From 18/1/16 To 24/1/16

Emergency dental treatment is available at the
Mt Henry Dental Therapy Centre
43 Mt Henry Road, Salter Point
PHONE: 9313 0555
Between the hours of 8:15 am & 4.30 pm
Monday - Friday excluding public holidays

Emergency dental treatment is available at
South Thornlie Dr 9469 4270 8am - 4pm

After hours emergency

The School Dental Service does not provide after hours emergency treatment.
In the metropolitan area - please contact your local private dental practitioner or if eligible, the after hours emergency service on 9325 3452.
In a country area - please contact your local private practitioner

Rossmoyne Senior High School Second Hand Uniform Shop
Open 29th January
9:00 – 11:00 am
We have a limited number of small size preloved items.
Cash only
All profits benefit the Music Programme.
Open Friday 8:30 – 9:30 am during term time

ROSSMOYNE NETBALL CLUB 2016

Registration for the 2016 netball season opens online via
New and existing players welcome born 2008 and earlier.
Queries email: rossmoynenetballclub@gmail.com