HUNTINGDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL WESTERN AUSTRALIA;

This week the repainting of our thirty year old school is being completed under the School Pride Programme. For the first time since the school was built sections of our Junior school have had a paint job. The rest of the school was a patch work of projects and odd repairs with rusted gutters and dented down pipes.

As the school term ends I can stand in the playground and look at school that is painted and attractive for children and families to walk into.....the first time in the ten years I have been principal at Huntingdale. We held morning tea for Perrot's Painting team today to say thanks for a great job and willingness to work with us without any difficulty.

During the two week break the Pre Primary children get a sand pit shelter without a white ant eaten wooden frame, synthetic turf around the play area instead of grey sand and a revitalised entrance area for our staff room, instead of stained cement and a leaky patio. In those weeks the builders are also coming in to start on a teaching block that means the temporary transportable classrooms....that have been on site for 21 years...can be removed and Year Sevens will finally have proper classrooms. The covered assembly area will be commenced too....replacing a large, flat, grey metal roof with no sides for 800 students to gather during winter.

Huntingdale would never been lifted to this new standard without the BER funds. It had not occurred in the past 30 years and I dare say we had my chance and Buckley's in the next ten years.

Parents who were once students of Huntingdale themselves can't believe the difference, especially the removal of those orange, yellow and green colours of the late seventies into fresh new colours.

While other places and states may have had difficulties our experience is smooth and we are getting more things fixed than expected.

I am beginning to like recessions!

Edd Black Principal Huntingdale Primary School WA