Principal’s Update

It has been another fantastic year for students at Aspley Special School.

Congratulations to all of the 2014 Aspley Special School graduates. We wish you all the best for your future. The senior school leaders and graduates exemplary leadership and assistance with other students has set a benchmark for the 2015 school leaders and graduates to aspire to achieve. Well done and you will be missed.

2014 was a big year for the school. There were a lot of staff changes during the year and our students, with the support of our staff, responded well to these. The ability to adapt to different people, routines and changes in general is an important life skill that we like to develop with support at our school and I congratulate our students on responding so well to the changes in 2014.

This year the school was provided with additional funding to assist learning. Our Great Results Guarantee funding enabled us to:

- Increase the level of communication, reading and numeracy for each student based on each student’s individual learning plan.
- Improve teacher capability through focused coaching and professional development to improve student performance
- Increase the engagement of students in literacy, numeracy and other skills through the implementation of a structured, evidence-based resource relevant to the learners at Aspley Special School—ASDAN.

Aspley Special School was recognised in the Discipline Audit process as a school with the majority of comments in the outstanding category. Very few schools in the state had such significant results. It was no accident that this occurred. It was a reflection of the hard work by students, parents and staff embedding Our Rule of 5. Congratulations to all for ensuring that Aspley Special School’s Wide Positive Behaviour Support approach is real and meaningful for all of our school community.

Our students’ learning is supported by families and carers. The support of these important people ensures that learning is deep, embedded and sustained. Thank you for supporting your child’s’ learning in 2014.

Deputy Principal’s Update

2014 has been an exciting and eventful year at Aspley Special School as you may have noticed if you were here to see the "Highlights of 2014" movie at the Awards Night. The teachers and teacher aides are all to be commended for their commitment to improving student learning and their continued support and passion during a year which saw numerous changes in the office and Admin team.

A big "thankyou" to all the ancillary staff for all your help and support. There is always so many people to thank at the end of a school year so - Thankyou to all the students, parents and community members who have assisted and supported our school.

There have been a number of events this term that must be mentioned. The Senior 2 & 3 camp at Maroon Dam Outdoor Education Centre. This was a great camp for students to work on their resilience and teamwork. As you can see from the pictures, they had a great time and worked well together. Thanks to Philippa and David and also to Jo and Jeanette for accompanying the students. Thanks also to Carl and Peter for transporting them.
The formal is always a highlight of the school year and an important one as it is that culminating event when a student is graduating. Thanks to Janine for coordinating. The students and parents had a wonderful night. It’s always great to see them dressed up and so grown up.

The Awards Night is also very special and it was great to see such a good turnout. Thanks also to Luke and Ashley for organising the Carols and to all the staff who helped on the night at the Sausage Sizzle and during the ceremony. Congratulations to all the award recipients!

This week we are having a special Fun Day sponsored by the Townsend Bus Company. Weather permitting we will have a rock climbing wall and a trackless train. Plus some other fun activities. Also an ice-cream truck and pizza for lunch. Then on Wednesday the students can redeem their raffle tickets that they have earned during the term for a raffle prize. For the break up day students can come in free dress (no cost) and we will have a short disco at the end of the day.

Students will also be receiving their yearbook this week. The yearbook also highlights what a busy year the school has had. Thank you Mira for all your time and effort to get this completed in time.

Wishing all the students, families and staff a fabulous festive season and a safe and relaxing holiday. See you in 2015

Cheers
Gayle Morton
Deputy Principal

Head of Curriculum

With the end of the year upon us, there is no better time to reflect upon the amazing achievements of our students. Having just read about our student’s accomplishments through their end of year reports, it was clear that 2014 was another fantastic year at Aspley Special School. Whether it be the attainment of a challenging priority goal or progress within an area of our curriculum, our students achievements are worthy of all our praise. I encourage all parents and carers to acknowledge their child’s achievements by reading their reports and helping them celebrate their achievements in 2014.

Another way we recognise our students’ successes is via our annual Awards Evening which was held last Thursday in our school hall. Our Awards Evening is a
fantastic event and provides our school community with an opportunity to come together and publically acknowledge those students who have achieved above and beyond expectation. We had another great turn out for the night with over 250 students, friends and family members attending. The evening was concluded with a sausage sizzle and a round of carols where the crowd was treated to the talents of our in-house musician Luke McDonald. It was an amazing evening and I’d like to thank all of our school community, especially our parent, carers and their families and friends for attending and making the night such a special event.

I would like to thank Arthur for all his work and help during his time at our school. Thank you Arthur.

As you know, we collect 5 cent coins for the Fred Hollows Foundation-Indigenous and this year we banked $183.35. What an effort -so many 5 cent pieces. Thank you.

If anyone would like to advertise their business in our newsletter, please contact any of us in the office. For a business card size for 6 months, the cost is $55.00.

Go with the Flow:

Life is like riding a stream. Some people spend their life swimming against the current. Some people thrash about in a permanent panic. Some people never jump in.

It is easier to go with the flow. The more flexible you are, the better you feel and the better life works.

Money will sometimes be tight and sometimes be plentiful. People will sometimes promise more than they deliver. You will have days when it seems everything is going wrong.

On those tough days, as on every day, affirm to yourself, “Everything will work out fine!”

You cannot control everything. You don’t have to control everything. You don’t have to know HOW things will work out!

A Christmas joke:

How was your Christmas Meal?

We had grandma for Christmas dinner.

Really – We had turkey!!

We wish you all a great holiday, a great Christmas and please be safe.

See you all when school resumes on Tuesday 27 January 2015.
Birthday Wishes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annie</td>
<td>24 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claire</td>
<td>25 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey</td>
<td>26 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob B</td>
<td>12 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake F</td>
<td>27 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe L</td>
<td>22 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate</td>
<td>19 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy</td>
<td>15 November</td>
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</tbody>
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Kingfisher Report for November/December

It has been another good month of recycling with Students and Volunteers working very hard.

I cannot believe another year has gone and Christmas will soon be here. Thank you all for a great year and all your hard work throughout this year and I look forward to another great year in 2015.

If you have any computers or televisions working or not, either at home or work and do not need them anymore please bring them down for recycling. Also if you have any cardboard, newspaper or magazines please bring them down.

Below is a list of what was recycled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PVC Wire</td>
<td>145Kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Aluminium</td>
<td>26Kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminium Cans</td>
<td>43Kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Supplies</td>
<td>62Kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Circuit Boards</td>
<td>37Kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light Gauge Steel</td>
<td>3040Kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardboard</td>
<td>(Approx.)16000Kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass crushed</td>
<td>3400Kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approximate Total Weight: 22753Kg

Thank you for all your support and hard work by all students, volunteers and staff.

Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Graeme Agius
Education Support Officer
Kingfisher Recycling Centre

From the School Chaplain

This will be my last newsletter item as I am finishing up at the end of this year. I have loved being here at Aspley and am really going to miss seeing the students, staff and families. Thank you to everyone who made me feel so welcome and part of the community here. This is a truly special place and I am privileged to have been a part of it. Next year I have accepted a teaching position at another school working with students with learning support needs.

Whilst I have been here I have been captivated with the way parents and carers go to amazing lengths to care for their children and work to give them the best opportunities possible. You deserve so much more than you may ever be recognised for and I trust that the joys of parenting will be part of your journey, not just the harder moments. I love the saying in the photo. Sometimes as parents we know this through and through – we do things for our children, we go out of our way for many years to help them, love them and grow them. Sometimes it works well, and sometimes it doesn’t! But in the end our children need love and increasing the “love dose” is often the only answer we have to comfort and support them.

Over the holidays I hope you have a lovely Christmas and that the joy of this season is part of your journey. Best wishes to all the graduating students (and families) – may the future be an adventure! Thank you once again to everyone who has been part of my time here at Aspley - I hope we can connect in the future.

Ruth Snoswell
Chaplain
Dates to Remember

Uniform Shop 9.00-11am  
21 January 2015
1st Day of School-Tuesday  
27 January 2015

Free dental check-ups and treatment available now!

Regular dental check-ups and early preventive care are an important part of good oral health.

Metro North Oral Health Services are offering your child a dental check-up through the Bracken Ridge Dental Clinic or one of our school based dental facilities. They will also receive additional appointments if any treatment is needed – all free of charge!

There have been some changes to who we can now offer dental care to. The following children are eligible for our service now:

- ALL Students 4 years of age through to year 10
- Students in Years 11 and 12 who have a current Centrelink Card, Healthcare Card or Pension Card
- 2 – 3 year olds whose parents have a current Centrelink Card, Healthcare Card or Pension Card
- 2 – 17 year olds who are eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS). To check your eligibility visit the website at my.gov.au or phone 132001

This offer of care is an opportunity to provide your child with more timely access to public dental care and we also now have the ability to offer more regular recalls for children who attend our service. So if it has been more than six months since your child’s last check-up ring us up now.

Call 1300 300 850 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Tuesday - Friday and our friendly staff will arrange an appointment for you at the Bracken Ridge Dental Clinic or one of our school-based dental facilities.

The Frothee Coffee Shoppee

COFFEE SHOP DATES 2015

20th February 2015
27th February 2015
06th March 2015
13th March 2015
20th March 2015
27th March 2015

Please note that the Coffee Shop takes two sittings 10am and 11am. Bookings are essential as spaces are limited.

Please phone the school office on 3867 2333 to make your reservation.

Thank you

What is this?
Fun, interactive & integrated dance classes
Activity during the holidays
Make new friends
Break multi-level barriers
An engaging and safe space to express, learn & grow

Who are we?
At the Butterfly Effect Project, we are unique. We don’t just provide active and therapeutic dance, music and drama classes for children and adults with disability; we focus on the cognitive, intuitive and physical improvements of our participants, encouraging the growth of each individual’s mind, body & spirit.

Classes Available?
Ballet/Contemporary
Street Jazz
Hip-hop
Latin Fitness

When & Where?
15-27 December 2014
The Dance Works: 19 Burke St, Woolloongabba
3 classes/week @ $30/week
Casual class attendance @ $12 per class

For more information please email us at grow@butterflyeffectproject.org or call Roshni at 0400 709 303

P & C News
Dear Parents and carer’s,
Just wanted to say a big thankyou from the P & C to everyone who donated scratchies and sold raffle tickets. The response was amazing, with enough scratchies donated to have 6 prizes this year !!!!!

The raffle raised $1220!!! - which is fantastic. The money will be spent on buying the graduating students next year their special Graduation jersey. Wishing you all a safe and happy break, and thanks again.

Cheers
Sharon Cameron
P&C President

Recipes from the office

Christmas Ice cream Cake

INGREDIENTS
1 ½ packets chocolate sponge rolls
2 litres hokey pokey ice-cream, softened
2 x 55g Violet Crumble bars, roughly chopped
180g block white chocolate, chopped
1/3 cup thickened cream

Halved strawberries, or other berries, white chocolate curls and sliver cachous, to decorate.

METHOD
1. Line an 8 cup-capacity pudding basin with plastic wrap. Cut chocolate rolls into 1cm thick slices. Reserve 4 slices. Line base and side of prepared pan with remaining cake slices, trimming to fit.
2. Place ice-cream in a bowl. Fold in Violet Crumble and hazelnuts. Spoon into prepared pan. Level top with a spatula. Arrange reserved cake slices on top of ice-cream, pressing slightly to secure. Cover with plastic wrap, then foil. Freeze overnight.
3. Place chocolate and cream in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on medium (50%) for 2 to 3 minutes or until smooth, stirring with a metal spoon every 30 seconds. Set aside for 15 minutes to cool slightly.
4. Turn pudding onto a plate. Remove plastic wrap. Spoon 1/3 of the chocolate sauce over pudding. Stand for 5 minutes. Decorate with strawberries, chocolate curls and cachous. Serve with remaining chocolate sauce

Christmas Coleslaw

INGREDIENTS
¼ red cabbage, finely shredded
1 large red capsicum, thinly sliced
1 small red onion, halved, thinly sliced
120g snow pea sprouts, trimmed

Dressing:
½ cup light sour cream
½ cup orange juice
2cm piece ginger, peeled and finely grated

INGREDIENTS
1 ½ packets chocolate sponge rolls
2 litres hokey pokey ice-cream, softened
2 x 55g Violet Crumble bars, roughly chopped
180g block white chocolate, chopped
1/3 cup thickened cream
2 teaspoons poppy seeds

METHOD

1. Make dressing: whisk sour cream, orange juice, ginger and poppy seeds in a bowl until well combined. Season with salt and pepper.

2. Combine cabbage, capsicum, onion and snow pea sprouts in a large bowl. Add dressing, toss well to combine.