From the Principal

As I sat down to write the final newsletter of 2015 I started to wonder where the year had gone but on reflection of all the amazing things students, classes and staff have achieved I was left trying to work out how we fitted it all in.

Thank You to the staff for all of their hard work and flexibility throughout the year! Thank You to the P&C for their support of the school and sensational fund raising efforts! Thank You to parents, carers, families and our wonderful volunteers for your continued partnership with us to maximise outcomes for all of our students!

2016 is shaping up to be a big year; with a second deputy position being provided we will be able to move forward in rolling out the exciting new programs we have been planning.

Our relationship with St Laurence’s College, Brisbane Grammar School, Our Lady’s and Loreto Colleges have added a dimension to our school that greatly benefitted the students from all of the schools. We look forward to continuing and building on these into the future.

Farewell to staff

Lynne Kelly has been a teacher of Conductive Education for 13 years. She joined us when the Xavier program became part of Nursery Rd Special School in 2010. Lynne is transferring to Gympie Special School so that she can be closer to her family. A CE institution neither Lynne nor the team here can imagine her not being here. Lynne shows great integrity and devotion to and caring of students and staff. Thank you, Lynne!

Christie O’Connell is returning to Redlands Special School after 5 and a half years with us. Wendy Eldred has been here for two years since graduation and is transferring to Logan City Special School. Both Christie and Wendy will be considerably closer to home and family. We wish them all the best and thank them for their dedication and inspiring teaching.

Thank you to all the contract teachers and teacher aides who have filled various positions during the year. We appreciate your support.

2016

School resumes on Wednesday the 27th of January 2016. If there are any changes in contact details or transport arrangements please contact admin on 3308 6333.

The P&C have endorsed a modest increase in school levies for 2016. The school resource levy is set at $50.00 per term and music therapy at $70.00 per term. Letters will come out early in term one.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday. Merry Christmas!

In Partnership
Shauna
Congratulations to our graduating seniors

We wish Tom, Roi, Luke, Bryce, Tesh, Tim and Morgan all the best for their futures and look forward to hearing about their post school successes. Well done & congratulations on all you have achieved.
From the Deputy Principal

Middle School Excursion to Australia Zoo

On Wednesday I accompanied 3 of the middle school classes who visited Australia Zoo. The students attended a special program which introduced them to some native Australian Animals. The students really enjoyed engaging with the animals. Marcus loved the snake and Andrew’s favourite was the Koala. The students watched a live show in the Crocoseum. Emily and Amy’s favourite activity was feeding the kangaroo’s. Jarelle found a scary cave used by dinosaurs. There were all sorts of new sights, sounds and smells and lovely wide open spaces to explore. The shuttle bus proving to be a fun option until its tyres went flat. Tyler pointed out every landmark along the way. All of the students enjoyed hanging out together, the excitement of a road trip and the pleasure of each other’s company on a beautiful Queensland summers day. A great day all in all and amazingly behaved students to spend it with.

Sue Howell
Acting Deputy Principal

P & C News - TRIVIA NIGHT

Thank you to all the businesses, contacts, friends, family and staff who donated money, vouchers and raffle prizes for our first and very successful Trivia Night recently. The P&C raised over $4,000 towards an electronic school notice board. The P&C would like to acknowledge the following donors who helped us achieve this wonderful result:

Table Sponsors

- Re/Max Bayside Properties
- Brisbane Endodontics
- Physiofix
- Empire Careers
- Part Two
- Topfit Floors
- Cr Ian McKenzie
- Scenestr Magazine
Raffle and Cash Donators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donator</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joe Kelly MP</td>
<td>Australia Zoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris and Karin Gardner</td>
<td>Holland Park Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funkie Monkees</td>
<td>Wheel of Brisbane</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bounce Inc</td>
<td>Pacific Golf Club</td>
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<td>Cream Patisserie</td>
<td>Greek on Cav</td>
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<td>Ross Vasta MP</td>
<td>Bunnings Mt Gravatt</td>
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<td>IGA Carina</td>
<td>Foodworks Wishart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laserforce</td>
<td>Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary</td>
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<td>James St Cooking School</td>
<td>Fitzsimmons Meats</td>
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<td>JB Hi-Fi Mt Gravatt</td>
<td>Coles at Greenslopes</td>
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<td>Neopost</td>
<td>Tree of Life</td>
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<td>Michael Salm Meats</td>
<td>AMF Bowling Mt Gravatt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caravan Repairs</td>
<td>Chemist Warehouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>All the families and staff who donated items for the raffles</td>
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Congratulations to Team “Smelly Cats” the Trivia Night winners who won fantastic prizes.
Also congratulations to the 9 raffle winners:
- Karen Hunter (student’s aunty) won 2 prizes;
- Caitlin Hunter (student’s cousin);
- Rose Pearse (student’s mum);
- Ellen Hallman (student’s mum’s work colleague);
- Elouise Boyle (student’s mum);
- Wilson Ocampo (student’s dad);
- Melissa Radulovic (student’s mum and staff member);
- Patricia Schubert (student’s mum)

Thanks to everyone who came along, dressed up and brought their friends and family. Thanks also to all the families who purchased raffle tickets. Thank you again also to all the hardworking P&C members and staff who all pitched in and helped make it such a fun and successful night. Till next year for a bigger and better Trivia Night!

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE WINNERS

3rd Prize       Anh Tran
2nd Prize       Wayne Merryful
1st Prize       Leanne & Damian Pedemont

Congratulations to the lucky winners!

Thank you to everyone for supporting the Christmas Raffle with prizes and ticket sales!!

P&C Committee
CE News

The school year will soon be coming to an end but our program is still very busy with implementing the finishing touches to a fantastic Semester. There are special events, outings, award ceremonies and of course assessments occurring for each class.

Last week a team of school staff accompanied me to Melbourne to visit the Cerebral Palsy Education Centre. This is a very highly regarded Early Intervention and school-aged afterschool program for students with Physical Disabilities. The program is based on the Principles of Conductive Education. There were many, many great examples of fantastic practice there, but one stands out in my mind that we can all (including our parents and carers!) ensure occurs throughout the day. Communication is embedded and expected at all times and this means that a child’s communication device is ready to be used whenever they have “something to say” - no excuses! Our students need the time to think about what they want to say and the means in which to express themselves otherwise their voice is not being heard. I look forward to leading the implementation of some of the fantastic practices we saw in Melbourne in the future.

Our ECDP is getting ready to celebrate another year of learning with our Christmas Show/ Graduation Ceremony. This year, the students will be presenting “Mrs. Honey’s Hat” with a Christmas theme. We will also be saying goodbye to three of our graduating students in a special ceremony with a celebration of their time in our program. The two events will take place on the 8th of December at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome!

Some classes will be experiencing year-end outings in the upcoming days and permissions will go home if applicable. Sarah’s Middle School class braved a very hot day at Australia Zoo this week. The boys were clearly thrilled to have a live petting experience with some of the zoo animals and had an opportunity to visit the famous Crocoseum with all of its wild sensory stimuli. Anne and Lynne’s class will be heading off to the exciting Mapleton Camp in Week 9 with the rest of the school’s Junior Secondary classes.

Finally, our teachers are working extremely hard to assess and report on your child’s learning for the year. I have been so pleased (and moved!) to see our students’ progress this year and this is based on their hard work with both our staff and our parents and carers’ support. We should all be extremely proud of our students’ development this year.

Please make time to come to your child’s award ceremony in the coming weeks - they’re a great way to celebrate all of the hard work the students and staff have been working on this year.

Please contact me or pop by my office if you have any questions, comments or suggestions!

Jeff Watts A/ HOSES

ECDP News

Hello from all at the Developmental Unit!

It has been a very big and eventful year with much packing and unpacking and relocating. Renovations are now complete, packing boxes have been emptied and we are all settled in to our new classrooms. I particularly am enjoying sharing the teaching spaces with the prep and junior classes from the ‘big school’. It is heart-warming to see the progress made by the students, many of whom attended the ECDP.

Our own students are getting themselves ready for the end of the year Christmas parties - which can mean only one thing ….GLITTER!!!

A very big thank you to our long suffering cleaner who manages to remove all trace at the end of every school day.

A large number of our students will be leaving us at the end of the year. This is always the case as our pre-prep students look forward to their next schooling adventure in their local prep programmes. They have all made wonderful progress this year and it has been so rewarding to work with them to achieve their goals. We are excited for their continuing progress but a little sad to say farewell after such a lovely year.

Regards
Liza Wieland
EPO News

Student Council held a free dress day on the 13th of November. The theme was Crazy Hair and Hat Day and money raised will be used to purchase items for a food hamper to be given to the local community centre to support a family in need this holiday season. There certainly were a lot of of crazy and colourful hair designs and hats.

Wicket is attending programs across the school every day and is involved with literacy, ICT and mobility programs.

There is lots of great work happening in communication, students are very eager to talk about Wicket and ask questions. Wicket is also a great reading buddy in some Junior classes.

Wendy Windley
Acting EPO
Mackenzie State Special School OSHC

**Starting January 2016**

After The Bell AUS is delighted to be partnering with Mackenzie State Special School to provide families with an enriching After School and vacation care program. After The Bell acknowledges that children’s learning and development are significant within their school environment, which also translates to Outside School Hours Care. We are passionate and enthusiastic professionals who ensure your child is provided with a safe, nurturing and fun experience at our programs.

**Program**
Our programs are inclusive of all children and families; including cultural, linguistically diverse and various socio-economic backgrounds. We value the importance of play by providing creative and stimulating activities in a well-supervised and caring environment. We support the growth and development through middle childhood in this environment by creating a culture where children are respected and feel safe. We value this stage of growth and development as an opportunity to further explore and develop life skills where children can reach their own individual potential. While having fun they will form friendships that will last a life time.

**Nutrition**
We value the importance of children’s healthy eating choices. At After The Bell children are provided with a healthy nutritional afternoon snack each session. Children have input into the program menu, whilst learning the value of good healthy choices.

**Educators**
Each day is an adventure and our Educators help your children create new memories. Our dedicated, trained, qualified Educators have the skills and abilities to ensure your child’s time at the program is rewarding as well as memorable, but foremost making sure your child is always having a fun time.

**Enrolment**
To enrol your child with After The Bell you will be required to complete an Enrolment Form and Debit form as well as providing us with all the required documentation applicable to your child’s circumstances. (EG: Immunisation Record, Medical Information). Parents of children at Mackenzie State Special School are also required to complete an Additional Needs form for each child.

Enrolments can be completed on our website [www.afterthebell.com.au](http://www.afterthebell.com.au), or via a paper version also available on the website. An Enrolment Pack containing a printed version of all required forms will be available via the school. Once your Enrolment Form and documents have been submitted our Enrolments Officer will process the documents and when approved you will receive a welcome email which confirms your child’s commencement of care.

An enrolment information pack can be located in the OSHC program or from the school office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions (Normal school term days)</th>
<th>Normal Base Rate (per child/per session)</th>
<th>Casual Rate (additional $3.00)</th>
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<tr>
<td>After School Care 2.45pm till 5.45pm</td>
<td>$25.51 - $55.00*</td>
<td>$27.74 - $58.00*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation Care 7.45am till 5.45pm</td>
<td>$31.37 - $90.00*</td>
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* Fees paid by parents will vary depending on individual circumstances when Child Care Benefits and Child Care Rebates are taken into consideration.

For all enquiries including session pricing, obtaining a Parent Handbook and information regarding CCB/CCR Gov’t Rebates please call our office (07) 3181 4369 or visit the website [www.afterthebell.com.au](http://www.afterthebell.com.au).

If you have not yet registered for the Federal Government’s Child Care Rebate, or if your family situation has changed, we recommend you register, as nearly all families are eligible to save at least 50% on the cost of child care.

**Community – Quality – Inspire – Belong**