From the Principal

With a fortnight left until the end of term, we can truly say that our students have had an energetic term of learning with the regular literacy and numeracy blocks continuing uninterrupted and the varied Arts and Sports options that have expanded student's opportunity to learn and practise learning in many ways. Our underlying teaching focus is on providing multiple means for every student to learn, represent themselves and their learning and to be extended in the areas of communication and NRSSS academics, independence, mobility, self-expression and self-determination.

Our three whole school events this term, Special Olympics, Ekka Day and this week's Cultural Diversity Day have shone a light on the increasing adaptability of our students when faced with something different and out of routine. Our Preppies and Junior School coped well with the campus events and are getting more confident and focussed as they walk around and discover the activities and feel and hear the atmosphere of the ‘different day’. Our Middle School and older students are well accustomed now to coping with the expectation, planning and participation of a special event. A highlight for me of the multi-cultural day was seeing the friendships and sharing and caring that occurred between individual students across classes and programs, and with more physically able students being inclusive and helpful to their less mobile school mates.

For many years St Laurence’s College have partnered with our school through their service learning program, St Laurence’s engagement with our school has made some of the not possible – possible. Their contribution to our school is more than can be listed here but always appreciated. Our Ladies Annerley and Loreto are the two Girls School who we engage with each year, particularly at the social events such as Senior Dance. Our Learning Counts mission encourages teachers to build in many and multiple ways for students to learn in the areas of most need for their class and individuals. We were pleased this Semester to welcome Brisbane Grammar School Year 11 students to our Learning Counts agenda. These boys make a difference every Thursday through assisting and building relationships with students in the bike program (CE students and M1) Athletics (M3 and JS2) Junior Sports (Prep and Juniors) and Music and Film (JS1 and Josh B and Nathan P). The commitment of each of these schools to Service Learning is very beneficial for us and meets a complementary need for them and us. If your children are in one of these classes and are tired on Thursdays it might be due to their very focussed and supported time in this Making a Difference time. The level of 1:1 ensures a very productive session for each of our NR students. It is important to acknowledge the role that our classroom staff play in being flexible enough to use this additional resource via engagement with service learning programs, wisely, well and authentically for improving learning and socialisation experiences for all parties.

TEACHER AIDE DAY – Thank you to all our highly skilled, happy, confident and hardworking teacher aids. Today is a day of recognition within schools for teacher aides. At Nursery Rd we could not get the results we do in classrooms every day without the input of our teacher aides. Our teacher aides are irreplaceable. A special morning tea will be provided for our teacher aides tomorrow in recognition of the value, skill and major part they play in the high quality education we strive to deliver in every classroom. Since 2012 the teacher aide input and presence in the school has been recognised and valued through our unique Teacher Aide Management Group. This group comprises teacher aide reps who meet monthly with the Principal to provide a forum for consultation and decision making in matters related to school improvement, teacher aide roles and support and wellbeing across the campus. Megan Ritchie, Sandy Creevey, Wendy Windley and Brad Johnson are doing a wonderful job representing their colleagues.
Brisbane State High School Camp for Girls December 13-15

BSHS are organising a camp for girls with a disability aged 6-12 years of age. The camp will run to the standards of a Sony Camp. Please contact BSHS on 3279 4111 for further details or ask for an application form. The 3 day residential camp will be held at St Leo's College University of Qld. If interested, please fill in and return your application form ASAP, places still available.

Sport and HPE  Ron Aitkin and Andrew Robertson

Term 3 has seen a variety of activities in sport and HPE with many of our students involved in interschool competitions and events, as well as participation in programs within school supported by visiting high school students.

On the 20th July, Cameron and Lachlan Kerswell represented the Metropolitan East Region at the State Cross Country Championships in Toowoomba and enjoyed the experience immensely, competing in individual and team events. This was the second year that they had achieved this level.

In August, a number of our students competed in the local district secondary and primary track and field trials to select teams for the Metropolitan East regional trials. Our primary competitors were Ali Hassani, Joshua Bramble and Bianca Nucifora. Our secondary competitors were Cameron and Lachlan Kerswell, Parth Arora, Hayden Tran-Thompson, Luke Watson Matthew Jost, Latifah Okello-Watson, Carl Foley, Amba Owona, Tim Roberson, and Talwinder Sihota. This was a great experience for our students as they joined with hundreds of other local students competing at the State Athletics Centre. As a result of the district trials the following students were selected to compete at the regional trials on the 4th and 5th September in 100m and 200m events: Ali Hassani, Bianca Nucifora, Cameron and Lachlan Kerswell, Latifah Okello-Watson, Parth Arora, and Amba Owona.

Along with many students from other special schools, our whole school attended the annual Special Olympics day sponsored by St Laurence’s College on the 15th August. Despite some unseasonal rain showers, the students and staff enjoyed the opportunity to interact with other students, parents, and staff and particularly enjoyed the support of the St Laurence and Stuartholme senior students. A range of activities were provided for the students to join in, with the emphasis on fun and friendship.

Throughout the term, senior students from St Laurence’s College and Brisbane Boys Grammar have visited our students on a weekly basis to assist our students in developing athletics skills and work with the cycling program. An added benefit has been the development of positive and wider relationships for our students. In HPE classes the students have practised running in lanes, throwing rubber shotput and foam javelins, and some have been able to join in sack races. Several classes have also been developing soccer skills.

PHOTO AND IMAGE PERMISSIONS

WELL DONE TO EVERYONE! THE RETURN RATE IS AROUND 60% SO FAR. Please fill in and return your form to advise us of the permissions we can have for your child To be used on our website, Facebook page, in our newsletter, for general programs such as with our partner schools for Service Learning, and for special event days and on internal communications and celebrations for our school community.
SEPTEMBER
Sensory Movie Day

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2
2pm, Sunday 14 September
Capalaba Cinemas

Sensory screening food specials:
$5 midi popcorn & drink combo
$3 coffee

"Sensory Movie Day" was created for families with special needs. His movie experience is a positive, non-judgemental experience. Children are free to try everyseat, flap or stim, lighting stays on dim.

Fire exit doors are monitored for those escape artists. Please note that caregivers are responsible for their own children at all times. Children 2 years and under are free, companion cards are accepted.

Contact 07 3213 7100 or connections@fsg.org.au for more information

Update

Nursery Road, our teachers embed the use of Information Communication Technologies throughout the day. Technology is a key to developing communication, literacy and fine skills for all of our students. The school ICT team are working on creating a comprehensive, inclusive plan for the near future to ensure that we continue to provide amazing experiences for our "little techies". We are looking at various technologies, including screens that can fold into interactive tables, exciting eye gaze technology, software that allows all of our students to create their own stories and slideshows, as well as awesome on class iPad sets that will make engagement in the Australian Curriculum extra exciting for all of our students.

Jeff, ICT Coordinator
McIntyre Centre's 50th Anniversary!

Party In the Paddock!
FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday 13th September
1:00pm - 6:00pm

FREE ENTRY!

Pony Rides
1:30pm - 5:30pm
Rides $7 for 10 mins, on sale 11 August from McIntyre Centre

Kids Rides
Jumping castles for all ages, inflatable slide, Zorb balls, rock wall, bungee run, merry-go-round and much more...
Wristbands $25 each on sale 4 August from Caltex Bellbowrie

Market Stalls
Petting Zoo
Native Wildlife Exhibit
Silent Auction
1pm - 6:00pm

Riding Displays
3pm - 3:30pm

Bar
3pm - 6pm

Official Birthday Celebrations
3:30pm - 4pm

Fashion Show & Shop 'til you drop!
4pm - 5:30pm

$30 POO Grid!
4pm - 5:30pm

Live Music
4:30pm - 5:30pm

Major Sponsors
Caltex, Nab, Murphy Family Foundation

Event Sponsors
Barry Anthony Searle, Master Hire, Bruce Pegg, etc.

2963 Moggill Road, Pinjarra Hills (07) 3202 6300 admin@rda.asn.au
www.mcintyrecentre.org.au

McIntyre Centre
Riding to Disturb!