Join us for morning tea at our coffee shop.

"The Frothee Coffee Shoppee” is a school-based work experience program that is operated by our students on Friday mornings between 10am-12pm

Bookings essential

Need somewhere for your next meeting or conference? Available for hire is our new hall and also our hospitality centre, at reasonable rates. Please contact the school for more information.

State winner
showcase '08

Our Community Newsletter

751 Zillmere Road, Aspley Q 4034
PO Box 67, Zillmere Q 4034
Telephone: 07 3867 2333
Fax: 07 3263 7802
Email: the.principal@aspleyspecs.eq.edu.au
**Principal’s Update**

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2012... a little time coming but we have been caught up with the start of the year action. At least I know you read our newsletter as I have received a number of inquiries as to when it would be coming out – I hope it has been worth the wait.

As noted in my welcome letter in January, we start 2012 with **89 students in 15 classes**, including 23 new students in Year 8 equivalent. Our numbers will hit the 90 mark next week when a new student joins us from NZ. We have now doubled in size in the 4 years I have been at our school. To meet the needs of our growing student population our staffing levels have also increased with Aaron Shepherd (M3) and Jessica Wilke (M4) joining us from Geebung Special and Charters Towers respectively.

To meet growth demands a **new classroom** building has been located behind the hall that is being occupied by Ian’s and Anthony’s LASER behaviour program. A **new administrative block and manual arts facility** will be constructed this year, freeing up 2 additional classrooms to meet future needs.

On the topic of future needs, we are currently collaboratively developing our new Strategic Plan for the next 4 years. All staff are attending a workshop this Thursday evening to get the ball rolling and we invite parents to attend a **special parent focused workshop next Wednesday morning 29th February following the AGM which** begins at 9.30am. The workshop will provide parents with the opportunity to examine our current vision and to influence the direction of our school through some ‘blue sky thinking’ – creating a range of aspirational goals for our school. A note with a tear off rsvp slip will be sent out with more details by the end of the week.

Not that we want you to spend all your time here at school but in addition to the AGM and strategic plan workshop, we are offering you another opportunity to learn about our school through **Middle and Senior School Information evenings**. Traditionally we have held one session for the entire school but due to the fact we have grown and each section of the school has developed their own model of service delivery, this year separate evenings will be held starting with the **Middle School on Monday 5th of March at 6pm. The Senior School evening will be two weeks later on Monday 19th of March**. Child minding will be provided at both events. We strongly encourage all parents to attend their respective evening.

Our strong focus on positive behaviour support continues this year. We believe that if students are consistently making good choices they are more likely to be engaging in learning and achieving. As with previous years, we have started 2012 with a strong focus on our ‘Rule of 5’ – Gayle shares in her segment some of the activities that have already taken place in this regard. In addition to ongoing strategies and aligned with our **School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) Action Plan**, this year we have developed a **Consequence Set**.

This set is designed to **improve our consistency in implementing consequences** when students exhibit undesirable behaviours ... part of ‘learning for life’ is knowing there are rules and accepting that if we break rules there are negative consequences. Essentially there are 3 levels of consequences (diagram on next page):
LEVEL 1 (yellow)
Consequences managed in
MINOR learning environment by staff

LEVEL 2 (orange)
Consequences managed by the
MAJOR office (P/DP/HoC) and
parents notified (ph call)

LEVEL 3 (red)
External consequences, parent
SERIOUS meeting, suspension, police.

Last year ended and this year has begun on a sad note with the passing of two respected members of our school community. Our loved Occupational Therapist Jeni Griffin passed away on the second last day of school after a long, brave battle against cancer. Jeni influenced many of our students in some way but especially made a difference in the lives of students with physical impairments. Her passion, skills and zest for life will be greatly missed – our thoughts are with her two sons Liam and Gareth. Last Monday, a number of our staff and volunteers attended the funeral of Bob Prouse, one of our legendary Kingfisher volunteers. Bob in his later years was confined to a motor scooter but this did not restrict his movements or ability to keep an eye on recycling at KFC at all hours of the day. Bob was not backwards in coming forwards in telling the school (mainly the Principal) on what improvements were required up at Kingfisher. Bob’s contribution to our community was enormous and he too will be sadly missed. Our condolences have gone out to Bob’s wife Sally and his family.

We are looking forward to partnering with you in 2012 and maximising achievement for our most precious commodity – your child/our students.

Cheers Chris Lassig
Deputy's Update

It has been a hectic start to 2012 with the newsletter not going out till week 5!! Great to see all the students, parents and staff and especially to the new members of our school community.

I have been very impressed with how our new students have settled in to the routine at Aspley Special School. It is very different from primary school and I hope that at home you are hearing many positive stories about the activities they are doing and the friends they are making.

Throughout the first couple of weeks there has been a focus on teaching and learning our school rules and expectations. We are now seeing the flow on effects of Geebung Special School sharing the same rules. The new students from there arrive with a greater understanding of our expectations.

For new parents you may have heard your child mention the raffle ticket program. Raffle tickets are given to students when they are seen doing the “right” thing. Each Monday on Assembly 3 raffle tickets are randomly selected. These students receive bonus raffle vouchers as well as the accolades from the rest of the school. All the raffle tickets are returned to the classrooms to accumulate and at the end of the term or semester students can use these to choose a prize. Over the past couple of years some students have earned prizes such as ipod shuffles, vouchers to sport shops, playstation games or usb sticks. So please discuss this with your child and encourage them to work at collecting them and doing the “right” thing.

We have also had a specific focus on “Right Place – Right Time”. With the structural changes we have made separating the senior and middle school areas and timetables this is an important behaviour for all our students to be reminded of. Congratulations students you are mostly doing a great job of this!

If any parents would like a laminated A4 copy of our school rules the office is happy to provide them. Please let your teacher know in your child’s communication book.

Just a couple of reminders….

- Please ensure your child’s communication book is sent to school every day
- Please inform the office if your child will be away from school, especially if their class will be out of the school on that day (transport also requires you to contact them)
- Students are to wear school uniform, especially on Community Based Instruction Days (please no short shorts)
- Students must wear enclosed shoes, especially for Cooking, Manual Arts and Recycling
- Please provide a swimming cap and goggles if required if your child is participating in a swimming program
- When visiting the school please make sure the office is your first port of call…. We always love to see parents and we will need to locate your child as they may not be in their own classroom.

Looking forward to catching up with families later in the term.

Gayle Morton
**Dates to Remember**

- Immunisation Term One: Thurs 23rd Feb
- P&C Annual General Meeting & Strategic Planning Workshop: Wed 29th Feb
- Middle School Info Evening: Mon 5th March
- Senior School Info Evening: Mon 19th March

**From the Office**

Welcome back to all old and new students.

The past holidays seem to come and gone so quickly. Hope everyone had a great break.

We are all in full swing or should I say spin here in the office. There seems to be so much going on. If you have not returned to the office paperwork sent home to you, or you have misplaced it, please contact the office and we make sure that you get another copy.

Many parents and carers have paid or are paying off their Voluntary Contributions. Thank you. This contribution is fully tax deductible so keep your receipts.

Every newsletter I try to give some quotes or jokes. So here goes—quotes about Happiness.

If you want to be happy, be!

The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up.

Those who can laugh without cause have either found the true meaning of happiness or have gone stark raving mad!

Finishing with:-

We tend to forget that happiness doesn’t come as a result of getting something we don’t have, but rather of recognizing and appreciating what we do have.

Till next newsletter.

*Leanne, Lea & Beryl*
From the P&C

The P&C AGM will be held on Wednesday 29th February at 9:30am.

We extend an invitation to you to join us for the passing out of the old executive and the welcoming of the new. Not that we would like to be referred to as ‘old’!

As this is my last entry in the Newsletter, let me take the opportunity to wish you only the best for your child’s future at Aspley Special School. Our students are in good and caring hands, to guide them through their remaining school years!

Sue Stephenson
P&C President

Birthday Wishes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joshua A</td>
<td>on the 7th January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Lam</td>
<td>on the 9th January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark C</td>
<td>on the 11th January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashleigh S</td>
<td>on the 12th January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex</td>
<td>on the 14th January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James N</td>
<td>on the 22nd January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate-Lyn</td>
<td>on the 28th January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masi</td>
<td>on the 2nd February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke</td>
<td>on the 6th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Po</td>
<td>on the 9th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean</td>
<td>on the 10th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>on the 19th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel A</td>
<td>on the 21st February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivia</td>
<td>on the 21st February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Lu</td>
<td>on the 24th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven</td>
<td>on the 24th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riley</td>
<td>on the 26th February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily B</td>
<td>on the 27th February</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grant Application

The school is applying for a joint Officeworks/Barnardos grant to help parents and carers cover the cost of school excursions. If our application is successful, a small grant will be paid to the school to be used to help cover excursion costs. As a part of the application, we are required to provide first and last names and dates of birth along with brief descriptions of the students we are applying for funding for. If you are happy for your student's details to be released to Officeworks and Barnardos for the purposes of this application only, please complete the permission form included with this newsletter.

Details of the grant application process can be found at [https://www.bmaxe.com.au/html/](https://www.bmaxe.com.au/html/)
Immunisation Program Comes to School

This year Brisbane City Council is providing free vaccinations for all Year 8 and Year 10 students as part of Queensland Health's annual School Based Vaccination Program.

Year 8 students are being offered vaccination to protect against hepatitis B and chickenpox while Year 10 students are being offered protection against diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (whooping cough).

Female students in Year 8 are also being offered Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to protect against cervical cancer.

The vaccinations will be conducted by a team of specially trained registered nurses and/or a medical practitioner.

A consent form for each vaccination offered will be given to your child to bring home. Please read the information carefully, sign the consent form irrespective of whether you wish your child to be vaccinated or not and return the consent form to the school.

Parents are encouraged to ensure their children have breakfast on the morning of the vaccination.

For more information about diseases, vaccines or the School Based Vaccination Program, visit www.health.qld.gov.au/school_vaccination/ or call 13 Health on 13 43 25 84.

PAULS COLLECT A CAP!!!!

We are continuing to collect Pauls milk caps to raise funds for the school - There are containers in the staffroom to collect them in. We have one box full from last year and will take them all to the desiganted delivery day later in the year.

Remember to wash the caps out properly !!!

Thankyou

Many thanks go to the Andrae, Pringle and Rotolone families for the assistance in the bread collection for our school programs every Monday night. It is much appreciated by the school staff, relative programs and the school families that benefit from your time.
Department of Education (DET) Information for Parents

Get online updates from the Department of Education and Training

Want to find out more about the latest parent resources or post-school options for your child? Or maybe you are interested in kindy news for the younger members of your family? The Department's Facebook, Twitter page and YouTube channel are a great way to stay connected and get up-to-the-minute news about education and training in Queensland.

Visit www.deta.qld.gov.au and click on the Facebook, Twitter and YouTube buttons to get instant access.

Insurance cover for Students

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury.

Parents are advised the Department of Education and Training does not have student accident insurance cover for students.

If your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs are the responsibility of the parent or caregiver.

Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If you have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered by your provider. Any other costs must be covered by parents. Student accident insurance pays some benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident.

It is up to all parents to decide what types and what level of private insurance they wish to arrange to cover their child. Please contact your insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker if you wish to take out student personal accident insurance cover for your child.
Please support these businesses that proudly support our school!
Your Friendly Local Club!
For a Great Night Out,
a Quick Lunch or
Special Event
GEEBUNG-ZILLMERE RSL CLUB
Cnr Newman Rd & Collings St Geelong Ph: 5265 3771 www.gersl.com

SAVewayS
Peter Chaseling
Manager
30 Robinson Rd Virginia Q 4014
www.saveways.com.au

Kitchens & Office Furniture
Ph: 3365 2555
Fax: 3365 2450
14 Altona Creek Rd, Aspley, Qld 4034

ASPLEY LEAGUES CLUB LTD.
28 Killy Rd, Aspley 2 4534
Ph: 3365 3833
www.aspleyleaguesclub.com.au

ZILLMERE SPORTS
330 Zillmere Rd, Zillmere Q 4034
Ph: 3365 3833
www.zillmereports.com.au

BunyA Sports
Cnr Jellicoe St & Buny St, Bunya Q 4035
Ph: 3365 3833
www.bunyasports.com.au

A Shabby Streak
456 Beaufortfield Iive
BRIGHTON 4017
Tel: 07 3269 0300
shabby chic & designer furnitures,
Gifts, Accessories & Home Decors

SPecIAL SCHOOL
learning for life

VOUCHER-
BUY ONE COFFEE AND GET ONE FREE
(Bring this voucher with you)

“The Frothee Coffee Shoppee”
is a school based work experience program
that is operated by our students on Friday mornings

--bookings are essential.

D. B. ELECTRICAL
Pty Ltd
Andrew Munn
Operations Manager
Mobile: 0411 881 885
andre@dbelectrical.com.au
Alan Clark
Operations Manager
Mobile: 0411 881 885
also@dbelectrical.com.au
Darrin Birkby
Mobile: 0411 881 885
darrin@dbelectrical.com.au

LICENSED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
55/111 JOHNSTON Rd, BUNDALE
Tel: (07) 3889 7766
www.dbelectrical.com.au
ABN 90 005 318 194

ASPLEY MEMORIAL BOWLS CLUB INC
NEMIRA STREET, ASPLEY
T 3263 3020 E aspleymbc@bigpond.com.au
NEW MEMBERS WELCOME
COME & PLAY BAREFOOT BOWLS

SPEECH PATHOLOGY SERVICES
Children & Adolescents
Dr. Sandra McMahon, BApp Sc (Sp, Pth), PhD, MSpA
Director

*Annerley • Camp Hill • Bundah • Keperra
* The Gap • Kenmore • Centre & Home Visits
Ph: 07 3343 4787 M: 0413 683 433 • PO Box 98, Annerley Qld 4103
E-mail: sandra.mcmahon@speechnet.com.au
www.speechnet.com.au

Please support these businesses that proudly support our school!