Hello parents, carers and friends,

A recent blog by Margery Evans, Chief Executive Officer of AITSL (Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership) discussed if our students spent too much time at school. Compared to other countries in the OECD (Organization for Economic cooperation and Development) our students spend 10,710 hours of required class time. This compares to Hungary where students spend 6,054 hours. The average for OECD countries is 7,751 hours: Then why so long in Australia?

The Melbourne Declaration (which underlies our school mission statement) emphasizes that students should become confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens as well as successful learners.

Part of the reason that Australia and other countries require a higher number of hours in school is to enable teachers and communities to focus on broad learning goals. The outcomes of such learning can be less amenable to objective measurement than areas like English, Maths and Science, but this doesn’t mean qualities of character, creativity and communication are of lesser value. In seeking to transform the Australian education system, Evans believes we should continue to place emphasis on schools playing a very important part in providing a well-rounded education that meets the diverse needs of all students.

A great example of this focus is the recent achievements of our students who participated in the Sunshine Coast Marathon 2 km Fun run last Sunday. Ten students and approximately fifteen staff and carers attended and showed the community a wonderful display of individual effort and also combined strength of support from Caboolture Special School. The joy on the faces of these students (and staff and carers) at the finish line spoke for itself: sheer exhilaration in personal achievement and self-confidence! Our students had been training for this event in their school hours and this, as part of their curriculum sees them build skills to become active and informed citizens in their local and wider community.
This Saturday, 06 September, we welcome all community members to our Bike-A-Thon at the Caboolture Showgrounds. This event is for all students and family members. It is another example of the varied aspects of our school curriculum and encourages students and their families to participate in healthy lifestyles and become confident in learning independence in the community.

For many students who may rely on transportation by riding their bike in the community, this is a good time to practise skills and enjoy each others’ company and raise some funds for our school bike program. I encourage you to come along for any time throughout the day and just enjoy riding a bike. Remember to ask for sponsors to support our school by assisting your son/daughter to fill in their sponsor sheet. For those who do not have their own bike, the school will have some bikes available for riding in the showgrounds on Saturday.

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

Beth Devonshire - Principal

Deputy Principal

Hello to all parents, carers and community members,

Another productive and enjoyable fortnight has passed at our school. I continue to be amazed at the dedication of our teachers and the enthusiasm possessed by our students as I conduct my classroom visits. In my last report, I spoke about the introduction of WALT (we are learning to) and WILF (what I am looking for) as a strategy to guide students through the learning process and give them a clear understanding of expectations. I have been very pleased to see this strategy in action in our classrooms and even more pleased that our children are becoming familiar with the concept.

Another reason for me to smile was our wonderful art showcase last Thursday. The students’ artworks were diverse and wonderful. Their efforts in creating them paid off generously as we had a great turn out to the event. I had the chance to meet a few more of our families and I am again impressed at the support you show for our students and our school. As a fundraising endeavour, it was a very successful evening, and if you did purchase a piece of art my advice is to keep hold of it- who knows- one of our talented artists could be the next Picasso!
Catching up with Curriculum

This week we were fortunate to have Dr. Bronwyn Ewing from QUT YuMi Deadly Maths Centre at our school. Classes across the school participated in demonstrated lessons using the RAMR (Reality, Abstraction, Mathematics, Reflection) pedagogy for teaching mathematics.

Reality

Students access knowledge of their environment and culture, utilise existing mathematics knowledge, and experience real-world activities.

Abstraction

Students experience a variety of representations, actions and language that enable meaning to be developed in a way that carries mathematical ideas from reality to abstraction. The focus is on activities with students’ bodies, then activities with the hand and finally activities to ensure visual images are developed.

Mathematics
Students use appropriate formal language and symbols reinforce the knowledge they have gained during the abstraction phrase, and build connections with other related mathematical ideas.

Reflection

The critical reflection process is where the new mathematical ideas are considered in relation to reality, applied back to reality in order to solve everyday life problems, and extended to new and deeper mathematical ideas.

Students enjoying and engaging in Mathematics

Judy Clark - Head of Curriculum

P-2 Department News

It has been wonderful to see our P-2 students’ parents/families attending the Art Show. I’m sure you were impressed by the display. Thank you for showing your appreciation by purchasing art pieces. Across the Department artwork was linked to current Science lessons using light and shadow, English projects related to stories or Maths. P-2I students showed enjoyment making their art pieces and staff were rewarded seeing the excited faces of parents when receiving the art.

If you visit our classrooms you will see posters with the words WALT and WILF. These are displays of what students are learning to do and what the teacher is looking for the students to demonstrate. Teacher-Aides have reported that students are more engaged in learning and participating in a very positive manner. Of special note P-2C students are now able to sit as a group and listen during morning session. Fantastic!

Celebrations across our P-2 curriculum include:

**English** - The P-2E students are successfully sequencing 3 favourite stories using cut and paste and iPad activities. The P-2H students are making real life connections to the stories that they are reading. While the P-2G students are able to identify the elements of a narrative by finding the problem and the solution. Maths - J.S. in P-2D is counting by rote to 10 and imitating counting using one to one correspondence.

**Science** - The P-2D students are happily working on their science projects about classroom and outside sounds. The P-2A students brought furry cuddly friends from home and had heaps of fun with their Teddy Bear shadow experiment. While the P-2B students are fascinated with their science project exploring light. Congratulations to all on such a successful fortnight of learning!

A letter of explanation will come home on Friday about the B105 and Variety Club Christmas Party for Children with Special Needs. If you would like your child to have the chance of receiving an invitation please return the request slip at the base of the letter promptly as places are limited. Thank you.
Jewel Bauer - P-2 Department Leader

3-6 Department News

It has been lovely to have the opportunity to be in different classrooms within the 3-6 department this week and see the way each teacher supports the needs of their students differently. In the past couple of weeks we have been very busy with sports days, the art show and our upcoming Bike-A-Thon.

We are also currently practicing for our up and coming “Amazing Animals” 3-6 concert that will be held on Thursday September 18 in Week 10 starting at 5.30pm. Students are very excited about their performances and we can’t wait to see the finished product. A big thank you to parents, carers and teachers for the support that you give to the children, students during these events.

Trina Chandler - 3-6 Acting Department Leader

“Happy Father’s Day, Dad’s of Caboolture Special School.”

As a mum, a daughter, a granddaughter and a wife I cannot underestimate the power of my father, grandfather and my husband (the father of our child) in my life. This weekend I will be celebrating and honouring the ‘men’ in my life. Men like my dad who taught me to honour and respect, men like my husband who comes home from his busy day at work to play tea parties with our two year old daughter, men like my grandfather who worked hard to protect and care for his wife and children.

I never underestimate the role a father plays to his children. In our school community we have some amazing fathers and ‘adopted’ fathers that are being incredible examples to their sons and daughters. I have met some fathers of children in our school that would do anything to see their children succeed, or happily give up their work lunch hour to come in and spend a moment in their child’s class. Fathers that take their kids to soccer practice, or come into school to see their child receive an award at assembly. There is a look that every child gives when they know they are safe and protected in their father’s arms, a look that is priceless.

Being a dad is not easy, I remember the day my husband and I had our first child. He looked at me and said, ‘I’m a dad, there was no training for this in prenatal classes. Such a true statement, for 9 months we focussed on looking after me and our developing baby, but there was little focus on how to be a dad. Just recently I’ve come across a number of parenting websites that are focussed on supporting both dads and mums in their parenting roles. At the local community centres and at places like ‘Men’s Sheds there are now opportunities for dads to get together and talk about being a dad. If you’re a dad looking for support then I would encourage you to look into some of these resources that are available and take some time to talk with other dads about fatherhood.

Focus on the Family (families.org.au) also produce some insightful articles on how to be a great dad, in summary here are 5 easy tips that every father (adopted father and mother) can do:

1. Be your child’s biggest fan. Tell your child what you love about them, tell your child what they do well. Tell your child that you love them deeply.

2. Hug your child. A soft and gentle hug by their mum or dad can mean the world to a child.

3. Listen to what your child is saying and what they aren’t saying.
4. Leave a lasting memory. Do something simple with your child but something they can always remember, such as play a certain game each week, or read the same story each night for a month or fix the same breakfast each Saturday.

5. Laugh with your child. Take a moment to just enjoy the innocence of being a child and laugh with each other.

Happy Father's Day to all of the amazing dads in the Caboolture Special School Community. Thank you for being a dad.

Amanda Turnbull - 3-6 Department Leader

Music Department News

Drumbeat Update

Throughout term 3 several students from the 7-9 department have continued in their participation of the Drumbeat program. The Drumbeat program teaches students about social and emotional wellbeing through drumming.

The program is being run by both Student Services and in Music lessons by Michael, Melissa and Andrew. Our students are steadily developing their djembe (African drum) drumming skills whilst learning about emotions and relationships. I am pleased to say that we have some excellent young drummers in our ranks!

The school also recently purchased an extra 4 djembes drums taking the total to 12, which will allow for larger groups in the future.

Andrew Keppie - Music Teacher

HPE Department News

HPE – Our school being active and adventurous!

Sunshine Coast Marathon and Community Fun Run Event

On Sunday 31 August, ten of our senior students were supported by sixteen buddies made up of staff and community members to participate in a 2km Fun Run at Alexandra Headlands. This was one event in the Sunshine Coast Marathon Festival.

Our team joined part of a bigger team co-ordinated by The Compass Institute Disability Service (Sunshine Coast). Thank you to David and DJ for hosting our team with hats and a BBQ. It is great to make these partnerships! We had a massive profile in our fantastic P&C donated “Representative Sports Team” shirts!

The students had trained by running around the oval and I was impressed with their efforts and determination. Steven, Ryan, Jakobi and Lyndsay all placed top 4 in their age groups! Thank you to Transition Teacher Melissa Walden for co-ordinating the event, to Beach Beat on the Sunshine Coast for supporting us with a place to park our buses and to our generous and energetic staff that added so much fun to the run!
Cricket Sets Donated by Caboolture Disability Indoor Cricket

The school has recently received a donation of two cricket sets from Caboolture Disability Indoor Cricket. At present seven current students regularly attend Indoor Cricket with this group and the boys tell me all about what they learn and how much fun they have. Thank you very much to Caboolture Disability Indoor Cricket for their generosity – I’m sure the gear will be put to good use!

Caboolture Disability Indoor Cricket Details:

Disability Indoor Cricket can be players at all disability levels & lots of fun. Cost is $10 per session (First session is free). Carers /Parents welcome. Held at Caboolture Indoor Sports, Lear Jet Drive. All coaches have QLD Blue Cards. Further information please view www.disabilityindoorcricket.com.au

Our School’s indoor cricket players with the donated gear- Ryan, Dan, J.P., Chris, Peter and Zac (Robbie was at swimming)

Bike-A-Thon  Saturday 6 September, Caboolture Showgrounds
Looking forward to the Bike-A-Thon on Saturday! Our Duke of Ed Program students have been discussing and training for the Triathlon on 1 November and using the bikes and trikes bought from the 2013 Bike-A-Thon fundraising.

**Woody Point Fun Run** Friday 12 September

Permission letters for this event will be going home soon. This event is hosted by Woody Point Special School and held at Suttons Beach, Redcliffe. There are two distances, a shorter “Cove Cruise” and a longer “Jetty Jog”. This is a whole-school event for us and we have shade shelters and a food tent operating. This will be the first outing for the new shade shelters purchased from the fundraising so wonderfully achieved by the hard working P&C. Thank you so much! As our school grows, your thoughtfulness and support is invaluable!

Ben Byrne - HPE Teacher

**Student Awards**

P-2B    Jodie

P-2E    Emilia, Nathaniel

P-2G    Dominic, Krystian

P-2I    Kaitlyn

3-6E    Mitchel, Seth, Jackson

3-6F    Jeremy, Rhiannon, George

3-6H    Trinity, Sidoney, Sarah, Mary, Brendan, Ryan

3-6I    Elijah, Robin, Tien

3-6J    Fiona, Hayden, Kane, James

3-6L    Jack, Blayke

3-6M    Patricia, Conner

**A Note From Our Chappy**

Exciting scarecrow competition at Caboolture Baptist Church Fete this Saturday for a Chappy fundraiser.

Students and teachers from 7-9I Leo, 7-9J Morgan, TR-D Will & TR-E Troy, had fun making a scarecrow for each department to enter in the competition. Thanks for your efforts and all the best.

A Father

*is neither an anchor*

*to hold us back,*

*nor a sail to take us there,*

*but a guiding light*
whose love
shows us the way.

By George Webster Douglas

Tania Byers - School Chaplin

Tuckshop News

**EXCITING NEWS FROM THE TUCKSHOP**

You can now order and pay for your Tuckshop through Flexischools! Paying for school lunches is now safer and hassle free.

You can use your computer or iPhone for this safe & secure, cash free, hassle free system.

All you have to do is register online at flexischools.com.au to get started.

If you have any questions or would like help to register online please don't hesitate to contact the school Business Services Manager or Kaye from the Tuckshop.

A flyer has been sent home with your child for further information.

An updated "Taste on Torrens" tuckshop menu was sent home last with new items and prices. This new price list took effect from Wednesday 30 July 2014.

P&C News

P&C Meeting – 6.00pm 9 September 2014

**P&C – Uniform Shop**

The New Stock of School Jackets have arrived. Price is $40 each. Uniform order forms are available on the school website. Uniform Shop is open Wednesdays 9–10 am. Thank you.

The school Parent Liaison Officer Kylie Stretton will be available every Tuesday from 9am to 11am commencing next Tuesday in the P&C room to assist any parent in connecting with local services available. Kylie is happy to discuss and offer advice where she can.

Dates To Remember

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bike-A-Thon</td>
<td>6 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woody Point Fun Run</td>
<td>12 September</td>
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School Transport Update

*Transport forms are coming home to every student in the school across Term 3 & 4. Please look out for these and return them ASAP to ensure your student receives their School Transport.*

Caboolture My Time

**Date:** Tuesday 16 September

**Session:** TO BE ADVISED

**Time:** 9.30am - 12.30am

**Location:** Caboolture Special School, Torrens Road, Caboolture

For more information or RSVP please contact: Rachael Fedrick, the MyTime Facilitator

Phone: 0410 492 181 Email: mytimecaboolture@yahoo.com.au

Sensory Movie Day

*sensormovieday@hotmail.com*

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<th>September</th>
<th>“How To Train Your Dragon 2”</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Set in the mythical world of burly Vikings and wild dragons, the action comedy tells the story of Hiccup, a Viking teenager who doesn't exactly fit in with his tribe's longstanding tradition of heroic dragon slayers. Hiccup's world is turned upside down when… More he encounters a dragon that challenges he and his fellow Vikings to see the world from an entirely different point of view.</td>
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<td>2pm Sunday 14th September</td>
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<th>October</th>
<th>“Tinkerbell The Pirate fairy”</th>
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<td>Zarina, a smart and ambitious dust-keeper fairy who's captivated by Blue Pixie Dust and its endless possibilities. When Zarina's wild ideas get her into trouble, she flees Pixie Hollow and joins forces with</td>
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the scheming pirates of Skull Rock, who make her captain of their ship. Tinker Bell and her friends must embark on an epic adventure to find Zarina, and together they go sword-to-sword with the band of pirates led by a cabin boy named James, who'll soon be known as Captain Hook himself.

2pm Sunday 26th October

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<th>November</th>
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<td>“Planes Fire &amp; Rescue” is a new comedy-adventure about second chances. When world famous air racer Dusty learns that his engine is damaged and he may never race again, he must shift gears and is launched into the world of aerial firefighting. Dusty joins forces with veteran fire and rescue helicopter Blade Ranger and his courageous team.</td>
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<td>2pm Sunday 16th November</td>
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<th>December</th>
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| “Sensory EXPO” noon

Starts at noon in the foyer of the cinema. We invite lots of Service providers who come and let you know what help and support is available, heaps of resources

“Sensory Movie” 2pm

We wanted to finish our year with a new movie so we will let you know closer to the time… so stay tuned

Santa & Mrs Claus

After the Sensory Screening Santa & Mrs Claus will be handing out presents to every child

Sunday 7th December |

Torrens Road
CABOOLTURE SOUTH, QLD, 4506
07 5431 4444
07 5431 4400
admin@cabooltuspecs.eq.edu.au
https://cabooltuspecs.eq.edu.au

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