From the Principal

This term has gone by very quickly, but when I reflect on the work that we have done and how well the new programs, classes and timetables are running, I know that the students have had a very productive first term for 2016. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the class teachers and teacher aides who have through their planning, work and commitment to each child created good classrooms for their students based on each student’s needs and on the priorities of their classes.

Your attendance at the parent teacher meetings is appreciated by all of us, so please come along to your child’s class meeting if it’s still to be held. IEP meetings are being planned and coordinated now. A notice has gone home about these already. Please fill in the form electing when you can attend so that these can occur over the rest of this term and the first few weeks of next term 2.

Saturday the 19th is Council Election Day. For Nursery Road that creates a great opportunity for fundraising and we are organising a BBQ to raise some funds for the P and C. Please nominate if you can assist on the day or beforehand by providing cakes, drinks or other items called for this.

We have wonderful news regarding our school’s fenced and unfenced boundaries and the prospect to enhance further our shared pedestrian and vehicle spaces. In summary the project that will be advanced during this year is to achieve an improved campus with regards to security, fencing, parking, students transitioning across the campus, and an oval for our students. The P and C and I are really appreciative of the Department of Education and Training for their support of our needs and funding of this project.

I hope to see many of you for a quick hello as you arrive on campus for various activities over the remainder of the term.

Yours in Partnership
Shauna

Physical Health and Well-Being

This term all students in our school are participating in the swimming/hydrotherapy program where the focus is on water safety, relaxation, therapy, and developing a basic survival stroke or method of propulsion. A group of students are also involved in a swimming squad that attends the Griffith Aquatic Centre weekly to swim in a 25 metre public pool. They are working on developing a recognised swim stroke as well as learning more challenging skills such as diving, while having an opportunity to gain confidence visiting and using public facilities.
Another group of students are taking part in basketball training at the Brisbane Basketball Stadium. This program gives a group of students an opportunity to train under the instruction of a specialist coach who is funded through the federal government’s Sporting Schools Program. Apart from improving ball skills such as dribbling, passing and shooting, the students are improving their coordination, and fitness while exploring team work skills and furthering their social development outside the school environment.

The cycle program continues to be used by a range of students who benefit greatly from being able to leave their wheel chairs behind and go riding around the school environment.

Our junior students are working on their gross motor skills each week using a range of equipment. This program focuses on developing skills such as balance, co-ordination, stepping over hurdles, over arm throw, catching, and bouncing balls. A range of colourful resources/ aids are used to make the activities enjoyable and help to motivate the children to participate.

The school programs cover important elements of the Australian Curriculum with a focus on practicing fundamental movement skills and movement sequences using different body parts. This is demonstrated by the following:

- performing locomotor skills in any direction from one point to another
- sending, controlling and receiving objects at different levels and in different ways
- performing a range of water confidence skills

We are fortunate this term to have secondary students from several schools interacting with our students on a weekly basis as they take part in physical activities.

Ron Aitken

CE News

Dear Parents and Caregivers

This year, the Junior Secondary stage level team have been developing our identity to distinguish ourselves from the other stage levels at Nursery Road. One of the developments has been the decision that our Science units will be based on Environmental Studies. The reason for this is to help our students understand the environment around them and to connect to it in a meaningful way. The focus of the unit of work has been on water and its conservation. Each of our classes have been engaging in fantastic experiments and hands-on activities with the assistance of St. Laurence’s College volunteers which allow our students to work and socialise with new friends from outside our school community.

Our other focus this year is building a better understanding of positive relationships and teamwork. Through the use of our school rules, visits from St. Laurie’s College Boys, the Junior Secondary clubs program, and our focus on the Personal and Social Capabilities taken from the Australian Curriculum, our students are learning how to communicate and work with their classmates, students from other rooms and our local community.

Finally, on Monday the 14th of March, we will be hosting a Junior Secondary parent information session at 11am in the I Block meeting room. Please come along to hear more about the areas of focus for this year and to meet your child’s class teacher. Coffee and tea will be available from 10:45 and the presentation will begin as close to 11:00 as possible. We hope to see you there!

Jeff Watts
A/Deputy Principal
P&C NEWS

On Tuesday it was the P&C’s Annual General Meeting. At this meeting people were nominated and voted for the Executive Positions. We are pleased to announce the 2016 P&C Executive Team as follows; President Andrea Jost, Vice-President Arena Percival, Treasurer Renee Duggan and Secretary Margie Fleming. Congratulations to this Team of wonderful women, who on International Women’s Day joined together to begin a great partnership to support each other, offer great leadership to the P&C members and work alongside the P&C and School to fundraise and support our Students. We look forward to a productive and successful year for our P&C.

Please note you are able to join the P&C at any time of the year. Please contact our Secretary by email pandcsecretary@nurseryrdspecs.eq.edu.au for a membership form which can be emailed back to you or sent home in your child’s communication book. Please get involved and support the P&C in whatever way you are able to. You can be a member without attending the monthly meeting if this is something you are unable to do, and by being a member you can receive the minutes by email. There are various meetings at other times during the school day when additional help is required for fundraising events. The P&C appreciate all the help and support that many of you provide by buying raffle tickets and donating items for events as well as attending events.

P&C Meetings are on every 2nd Tuesday of the Month. The next Meeting will be in Term 2 on Tuesday April 12th at 7pm in the staff room.

P&C FUNDRAISER - ELECTION DAY MARCH 19TH NURSERY RD AS A POLLING STATION

As you are aware from the note that Andrea sent home, Nursery Road is a polling station for the Council Election next Saturday 19th March. The P&C are using this opportunity to have a sausage sizzle, sell cakes and raffle tickets for an Easter Raffle. Many of you have responded to the requests for help. Thank you for the many donations of soft drinks and offers to bake or provide baked goods. Please remember to label your containers with your name so they can be returned to you.

Also, please list ingredients on your homemade baked goods so we can ensure the customers know what is in the cakes for those with dietary restrictions.

We also asked for help on the day to be on the stalls for selling the cakes, raffles tickets and to be on the BBQ station for cooking and money handling. There are still some time slots where we require help.

If you are able to give us an hour or two on the day and fill in any of the gaps for us please contact Admin on the school number 3308 6333 or email pandcsecretary@nurseryrdspecs.eq.edu.au to let us know. Thanks very much for your help. We do need to fill these gaps ASAP as the event is next Saturday.

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NEWS - Wicket's 5c fundraiser update

It has been 3 weeks since the Student Council launched the 5c coin collecting for Wicket fundraiser. What an amazing response we have had! Thank you to all of the parents/carers, families and staff that have contributed so far. The class bottles are filling up fast! This is how some of the bottles looked at our Student Council Meeting on Wednesday when we reviewed our progress so far, wow well done!

In fact we have already had two bottles filled up. The 1st by a Senior Class and the other by a Junior Class. Every class will receive a Wicket Star Award and a Reward on filling up their bottle.

There are several rewards for the class to choose including an extra visit from Wicket, photos with Wicket, stickers, biscuit treats and dog themed DVD’s to watch in free choice time, giving them the opportunity to have different rewards as this fundraiser continues until the end of term 2.

The students are enjoying posting the coins in the bottle adding more numeracy learning to their day as well as this being a great fundraiser for Wicket’s ongoing costs as our Education Support Dog. Keep those 5c coins coming in!

Thank you for your support from Team 1 Student Council, SC Captain Hayden, Jackson, Eleanor, Monique, Daniel, Caitlin, Ethan, Ben, Bianca, Ali, Jett, Jarelle, Jonathan, Caelen, Deanna and Zahra, Angela Holden and Wendy Windley and of course Wicket!

Middle School News

The Middle School students have settled in well to the first term of 2016. They have been busy exploring the world of living and non-living through Project Based Learning activities in their science unit of work.

Focus has been on exploring and observing the world of living things and how their needs are met. The students have been engaged in and thoroughly enjoyed participating in the projects with their peers across classes. This new way of working also offers the students opportunity to develop and practice their communication and social skills through collaboration on projects with their peers. The projects take place in and out of the classroom, which offers the students learning experiences within different environments.

We are all looking forward to seeing you for the Parent Information/Assembly/End of Term Celebration of Learning to show you our great work.

Lisa Pedersen
School Notices

I would like to invite interested community members to attend this free Introductory Triple P seminar where we have Professor Matt Sanders presenting. Please find attached an electronic flyer to promote this Triple P event. Please note that you are to register online. Below is the link to seminar details.


Regards,
Joe Kelly
Member for Greenslopes

From Administration and Finance

Thank you to all the parents who have returned Student Personal Details Forms and Media Consent Forms.
If you have not yet returned these forms please do so as soon as you can and remember to include you email address, so we can proceed with the roll out of our Qparent app.

We have submitted the Centre Pay Application to Centrelink. We are awaiting their response. If you require this service please contact class teacher and we will send forms home with your child.