From the Principal’s Desk

Facilities Update

I’m pleased to be able to inform families that we have been given approval for a new relocatable two classroom block to be provided to the school. This block will be located near the junior playground and once completed will replace the existing hire buildings. Having seen the plans for the building I’m very excited about how well it will meet the needs of our students. I am also pleased that it will only have a small impact on existing play spaces and that as part of the project we will also receive an upgrade to some fencing in that area.

Works will commence in approximately two weeks and we will expect some interruptions at times. Obviously our first priority when any significant facilities work is being carried out at school is student and staff safety while at the same time trying to minimise disruption to programming.

I’m sure many of our students will enjoy watching the changes to the buildings through the building stages that follow.

Community Based Learning

This year we have had a lot of classes participating in community based learning activity (excursions or outings) as part of their educational program. Community based learning is an important part of our curriculum program as it provides students with opportunities to apply and generalise new skills in less familiar environments. These activities are carefully planned to complement the curriculum activities that students do at school.

When these outings are on we ask parents (unless otherwise stipulated) to ensure students come to school in their uniform on that day. This assists staff to quickly identify students which in turn helps us to keep everyone safe and well supervised.

If at any time you feel your child is unable to participate in an excursion or school activity because of the financial costs involved please contact the school and we are happy to try to arrange support, payment plans etc. We want to ensure that no student misses out on educational opportunities.

Ric Day

Principal
Hi Everyone

My name is Pel and I am the Woody Point Special SWPBS mascot. My job is to help students with the 3 whole school expectations of

I can be a Learner
I can be Safe
I can be Respectful

Each fortnight on Parade I help Ric hand out the awards for the fortnight. I also choose one student from each sector of the school who have been displaying the whole school expectations. These three students receive the prestigious Golden Pelican Award, have their photo taken with me and also go up on the board in the foyer of the Office.

Last fortnight’s Golden Pelican Award winners were

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Years</td>
<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>For trying new food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Mahony</td>
<td>For being a great learner by following directions and engaging in the class activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid / Sen</td>
<td>Gene</td>
<td>For actively participating in his Vocational Placement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The focus for Weeks 4 & 5 has been I can be respectful - "I can use polite and friendly language".

Fortnightly on parade, one class will be drawn out for me to come and visit their classroom to see them being a Learner, Respectful and Safe.

The lucky class for the very first visit this Term was Junior 2/3. I’m looking forward to seeing the wonderful work these students are doing!!!!!!
Intensive Interaction at Woody Point

Intensive Interaction is a natural approach to supporting learners in developing the Fundamentals of Communication. Learning the Fundamentals of Communication is *Fundamental* to developing rich social communication and meaningful relationships – for all of us.

**The Fundamentals of Communication**

- Using and understanding eye contacts
- Using and understanding facial expressions
- Using and understanding other non-verbal communications
- Using and understanding physical contacts
- Vocalising and using other vocalisations meaningfully (including speech)
- Enjoying being with another person
- Developing the ability to attend to that person
- Concentration and attention span
- Learning to do sequences with another person
- Taking turns in exchanges of behaviour
- Sharing personal space
- Learning to regulate and control arousal levels

Intensive Interaction is providing staff with many ways to sensitively support and respond to each learner as an individual, in just the right way for that person, so that they can be completely successful in communication, relating, self-regulating and learning the fundamentals of communication.

This term staff have been honing in on refining their technical skills through processes of mentoring and receiving feedback from colleagues.

Woody Point is currently aligning our principles of Intensive Interaction with our commitment to Positive Behaviour for Learning, to ensure consistent understanding and appreciation of the values and benefits these two frameworks offer our learners.

We are excited to be a school that offers our colleagues within other special schools advice, modelling, professional development, school visits and coaching in Intensive Interaction.

It is a great reward for staff to share with each other the successes we see all our learners achieving through their involvement in Intensive Interaction. It is truly a mutually beneficial and enjoyable approach for both the learners and the adults supporting them.

Some significant celebrations recently has been the observations staff are now making of students coming together, using their communication abilities to connect, interact and enjoy each other’s company.

Our focus over the next two terms will continue to be on developing staff techniques, as well as providing information sessions for interested parents and the wider Disability Support Community.
Dates to Remember

Monday 16th May 2016 P & C Meeting 9.30am
Friday 27th May 2016 School Assembly 2.20pm
Thursday 24th June 2016 Red Nose Fundraiser

Red Nose Fundraiser

This term the Seniors of Woody Point Special School are excited to kick start the beginning of their fundraising unit.

Chance Christensen will be heading up the unit this year and her first assignment is coordinating a fundraising day within the school for Red Nose Day on Thursday 24th June.

To raise money students and staff are asked to wear red and bring along a gold coin donation to support Red Nose Day. Students and staff contributing to the day will also have a chance to get their nose painted red in a pop up face painting booth in the Senior quadrangle. So please get involved and wear red to support our Red Nose Fundraiser on Thursday 24th June.

Free Triple P parenting support now available in Queensland

Parents and carers can get free parenting support through the Triple P — Positive Parenting Program. Visit the Triple P website www.triplep-parenting.net to register for seminars and group sessions. One-on-one support can be arranged through the Find a Provider page, or parents can call Parent line on 1300 301 300.