Dear Parents and Caregivers

Cassia Primary School is proud to announce the School Board’s nomination for Primary School Of the Year has been successful. We are one of four schools in Western Australia vying for the title of State winner for the Department of Education awards. We will know the outcome on the 2nd December. We could not have reached our esteemed position as finalist of Primary School of the Year without the collective support of students, parents and staff making Cassia PS the great school it is.

Congratulations to the students who took part in Opti-MINDS on the 8th September, particularly Cassia 1 who won the Regional Championship trophy. Congratulations to Mrs Pittman who ensured our students were well prepared for this competition as well as being the Regional Director for this highly successful event.

I would like to thank the following people for their contribution on the School Board. Lisa Armstrong– community member, Anne Mitchell– parent member and Megan Dunkley– staff member. These positions will be declared vacant for the beginning of 2014. A parent and community nomination for the period of two years will be called for at the beginning of Term 4 to commence in Term 1, 2014. A parent, carer or guardian of a student enrolled at Cassia PS is eligible to nominate as a parent representative. A community member can be an extended family member e.g. grandparent, uncle, aunt or a member of the local community. A nomination form will be sent out as part of the newsletter in Week 1 of Term 4. If you have any questions about the role of a school board member please do not hesitate to contact the school or current members of the school board.

I have been privileged to be the Principal of Cassia PS for the last eight years. This year will be my final year at Cassia PS. I will be taking up the position of Principal of Bungaree PS in Rockingham at the commencement of 2014. It has been an exciting journey to see Cassia PS grow and evolve over the years to become an outstanding school with such talented staff, supportive parents and of course marvellous students. I look forward to seeing everyone back at school next term on Wednesday 16th October. Staff will be having professional development on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th October.

Regards,

Janine Kinninment
Principal
**MERIT AWARDS**

**Congratulations** to the following students who each received Merit Certificates this week!

- **TA1** Angus Finnis & Annalise Day
- **TA2** Ryan Hackshaw & Aidan West
- **TA3** Trent Anastasi & Ty Scott
- **TA4** Harmony Tavo & Maria Paea
- **TA5** Madison Watson & Julian Tucker-love
- **TA6** Ethan Sinclair & Nicolas Wardell
- **TA7** Ben Mortelman & Hannah Schneider
- **TA8** Josh Taylor & Stacey Watson
- **TA9** Joel Kay & Tan Siamsak
- **TA10** Izabelle Gibson
- **TA11** Lersharna Bin Saad & Tia’anna Tucker-Love
- **TA12** Erich Punsalan & Anastasia Cassidy
- **TA13** Douglas Vanderland & Jade Wedlock
- **P & C** Courtney Charles & Estevaughn Griffiths

**OPEN NIGHT**

The Cassia PS Open Night which was held last Wednesday was a great success! The classrooms looked fantastic and we enjoyed entertaining performances from the Hiphop Crew, Drumbeat and the Choir. Thank you to everyone involved.

**CASSIA NOTICES**

**P & C SAUSAGE SIZZLE**

The P & C held a very successful Sausage Sizzle on Open Night last week. A very big thank you to **BOOM LOGISTICS** for their generous donation and **GOLDLINE DISTRIBUTORS**.

Thank you also to Sharyn Kaye and our P & C volunteers who assisted on the night.

Don’t forget you can view this week’s Newsletter online: www.cassiaps.wa.edu.au

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**Department of Education**

Independent Public School - Pilbara Education Region
Cassia Primary School
School Officer
Pool Ref: IPS/SS331240
Level 2, $49,040 - $53,253 per annum (SSO GA 2011)

**To apply visit:** www.jobs.wa.gov.au

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Join a dedicated and dynamic team and help make a difference to the community!
Opti-MINDS is a fantastic programme that gives schools and members of the community opportunities for participation in open ended, creative problem solving events, finding solutions to exciting Challenges that require experimentation and rewards sustainable practice and divergent thinking. Opti-Minds encourages the participation of all students and continually evolves to help develop attitudes and skills that are important individual, social and professional characteristics that they can apply throughout their life.

On Opti-DAY, teams are required to participate in the two challenge areas that make up the Opti-MINDS Creative Sustainability Challenge. This consists of the long-term challenge and spontaneous challenge.

The long term challenge was given out in Week 2 of this term and required teams to respond to a Language & Literature, Social Science’s or Science Engineering Challenge. These challenges required teams to think up innovative and creative solutions and also work out how they would present these in a dramatic performance. Students had to learn to work as a team, delegate tasks, time manage, and a whole myriad of new skills.

On Sunday the 8th of September the 2013 Opti-MINDS Pilbara Regional Finals were held here at Cassia P.S. in our Multi-Purpose Room. There were seven teams competing from Cassia, Baler and Port Hedland primary schools. The day started at 9am in the morning and ran right through to 2:30pm. Each team performed their response to the challenges for the judges: Lea Vestergaard from Opti-MINDS, Perth; Mayor Kelly Howlett from the Town of Port Hedland; and Engineer David Pearson from Main Roads.

A big congratulations goes out to Cassia Team 1 - Kayla Summerfield, Reece Townsend, Cvita Sliskovic, Oliver Stanitzki; Lyra Walton-Tewes and Lola Mance who took out the Opti-MINDS’ best score! Also congratulations to Baler Team 2 who took out the ‘Spirit of Opti-MINDS’ Award. Cassia Team 2 - Ashleigh Weyer, Cassandra Angel, William Cabungan, Hannah Gillespie, Ben McLaughlin and Oscar Ferguson, and Cassia Team 3 - Tahlia Ronan, Janelle Wheate, Jess Ransfield, Robert Punter, Shakira Hewitt, Chloe Vanderland and Charli Hands, also deserve a big congratulations for all their hard work they have put in! Well done to everyone involved!

Sara Pittman
Opti-MINDS Regional Director

Opti-Minds is proudly sponsored by Curtin University and Engineers Australia.

CONGRATULATIONS!

A very big congratulations to Jasmin and Ty Kilmartin who have both won 1st in the North West Round for BMX. They will be off to Kalgoorlie for the State Titles in a couple of weeks.

We wish you both the best of luck!

CANTEEN

The canteen will be closed on the last day of term—Friday 27 September for cleaning.

You can contact the canteen on 9172 2352

Please remember Cassia Primary School Is A NUT SAFE SCHOOL We request nut products are not sent to school.
This term we have been crazy excited about our technology designs. We designed Go-Karts, Sea monsters, Robots and UFO’s. It has been our creative focus and we learned to use our imaginations and produce a plan to make from recycled construction materials.