From the Principal’s desk ....

It has been a very busy couple of weeks with students not only working hard in the classroom but being engaged in activities outside their normal programs. In the last couple of weeks we have had the school sports day, the regional sports day involving 5 Special Schools from Inala through to us here and we have celebrated Book week with all classes enthusiastically participating in the week long celebration. All of the above were supported tremendously by parents with a large number attending to support not only their child but every other child participating. It was great to see mums and dads running races with children during our school sports day and the number of parents attending the regional sports day was the most we have ever seen.

It's a genuine thrill to see our children perform to the best of their ability when being cheered on by mums and dads. We are yet to hold the junior sports fun day and I am very confident this will be equally successful and we will see lots of parents participating in events across the day. Maybe a good time for mums and dads of our Lower Primary students to start training for some of the events. This day will be here at school on September 8. More information will go home with those students involved shortly.

Our book week celebration was a great success thanks to all the teachers and teacher aides who committed to ensuring children were involved all week in understanding the importance of reading. Special thanks to Karlie Bulow who put a great deal of time and effort into organising the books for all the classes to enjoy.

Staff have been very active over the last few weeks in getting to understand the pedagogy involved in teaching reading and writing using the 4 Blocks Method. This is something we will continue to develop throughout the rest of this year and explore more of in 2015. Thank you to the P&C for actively seeking ways to raise some money to support the school. Everyone should have received paperwork promoting the current fund raising project, SUNSATIONAL SPF 50+, EVERYDAY FAMILY CLEAR SUNSCREEN, just a reminder that orders need to be in by September 15. If you have lost or need extra order forms, please contact the school. Also a reminder that school banking needs to be at school Thursday of each week. Students can bank as much as you want. This is a great program promoting saving and developing some functional financial skills.

Andrew Thompson.

Principal
**LP1**

It is scary to think that there is only four weeks left of the term and only 16 weeks until the Christmas holidays! Very soon we will be winding up our unit of *Under the Sea* and getting ready for a new and exciting unit of work. This week we will be looking at *Where the Forest Meets the Sea* and *There is a Sea in my Bedroom*. These are both great books with wonderful opportunities to talk about sea shells and flora, and fauna of Australia's beaches and mangroves. We have already started exploring the language used to describe shells and the students have come up with some great words. In math we are continuing with forward and backward counting as well as measuring time using informal units of measurement. Last Friday was sports day and the students came in red to support their team The Red Dragons. LP1 had a great time running a full circuit of the oval, a relay and hurdles. I am sure that the students went home feeling thoroughly exhausted! This week was also book week and LP1 presented a retell of *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* in front of the whole school on Tuesday. It was a great success and all the staff and students were very impressed. On Friday we participated in rotational activities based on books such as *Rosie's Walk*, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* and *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*. It was such a pleasure to be part of the celebrations and all the children had a wonderful time!

*Miss Shani, Miss Lynda and Miss Susan.*

---

**LP2**

LP2 really enjoyed sports day last Friday. We practiced really hard and it paid off. We did a great job participating in the long run around the oval and the short run. We also did a great job staying as group and cheering on the Green Giants. In English we are reading stories about using our imagination. This week we are reading *Hunting for Dragons* by Bruce Whatley we are really enjoying trying to find all the dragons in the pictures. LP2 have been doing their food program for a few weeks now and are doing really well. Most of us are happy to lick or taste a new food each week, hopefully we will be brave enough to chew and swallow new food. So far we like strawberries, chicken and noodles.

*Miss Erin, Sue and Tracey*
UP2

Upper Primary 2 enjoyed book week celebrations last week. We were entertained every morning with each class performing from a book they were reading. On Friday we dressed up as our favourite book character, performed our dance "Gotta Keep Reading", and participated in craft activities based on the books presented during the week. In Maths we are learning all about patterns. We have learnt about repeating patterns and are now learning about growing patterns. Here we are making our growing patterns!

Miss Michele, Angela and Kylie

LP3

Lower Primary Three had a lovely visit to Melissa's house on Monday. We saw baby chickens, ducklings, a pig and even a turkey. The children patted the chickens and we even collected 4 chicken eggs from the chicken house! This was a great opportunity for the children to relate the chicken in our story 'Rosie's Walk' to a real chicken. Last week the students did a fantastic job! This is our last week learning about 'Rosie's Walk' and the sight word 'went'. This week we will create sentences using our sight word 'went'. The boys in Lp3 have been busy exploring the language of number and measurement. We practice measuring different sizes and quantities so that we familiar with sequencing numbers and creating patterns. The language includes ideas like more, less; big, bigger, biggest; longer shorter; etc. We all enjoy activities that include group work and communication. Lower Primary Three have welcomed a new student to our class, Seth. He will start full time in our class in Term 4. In English, Lower Primary Three have started learning about our new book 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne. Last week, the class looked through the book and looked at the pictures to see if we could predict what we thought the story was about. This week we will read the story to see who the characters are. The children will pick one favourite character and write a sentence about that character. Our sight word we are learning about is 'the'. We have been using it in sentences when we do free writing. We have also been learning to write it using water and paint brushes in the courtyard, shaving cream and rainbow writing. Last week when we went to the library we hired out a chapter book called 'Horrid Henry' by Francesca Simon. We have been reading this to the children at eating times; the students are thoroughly listening to this book. We also hired out some audio books. These are compact hand held, battery operated devices. The students have really enjoyed listening to these during self-selected reading time. If you visit the Ipswich Town Library with your child, I highly recommend you hire one of these for your child. Also, you can buy earphones for $1.50 from the library to use with the audio book.

Miss Kristy, Miss Sarah, Mr David, Melissa and Fiona
UP1

UP1 has been very busy with many activities in the past 2 weeks. Book week was a great success and the students all thoroughly enjoyed the activities on the Friday. Sports day was great fun for all with the children participating in all the events. This Wednesday our class will be going to the interschool sports day. This is a great day with many events organised for the students. On Monday we had a visit from two professional Golf players. The children were able to have a session learning about Golf and enjoyed practicing their skills. Time flies when you’re having fun! Not long to go until the end of term. The students thoroughly enjoyed the interschool sports day with all of them receiving ribbons and stickers for their achievements. It was great to see our class participating in as many events as they could. In the classroom they have been learning about the Zones of Regulation in our social emotional awareness program with the school OT. In our literacy program they have been learning more about rhyming words in poetry and how to recognise them and write them. They have all worked very hard on recognising coins and notes in numeracy and how to add up small amounts of coins.

Miss Naomi, Belinda and Kathy.

UP3

We have had a busy two weeks which included Sports Day and Book Week. I understand the class had a great time at Sports Day and were very well behaved. During Book Week our class presented three poems to the rest of the school. These were poems we had been reading in the book “There’s a Goat in my Coat’. Alex, Thomas and Axel were good sports in dressing up. This week we had the opportunity to experience playing golf. The boys learnt how to handle golf clubs and hit the golf ball. In English we have been finding out about compound words and focusing on using capital letters and full stops when writing. They also practiced reading information from a poster and answering questions about it. Star Spellers in week 5 were William, Axel, Matthew and Thomas and in week 6 were Alex, Matthew and Thomas. I would like to thank parents for supporting their children when practising spellings, sight words and reading for homework. They are making great progress. In maths students have been revising o’clock and half-past and learning how to tell the time in minutes 2:25, 1:10. They have also been comparing activities which may take a long time and short time to understand the language we use around time.

Sarah, Anthea, Margaret and Susan
UP4

What a wonderful and busy week. We’ve had book week and cupcake day at the same time! Not forgetting the extremely fun School Sports Day!!!

UP4 acted out Henny Penny and did a great job performing it in front of the whole school. They also participated in all the book week activities and what looked like a lot of fun! UP4 also took on a big responsibility and that was baking and icing 260 cupcakes for the RSPCA fundraiser. Thank you to all the parents who supported us by means of buying cupcakes, donating ingredients and cash donations. Thank you to the volunteers who came in and helped to parcel and get the cupcakes out as well. It was a great help to us. This week we are looking forward to interschool sports day and another trip to the Ipswich Library.

LS1

The students in Lower Secondary 1 are continuing to work extremely hard and enthusiastically. Congratulations to all the students for participating in our Book Week celebrations. Parents/carers your children were hilarious, the staff and students couldn’t stop laughing as each student acted his/her part out so well. Work is continuing in Maths and English. Students are enjoying watching Charlotte’s Web – this is the story we’re doing in English. It’s good to see so many students enjoying preparing meals and eating it at the end of the day during the Stephanie Alexander Program. The boys participating in a ARE program with Ms Yvonne from FPQ.

Mrs Singh, Carol and Kylie

New Building

Last week, Andrew and I were fortunate in being given a tour of the new building. We were very impressed with the size and layout of the rooms and we can imagine how it will look when all the new furniture is in place. The building is on track to be handed over to us in October, so a lot of work is still to be completed. The new playground is due to be started shortly. We will have an official opening as soon as we can, so we hope to see everyone here.
**LS3**

It has been a busy two weeks in JS3. In science we completed our assessment *Push and Pull Audit*. This assessment explored everyday objects found throughout the school that use the *forces of push and pull*, and how these *forces* are used in our daily school lives. For example, pulls may be used to open doors while pushes may be used to depress keys on a keyboard for the purpose of typing. In history we are continuing our exploration of the settlement of Australia throughout the 18th century. We have begun constructing posters that demonstrate the *social, political and economic* reasons for Britain’s settlement of Australia. In English we are continuing our unit of work about *fantasy imaginative texts*. *Fablehaven*, our text, is proving to be a very popular book. It is full of mystery, action, suspense and magic, and this is greatly enhancing our learning experiences within our unit of work. In CBL we have begun using public trains to travel to the Booval Shopping Fair. The students are learning to navigate the Translink website to plan their journeys, including departure and return times. In maths we have completed our assessment of *right angles* and *angle measurement*. We have now started exploring the features of *maps*, including *compass points* and *legends*. Our class had a great time during book week. We had fun putting on a short presentation for the school about our book, *The Forest of Hands and Teeth*, which gave us the chance to dress-up as characters from the text. As for camp, information booklets have been sent home which provide all the information you need about the upcoming trip. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Tom with any questions. Keep up the good work, JS3!

Mr. Tom, Miss Margaret, Miss Rhonda, Miss Justine

---

**LS2**

Last week was awesome week for LS2. Our class went to the Ekka. We did and saw lots of different things. We went to the Woolworths Pavilion where we taste tested lots of different foods. Most of the foods we liked and some we didn’t. We also made grass heads out of plastic cups, cotton wool, seeds and stickers for the face. Next we went to the Channel 7 tent where we all sat behind the news desk for a photo and received a free show bag. We sat and watch the horses jump over hurdles and win ribbons. On the way to the animals we passed the monster trucks and street chalk drawings. They were pretty cool. We ventured to the animal nursery where we fed and patted the baby animals such as goats, pigs, sheep, donkeys and ducks. We saw a cow named Vicky. After watching the sheep we went to the rides.

Miss Sheryl, Kimberley our volunteer, Miss Laura, Steph, Courtney, Tiff, Vanessa and Kim went on the Riptide ride. It was a really fun ride, we were on it for ages. The other rides we went on were the Fun Slide, where everyone had a slide, the Crazy Coaster that Miss Laura, Courtney, Vanessa and Stephanie went on. This ride was FANTASTICLY scary!! And the Rock Star which Miss Belinda and Stephanie went on. For lunch we had hot chips, Dagwood Dogs or burgers. There was a really cool juggler that juggled lots of balls, tennis rackets and dangerous tools. He was also very funny. We went to the Learning Centre where we looked at lots of different stalls. Some stalls talked about animals, WW1, safety in the house, soccer and we all got a free photo in front of a green screen and chose our background for the shot. We then went in our groups to buy our show bags and then caught the train back home. We had an AWESOME TIME!! Learning as well as having lots of FUN!! Sheridan, Courtney, Keeley, Kimberley, Stephanie, Tiffany, Kea-Lee, Monique, Vanessa
Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

We have been doing a lot of baking over the past 2 weeks, using seasonal fruits such as pineapples, bananas and strawberries. We have also sampled some unusual fruits such as tropical pears or nashi. Miss Melissa has planted a nashi tree in our new vegetable garden so we are looking forward to eventually having our own fruit.

We have also been continuing to use other natural sweeteners such as honey, golden syrup and brown sugar to replace processed sugar in our baked treats, with tasty as well as healthy results.

Eggs have featured very strongly in many of our baked goods and some of the students are becoming quite adept at separating the whites from the yolks when the recipe calls for it.

We have been busily compiling all the students favourite recipes into a cook book which we will have on sale shortly. We have so many recipes collected that I have already started work on a second volume!

Helen

The garden team has been very busy in the last two weeks. Spring has sprung and with the warmer weather comes the new growth on the fruit trees, with the recent rain we have seen the seedling really take off, students are keeping a close eye on the rate they are growing. We have been growing strawberries and taking photos and data on the stages, this gives the students an insight into how produce grows and changes in various stages. Miss Helen has incorporated the strawberries into her kitchen program. Matthew, Richard and Tom were very excited to harvest our first crop of potatoes. More exciting news to come in the next fortnight.

Melissa

Students made an Almond Orange cake.

Richard, Tom and Matthew excited after their first harvest of potatoes.