Date: Tuesday 4 March 2014
Time: 9:30am - 11:30am
Location: Caboolture Special School, Torrens Road, Caboolture South
Session: Guest Speaker-TBA & morning tea

All parents and children are most welcome to join us. We have a play helper to care for your children so you can relax.

For more information or RSVP please contact:
Rachael Fedrick, MyTime Facilitator
Phone: 0410 492 181
Email: mytimecaboolture@yahoo.com.au

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PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Hello Parents, Friends and Carers

Welcome to our new look newsletter.

Our State Member for Morayfield, Mr Darren Grimwade has visited our school on two occasions over the past few weeks. I thank Darren, on your behalf for his interest in our school, for celebrating our new School Captains with us and for his work in locating information to inform our community. Caboolture Special School is the largest Special School in Queensland with a student population of now 238 students. We have been fortunate to have new classroom facilities to meet the ever growing population needs. These facilities are often filled with students as soon as construction is complete and this is certainly the case this year. A delegation of parents including members of the P & C Executive met with Darren and I last week to discuss the population growth, facilities, traffic flow and parking. I would like to assure you that Darren is working with and on behalf of our school to consider the needs of our community both now and for the future. I also thank the members of the P & C for their representation and their voice in raising issues of concern for all of our families.

Our P & C Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 11 March at 6 pm. At this meeting we elect the new Executive members for 2014. If you wish to nominate for a position or wish to nominate a community member for a position on the Executive, I encourage you to complete a nomination form and drop this in at the school office. The P & C at our school is a wonderful group of parents and friends who work together with the school representatives to progress a number of developments for our school. At the end of last year I detailed all the achievements of this group and their participation in school matters. As Principal, I have truly valued the input and support from this group and its members since I have come to the school. I encourage you to become involved, as the rewards are great and the learning along the way is supported by other members and school administration.

A very important new change in Education Queensland for 2014 is the introduction of Individual Learning Plans for students. In the past these have been called IEPs or ILPs. The change in focus is a departmental priority of ensuring that all students are catered for within the Australian Curriculum. The ILP document includes current supports in place for each student and additional supports required. At present teachers are involved in working with the new format and preparing for meetings with parents. During these meetings additional focus areas of Wellbeing, Behaviour and Access will be discussed. It is in these areas that additional support including hygiene, medical and therapy procedures can be highlighted. Teachers will guide you through the new document and plan with you for ensuring your child has access to the curriculum. I look forward to greeting parents, carers and family members over the coming weeks when you come into the school for these meetings.

Until next time, please take good care of yourself and your family,

Beth Devonshire
 catching Curriculum

In the coming weeks teachers will be contacting parents to participate in meetings to develop an "Individual Learning Plan" (ILP) for their child. These plans are an essential part of your education.

"An ILP is required for any student who needs a different year level curriculum than their age cohort..." (taken from Education Queensland policy statement)

The Individual Learning Plan may also identify individual strategies, resources and support provisions to enable curriculum access of identified learning goals (for example positioning, use of standing frame, therapy support).

More information will be sent out next week.

Judy Clark - Head of Curriculum

3 - 6 DEPARTMENT NEWS

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." – Nelson Mandela

I have been reflecting on the life of Nelson Mandela lately. He was a man that knew the power in education and through education he changed the course of a nation and the world. We are blessed to have an incredible education system and live in a country that values education for all. Our school in particular understands that education is such a powerful weapon and it is being used to change our student's lives. Below are some of the amazing educational opportunities our students are studying and exploring this week and next week;

In English students are starting to learn and investigate poetry. Playing with words, rhymes and beats is helping them to expand their vocabulary, their imagination and their ability to communicate. Our Science program is investigating ‘feathers, fur and leaves.’ Students over the next two weeks will be sorting and classifying different living and nonliving things.

Maths group start next week and students will be working with many concrete materials as they focus on learning about numbers and place value. Play continues to be a big part of our children's learning and I would also like to remind parents to ensure children have a hat and water bottle with them at school (particularly with the hot weather we are having at the moment.) Thank you for continuing to place such a high value on the education of your children.

Amanda Turnbull - 4 - 6 Department Leader

TRANSITION DEPARTMENT NEWS

"Elocution is so much fun. I love doing Media Studies." “The Duke of Edinburgh program is great. I wish I could do it every day.”

Along with Literacy and Maths groups, electives have also started this week, with students accessing subject areas such as Travel and Tourism, Science, Horticulture, Hospitality, Functional Living, The Arts, Post-School Options, Communications, Duke of Edinburgh and Media Studies.

Judging by some of the comments, students are embracing the new direction in Transition with enthusiasm and an eagerness to participate in the various programs on offer. Assisting us in the Communications elective will be one of our Speech/ Language therapists, Bree, who will be sharing her expertise with staff and students.

Last Tuesday night, Peter convened an informative evening attended by parents/carers/students and service providers from the local area. Judging by the positive feedback, the evening was a huge success. Sincere thanks to Ben for his presentation on the Duke of Edinburgh Program, Beth for her informative introduction and overview of senior schooling, and Peter for his overall organisation and provision of healthy snacks.

Colleen Greggs - Transition Department Leader

P & C AGM

11 March 6.00pm

Photo Day

25th March

Senior Assembly–All Welcome

6, 20 March, 3 April

Junior Assembly–All Welcome

27 February, 13, 27 March

P&C Meeting

Annual General Meeting

11 March 2014

P&C Secretary

Debbie Grey

COST:

$5 concession $10 non concession (Child minding available on request)

WHERE:

Undurba State School Community Hall, Ogg Rd

WHEN: 12th February—9th March 2014

Ready Steady Go

What a happy start to the school year.

Jewel Bauer - P - 3 Department Leader

P - 2 DEPARTMENT NEWS

Teachers and students have spent the past 2 weeks completing the learning experiences relating to the whole school Ready Steady Go unit of work. One of these experiences was attending the Australian Choppies. It was wonderful to see the P-2 students’ happy faces as they filed through the serving area and sat on the chairs to eat their burgers and melon. Thank you to the staff for supporting your students to participate in this whole school event.

Congratulations to our prep students in P-2l for comfortably lining up with the class and sharing so many smiles and joyful movements. Wonderful to see! The Prep students in P-2l are now practising learning to be a member of a group and can now sit for group time for at least 4 minutes. This is an amazing achievement.

Well done! The students of P-2e are enjoying having ‘Jet’ the assistance dog in their class. Jet has settled in well to school life. Thank you to Babz, Jeni, and Kevin for your wonderful ‘dog handler’ skills! Students in P-2h who have had difficulty attending school in the past have attended school for 5 days in row.

Fantastical news! P-2g students are working fabulously on their sticker reward charts! What a happy start to the school year.

Joshua Lee - Deputy Principal

7 - 9 DEPARTMENT NEWS

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” - Dr Seuss

Week 4 sees the start of many exciting learning opportunities for our students in 7-9 Department. On Monday students began reading and maths groups which will continue throughout the year. It was great to see students keen to participate and we look forward to seeing their skills and confidence develop.

Our new students are settling in and all of our students are now involved in their English and Science unit work. The Science focus is Biological Science and we will soon see students involved in active learning tasks on this topic. Our new HRE program will be assisting our students in their interactions with each other and learning about how to look after themselves when in social situations both in and outside of the classroom.

Natalia Rove - 7 - 9 Department Leader

GUIDANCE MATTERS

Life’s Journey – Pine Rivers Neighbourhood Centre

Are you a mother, grandmother or female carer who has children under the age of 18 years in your care? Would you like to be involved in a group where you can make new friends, increase your self-esteem and have fun? Life’s Journey is a six week friendly group for women who are parenting. You will be able to experience new and creative things, explore ideas, and meet other people.

Hands-on Interactive activities include painting and clay work. Some topics explored are communication in families, self-esteem, stress management plus much more!!

WHERE: Undurba State School Community Hall, Ogg Rd

WHEN: 12th February—19th March 2014

Thank you to Babs, Jeni, and Kevin for your wonderful ‘dog handler’ skills.

Melissa Thiess - Guidance Officer