FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Enjoy your Autumn School Vacation!

Have an enjoyable, safe and restful Autumn School Vacation and Easter. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school safely for Term 2.

Please remember that school resumes on Tuesday 22nd April (straight after Easter Monday) and that the Friday of that week is Anzac Day. This means that first week of Term 2 will be only three days.

This is different from most Autumn School Vacations as Easter is quite late in 2014.

Important dates are shown on the Right side of first page of newsletter.

Assembly

We will be having an Assembly this Friday afternoon. Our new Senior students, Michael, Stuart and Zahlia, will be receiving their Senior badges and shirts.

Redcliffe Toy Library

Our P & C pays for membership for all students at the Redcliffe Toy Library which is based beside the library. Di from the Toy Library comes to the school on the 4th Wednesday of the month at about 9.30. She brings toys for borrowing and is able to bring particular toys to suit your child. This is a good service which is available to your child free of charge due to the P & C membership. Why don’t you come along and borrow this month?

DATES TO REMEMBER

P & C Meeting

Monday 28th April, 2014, in school staff room at 9.30am. All Welcome!


Term 1

• Last Day Term 1 – 4th April, 2014.
• Good Friday 18th April, 2014.
• Easter Monday 21st April, 2014.

Term 2

• First Day Term 2 – Tuesday 22nd April, 2014.
• Anzac Day Public Holiday Friday 25th April, 2014.
• Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday – Monday 9th June, 2014.
• Last Day Term 2 – Friday 27th June, 2014.

Toy Library Visit to School - 29th April, 2014.

Assembly Dates – All Welcome!

Undercover Area 2.15pm
Week 10 – Friday, 4th April, 2014.

CHAPLAIN MORNING TEA FOR ALL PARENTS AND CARERS 10.30AM THURSDAY 24th APRIL. (1st Week Back at School)

WOODY POINT STATE SPECIAL SCHOOL
Address: 85 Georgina Street
(PO Box 44) Woody Point Qld 4019
Phone: 3480 4333 Fax: 3480 4300.
Website: www.woodpoinspecs.eq.edu.au
Email: the.principal@woodpoinspecs.eq.edu.au
School Dance last Friday
We all had a great time at the school dance last week. Many thanks go to Julianne and Theresa who were the main organisers of the Dance. Thank you to all staff, families and friends for your assistance on the night and your support for the Dance. Proceeds will be going towards supporting the school camp later in the year.

Disability Car Parks
We have designated Disability Car Spaces in both Georgina Street Car parks. These parks are set aside for people with Disability Car Parking Stickers. We would appreciate it, if only people with stickers use these parks.

Also, due to our parking issues, could parents parking in the disability spaces at busy times, drop students off promptly to vacate the space for others.

Jan Baildon
Principal

Great Results Guarantee

Our school has received additional funding from the Great Results Guarantee and we need to decide how we can use this money to better support our students and improve their outcomes.

We are now working to develop our own Great Results Guarantee with evidence-based strategies and actions to improve literacy and numeracy.

Read more about the guarantee at www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee.

If you have an idea of a way to support our students to learn more or if you would like to take part in the discussion please get in touch.

Multi-Sensory Room – Endeavour Respite Centre

The Multi-Sensory Room at Endeavour Respite Centre located at 59 Todds Road, Lawnton, telephone number (07) 3285 6537 is open 9am-4pm week days and is available for public use. Cost is $5. Any queries please contact Pat on the above number.
Well 2014 and Term 1 at Woody Point has just gone so fast! It has been an action packed start to the year for all concerned in the Woody Point community.

A big thank you goes out to all the staff for their hard work in making Term 1 run so effectively. Your valuable work is certainly appreciated.

As everyone is preparing for holidays, I just wanted to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holidays. I know that holidays are not always the easiest time, but may you all get some time out and be ready for the Term 2 action.

“Get to know your Chaplain” Morning Tea for all Parents and Carers in the first week of Term 2. So please, if available, take the opportunity to take up my invitation to join me on Thursday 24th April at 10.30 am for a free morning tea provided by local community members. Please send back the below RSVP by Tuesday 24th. I look forward to meeting a whole lot of new people.

If you have any queries or questions on how the chaplaincy service may be of assistance to you or those that may require the service assistance I am more than willing to best address these concerns for you.

A regular of Chappy’s Corner is my signing off ‘thoughts of the day’.
‘Happiness often comes through doors you didn’t even know you left open.’

Below is a quick indicator for catering purposes for the Meet the Chaplain Morning Tea on Thursday 24th April at 10.30am held in the School Hall.

Name ___________________________ Number of People attending ____________

☐ I am able to attend the morning tea and can’t wait for free food and the opportunity of meeting the chaplain.

☐ I unfortunately won’t be able to come.

Please Return to School Reception by Tuesday 22nd April.
Junior 2 Class Article

This term we have been focusing on getting to know each other and learning how to work together as a class group. We have begun our unit of work “About Me” and throughout the week we engage in activities that incorporate literacy, numeracy, technology, motor skills, art, library, physical education and social skills.

TECHNOLOGY
ABOUT ME!

Who am I?
Brayden identifies himself from a group of photos.

Am I a boy or girl?
Locky works on creating the cover page of his personal profile

What’s my name?
Paige is cutting out words and symbols to create a sentence about herself.

Then and now.
Ryley is reading "10 Little Fingers and 10 Little Toes" by Mem Fox. We discussed as a class what we were like when we were small.

Then and now.
We aim to make links between past and present as well as home and school
SPORTS

Sports activities (organized by our PE teacher Kym) provide us with the opportunity to further develop gross motor skills as well as experience mathematical concepts such as over / under / through / in / on!
Term1, where did it go?!

The stars of Prep 1 have had a fantastic start to their first year of school! It has been lovely getting to know all of the little people and families in our class. We are learning lots of new things and have experienced special things that happen at school. We are developing lots of different skills such as fine motor skills, gross motor skills, social skills and engaging with lots of books and numbers. We love going to the library to see Jenny and to the gym to see Barb! We are making lots of new friends and can't wait to play again in Term 2! We hope you have a safe, happy and healthy break!

Erin and Tracey
FEATURE ARTICLE

iPad Apps for Literacy

Mobile technologies such as the iPad, mark a turning point for technology use in many classrooms as they become more and more common across the grades. The volume of apps available is overwhelming. As busy educators we acknowledge how important it is to make pedagogically sound decisions about the literacy experiences we offer to our students. By way of helping ALEA members sort through the range of apps available, we have profiled some of our favourites to support literacy learning experiences for learners as they move from early years to the middle years.

Some apps to consider for early years literacy experiences...

Story Kit

*Story Kit* enables children to edit and customize a range of familiar stories (such as 'Three Little Pigs' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears') and also create their own books from scratch. The user can type in text on each page, record their own voice to narrate the story, attach photos (from the library stored on their device, or capture new ones using the iPad camera), or draw their own illustrations. Once stories are constructed, they can be stored and read on the iPad or uploaded to the childrenslibrary.org server where they can then be emailed back. Printing these off is a great way to build classroom libraries.

Felt Board

There are so many literacy opportunities with this digital *Felt Board*. The application uses life-like felt cut-outs which can be manipulated for storytelling. The user is able to drag and drop people, clothing and objects to create their own stories. It is open-ended in nature with a wide range of backgrounds and pieces to manipulate. The app encourages storytelling and provides opportunity for children to engage their imagination and creative play. The app can be used to create characters and stories, which in turn furthers a child’s imagination and artistic play.

Sock Puppets

*Sock Puppets* is a fun app which allows the user to quickly and easily create their own puppet shows as they activate the microphone on the device. The user selects one of the available sock puppets, who then appears on the screen. The puppet will look left and right as the device is tilted; and will lip-synch to whatever is said around it. Oftentimes, you can hide behind the iPad, and perform a puppet show. The user is also able to play music into the microphone and watch the sock puppet sing along. Uses are limited only by the user’s imagination. Created puppet shows can be easily uploaded to YouTube.
Miss Spider’s Tea

This app is built around the scenario: ‘Miss Spider is hosting a tea party – but no buggy will come!’ and is based on a series of books by David Kirk. The app is filled with brilliant images and is visually very appealing. The opening page of the app presents five choices for the user – Read, Watch, Match, Paint and Puzzle. In the ‘Read’ section, the user can choose for either the narrator to read the text aloud, or alternatively, the user can read it as a ‘normal’ book.

The pictures are interactive, activated by the user touching different sections. The ‘Watch’ section is a five-minute animation of the book. While the story is being read, the words appear at the bottom of the screen and each word is highlighted when spoken, and the user is able to pause the story. The ‘Match’ game is a memory-matching game, comprising either 16 or 30 cards. When the game is completed, a character is animated and the user is given a congratulatory dance. ‘Paint’ provides the user with simple pictures from the story which can be coloured in. The ‘Puzzle’ section is a simple jigsaw puzzle with either six or twelve pieces to complete.

Pocket Pond

This application simulates a pond for koi fish. As soon as the application is launched the user hears soothing sounds akin to a natural water environment. As the user touches the iPad screen (by touching and swiping the screen) the water reacts. The fish can be fed by tapping the screen twice and the user can add and size lily pads, dragonflies and additional fish to the ecosystem. Thunderstorms can be simulated and the user is able to engage with some fishing activity. The app has no strict aim, rules or objectives apart from building and changing a pond for koi fish to live in, but provides a terrific stimulus for writing or springboard into other texts.

Some apps to consider for primary literacy experiences ...

The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore

This is by far one of the most innovative eBooks released to date. The design of this app is very clever and presents a true example of the potential of an interactive digital text. The illustrations are spectacular, the narration is easy to listen to and the storyline is entertaining. In addition, the user is able to write their own words on the page, watch them zoom off during a critical moment in the story, tap on the books in the old house as they listen to some classic quotes, help Morris allocate famous novels to his friends then watch as they turn into some very familiar characters, make the books topple, and be a crucial part in the closing of the story. The book is easy to navigate with clear markers to focus your attention. There is the ability to turn off text, music and sound effects too.

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Address: 85 Georgina Street Woody Point Qld 4019 | Telephone: (07) 3480 4333 | Facsimile: (07) 3480 4300
Email: the.principal@woodpoinspecs.eq.edu.au
Scribble Press enables the user to be both author and illustrator as they create their own books. The app is made up of three parts: ‘My Books’, ‘My Drawings’ and ‘Gallery’. In ‘My Books’, the user can write original stories or use one of over 50 story templates to create their text. In ‘My Drawings’, the user can draw using a wide range of drawing tools, upload photos or original artwork or use the sticker collection within the app. Through the ‘Gallery’ function, the user is able to instantly publish in the eBook gallery or share with friends anywhere in the world. Another great feature is the ability to read books created by other authors from all around the world.

Chicktionary is a fun app that engages children in creating words. The goal of the game is to create as many words as possible from seven letters displayed on a row of cartoon hens. Tapped letters drop down as eggs, which are added to an egg crate when the user successfully spells a word. The app provides an avenue for readers to practice their spelling vocabulary. There are two game modes available. Speed play gives the user three minutes to come up with as many words as possible, while long play is a more involved and slightly longer term game. This mode asks the user to complete a certain number of words within two minutes, and if successful, they’re then given as long as needed to find every last combination. Each letter set has been chosen to ensure the user can discover at least one seven letter word, which is quite a challenging task.

World Book’s World of Animals

World Book’s World of Animals is an app designed for children to help them learn about and explore almost 200 different animals, both living and extinct. Each animal page contains information such as photos, facts, species, scientific name, weight, length, diet, habitat, predators, conservation status, and more. Children can compare two animals side-by-side, browse the animal list, search for a particular animal, or narrow the view by type of animal. Multiple-choice quizzes are also available to check understandings gained from the animal pages.

Puppet Pals

This application enables users to create a puppet show as they select backgrounds and characters and manipulate these on the stage as they record oral annotations. Themed categories of characters are presented, from which the user can make individual selections. Once the user has made selections regarding backgrounds and characters these are transported to a stage where the backgrounds can be changed and characters dragged onto the stage and resized by moving two fingers in and out. Characters can also be flipped with a double tap or rotated using two fingers. Once the record button is pushed every movement and annotation are recorded. These are then saved to a library that can be viewed later.
Some apps to consider for middle years literacy experiences ...

Pedlar Lady

This eBook presents a classic tale and has 3D animated images on every page. The user can choose to read through the story themselves or have it read to them by the narrator. The story comprises 22 pages with each page introducing a new animation to go with the content on that particular page. There is a soundtrack to go with the entire story, and there is even an option to turn on the automatic page flip so you can just sit back, relax and watch the story unfold. The app is well designed with so much detail on each page so that the words on the page are transformed into clever animated scenes.

Popplet

*Popplet is an app that enables the user to create a graphic/concept map to demonstrate connections between ideas and gathered information.*

Popplet’s entire purpose is to provide a blank canvas and the tools for the user to populate it as they represent whatever it is that they’re working on.

The interface is simple to use. Children create ‘bubbles’ that contain individual ideas (by pointing and clicking), these ‘bubbles’ can easily be connected to show relationship. The tools within the app are similar to those found in most digital environments and children seem to pick it up quite quickly. Finished Popplets can be viewed easily by using single mouse clicks to zoom in on an area of the graphic they’d like to examine in more detail.

Comic Book

*Comic Book is designed to enable users to easily create their own personal comic books using photos stored in their device. Using the app is fairly straightforward. There is a tray at the bottom of the screen (accessible by tapping on a tab) that can be used to select a panel format, add various text bubbles/boxes and comic-style stickers. The user can simply add an image to a panel by either selecting to take an image, or retrieve a saved image on the device. Images can easily be resized, repositioned and rotated by using fingers to ‘pinch’ the screen, and effects can be added and adjusted. Once the page is complete, with all the imagery and text in place, it’s ready to be saved to the camera roll for easy retrieval later.*

ABC iView

This app enables the user to watch ABC TV and exclusive iView programs on their iPad.

**Article prepared for ALEA Today by Kathy Ferrari, Nicole Spranger and Lisa Kervin**

*There will be a combined ALEA Syd North and ALEA Syd West session on Saturday 23 March 2013 on ‘iPads for Literacy and Learning (in the Primary Classroom)’ – 10am–12noon at St Monica’s School, North Parramatta.*

*Attendance will be limited to 40. Contact your ALEA Syd North or Syd West Local Council, or keep an eye out for details in the Professional Learning calendar on www.alea.edu.au*
NEW REGIONAL

SOFTBALL

PROGRAM

Special Olympics Moreton North is partnering with both the Caboolture Sports and Redcliffe Leagues Softball Associations to introduce Softball to the regional sporting program. Coaches and volunteers from both Softball Associations will run training sessions over the coming months in order to create a Moreton North team to compete in the Unified Softball League. Both athletes with an intellectual disability and abled bodied athletes are encouraged to attend.

First Introductory session details

The first session will be a meet and greet session with the coaches and volunteers with some practical fun games played at the end of the session.

When: 5pm – 6pm Friday 4th of April

Where: Caboolture Softball grounds, Dances Rd Caboolture

Age: 13 and over  Cost: Free (the USL will have a fee)

First time participants are not required to be Special Olympics members, however are required to join to be involved long term

For more information or to confirm your attendance, contact Judy Losberg on 0410 550 456 or email jandlosberg08@dodo.com.au

For SOMN membership inquiries please contact Ian Burrows - 0419 029 015