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.

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**

Travelling is great but it’s **good to be home**... my thoughts on my return from long service leave and a stint as Principal at Southport Special School. I’m very grateful to have been given the opportunity to experience another school, especially now that I have been at Aspley for close to five years. Southport is a very large school on a small campus so I’m enjoying being back in the spacious, green surrounds of our school. In saying that I learnt a lot being at Southport especially in terms of their ‘active learning’ program for students with high support needs. I have come back with some ideas for the future but mainly learnt that **we are doing a fantastic job here** at Aspley. Thanks and well done must go to Gayle, Carl and Kylie G who did a wonderful job leading the school in my absence. We have tremendous leaders here, across all roles and this ensures we are not reliant on just a few key people to function effectively. Thanks team.

Whilst on the subject of leaders, our outstanding Head of Mentoring, Simone Coogan has done a tremendous job establishing the **Teacher Education Centre of Excellence for Special Education** over the past year. Her efforts, backed by a committed team of mentors culminated in the **official opening of the centre by the Minister for Education, Training and Employment**, John-Paul Langbroek on Thursday 19th of July. Many Special Education leaders were present at the opening which was part of the inaugural ‘Spread Your Wings’ Conference. We are very proud to be lead school of this innovative, regional initiative that will ensure we have high quality, confident and resilient beginning teachers supporting students in special education settings. Well done Simone.

Committed, dedicated teachers are vital to maximise outcomes for our students. Each year, the **National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA)** recognises the work of inspirational teachers and leaders. We are delighted to share that one of our teachers has been nominated by our community to receive a **2012 NEiTA Inspirational Teaching Award**. **Congratulations to Alison Hawe** our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden teacher. Teaching is a vocation rather than an occupation for Alison – she lives and breathes her role as a teacher. She has dedicated herself to our students through various programs especially horticulture, SAKG, recycling, community garden, fundraising and numerous community events. Alison is exceptionally skilled in nurturing partnerships— with this in mind please read her article in this newsletter where she recognises those who have assisted her in her teaching role.

If you have been into school lately you will have noticed enormous changes with the old admin block being demolished to make way for our new building. The office has been relocated to the old manual arts room adjacent to the driveway... interesting enough we have more room in our temporary office than we did in the old block. Preparatory works have now begun on the new building with completion due late in November. Progress on the new manual arts facility (near the pool) is steady also with an earlier completion date expected. Thanks once again to our entire school community for your understanding and cooperation during this large, important project.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all parents and carers to attend a **School-Home Communication Think Tank on Wednesday 29th August at 9.30am**. We are always looking for ways to improve our communication between school and home and this meeting will enable staff and parents to identify strengths and areas for improvement. Our community identified this as a priority in our new Strategic Plan so we would appreciate your input.

On the theme of input, some of you may have received a **School Opinion Survey** to complete. This survey provides important data on how satisfied parents/carers are with key
aspects of our school. This data is subsequently used to identify ‘hot spots’ for attention and areas of strength. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey and return/lodge it by Friday 10\textsuperscript{th} August.

Teachers are currently collaborating with parents and carers to develop new priority goals for Semester 2 as part of each student’s Senior Education and Training (SET) Plan. Thanks for your active involvement in this important planning process that is designed to help ensure we meet the specific needs of every student.

Lastly I would like to wish our NZ Study Tour all the very best for their upcoming trip to the North Island of New Zealand. This tour will be a trip of a lifetime and a Queensland first. Thanks to Greg, Kylie G, Yolanda, parent volunteers and our tour sponsors for making this dream a reality. I’m joining the tour also and can’t wait to meet our kiwi friends we have been communicating with online.

E noho rā (Maori Goodbye)

\textit{Chris Lassig}

\textbf{Deputy Principals Update}

It is already week four of the term and it has been a very hectic one for the office and Admin. I would like to personally thank everyone involved in packing and moving the office from the old Admin Block (now demolished) to our new temporary office in the old Manual Arts Building. We have quickly settled in and the large open space seems very welcoming and spacious compared to our old office.

I would also like to congratulate the whole school community for the patience and understanding you have shown since the facilities project began. It has been very noisy and dusty at times, with lots of trucks delivering and large machinery digging and pounding concrete. It was also tricky using the Coffee Shop for the staffroom for a couple of weeks so I would like to thank Kylie Taylor and all the Hospitality crew for being our temporary hosts. Onedec Construction have also been very understanding of our needs and their Site Manager David Chown is rapidly becoming a familiar face around the school.

This year we celebrated Admin Day on Tuesday 24\textsuperscript{th} July. Our hardworking office staff all received flowers and a card to thank them for all that they do to help keep our school running and to know that we appreciate them. Thanks Leanne, Lea and Beryl!

During the holidays some of you may have read in the local newspaper that the Kingfisher Centre shed was broken into and about $300+ worth of copper that our students and wonderful volunteers had collected from dismantling computers was stolen. Well one bad story became a good one. The Northern Brisbane RAAF Association read the story in the newspaper and contacted us to make a donation. So on Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} July the President, Kel Clarkson (pictured below) and the Secretary Bob Bingham presented Shaun McKeown our Kingfisher Centre Coordinator with a cheque for $1000 on the school Assembly. This was a wonderfully generous gesture from the local community.
Another community organisation who have been donating to the school for over 30 years, the Aspley Orchid Society, also held their annual Mother’s Day Show and raised $3000 this year to donate to the school. We have invited them to the Frothee Coffee Shoppee this term for the presentation of the donation. This donation and the $3000 the Aspley Lions Club donated earlier this year is targeted for a shade cover for the recreational playground in the Middle School area. We are very privileged to have such generous community friends.

This week we were also lucky to have the Lockwood V8 Supercar visit our school. Tom Briggs, the husband of one of our Teacher Aides, Maria organised this for us and it was a great way to launch our “Passports to Gold Coast 600”. This is another way students can use their raffle tickets to work towards attending this event in October. Last term many students took up the opportunity to use their raffle tickets (as well as stay off behaviour cards) to have fun at Lazer Zone. Thanks Tom, the students were very impressed!!

Gayle Morton

Recognising our Community

Recently I was very honoured to receive a nomination from our school community for a National Excellence in Teaching Award. I regard this as recognition of the vital role played in our school by the many volunteers, businesses and allied associations who have supported Aspley Special School in recent years, most notably with the formation of the Community Garden and Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden. Community Engagement is a category of the National Award, with an inaugural Award also for Disability Inclusion. I am looking forward to supporting Aspley Special School students, past and present, and our wider community, by promoting our initiatives to the NEITA (National Excellence in Teaching Awards) Foundation in the next stage. Thank you very much to all who have been involved in the establishment of our gardening projects. This nomination would not have been possible without your efforts.

Alison Hawe.
School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Our “Rule of 5” and new Consequence Set continue to help us to respond consistently to student behaviour at school. We also continue to focus on one rule each week on Monday assembly and reinforce this and discuss how the week went at the Friday assembly. This has become a part of our school routine and has allowed us to reinforce positive behaviours and discuss negative ones and how we can improve. Students are given constant reminders of our 5 simple expectations and we also explain that these are “Rules for Life” that we all should follow.

It has been a busy term and we hope to get back to assisting you at home with our reminder tips. The last SWPBS meeting was also postponed until later in the term so we can devote more time to going through our Action Plan for 2012.

Curriculum

It only happens every four years, and for some it couldn’t come around quick enough, but while many of us have been shouting hysterically at our televisions and living the highs and lows of our tremendous athletes as if we too had put in the same gruelling hours of training and dedication, there are equally as many out there who will be grateful to return to the ‘normality’ of not being bombarded through every mode of media possible about the events of the 2012 Olympic Games which are currently taking place in London.

While we may disagree about the intensity of the coverage of the games, or whether or not Equestrian dressage is really a sport, there is no denying that the Olympic games can provide one of the most rich and diverse learning contexts for our students with a dizzying array of academic, moral and social learning opportunities on offer.

Whether it be learning about the importance of fair play and sportsmanship, or the value of cultural diversity and difference, or perhaps how these athletes train and eat in order to become as healthy and fit as they are, or even how the distance of a discus throw is measured or a 100m sprint timed, the Olympic games provide an engaging and motivating way for our students to learn valuable skills and new understandings and it is for this reason that a number of our classes within the school have taken to focussing strongly on the games over their two weeks duration.

Many teachers have been adapting their lessons to take advantage of the above and we have seen some great examples of learning taking place relating to the games including medal tallying for Maths, sport themed sight words and texts for literacy and various art activities around the flags and symbols of the games. The students appear to be really enjoying this experience and we encourage you to help them connect to the games at home too by reading some news stories or watching some highlights with them. I’m sure through this you’ll see the many learning opportunities that the games can provide!
In addition to our focus on the games, in the middle school our students are currently engaged in a Science unit on ‘Day and Night’ where we are exploring with some the observable features of day and night and with others the causes of this through learning about the Earth’s rotation and the truth about the Sun and the Moon. It’s fascinating stuff for our students and we hope to celebrate our learning about this with an excursion to the Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium later in the term so stay tuned for more information on We look forward to sharing more with you soon.

Carl England

From the Office

Wow! It seems that we have been back to work for most of this term, with packing and moving to the old manual arts room (our temporary office) until our new permanent office is built. Yippee!!! Really looking forward to the completion.

We have been collecting 5 cent coins for a few years now for the Fred Hollows Foundation – Australian Indigenous. So if you would like to send in your 5 cent coins they will be much appreciated.

We would like to thank Kerri Hagan from Hobby Craft Group (Skye Gosper-Cooper’s aunty BB’s input) for their generous donation to the Fred Hollows Foundation of $79.00 which was then matched by Crosscrapes for the same amount.
Thank you to all.

Payments for camps, excursions etc can be made to the school via cash, cheque, eftpos, or direct debit. If doing direct debit, please note the bank account numbers on the invoice as we have two accounts. If doing a Voluntary contribution (DGR account-tax deductible) it will be into the Aspley Special School DGR account. Another option to pay Voluntary contributions is to pay fortnightly through Centre Link. If you have any problems or need any information, do not hesitate to call us in the office, we are happy to help in any way.

Various booksellers are still leaving books, puzzles, games, etc in our office for your perusal at any time. These items are at discounted prices and are great gifts for those birthdays that come along and also to put away for Christmas.

I have over time tried to either write a few jokes, quotes or sayings. It doesn’t take much to start feeling the benefits of humour, for that matter, just smiling for no reason at all can improve your mood.
Smile – if you can’t lift the corners, let the middle sag!

The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half!

I didn’t fall. The floor just needed a hug!

If it’s sent by ship then it’s a cargo, if it’s sent by road it’s a shipment!!!

Till next newsletter.

Leanne, Lea & Beryl

Dates to Remember

NZ Study Tour 13-17 August
Exhibition Wednesday 15 August
Coffee Shop 17 August
Uniform Shop 9:30-11:30 22 August
Immunisation 23 August
Bunnings Sausage Sizzle 24 August
Class Photos 3 September
Uniform Shop 9:30-11:30 12 September
Bunnings Sausage Sizzle 17 September
School Holidays 22 September

Birthday Wishes

Kajal 4th July
Adrian 12th July
Jay 13th July
Morgan 14th July
Andrew 18th July

The Frothee Coffee Shoppee
Dates for Term 3 2012

17th August
24th August
31st August
07th September
14th September

Operating hours 10am - 12noon. Bookings are essential as space is limited.
Phone 3867 2333 to make a booking.
**Workshops**
The school office has brochures for a number of workshops for People working with & caring for Children & Adolescents with special needs.

1. Disability & Grief
2. Camp Have a Chat

If you would like more information on the above please contact the school office on 3867 2333.

The office also has a copy of the Endeavour Foundation’s Assisted Holidays, so if you are interested in a copy please contact the office.

**Name that veggie . . . . .**
Camp Have a Chat

Application Form

Friday 5 October 2012
Tuesday 2 October to

Camp Have a Chat

Cerebral Palsy League

WWW.CPLDI.ORG.AU

E: KJ@CPLDI.ORG.AU
P: 07 3837 6316
P: 07 3637 6376
Geebung QLD 4034
354 Ellin Road
Cerebral Palsy League

Under the auspices of:
Non-school Organizations

Government through:
This project is assisted by the Commonwealth.

P: (07) 3837 6376
Kyte Wilson. Camp Coordinator

By filling in the below, please contact:
For further queries, please contact:

Successful Applications will be notified.

Applications must be received by Monday 5th of August 2012. A committee will select a group of 16.

Students to attend the full camp.

Optional Questions:

Student - Someone may help you answer.

Parent/Carer/Indicate the reason that you would like to learn about my child's

Communication Is: “...

One thing I would like to learn about my child's...

One thing I would like to learn about my child's...

One thing I would like to learn about my child's...

One thing I would like to learn about my child's...

I'm looking forward to camp because:...
Dear Families,

In the last three years Aspley Special School ICT team has put a big emphasis on renewing our ICT resources. The school interactive white boards (IWB) installed more than 5 years ago are slowly giving way and are ready to be changed.

The ICT team planned to replace IWB in the middle school first. In last two years Middle school got two Hitachi Interactive white boards which are located in Kevin’s and Carl’s room. At the beginning of this year we bought our first Interactive LCD screen which is located in Yolanda’s room. This new LCD screen has proven to be valuable in the classroom. They are a new technology and are much easier to use. After seeing the benefits of the LCD screen in the classroom we have decided to continue with the introduction of this technology in other classes.

**Information & Digital Media Technology**

We have 5 students enrolled in Certificate I in IDMT (Information & Digital Media Technology) through Brisbane School of Distance Education (BSDE). This is a fantastic opportunity for students to gain accreditation. Students will attend the BSDE Campus for 2 days during the semester.

In term two the school community was informed that we were planning to record the whole school Flash Mob Dance. After five weeks of practising we videotaped it in the second last week of term. The movie is ready to go on the school website and it will appear day after the newsletter comes out. All families are welcome to visit the school website. We would also like to put this movie on youtube to show off our students great dancing abilities. Please let us know if you have any objections. We hope you will enjoy watching the movie.

**IT jokes**

Computers have lots of memory but no imagination

*Author Unknown*

Computers are like air conditioners. They work fine, until you start opening windows.

*Author Unknown*
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E-Mail: sanda.mcmahon@speechnet.com.au
www.speechnet.com.au

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