P and C Notice of Change of Meeting Night

Please note that the P and C association have changed the monthly meeting nights to the second Tuesday of each month. The first meeting for 2016 is February 9th at 7:00pm in the Staff Room. Please come along and support your school through the P and C.

From the Principal

Welcome to new families and returning families for 2016. We have a number of new students enrolled in classes across the school from Prep to year 12 equivalent. We warmly welcome them to our school and wish them and their families a successful learning journey and rewarding experience at Nursery Road SSS.

The school year commenced smoothly for us, with students settled and seemingly happy to be here. We have new students across the school and also have eight new classroom teachers. It is wonderful to have new staff come into the school at the beginning of the school year, and with six of these teachers starting their teaching career here with us, we are excited to be providing them with a great start by being here in the vibrant community of Nursery Road.

Class programs are well underway with the literacy block going very well across our middle and older classes, where children are showing wonderful attention and persistence to their desk work and learning. Our little new Prep children and other Juniors in H Block are also going well. Thank you to all for your patience with the transport and pick up arrangements for H Block. It seems to be going OK at present.

Friday this week is Day 8, an all-important day upon which the data about our enrolments determines our staffing for this year. Once we know our definite allocation of teachers and teacher aides for 2016, final decisions about resourcing particular programs and for individual programming needs can be made.

Classroom change for Junior School - Kelly’s Class CE Program: The youngest class in the CE program has been moved for this year to D Block to be with other Junior classes in that Block. The reasoning behind the decision to have the CE Juniors alongside some other Junior classes is not to alter or diffuse the CE program, as some parents have wondered or been concerned about. The school has a strong commitment to maintain the quality and integrity of the CE based program. By being near other Junior classes the children in Kelly’s class are able to mix with their same age peers incidentally throughout the days and weeks and in planned program times.

It also means that the children are mixing with a broader range of students whose capabilities and ways of relating might be different to just those in their class. Therefore instead of students in Kelly’s class mixing primarily with each other and then the CE class beside them, they will also mix with another two classes of same stage /age group children in their school life on a more regular basis. Kelly is a member of two teams in the school, that is the Junior School team and the CE team.
This remains the same whether she is in D Block or I Block. It also benefits our students who are in the CE Program and a part of that student cohort, but part of a broader stage of schooling, ie Juniors, within the school and then in turn a part of the whole school. It’s exciting that we can offer a specialised program within our school capitalising on what the broader campus can offer to our students. We would do our students a disservice if in their entire schooling they interact with and learn with a very limited number of adults, staff, students and learning spaces across their schooling years. I am confident we can do this well lead by our expert teaching team in the CE program, of which Kelly is a key part of, and with Jeff Watts continuing as Head of the CE Program.

Swimming (here and at Griffith University) has commenced after a holdup with the pool in week one due to a need to shut the pool down for a cleaning. Basketball commenced yesterday at Auchenflower Stadium and Sailability and Horse Riding commence next week.

Notes will be sent home soon for signing up for Music therapy (Junior and Middle School students only), for the Resource Contribution for each student and the Text Book and Resource Hire for Secondary aged students. In addition there are many administrative communications i.e. therapy requests permission, coming home.

Thank you for your completing of all forms required at this busy time of year.

The leadership team for this year has been expanded, with confirmation of roles to be determined after our Day 8 allocation. However we have a broad leadership structure of which I will write in the next newsletter.

In the meantime please contact me, Sue Howell, Jeff Watts or Lisa Pedersen if you have any questions or concerns (or just to touch base for 2016!) and Natalie Petersen for the Nursery Road ECDP.

In partnership
Shauna

From the Deputy Principal

Congratulations to Carl Foley on attaining a school based traineeship! Carl is the first Nursery Rd student ever to embark on a school based traineeship. It is a history making moment for Carl and our school.

Carl will undertake his placement at The Coffee Club in the City with the support of EPIC employment.

We look forward to hearing more about Carl’s success as well as supporting other students in looking at post school options which will support their transition from school. Well done Carl and the Foley family in sourcing a volunteer work placement that could lead to such a wonderful opportunity!

Sue Howell
Acting Deputy Principal