This week I would like to make a series of announcements rather than the normal article. The first announcement is that we are beginning a survey of parent opinion about the school's performance during 2014. It is a legal requirement and is to form the basis for a major part of the Annual Report the school publishes each year (on our website). In the past, our surveys have been more ad hoc and this year a decision was made to be more systematic. We have slightly modified a standard form from the Dept. of Education and used SurveyMonkey as the portal for you to use. Each family will receive an email from SurveyMonkey (so long as we have your email address on our system) giving you a unique entry to the survey and you will have until 9th December to complete it. There are also paper copies of the survey at the office if you would rather use this for completing the survey.

We are only expecting one answer per family and we want you to focus on the events of 2014 only. For parents with more than one child at the school, it may seem appropriate to give varying opinions for some statements. However, would you please give your impression of the school based upon your experiences with regard to your eldest child at the school. If you really wish to complete a separate response for the other child/ren's experiences then you are able to ask for a paper copy/copies of this survey from the office.

At the end of this survey, space is provided for you to make written comments about our school. Please note that all survey responses are anonymous and if you have concerns about the school or a child's experiences of the school, we hope that you are also in touch with either the teacher concerned or the School Coordinator. The school also has a complaints procedure for serious concerns.

I had hoped to announce the name of the person who will be teaching Cl.1 next year but unfortunately the person we appointed received a counter offer from the school she is currently working at and has decided to stay there. The next round of applications has just closed and we will be conducting a further round of interviews over the next week or so.
The school submitted an application this year to the Minister for Education to allow our students to repeat their Yr.6 year here rather than go to high school for Yr.7. We received a negative response last week from the Minister and this has sparked a very strong reaction from some of the parents of this class. Further action is being planned as we read this. We have yet to hear if his response includes our other application for registration as a K-7 school. In the meantime, you are asked to consider if you feel strongly about permanently retaining our Yr.7’s. There is a question at the end of the Parent Survey mentioned earlier and an initiative to get all the parents at our school to sign a petition about retaining our registration. A few newsletters ago I talked about Professor Suggate’s research proving that a later introduction of reading and writing skills had a beneficial effect on long term skill levels with a crossover in ability levels (rather than being behind, our students began to excel compared to the average) around Cl.6. This means that our Cl.7 curriculum is fine-tuned to take advantage of this excelling before students hit high school and specialisation. I, personally, strongly endorse any action the school can take to ensure our students get a full seven year Steiner curriculum here in Denmark.

Robert Gillman

News from Karri Kindergarten

‘Come on out, look about, come on out
Roses grow by the gate, and for you they will wait, Come on out, look about, come on out, See on a twig
a little guest sits, Rocking, rocking in breezes mild, Sings for my child, Come on out, look about, come
on out, The sun in the heavens does shine, Come on out now my child, it is time, Come on out, look
about, come on out, come on out!’

By the time you read this the K6 children will have experienced their first morning in Class One on Wednesday. They have been enjoying their lunchtime play in the “big school” and playing with their Class One friends. The next transition morning will be on Wednesday 3rd December, so please send along a packed morning tea, separate from lunch on this day if your child is in K6.

Warm wishes
Denise

Calendar of the Soul—Week 7

My Self! ---
It threatens to flee---
Intensely attracted by

My Intuition!
Come in now with confidence!
Take your rightful

Replenish the power of my Thinking,
which craves to lose itself in the glorious illusions
**News from Class 2**

Hello everyone,

We had a fantastic time on our excursion to the Ancient Empire and the highlight for me was playing our flutes in a giant Tingle. The children also explored the Discovery Centre where they particularly enjoyed the car.

Swimming week was the coldest week we had for quite some time. Fortunately the lessons were held in a heated pool in Albany. Although they were tired, the children had a great time swimming and I was very proud of all of their efforts. Swimming is good for coordination and stamina. Hopefully, we will have some warm days and they can continue to practice their newly developed skills.

I sent out an article on the value of 'mucking around outside time'. In the article it stated that 80% of children between 5 and 17 do not get daily exercise and this is despite more children being enrolled in sports. It is important that children have plenty of unstructured play time where they chase each other around the yard. Going for walks, playing with friends are vitally important for children and next year we will be having a focus on walking with regular weekly walks in term 1.

Our parent meeting will be held at 1:30 on Friday 28th November and the children are looking forward to reading their stories to you. I have a few other things planned too which I think you might enjoy. I look forward to seeing you there.

Cheers,
Karen

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**News from Class 1**

Hello everyone,

We had a fantastic time on our excursion to the Ancient Empire and the highlight for me was playing our flutes in a giant Tingle. The children also explored the Discovery Centre where they particularly enjoyed the car.

Swimming week was the coldest week we had for quite some time. Fortunately the lessons were held in a heated pool in Albany. Although they were tired, the children had a great time swimming and I was very proud of all of their efforts. Swimming is good for coordination and stamina. Hopefully, we will have some warm days and they can continue to practice their newly developed skills.

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Our parent meeting will be held at 1:30 on Friday 28th November and the children are looking forward to reading their stories to you. I have a few other things planned too which I think you might enjoy. I look forward to seeing you there.

Cheers,
Karen
Hello GHSS friends and families,

I imagine all the swimmers had a great sleep in on Saturday morning; it really is admirable how much they do in that short time. Alex and I had a great laugh watching them finish off their week with a 'bomb competition'.

We will continue with our Money Main Lesson this coming week. Last week we focused on the story of Pelle, a boy who needed a new suit, as he had grown out of his. The story followed him and the making of his suit by, bartering with different family/community members. Pelle traded his weeding skills for his grans spinning skills, he minded his sister for his mother’s weaving skills, he brought in the tailor’s wood and tended to the animals for his sewing skills, and so on.

This coming week we will hear stories of how the necessity for a form of exchange came about in history. Once we have an understanding of the history of money we will experience recognising and working with our own currency, the AUD.

Our new poem;

Barter

Life has loveliness to sell,
   All beautiful and splendid things,
Blue waves whitened on a cliff,
   Soaring fire that sways and sings,
And children's faces looking up
Holding wonder like a cup.

Life has loveliness to sell,
   Music like a curve of gold,
Scent of pine trees in the rain,
   Eyes that love you, arms that hold,
And for your spirit's still delight,
Holy thoughts that star the night.

Spend all you have for loveliness,
   Buy it and never count the cost;
For one white singing hour of peace
   Count many a year of strife well lost,
And for a breath of ecstasy
Give all you have been, or could be.

Sarah Teasedale

During our discussion after our first recitation of this poem, I was touched by the children’s interpretations. The main one being that there are so many natural wonders around us, so we don’t need to spend money on entertainment to enjoy life.

Warm wishes,
Chrystal
The last two weeks have been rather jumbled in Class 4/5. Swimming was a novelty; trekking out to Albany each day. It was really special on Thursday to come back to school and watch the Class 6/7 play 'The Alchemist'. It was such a wonderful production and I think it gave our students lots of inspiration for our upcoming play 'The Emerald of Wonders'.

Our rehearsals have mostly been focused on the singing, music and speaking parts of our play. However, this week we started focusing on some dance moves. Emily has been teaching them a variety of steps to accompany the play's musical numbers and she has them all dancing like Egyptians!

Recently, our class rep, sent out an email asking for people's preferences for a performance time on Thursday night, 11th December. The most popular time selected was 5:30pm. Please mark this date in your calendars!

Also, at our class meeting a few weeks ago a number of parents generously offered their time to assist with costumes and props. Under the direction of Emily, who is a trained costume designer, we will have two half day busy bees where we hope parents can come along and donate their time. Sewing skills not necessary! These dates are Wednesday 26th November and Wednesday 3rd December. Both times are from 9am to 12pm.

If you can make it to either of these, please let Alex know. You help is greatly appreciated!

Best Regards

Alex
News from Class 6/7

Hi everyone,

What a week it was last week with swimming, birthdays, meetings, play AND bouts of gastro going around! After all that time spent at the hall, it feels good to be back in our regular rhythm of hanging out on the verandah before bell, followed by verse and main lesson in our own cosy classroom. We have dived headlong into our two week lesson on perspective drawing and are currently looking at using single vanishing points in our drawings.

Thank you to all those parents who made it to the parent meeting last Thursday afternoon and a big thank you goes out to Neal for doing an expert job of facilitating the meeting.

As was printed on the term calendar, there is the possibility of a graduation camp for the end of term (TBC stands for 'to be confirmed' for those that were confused!) However, these dates were set before I knew of revised high school orientation dates, so the camp will now most likely take place in the last week of school. It will likely be a small 2 day camp with no costs, as class lunch order profits are available to use for camp. Permission slips will be out by the end of the week. While I will be planning the camp activities and location, Julie has kindly agreed to help organise transport and food arrangements. We need all the help we can get here, so if you would like this camp to happen for your child, please get in touch with Julie and offer either to provide a meal or a ride out to the camp.

I have been busy planning the graduation ceremony and have had a few discussions with the children about the format for it. At this stage, the graduation ceremony will follow the morning Christmas Celebration (probably featuring a small play by Class 6/7) and will consist of a song sung by parents/ teachers to the class (speak to Bruce if you are interested), a few musical presentations by the class, speeches by myself, a students or two on behalf of the class, Robert, and a parent or two (Please let me know if your child has been at GHSS for most of their primary school years and you would be interested in giving a speech). The children have also expressed interest in writing a song to represent at graduation. Following the ceremony, the children and their families have traditionally gone out for a fancy lunch together. However, some of the kids I have spoken with have said that they would be quite happy with a picnic. I will leave this up to parents to decide and organise. Also, parents have traditionally purchased a small gift for the students which they are presented with at graduation. Last year, for example, the students received a pocket knife each with their names engraved on it. So in summary, can parents please discuss and decide on the following items for graduation:

a.) Where will we take the children for post-ceremony lunch and who can take care of bookings?
b.) Who would like to speak on behalf of the parents at the graduation ceremony?
c.) What gift will the children receive and who will take care of orders/ purchases?

Feel free to get in touch with me and I can let everyone know if you like. Please be mindful that not everyone has email access and can therefore miss vital conversations if they are conducted solely through email.

Regards

Eliza
Please contact the office by phone or email each time your child is absent from school.

Many Thanks

AVOCADOES
Mariners Rest avocado seconds are now available at the office until the end of the school year. Please make a small donation. All proceeds go to the school.

Enjoy!
GHSS Recorder Policy reminder (to commence Term 1 2015)

A reminder to all families of our new Recorder Policy that will commence from the beginning of 2015, our next school year.

~ Each child will have with them in the classroom, from Class 1 to Class 6, a good quality wooden recorder. These recorders stay in the classroom during school terms. Each child can keep a second recorder, which may be plastic, at home for home practice.

~ The school will stock in the office Mollenhauer Prima Descant wooden pear recorders with plastic mouthpiece (approx $75), and these will be available for purchase as people enrol at the school. Alternatively, for older and more advanced students, families may purchase a Kunath wooden pear recorder (approx $120). One purchase, with good care and maintenance, should last the child for their primary school years and beyond. For home practice, families may purchase from the office a plastic Yamaha descant recorder for $12.

~ As part of the recorder programme, teachers will instruct the children in maintenance and care of their instrument, and clean their recorders as a class at least once a term.

Please check your child’s current recorder situation at school. Class teachers will also be asked to check which children in their class still require a suitable wooden recorder for next year. We will endeavour to contact those families by the end of next week. We will be doing a bulk purchase before the end of the year, so please place an order with payment at the front office ASAP if you are aware that your child is needing a wooden recorder.

End of Term Concert

A final concert will be held on Tuesday afternoon of Week 10 (16/12/14) to share with families from our school community some highlights of the music programme across the Primary Classes, and to sing some songs for the Christmas and holiday season together. Further details will be provided in the next newsletter.

Community Singing

We would still welcome parents to join us for community singing on Tuesday mornings for the remaining weeks of the year. We have been singing, and gaining confidence with, a very enjoyable selection of songs, and are currently rehearsing a song to celebrate our Class 6/7 students at the end of the year. Please join us if you would like to be part of this event.

Regards,
Bruce
**School Council Seeking Volunteers**

If you would like to become more involved and learn how your school operates, Council is looking for help. This can be as a Council Member or if your desire is for a smaller commitment there are other Council tasks that we need help with. Please contact the Office to register your interest. All help greatly appreciated.

Thank you
Your School Council

*Confidence is one of the golden words that must govern social life in the future. The other golden word is love, love of that which we have to do. And in the future, good deeds will be done out of love for humanity.*

*Rudolf Steiner*

**Violin News**

All Steiner Violinists are invited to join the Denmark Fiddlers at the Denmark Markets on Saturday 13th December starting at 10.00am.

More information to follow

Regards

Jude

**Study Group**

Are you keen to know more about Steiner education? I have started a book study group for those people interested in learning more. The book we are studying and discussing is “Foundations of Human Experience” by Rudolf Steiner. This book, formerly called “The Study of Man,” has the basis of Steiner’s ideas behind the education and is studied by teachers when training to work in Waldorf schools.

We meet on Tuesdays at 3.10 pm in the staff room next door to Class one for an hour. If you would like to join in, please contact Mary Lou on 98482989 or shilou@me.com

Hope to see you there.
Mary-Lou
Dear Golden Hill Families - I hope this finds you all well!

I have taken on the role as the Parent Involvement Coordinator to help with this so very important part of our school and was hoping families enjoy being part of the school rather than “doing the time”.

Being part of our school community involves giving time and help. That’s what all Steiner Schools aim for – nurturing and providing the possibilities to help and care.

Our school would love to see each parent involved in one or another way at least 2.5 hours per term (which doesn't seem so much if you look at it this way) understanding it is more difficult for one than for another family to find this time.

Most helping opportunities are during school hours but there are also other options and I really like to help those of you to find something suitable.

The best time for me to finalise the 2014 entries from the Parent Involvement hours will be on Saturday the 29th of November during the Busy Bee. On this day I can use the office computer without disturbing the school routine. Please get in contact with me if you are on any project after this date as it will also be the time when Maggie Wake, our school bursar, will begin to send out invoices to those families where the compulsory hours have not been reached.

Also, a new idea is rising for next year:
In the last week of January 2015, the week before school starts, there will be two opportunities to help:

- During the week: a few parents each class helping the teachers getting the furniture back into the class rooms Saturday, 31st of January a get together Busy Bee for new and existing families – be part of getting the school shine and spark for the first day of school (cobwebs, windows, verandas) and maybe a shared food time?

If you have any questions or feedback, please let me know!

Thanks so much and warm regards,
Annett Forman (Ethan’s and Teo’s Mum)
atomnett@westnet.com.au – 0458 069 049

Karen and Ilan will have some organic beef for sale soon. If you’d like some before X-mas, now is the time to order.

Please call Ilan on: 0421 784 187
BUSY BEE with SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Saturday the 29th of November
Between 8.30 – 12.30 pm
Even ½ hour help is very much appreciated!

RSVP
Richard 0415 481 786 / Annett 0458 069 049
atomnett@westnet.com.au

Please let Richard or Annett know if you can make it to the Busy Bee and what you can bring so we can plan the few hours as productive as possible and know how many sausages to get.

Please note: If you have any special dietary needs feel free to bring something for the BBQ

Some of the jobs can also be done when it suits you best in case you can’t make it to the Busy Bee. Please let Richard know what you would like to do and he can send you in the right direction.

Aims:
Weeding areas: any garden area i.e. around hall, roundabout, kindy, playgroup
Remove Agapanthus (pictured) near class 2
Remove Watsonia (pictured) on road verge (careful of cars)
Pressure clean deck class 2 & 3
Pressure clean kindy walkway and stream
Get ready for fire season: dead timber clean up i.e. back of kindy

Can you bring the following items?
Wheel Barrows
Shovels Rakes
Pressure cleaner
Small BBQ
## Parent Involvement ...

**PIP ideas / opportunities updated 16.11.2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>Help with getting Newsletter ready to give out</td>
<td>Fortnightly Wed</td>
<td>1.30 – 2.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biodynamic -</td>
<td>Please contact Neal:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gardening</td>
<td>Phone: 9848 1942</td>
<td>Mon – Cl. 6/7</td>
<td>11:15 – 12:00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:nealcollins@westnet.com.au">nealcollins@westnet.com.au</a></td>
<td>Mon – Cl. 3</td>
<td>12:00 – 12:45</td>
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<td>Everybody welcome</td>
<td>Mon – Cl. 4/5</td>
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<td>Wed – Cl. 1</td>
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<td>Wed – Cl.3</td>
<td>01:30 – 02:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodwork</td>
<td>Please contact Justin: Everybody welcome</td>
<td>Fri – Cl. 6/7</td>
<td>11:15 – 12:45</td>
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<td>Phone: 0419 020 176</td>
<td>Fri – Cl. 4/5</td>
<td>1:30 – 2:30</td>
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<td>Email: <a href="mailto:brumbysrun@equinediscovery.com.au">brumbysrun@equinediscovery.com.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>K5/6</td>
<td>sew calico bags, hem muslin pieces, make puppets</td>
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<td>School Rep</td>
<td>Idea in progress - parents can run a school promotion</td>
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<td>stall at the Friday Kwoorabup markets</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Market</td>
<td>2 parents to set up &amp; run the afternoon tea stall at the mar-</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SIMONE 98481942 EMMA 0458690105 BELINDA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Busy Bee</td>
<td>Garden-work, pressure cleaning + sausage sizzle</td>
<td>29/11/14</td>
<td>8.30 – 12.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 class 1</td>
<td>curtains to dye, sew and hang up, puppets</td>
<td>any time / date</td>
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DRY FELTING WORKSHOPS with Kylie Collier

BABY JESUS WORKSHOP (for nativity scene)
Venue: Playgroup
When: Saturday 22nd Nov 9am-11am
Details: Baby would be 2" and cradle 3.5"
Cost: $25 and includes all materials and morning tea
Open to a group of 8 people

CHRISTMAS TREE FAIRY WORKSHOP
Venue: playgroup or Kylie’s place
Date and time: Sunday 23rd Nov from 10am-12pm
Details: a beautiful fleece 25cm angel for the Christmas tree
Cost: $25 and includes materials and morning tea
Open to a group of 8-10 people

TOADSTOOL HOUSE WORKSHOP
Venue: Kylie’s house at 47 Mount Shadforth Rd
Date and time: Sat 29th - Sun 30th Nov and Sat 6th Dec from 9am till 12pm each day
Details: this will go for 3 days, it is a mix of wet and dry felting. No experience is necessary. All materials are included and morning tea will be provided. The house is 35cm high and the roof is removable so little hands can get in.
The front door will open and close and it has windows and a planter box. A great Christmas gift that will last for years.
Cost is $150, payment of $50 dollars a session is ok with me too.
Open to a group of 6 people
All top quality materials are provided for workshops and supplies are also for sale e.g.: Corriedale fleece, felting needles & foam pads. Felting tips, smiles and good times are free :)

My name is Kiama Bhatt, I am nine years old and love playing chess. I have been looking for friends to play with, without much success. If you also have a passion for chess, young or old, or know someone who might, please ring me at home, so we can arrange to meet (9848 1565).
I am happy to play at school during recess as well.
Thank you. Kiama.
WANTED
TWO MANAGERS FOR GOLDEN HILL
KWOORABUP MARKET
AFTERNOON TEA STALL.
We are seeking two people to set up and run the afternoon tea stall every fortnight.
This position fulfils an entire year’s PI hours.
It is a fun, social position and Emma and Belinda will stay on board for the rest of the year to help the new managers settle in.
Please call either
SIMONE 98481942
EMMA 0458690105
BELINDA 0420485656.

Our Kwoorabup Market is the only place to find:

- Wellness Kitchen Ferments, coconut water kefir, kombucha, sugar free-tomato ketchup, kimchi, sauerkraut
- The Green Pantry gluten free activated granola, nuts and snacks plus bulk wholefoods
- Shipley’s huge range of biodynamic beef and lamb, including organs, bones, lard
- Local Food Stall, tastiest spray free strawberries in biodegradable packaging and seasonal veg picked on the day at grower direct prices
- Local Seeds and seedlings
- True free range eggs
- Prepared foods for easy dinners from local organic ingredients
- Authentic middle-eastern homemade falafel wraps and fruit yoghurts
- Summerhouse Supplies ex Albany Growers Market, local preserves and relishes
- Original Handcraft perfect for Christmas
- Naturopathic dispensed herbal teas

Local Characters
Authentic Products
Healthy Foods
Relaxed Setting
Music and Kids Activities

And its a School Fundraiser

Come and enjoy
Please remember sunhats & covered shoulders this term.

**Intensive training in**

**BOTHMER GYMNASICS**

*Movement to develop the whole human being.*

This course is jointly organized by West Coast Steiner School and Perth Waldorf School.

It will be conducted under the experienced guidance of Dan Freeman for people of all levels of familiarity with Bothmer Gymnastics.

**Dates:** Saturday 11 April to Thursday 16 April 2015

Suggested arrival time Friday (10/4/15), for a group dinner, and an early start Saturday morning!

**Venue:** Perth Waldorf School
14 Gwilliam Drive, Bibra Lake

**Course Cost:**
- $300
- $285 (early bird) by Friday, 21 November 2014

**Payment and registration to:**
West Coast Steiner School
BSB: 633000 Account number: 1327 17737
Phone: +61 8 9440 1771 Fax: +61 8 9207 1532
Email: Agnes de Souza (agsdesouza@gmail.com)

**Accommodation** is available in the classrooms of the Perth Waldorf School. Please bring your own sleeping bag and mattress. We will have the use of the school amenities and kitchen facilities for the duration of the course. The cost is **$10 per person per night**.

For **further information**, please contact Agnes de Souza:
Hello Friends and Supporters

... just a friendly reminder to check out our November workshops and learning opportunities.

Register Your Interest.

Most workshops will only commence if minimum registration number is achieved and are capped for maximum attendance.

Call (08) 9848 3310 or email denmark@greenskills.org.au  www.greenskills.org.au
The school has been visited by a representative from Anglicare. Information about the following offer can be viewed in the school office.

**Would $500 assist you with school costs?**

Saver Plus can match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for education expenses including:

- stationery and text books
- school uniforms, excursions and camps
- laptops and notebooks
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire

To be eligible, participants must:

- have a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- have a child at school or starting next year
- have some regular form of income from work (you or your partner) such as full-time, part-time, casual or seasonal work

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS 18 DEC 2014

For more information contact:

08 9845 6617
saverplusalbany@anglicarewa.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Lawrence and is delivered Albany by Anglicare WA. Saver Plus is fund- by ANZ and the Australian Government.

**Holistic Birth**

Hypnobirthing Australia™

Holistic Birth offers a 13 hr comprehensive childbirth education program led by a Registered Midwife; designed to embrace the power of positive birth.

Create a calm gentle environment for your baby’s arrival regardless of your birth method. Whether your baby’s birth is vaginal or caesarean Hypnobirth can be applied.

Hypnobirth releases the fear associated with childbirth and previous traumatic births. Maximise your body’s natural ability to prevent and block the release of pain causing stress hormones but encourage the release of good hormones called endorphins, which are proven to be 20-30 times more effective than morphine.

Elisha Spalding, Registered Nurse/Midwife, Certified Hypnobirth Practitioner, Childbirth Educator

040 228 0306

**Parents’ Singing Group**

THIS Term on Tuesdays 9am-10am

This is a lovely, heart-warming way to start the week. We are a fun and supportive group. No experience necessary, just bring your voice.

**Medicine Man WA**

Dr Philip Bailey MBbs
GP, Homeopathy, Counselling

66 South Coast Highway Denmark

www.drphilipbailey.com Phone 0478 77 44 26