From the Principal

In this week’s newsletter I would like to highlight the professional development that is occurring within the school to enhance our students’ learning in communication, literacy and numeracy.

The additional funding that has been allocated to our school under the Greater Results Guarantee funding has been used over Terms 2 and 3 for building teacher skills in key learning areas for our students through coaching and mentoring across the school. Our coaches went for further training this year so that the coaching sessions become increasingly focused on improving the way we make learning occur for individuals and within each class and how we measure that learning.

Our coaches this year are Lisa Pederson, Sue Howell, Peter Crawford, Jeff Watts and Natalia Russ.

To further our knowledge and skills for those students who have physical or other sensory impairments Jeff and Lee Withall are working to put together a package of in service for key staff from within the CE Program and other students who are learners with multiple impairments. Specific information will be shared when the plan is finalised.

A small group of teacher aides have been, under the leadership of Simon Hill, involved in two hour online learning sessions over this term, to promote their skills and knowledge in specific disability areas of intellectual impairment, physical impairment and autism.

To build the skills of our Nursery Road classroom staff further in the area of Four Blocks Literacy and AAC learners, a group of teachers travelled to NSW to visit two schools that are using Four Blocks. The teachers invited to go on this trip included 6 staff who are have been teaching from 3-8 years. Of the 6 nominated, only 4 could eventually go once we coordinated timetables and their personal schedules. These teachers were Katie, Karen, Sarah Richardson and Jess Stanfield. These teachers now have responsibility for sharing their learnings and being a part of the literacy development group going forward from this term. They, as well as others, in this stage of career at our school are our future leaders, whether in the classroom or future school leaders, and as such are encouraged to take on lead roles within the school sharing and mentoring to those less experienced than themselves, and are expected to inform the key actions of the school from their perspective and this recent trip.

The Learning Counts strategy is still a focus of our school work daily: We want every child to succeed to their utmost and for that which may not be thought possible to be realised. Building and maintaining the high level of staff skills in the school assists us to bring to focus real learning in every classroom.
**Wicket** is our “new enrolment”, he is calm and friendly and going well in his new home - our school. I would like to acknowledge and thank Wendy Windley and her family for being the lead in Wicket’s life and providing him with his family home when he is not at school. The students are already benefiting from his presence and enjoying his visits to their classrooms.

Next week a group of our students will be visiting Parliament House at the invitation of Joe Kelly, Member for Greenslopes. These students will meet MP Rob Pine, and visit the gallery, before having a short tour with Joe. The student group will then bring the news of their visit back to Student Council.

I hope to see you at the Art Auction this Friday. Through the Arts and Art Auction and the support of our community, The Arts provides much learning and development for our students.

Yours in Partnership
Shauna

**From the Deputy Principal**

**Assistance Dogs Australia Workshops**

Assistance Dogs Australia run workshops to support parents in their decision making around getting a dog to support children with disabilities. I have attached a Flyer in this newsletter for your information. At the moment we are gauging parent interest in attending the workshop series at school – workshops depend on interested numbers and Assistance Dogs Australia availability so once we have established if there is interest we can organise a time. PLEASE NOTE whilst the program targets Autism it is open to ALL.

Interest can be indicated through a note in the communication diaries or by phoning the school 3308 6333. Thank you.

**Master Chef**

I had the privilege of attending lunch with the seniors last week. The program aims to develop life and work skills for students prior to their transition phase. Each session a particular student is the Master Chef who provides the recipe and assumes control of the kitchen. Last week Amba led the class in making Spaghetti Carbonara. It was delightful to see Amba taking charge and feeling so proud of her efforts as well as the encouragement and enthusiasm from the group. I can’t wait to try Carl’s pine nut and chicken pasta.
Unit Plans

Teachers have collaboratively developed this semester’s Unit Plans and Individual Curriculum Plans. Letters of endorsement will be coming home for you to sign off on in the near future. Please make an appointment with the class teacher at any time to discuss your child’s progress.

Sue Howell
Acting Deputy Principal

From School Administration

Student Absences – Late coming and Early Departure Slips
Thank you to all the parents who have been assisting the school in following the new absentee’s process for our school. If you arrive prior to 9.30am you will be able to take your son/daughter straight to class without obtaining a late slip, but you are still required to tell admin staff that they are here for pm transport. Students being picked up prior to 2.55 pm will need to collect an early departure slip to give to your son’s / daughter’s teacher.

TRANSPORT CHANGES
If you need to make changes to your son’s/daughter’s transport arrangement you must call the transport company or your driver as well as the school to inform everyone of the change of arrangements. This will help eliminating confusion in the afternoon when it is extremely busy and ensure our duty of care can be executed effectively.
If you are requiring permanent or temporary changes of transport please direct this to the administration staff ASAP so that the proper forms can be forwarded on to regional office to amend transport.

Music Therapy Payment
Music Therapy invoice for term 4 will be coming out in week 10 of term 3. The invoice will need to be paid in the first two weeks of next term for the program to continue in term 4. If you do not want your child to attend please contact the administration staff ASAP.

Leeanne Pedemont
Acting Business Services Manager

EPO News

Wicket is settling in nicely and he will gradually be attending classes and programs across the school over the next few weeks. He has spent the last 12 months training with Assistance Dogs Australia and can perform some very clever tasks and as his training increases there will be many more opportunities to include him into class activities.
We are aware that some students are not yet comfortable with dogs and are working with teachers and families on making this a very positive program for everyone.
Thank You to the P & C for supporting the training and set up costs to this point. Nursery Road is very fortunate to be able to be involved in such a fantastic program, the opportunities for everyone involved are limitless.
**Art Auction**
The Art Auction and Exhibition is on **Friday the 11th starting at 6.30pm**. It is not too late for tickets. It promises to be a great evening with wine and cheese, a jazz band and some wonderful pieces of art with all monies raised going to the school’s Art Infused Programs. Please make sure that you let all your family, friends and extended community know all the details or contact admin for tickets on 3308 6333.

Wendy Windley
Acting EPO

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**P & C Corner**

$300 Donation from Grill’d at Garden City
The P&C was the winner of the community “Local Matters” award recently. Thank You to Grill’d for including us and also to the families and friends that visited the store and supported it to help us get over the line and win!

“Halloween” Trivia Night on Friday, 30th of October at 7pm
Come along to a fun night of trivia and games. Tickets are only $10! Drinks and pizzas are available for purchase on the night. See flyer for further details. Get a table of family and friends together to raise funds for an electronic noticeboard. Would you like to win Season Passes to the Gold Coast Theme Parks and many other prizes? Do you know any businesses who might like to sponsor a table for $100 or $200 or donate raffle prizes big or small? Cash donations over $2 are tax deductible. We will acknowledge their generosity through signage and announcements on the night and also through social media and school newsletter. Please call Andrea Jost on 0411 115 955 or email at pandc@nurseryrdspecs.eq.edu.au with contact details and we will email them a formal request with further information. Also if you could put up a flyer in your local shops to advertise our trivia night, please write a note in your child’s communication book for some flyers to be sent home. For tickets please call admin on 3308 6333 or you can pay at the door.
Congratulations to Sissy Yao and Xibo on the arrival of their baby girl.

SEPTEMBER Sensory Movie Day

Pixels
11am, Sunday 13 September
Capalaba Cinemas

“Sensory Movie Day” was created for families with special needs. This movie experience is a positive, non-judgemental experience. Children are free to try every seat, flap or skin, fighting stays on skin. 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 rates are accepted. Tickets $8 each. No need to RSVP—just come along!

Sensory screening food options:
$5 milk popcorn & drink combo
$3 coffee

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

Search for “Sensory Movie Day Capalaba”
TRIVIA NIGHT
30 October 2015, 7pm
Nursery Road State Special School
Halloween theme
$10 per head
Get a group together or join a table on the night.
Prizes for best-dressed and games.
Beer + Wine + soft drinks + Pizza available for purchase.
Raising funds for electronic school noticeboard
For bookings: call Karen at NRSSS on 3388 6333

Happy Teacher Aide September 4th 2015
Our thanks and appreciation for the wonderful job our teacher aides do in supporting our teachers, students, parents, families to deliver quality teaching and learning support.

E-Waste Recycling Box
If you have electronic waste you would like to dispose of you can do so by using the E-Waste Recycling Box in the office which is serviced by Storage King as part of their commitment to community.

Examples for electronic waste are: Mobile phones, chargers, notebooks, printers, scanners, hard drives, electronic games/toys, keyboards, mice, floppy discs, CD drives, etc.

SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2015 TERM 3/4

P and C Meeting 6th October 7.00pm
Art Auction Friday Night 11th September

TRIVIA NIGHT
30th October

School Holidays Monday 21st September To 2nd October

Public Holiday Monday 5th October

School Resumes Tuesday 6th October