Day 8, the eighth day of the school year occurred on Thursday 2 February. On this day we download all of our enrolment information in the school management system, “OneSchool” and this information is utilised to finalise staffing and resourcing for the 2017 school year.

On Day 8, our school had an enrolment of 838 students. Compared to last year, we have increased by 44 students. This is quite significant growth for a school our size. You would normally expect our enrolment to remain relatively stable. The secret must be out.

Now that day 8 is complete, and after much consultation with our teachers, we will not be making any changes to the class or whole school staffing design for 2017. All classes will remain as they currently are.

There are some Prep and Year 5 classes which are slightly oversized compared to a target of 1:25 in Prep – Year 3 and 1:28 in Year 4-6. Our staff have decided that it is better to maintain our current design rather than make multiage classes and those classes that are oversized will be supported with additional resourcing. Affected teachers will work with our student support group staff to manage this resourcing based on what they believe is required.

I explained this in quite a bit of detail at the P&C last week. An example of what additional resourcing looks like at Aspley East can be seen in our Prep area where, based on enrolments, 81 hours of Education Assistant time per week would be provided utilising the staffing model. At Aspley East however, we allocate 140 hours of education assistant time to our Prep classes.

**BYOD AND INVESTIGATIVE APPROACH**

Two major initiatives are currently occurring in our school and whilst they may not seem it on the outside they both share a common philosophy in the pedagogy behind the approaches.

The iPad Class and the Investigative Approach both focus on individualising instruction to truly teach children, not just curriculum. It is every teacher’s focus to differentiate for every child and we spend an enormous amount of effort and time in doing just that for every year level.
These two approaches, however, are really looking outside the box to efficiently and effectively differentiate curriculum and content like never before. I encourage our whole school community to watch these two approaches very closely because I have a feeling we are on to something very big here at Aspley East!

**BIG TICKET PROJECTS FOR 2017 (AKA – ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN)**

The Annual Implementation Plan has been endorsed by both the P&C and SMG (Strategic Management Group). It’s quite a lengthy document and this year I have focused on it being project based.

The big ticket items in the AIP for 2017 include:

- The proposed development of a camps and excursion program and policy for our school
- Reviewing our annual awards programs and policy. The aim will be to enhance the whole school understanding of the schools major academic, cultural and social awards. It will also include the criteria that underpin each award and the process utilised to choose the recipients
- Investigating the installation of a second computer lab
- Purchasing a school set of iPads
- Piloting the BYOD iPad class and collaborative classroom design for 21st-century learners
- Extending the investigative approach into Year One
- Creation of team meetings fortnightly – dedicated time for year level collaboration
- Investigate the development of a student leadership program clarifying the leadership process, criteria and selection

It’s going to be a very exciting and fulfilling year if we can achieve all that we have planned.

**INVESTING FOR SUCCESS 2017**

The Investing for Success (I4S) initiative is potentially in its final year this year, and I am keeping a very close eye and ear out for what will occur in 2018. Education funding and its distribution should be high on everyone’s agenda for the next 12 months.

To give a quick example of just how much the I4S funding has made an impact on schools, a school of Aspley East’s size prior to I4S would receive about $100,000 in general grant money annually. This money would be utilised to provide professional development for staff, purchase library and curriculum resources, basically run the entire curriculum aspect of the school. Whilst $100K seems like a lot of money when you spread that over attempting to educate 800 students for twelve months it certainly isn’t a lot. I always said that teachers know how to make $2 really go a long way, and they still do!

The I4S funding has almost tripled the investment by government in state education and has had an enormous impact on every school. I believe it is a major contributor to Queensland’s significant improvement in NAPLAN results over the past four years.

Watch this space with I4S and education funding. In Queensland, the government distributes the funding directly to schools and each school invests where they need it most. This is the aspect of the funding model that I think can not change.

The 2017 I4S agreement has been ratified at the Strategic Management Group and the P&C and now uploaded to the school website.

In 2017, we are utilising our $296 197 I4S investment towards:

- The employment of an addition FTE in our student support group.
- The employment of additional education assistant time to work with identified classes, students or groups to enhance quality instruction and differentiation.
- Investigating international best teaching practice by participating in study tours relating to inquiry, reading and BYOD programs.
- Enhancing the accessibility to teaching and learning resources for all students across the school.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SENIOR LEADERS**

On Thursday 9 February our Year 4-6 students participated in the Student Leader Investiture Assembly. It was lovely to see so many parents, grandparents and friends come along to support our kids.

Many of our Year 6 students put their leadership skills out there to be assessed, and I admire those students who persevered to achieve their senior leader status.

Congratulations to our school captains, cultural and sports captains as well as our sound and lighting crew and student leaders who all received their badges at the ceremony witnessed by all Year 4-6 students.

**STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME**

Thanks to all the parents who have already paid the student resource levy for 2017. The student resource levy needs to be paid, or arrangements for its payment need to be finalised by February 28. After this time students who have not paid the SRS will have their access to the resources provided by the SRS restricted. Please see the office if you are having difficulties paying this levy by 28 February, and we can set in place a plan. The SRS has been developed to enhance the delivery of services for students, utilise the purchasing power of a large school and save money for parents.

In 2017 Aspley East Students have the opportunity to access Mathletics. A single subscription to Mathletics for parents costs $99 annually, so our $60 resource levy is not only one of the lower SRS schemes offered this side of town but great value for money.

**ARRIVAL TIME AT SCHOOL AND BEFORE SCHOOL PROCEDURES**

Students should not be arriving at school before 8:30am unless they are utilising the services provided by PCYC.

Students who do arrive at school between 8:00am and 8:30am need to wait in the goal ball area. The first bell signifies that students should go to their classroom and prepare for the day. Lessons commence promptly at 8:45 am.

There is no supervision before school, and the playground equipment is not to be used by children before school.

See you in the playground

Andrew Duncan
Deputy News

From Mr Donovan - Years Four, Five, Six and iPad classes

Social Skilling

Students have explored activities relating to RESPECT this week. The meaning behind ‘Treat others as you would like them to treat you’, has been investigated. Next week all year levels will participate in a ‘YES RULE’ week. To promote an inclusive and friendly school environment, if someone asks if they can join a game or play with another student, the answer is ‘YES’.

Leadership Assembly

On Thursday 9th February the Leadership Assembly was held for our Year 6 students. Congratulations to all of the students who received badges on the day. These students have an important leadership role to play during this year and will strive to be excellent role models for our younger students. It was fantastic to see so many parents and family attending the ceremony.

Interschool Sport and Extra-Curricula

Interschool sport and extra curricula activities will commence on Friday 3rd March for our Year 4, 5 and 6 students. Permission Letters and payment details will be sent out this week.

Arriving on time for school

Learning in classrooms begins at 8.45am sharp. Please make sure students are at school on time. Students who continually arrive late for school miss out on very important learning time. ‘Every Day Counts’.

CAFE Update

This term, I am “CAFÉ-ing” with the year 3s and 5s. So far we have explored some very important strategies to help with comprehending the text (Check for understanding, Back up and reread and Making connections to the text) and revised the importance of selecting a Good Fit Book to read. A Good Fit Book is a book that the student is interested in (has a purpose for them), it’s not too hard and not too easy. We have also learned the importance of reading a book three ways: Read the pictures, Read the words and do a Retell. Try these skills when reading with your child at home.

Read the pictures

When reading the pictures remember to look carefully…

• What are the characters doing?
• What emotions are they showing?
• Where are they?
• What time of day is it?
• How would you feel?
• If it’s an information text – Look carefully at the images – are there labels, titles, maps, animals/ plants/ humans? What do you think the text is mostly about?

Read the words

• When reading the words remember to use your strategies to help decode words.
• STOP and check for understanding regularly (who and what).
• Back up and reread if something doesn't make sense.
• Build your vocabulary – ask the meaning of new words.

Retell

• After reading the story remember to do a retell.
• Use the pictures to do your retell.

Happy Reading!!
Susan Powell

Year Four News

Dear Parents

Mr Hawthorne, Mrs Lane and I are really looking forward to meeting parents at the parent teacher information night next Wednesday. We will all meet in Mrs Priday's 4P classroom as it has lots of room. Bring all your questions and if we don't answer it during our presentation we will have a Q & A session at the end.

Just a reminder that there has been notes home about incursions and more will be coming home soon.

Spelling should start coming home on Friday instead of Mondays so that should give the kids extra time to return it by the following Friday. Don't forget to sign off on their reading logs in the homework booklets.

Cheers
Mrs Priday for 4H, 4L and 4P

Library News

Library Borrowing

The library is open to students for borrowing in the following times from Monday to Friday

8.30 – 8.45am and 10.55 – 11.15am
2.55 – 3.10pm (Monday to Wednesday only)

Students also may borrow in times booked during the day with their class.

Students from Prep to Year 6 must have a water resistant library bag or satchel with them when they borrow from the library. Plastic wallets or bin liners or shopping bags are no longer acceptable.

There are limits on the numbers of books that students may borrow (displayed on a chart in the library). The maximum borrowing time for all is two weeks or ten school days.

Books are due back before the June and Christmas holiday period.

We're sorry, but students with an overdue loan may not borrow anything new until the outstanding book/s is/are returned or replacements paid for.
Keeping Library books in a safe and consistent place at home will help you find them when you need them. Unfortunately books do occasionally get lost. What we ask is that you write or call us and let us know. We ask you to look at least one more time before giving up. At the same time as you search, we check the Library shelves and ask the child's classroom teacher to help check the classroom. Lost books “appear” in the most unusual places. If the book is truly lost, arrangements need to be made concerning replacement or payment.

If your child's library book gets damaged in any way (ripped, torn, wet, or the dog ate it) please send it back to school. Please do not repair books at home. We use special materials here in the library. There are particular techniques we use in book repair. Please place the book in a bag so that all the pieces stay together or if wet. Depending on the damage, replacement costs may be sought.

**HPE News**

Congratulations to students participating at Bramble Bay levels. Please make note of important dates listed below.

1. Bramble Bay Swimming participants: Jett Scoones-Myers, Jessica Window, Genevieve Yi, Charlotte Menagh and Hayley Fowler
2. Bramble Bay Swimming team: Jett Scoones-Myers (50m Breaststorke)
3. Bramble Bay Basketball selection: Jake McKenna and Ciara Jackson
4. Bramble Bay AFL selection: Kurt Jewell, Codey Evans, Rory O’Brian and Flynn Frederickson
5. Cross country training (Years 1-6), Tuesday 7:45-8:15, Points per lap (13/2): Cunningham 171, Hinkler 151 and Oxley 119
6. Touch football training (Years 4-6): Girls Wednesday 7:45-8:15 and Boys Friday 7:45-8:15
7. Enrichment Program starts week 6, Friday 3/3/2017: Rotations at school and Touch Football boys at Taigam State School and girls at Brackenridge State High School. Notes out this week (13-17/2/2017), $20 to Jillian Herman (pay window) with permission note by Tuesday 28/2/2017
8. Cross Country Championships, week 10, Tuesday 28/3/2017
9. Aspley Eagles Cup Soccer Championships, week 10, Thursday 30/3/2017
10. Reginal Club Athletics: Jaclyn Macminn (3rd shotput, 2nd javelin, 2nd high jump and hurdles final) and Tahlia Macminn (made finals in all her events). Well done Girls!
11. Please support our Local Barber near our school, every haircut a percentage goes back to the school’s sports budget as a donation

**HPE Stars**

1. Chelsea Hudson, Ciara Jackson and Flynn Frederickson

**Music News**

*Instrumental Music*

A huge congratulations to Irene Shim in Year 6S, who recently received an A for her Australian Music Examinations Board Grade 8 Violin Exam, which is an exceptional achievement at an extremely advanced level (which is up to three grades higher than many secondary students have reached by the end of year 12)! Irene was the well-deserved winner of last year’s A Factor competition at Aspley East and is the Leader of our String Orchestra again this year. An absolutely fantastic result, Irene!
All beginner and continuing strings students have now commenced lessons for the year. Parents are reminded that all musicians need to have the accessories listed in the Information Booklet. It is pleasing to see that many students are already turning up well prepared and full of enthusiasm! Permanent timetables were issued this week and all students should have received a copy by now. It will take a little while for beginners to get into the swing of things but they all have a 5 - 10 minutes of home practice to do each day (from page 5 of their white books) plus a DVD to watch. Continuing students should get into a routine of practising for 20 to 30 minutes daily, working from both textbooks and orchestra parts (if issued). Orchestra rehearsals commence at 8.00am on Friday, 24th February for some continuing students (as marked on the timetable).

Amanda Jerram, Instrumental Music Teacher, Strings.

Calendar

From time to time there will be a published calendar added to the newsletter. The calendar can also be found on the school webpage under forms and documents. Please be aware the calendar does change on occasion.

P&C News

What a fantastic turnout we had for our first P&C meeting for 2017! Thank you all for making the effort, we really appreciate it and hope to see you at our next meeting which is the AGM. You won’t be asked to take on any roles unless you want to, so please join us again in the Annexe (opposite the Library) on Wednesday 8th March at 6:30pm.

On behalf of the P&C we would like to thank the following people/companies for their support this year and for donating some excellent prizes to be used in the future. Stay tuned for more information by ‘liking’ our Facebook page found here: -
https://www.facebook.com/AspleyEastPandC/?ref=bookmarks

Tracy Davis MP for donating a Gasmate Odyssey 1

Vuly Trampolines have also been kind enough to donate a Thunder Summer Extra Large (BTXL20.1) trampoline as a future prize. Please go and check out their website https://www.vulyplay.com/ for what they have on offer as well.
P&C IMPORTANT DATES

February
21st  Prep’s can start ordering Tuckshop
28th  Pancake Day – 3 pancakes for $2.00. Forms due back on 22nd Feb or you can order on Flexischools as well.

March
17th  Meal Deal Day
28th  Cross Country – Sausage Sizzle

Thank you
Kerrie Streek and Kristie Walker
P&C Vice Presidents

Q Store

Q Store is open for business near the Tuckshop on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, between 8.00 am and 9.30 am.

School Hats - Reversible hats are available in sport house colours on one side, turn inside out and the school logo with a bottle green background is on the other side. Selling for $20.00 at Q store and https://schoolshoponline.net.au/aspleyeastss/index.aspx

Earphones and Headphones - We stock “Moki” earphones with in-line mic and control which are compatible with Ipad and are selling for $15.00. Headphones (black only) are also available for $15.00.

Winter Jackets - Get in quick for our school winter jackets – bottle green with zip up front, embroidered school logo, warm and fleecy with 2 pockets. Sizes 4 – 14 sell for $35.00 and adult small/ medium sell for $40.00. While stocks last.

Religion book refunds for GRADE 6 parents can be made at Q store if you have already purchased them.

Online purchases can be made for school uniforms, hats, back packs, library/ chair bags, swim caps, religion books, ear/head phones and hair accessories at https://schoolshoponline.net.au/aspleyeastss/index.aspx The orders are returned to your child’s classroom via the school tuckshop box.

Swim caps are available in red, yellow and blue. These are made of lycra with one size fits all and sell for $7.00 at Q store.

Michelle Hudson (Uniform shop convenor)
Q store (phone 3867 2753)

Tuckshop News

PREP PARENTS - Please note - Prep Students MAY order Tuckshop from Monday 27th February via Flexischools or Brown bags. Therefore Preps CAN order for PANCAKE DAY (28th February) as well as Mc Donald’s Meal Deal on Friday (17th March). Order forms are available on the school web site under documents, Letters Home Term One, 2017.

Any student who did not receive a pancake form for PANCAKE DAY (28th February) may order via brown bag. 3 pancakes for $2.00, please specify if butter or jam is required. Orders close 22 February.
Meal Deal orders must be in by 9am Friday 3 March.

Sushi is now available on a Thursday please order by Wednesday 9am.

Kris and Lyndie
Tuckshop

**School Banking**

I am pleased to announce that School Banking earned $2518.85 for the P&C in commission in 2016! This is slightly less than 2015’s $2666.02, but still a fantastic effort. Thank you to all the families and volunteers who have contributed to this. Our commission for Term 4 2016 was $427.90.

Commission is earned at a rate of 5% on all deposits, but new accounts activated through School Banking earn $5! We have already had 41 new bankers this year.


They will send a bankbook to your home address. You do not need to be an existing customer. If your child has an existing YouthSaver Account you can start straight away. Paper applications are no longer issued and cannot be accepted.

To stay up to date and get weekly reminders please join our local Facebook group: Wednesday in the Greenroom [https://www.facebook.com/groups/1590195294526090/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1590195294526090/)

Happy Savings,
School Banking Coordinators

**Community News & After School**

**KidsBePresent**

New After School Program! Enrol now at [www.jencompton/kidsbepresent](http://www.jencompton/kidsbepresent)

KidsBePresent is a program that focuses on mindfulness training and helps kids to develop a more conscious connection with themselves and others as well as manage their emotions.

Research spanning over more than a decade indicates that kids involved in programs like KidsBePresent develop altruism, empathy, kindness, compassion and achieve more success in the classroom.

At KidsBePresent we aim to educate those positive, human qualities in children by giving them the opportunity to develop and practise these skills in a supportive and relaxed after school environment.

Kidsbepresent can help your child to be calmer, friendlier, and achieve more in the classroom. Places limited. Enrol now and take advantage of our introductory offer at: [www.jencompton/kidsbepresent](http://www.jencompton/kidsbepresent).

I look forward to a term of creating conscious connection. Ms Compton
Stringz Guitar Kidz

Guitar lessons after school on Tuesdays!

With two teachers, decades of guitar-teaching experience and an original style of music instruction, Stringz Guitar Kidz is an innovative, child-centred music program run by Stringz Guitar Studio. We are at Aspley East State School on Tuesday afternoons with classes starting from 3:05pm.

This program has been running successfully at Aspley East State School for six years. Private lessons for all ages are also available at Stringz Guitar Studio in Aspley.

To enrol or to for further details please contact Paul 0432567624

Bonsai Karate

Hi Aspley East State School students and parents, my name is Nick Noordink and I run Kids only karate classes (Bonsai Ninjas) at Aspley East State School every Tuesday afternoon in the hall. These classes are excellent to assist with confidence and behaviour issues and I have developed tools for kids to use to deal with frustration and also skills for preventing bullying.

If you would like your child to try a class for free please don't hesitate to pop in Tuesday afternoons also feel free to call or email for more info .call: 0447577343email: info@bonsaikarate.com.au...

Bonsai Karate Aspley East After school karate at Aspley East State School on Tuesday

www.bonsaikarate.com.au