From the Principal’s desk …..

It has been a very settled start to Term 3 with all students making a seamless transition back to school. We have made 3 minor changes to classes for this Term and the students involved have handled that change exceptionally well. The need to move a student mid-year happens occasionally when we experience new enrolments or feel a student is ready to move for either academic or social reasons. Thank you to the students who have moved for being very accommodating.

I hope by now all parents would have received the Parent/Carer School Opinion Survey. This is an essential part of the school review process so we can gauge both parent and staff satisfaction levels across a number of domains. This year we have also had 20 students respond to a student survey conducted online. As I mentioned in my letter home, if you have any difficulty accessing the internet to complete the survey, you can contact the school and we may be able to assist you.

Earlier in Term 2 the school sent home a letter seeking interest around school banking. We received several positive responses and one of our Parents, Samantha Brooks has volunteered to be the school banking coordinator. Samantha has been busy registering the school and has been given information packs and has put together information surrounding the program. I have enclosed relevant information with this newsletter. I would encourage students to participate in this as it is a good practical way to teach children the value of saving. It also fits nicely into some of our maths units around money. If you have any questions please contact Samantha.

Andrew Thompson.
Principal

Calendar
10 September—School Photos
18 September—Touch Carnival
19 September—Last day of Term
7 October—School Resumes
**LP1**

Hello and welcome back to school!

We hope that you have all had a great holiday. This term, LP1 are going to be exploring the deep blue sea and all things oceanic. In English, we are going to be looking at four different books with sea themes and will focus on describing words and sequencing. In Math we are investigating time and how to measure time using informal units such as blocks, claps and counters. There is a lot to get through and some big ideas to understand but we are confident that LP1 can rise to the challenge!

Miss Ish, Miss Lynda and Miss Susan.

**LP2**

Everyone in LP2 had a nice break and are getting back into our routine. We have been working really hard learning about money and writing sentences using Clicker 6 and matching them to pictures. We have also been busy practicing games for sports day which is coming up later in the term. Hopefully by the time sports day comes we will be prepared and able to participate in all of the events. During sensory play we have been practicing making faces out of play dough and have been doing a great job, our next challenge is to make a whole person.

Miss Erin, Sue and Tracey

**LP3**

When we as teachers plan to create the best possible learning experience for each of our children we are mindful of the need to identify with a high degree of accuracy the level of readiness of each individual learner.

Here at Ipswich West Special we understand that effective communication is critical to learning. To overcome delayed development in any child we must target the current level of receptive and expressive language acquisition. We are challenged to identify the point of readiness for learning otherwise our activities are “off target”. This is why we make use of communication systems such as PECS and other proven methods.

We also know that our children will not learn and develop if they are not safe and happily occupied; valued as they should be for their uniqueness.

In LP3 the teachers and teacher aides make every effort to provide a happy learning environment for each child. In this way we will see each of the boys progress from their readiness levels to a future of continued development.

Miss Kristy, Miss Sarah, Mr David, Melissa and Fiona
UP 1

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. We are very busy already with some new activities starting. Dance is now on a Thursday afternoon. The students really enjoyed their first session this week. Book week will be during August along with sports day. We have started looking at poems in Literacy, in particular rhyming poems. I’m looking forward to great learning and fun adventures this term.

Miss Naomi, Belinda and Kathy.

UP 2

Upper Primary 2 has welcomed Maddison into our class this week. She is enjoying lots of craft work and making new friendships in the classroom.

In English we have been reading lots of stories and focussing on the information on the cover of the book such as the title and the author. We are learning the letter names and sounds of the alphabet in upper and lower case form. Next week we will look at more stories and find letters within the text. Our outing to the Ipswich Little Theatre is also next week to see “Trouble in Storybook Land” and we are all getting very excited about this.

Kyarna wearing her “Queen’s Crown” she made

In Maths we have been learning about features of collections and making some of our own to help us with our number work. Here are our collections of leaves we gathered and made.

Miss Michele, Angela and Kylie

UP 3

In English this semester our class will be focusing on Poetry. We will be reading a selection of poems from the Text by Milne, R & McLean, There’s a goat in my coat, Allen & Unwin, Australia. The students will be working towards understanding the purpose and structure of poetry, and engaging in conversations and discussions about poetry. And understanding how to replicate rhythms and sound patterns in poems. In Maths students will be covering: Number and Algebra, Money and Financial Mathematics, Using Units of Measurement and Location and Transformation. On Tuesday afternoons our class will be ‘Drumming’ with Bill our school Chaplain. The boys had their first session last week and had a great time.

Lunchtimes: Whilst we encourage the boys to eat their packed lunch there are times when they don’t want to eat all their food. In these circumstances we would send any uneaten items of lunch home so parents can see how much they have eaten. Studyladder: William has achieved 2284 points and a Silver Ribbon and Thomas has 3767 points and a Platinum Medal. Well done Boys!

Sarah, Anthea, Margaret and Susan
UP4

UP 4 has had a great start to Term 3. Everyone has come back relaxed and ready to learn. Our class has volunteered to participate in the Cupcake Day to raise funds for the RSPCA. We would love your support by either donating ingredients or a few coins towards this cause. We are also starting visits to the Ipswich Library as part of our Literacy program. Every second week we will walk to the library and look at a selection of books to help us learn about Characters in narratives. Numeracy is also going to be an interesting topic as we are looking at money and the value of it in everyday life. I look forward to a successful Term 3.

Miss Neve, Debbie and Gwen

LS1

It’s so good to see the students in Junior Secondary 1 settling in so well after the Winter vacation. Much learning has already taken place in our class. In Maths they’re learning about Angles and 2-dimensional shapes. In Science they will be learning about Forces. In English students will learn how to present ideas and information to the class using appropriate speaking skills. The Stephanie Alexander cooking and gardening program has taken off enthusiastically once again. You will be kept up to date on your child’s learning.

Mrs Singh, Carol & Kylie

LS2

Welcome back everyone. We have been having fun these first two weeks of Term 3. We have started a new unit of Maths where we are looking at measurement. We play maths games to remember what are even and odd numbers and counting backwards by one. This is fun. In English our new unit is Reading, responding to and writing people’s stories. The first person’s story we are reading is Mary Gilmore. She was born a long time ago and was a poet. She is on the Australian ten dollar note. Science started this week, the unit is on Forces and it is cool. We received a letter from the producers of a game show 60 second slam (it's not a real letter, its pretend) telling us that we will have to design and test a game for the show. We have to test out some of the games the show so we understand the forces involved. The two games we played used push and pull forces. These games were great fun. CBL has started again. Last week we went to the local Library where we chose books to borrow for our classroom library. We also read some books at the library to Miss Sheryl and Miss Laura to see if we wanted to borrow them. This week we went to Riverlink. We caught the local bus to and from. At Riverlink we split into two groups and priced the ingredients we will need to make burgers for us and the staff. We will see which shop has the best prices and we will buy what we need next week. We saw so many people we knew at Riverlink which was nice. We just love Art with Miss Sarah, making hangings for the classroom veranda and completing our journals. Drumming with Mr Bill is awesome, we love drumming it’s so much fun. We are getting ready for the up and coming sports days in PE with Mr Griffiths, it is pretty tiring but we just love PE.

Tiffany, Courtney, Kimberley, Keeley, Vanessa, Stephanie, Monique, Kea – Lee
LS3

It's great to be back at school! JS3 has wasted no time in getting back to work and our new learning adventures have begun. In English we are studying the exciting genre of fantasy storytelling. Our text for the term is *Fablehaven* by Brendon Mull. This book will serve as the foundation for our studies over the duration of our unit. So far we have explored the author’s choices of verbs, adverbs, nouns and adjectives and why these selections are relevant to the fantasy genre. In maths we have started investigating the observable features of regular and irregular 2D shapes, including the concepts of length, height and angles. In science we have started exploring how forces affect objects through contact and non-contact forces. This is going to be a fun unit, filled with many games and hands-on activities! Our CBL program is continuing this semester. So far we have travelled to Booval Shopping Fair from the Thomas Street train station using GoCards. This semester students are taking it in turns to organise and supervise key aspects of community outings, including the planning of departure and return times, estimating costs needed for round-trip travel and identifying the correct trains and platforms via the Translink website. Students will also practise itemising the shopping lists. The fishing program is also continuing this semester. We are currently investigating new potential fishing spots and the types of wildlife found in these places. This information will inform our choices of what bait, sinkers and knots to use to achieve the best results. In history we are exploring the development of British colonies in Australia and the lives of people in the colonial past. Specifically, we will be taking a close look at the local history of Ipswich and how this great city came to be. It's going to be a great semester!

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

ART

Welcome back Art students of Ipswich West Special School! I hope you are well rested and ready to get straight back into creating some great Artwork. We have a busy semester ahead. We are running low on a few items in the Artroom and we would love any donations please!! Items needed are cardboard boxes (cereal, etc), toilet rolls, tins and ice cream containers. Also used magazines for collage, such as new idea, woman’s day, car or bike magazines, gardening and music. We are great at recycling old bits and bobs, so if there is anything that you think would be useful, please send it in. Even old pots and pans or costume jewellery!! Thankyou. Looking forward to another great Semester in Art!!! From all in the Art Team

P&C

During Term 2 IWSS in conjunction with West Ipswich Battery World held a battery drive promotion where we asked for all old batteries to be dropped in to Battery World and every battery would go towards our fundraising tally. The dollar amount raised was $300 with West Ipswich Battery World donating $200 towards our proceeds bringing our tally to $500. Thanks to each and every one of you for helping to raise money. Well done! Reminder to all parents/carers that school shirts are available from the P&C. All sizes are in stock and are priced at $30 per shirt. You can pay by cash or direct deposit. Our bank account is: IWSS P&C, BSB 064417, A/C No; 06441700914789. If paying by direct deposit, please notify Kylie in person or via email (iwssspc@gmail.com) and when we have received payment in the account we will distribute the shirts. Please put your child’s surname as reference and size required.

The P&C meets at the school on the last Friday of each month at 1.30pm - all welcome. Or if you can not attend the meetings and would like to bring something to our attention you can drop us an email (iwssspc@gmail.com)
Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

New Building Progress