Annual Heads of Schools Retreat

Special Guest Speaker: Dr Steven Hughes

4-5 September 2009, Fremantle, Perth

What is the Annual Heads of Schools Retreat?

The Annual Heads of Schools Retreat provides an important opportunity for Heads of Schools and Centres to come together to discuss and brainstorm issues facing Montessori schools in Australia. The Retreat will consist of working sessions where a range of issues will be discussed and presentations made by the Montessori Australia Foundation, special guest speakers, and Heads of Schools. The focus of the retreat will be exchange and collaboration.

Who Can Attend the Retreat?

The retreat is open to "Heads of Schools". We appreciate that this varies from school to school and centre to centre and may entail the principal, business manager or the centre owner and for smaller pre-schools the authorised supervisor, head teacher or in some cases members of the school board. The Retreat is designed for those responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the school or centre. Some schools may operate with a leadership team and we are therefore happy for more than one person to attend from each school at the discretion of the Head of School. The Retreat will aim to provide a confidential forum where issues around school leadership can be discussed.

Thursday, 3 September (Optional)

Afternoon — **Visit to Montessori Schools**
We encourage Heads of Schools to arrive on Thursday afternoon and visit two of Perth's Montessori schools: Beehive Montessori School located near the Retreat venue and The Montessori School Kingsley, Australia's oldest Montessori school established in 1962. Please email us separately on info@montessori.org.au if you wish to visit schools and indicate your arrival time at the hotel (30 minutes from airport) and we will send further information.

18:00 - 21:00 — **Social Gathering**
Heads of Schools arriving Thursday may wish to gather at the hotel's Promenade Lounge Bar at 6:00pm to meet up for dinner or drinks. Light meals are available from the bar or you may choose to dine at one of the hotel's restaurants.

Friday, 4 September

09:00 - 10:30 — **Key Issues Facing Heads of Schools**
In this session we will discuss the most pressing issues facing Heads of Schools and strategies to assist.

10:30 - 11:00 — **Morning Tea**

11:00 - 12:30 — **Case Studies of Montessori School Growth and Change**
Three Heads of Schools will present the challenges and rewards of leading Montessori schools through periods of change. They will outline issues faced, strategies undertaken and positive outcomes of their respective journeys.

Annual Heads of Schools Retreat

Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle

4-5 September 2009

Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle
Corner Marine Terrace and Essex Street
Fremantle Western Australia 6160

Registration Fee: $550 (including GST)
Registrations close 1 September 2009

Registration includes workshop programme, papers, arrival tea and coffee, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner as per the Retreat schedule.

Enquiries: 02 9555 4338

events@montessori.org.au montessori.org.au

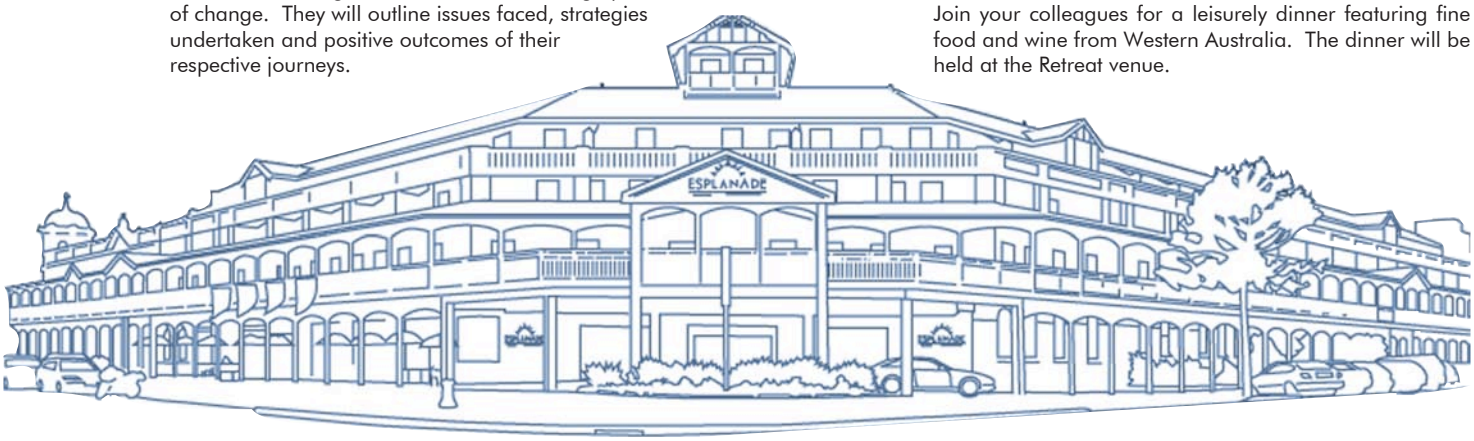
12:30 - 13:30 — **Lunch**

13:30 - 15:00 — **Group Discussions**
Based on the mornings discussions, participants will split into groups to discuss key issues.

15:00 - 15:30 — **Afternoon Tea**

15:30 — **Fremantle Trails**
Discover the historic, cultural and habour sites of Fremantle. Choose one of 11 walking trails through Fremantle: The Discovery Trail, Waterfront Trail, Pubs & Breweries Walk, Convict Trail, Arts & Culture Trail, Retail & Fashion Trail, Manjaree Heritage Trail, CY O'Connor Trail, Maritime Heritage Trail, the Writers Walk and the Fishing Boat Harbour Trail. Trails take from 1 to 4 hours depending on how long you stop at each site. Maps and guides for each trail will be in your packs on arrival or visit www.fremantletrails.com.au.

19:00 - 21:00 — **Heads of Schools Dinner**
Join your colleagues for a leisurely dinner featuring fine food and wine from Western Australia. The dinner will be held at the Retreat venue.



Saturday, 5 September 2009

09:00 - 10:30 **Referral, Assessment and Treatment of Children**
Dr Steven Hughes
Designed for teachers and administrators, this talk reviews common disorders present in childhood that impact the emotional, development, or learning status of children. Learn when to refer children for outside evaluation, and about the kind of results that are typically obtained. Discover the characteristics of effective interventions, and find out what's wrong with some popular but ineffective interventions that can potentially do more harm than good.

10:30 - 11:00 **Morning Tea**

11:00 - 12:30 **Referral, Assessment and Treatment of Children (continued)**

12:30 - 13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 - 15:00 **Montessori Sector: SWOT Analysis and Strategic Solutions**
While the Montessori sector has taken great strides forward over the last three years we still face considerable challenges. Collectively we will analyse these challenges, our strengths and weaknesses and the opportunities before us. Strategies for reaching full and lasting recognition of Montessori and optimal growth of our sector will be discussed including the evolving models for school governance and the infrastructure being put in place to enable us to be a self regulating school system.

15:00 - 15:30 **Afternoon Tea**

15:30 - 17:00 **Montessori Sector: SWOT Analysis and Strategic Solutions (continued)**

Feedback and Planning Session
Starting a new tradition, the Heads of Schools Retreat will end with a session where the group collectively plans the programme and social events for the next Heads of Schools Retreat.

Retreat Venue - Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle

Fremantle boasts some of the finest shopping, dining, recreational and leisure facilities in Western Australia. Located 20 minutes from Perth City and 30 minutes from the airport Fremantle is a beautiful port city, where the Swan River meets the Indian Ocean. Fremantle enjoys a Mediterranean climate. Perfect for outdoor pursuits! In the heart of cosmopolitan Fremantle, is the Esplanade Hotel. The Hotel offers guests a myriad of leisure activities such as two heated tropical swimming pools, 3 outdoor spas, sauna and fitness centre.

Participants are asked to book their accommodation directly with the hotel. Rates and contact details are as follows. Please mention the booking code "Montessori" when making reservations.

Esplanade Hotel - Corner Marine Terrace and Essex Street Fremantle Western Australia 6160 Phone: 08 9432 4000 Fax: 08 9430 4539
E: reservations@ehf.com.au W: esplanadehotelfremantle.com.au

Room Rates: $230 per night

Breakfast: Room service is available or participants may prefer the dining room. Continental $28.50. English buffet breakfast $33.50.

All work and no play...TAKE SOME TIME TO ENJOY THE RETREAT LOCATION & FACILITIES

REGISTRATION: Online at montessori.org.au or fill in and return the form below

Name: _____

School: _____

Position: _____

Home Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Phone - Home: _____

Phone - Mobile: _____

Phone - Work: _____

Email: _____

I give permission for my contact details to be distributed in a list to participants. ☐ Yes ☐ No
Please see our website for our event refund and privacy policies.

Heads of Schools Retreat, 4-5 September 2009, Perth
My payment of $550 is included as follows. Cheques payable to the Montessori Australia Foundation. GST included. ABN: 46 104 887 309

Payment Method: ☐ Cheque ☐ Money Order

Or charge my: ☐ Visa Card ☐ Mastercard Or: ☐ Invoice School

Cardholder's Name: _____

Card N°: _____

Signature: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Phone: 02 9555 4338 Fax: 02 9555 6862
Email: events@montessori.org.au
Register online at montessori.org.au
or send registration form to:
Montessori Australia Foundation
44d Smith Street Balmain NSW 2041

MONTESSORI AUSTRALIA