

Performing Arts Spectacular

August 2012

After completing a ten week performing arts program, a combined group of Year 7s and the Family Learning Association children (a homeschooling year 8-10 group located on Child Side School premises), will be providing a fire twirling performance on Friday 28th September

On each Wednesday during this term the children have been practising new skills and planning the performance. This has included investigating story ideas to provide a changing and varied atmosphere, backed up with poetry. They have also been experimenting with visually contrasting costume designs and lighting options to work out what will best compliment the fire twirling display.

To practise fire twirling techniques in a safe environment at school the children have been researching Poi; a performance art that originated and is still practised by the Māori people of New Zealand. Poi involves swinging tethered weights in a similar manner to fire twirling, making rhythmical and geometric patterns.

The children have also been practising real fire twirling by attending a monthly community fire twirling event in Bunbury. These have been held on the first Sunday of each month and are organised by Gina Knight from the Happy Herb Shop. At these sessions the children have been gaining a respect for handling fire and increased inspiration to learn new skills.

Through this program the children are learning how to use art as a language and combine multiple skills into techniques. It is also helping them to develop co-ordination, concentration and fundamental motor skills; while building their confidence, self esteem, balance, flexibility and fitness. There are many other benefits including understanding the cultural and economic value of art.

If you'd like to see the performance come along to Child Side School (located off Armstrong Road in Boyanup) on Friday 28th September starting approx 1 hour before dark.

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