

The Glenleighden News

15 October 2010



Office Hours

8.30am - 4.00pm
33 Cubberla Street
Fig Tree Pocket QLD
4069

Ph: 07 3378 8625

Fax: 07 3378 8873

info@childassoc.org.au

Uniform Shop Hours

Thursday 8.45 - 9.45

Term 4 Events

Student Therapy Day

(Students to be AT SCHOOL)
Monday 18th October

Pupil Free Day

Monday 25th October

Working Bee

Sunday 28th November

Awards Night

Wednesday 8th December

Assembly

9am every second
Thursday-28th October

Birthdays

Corbin M
Ryan B

AWARDS

Early Childhood

Eleanor M
Tom D

Junior School

Tim DeV
Eddie S
Tom C

Middle School

Aaron B
Lucas R

Senior School

Carter N
Nicholas P
James L

*Congratulations
to all students*

Dear Parents and families,

Welcome back to a very wet Term 4. I hope you and your family enjoyed a relaxing time during the holidays.

I would like to welcome our new staff to Glenleighden: Cathy Nicholson, Therapy Assistant in Middle School and Tanya Robertson, Occupational Therapist in Middle and Senior Schools. Continuing staff who have changed roles for this term are Jan Chidgey, Senior School Coordinator and Amanda Sheales, Teacher in Junior School. Amanda is joining us from CHI.L.D.'s Let's Talk clinic to replace Jan's role in Junior School for term 4.

Everyone's resilience has been very much tested during the past two wet weeks with indoor play losing its novelty value quickly. Congratulations to all staff and students for the smooth manner in which they have supported each other. Our school grounds have welcomed the rain however, giving the top-dressing a good soaking on the oval. I would like to thank those involved in our working bee at the start of the holidays. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated. Thanks also to United Way for organising a band of volunteers to install steps and secure plants on the creek bank as part of our "Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Project".

Pupil Free Day 25th October

Please note that Monday 18th October is a normal school day for students at Glenleighden. Our therapists have planned fun, therapy-based activities for our "Therapy Day" and all students are expected to attend. **Pupil Free Day is on Monday 25th October.**

PS&F Meeting

Wednesday night's PS&F meeting was well attended by each sector of our school community. Thank you to the many parents and staff who attended and also to Barry Wheeler from Kenmore Rotary. Your support is very much appreciated and reflects the strength of our wonderful community. There was great discussion about upcoming events and actions put in place. Minutes will be posted on the school noticeboard soon for your convenience. Please note the next meeting will be held in the school library on Wednesday 10th November at 7.30pm.

• **Creek project**

Barry spoke about the contributions from Kenmore Rotary, involving the regeneration of our creek bed and plan for a student environment centre. There will be planting of approximately 200 trees at a working bee supported by our friends from Rotary who are seeking any interested students, parents and staff to also be involved. Further information will be sent home soon.

• **Bollywood Night – tickets on sale now.**

Don't forget to book your seat for this event on Saturday the 6th November at the Toowong Bowls Club. It was lots of fun last year and raised valuable funds for the school. This year money raised will go towards school resources, so please consider attending. Payment can be made to Sarah-Jane at Reception. Tables of 12 can also be reserved with payment. Please check the details further in this newsletter.

Head Of School Cont.

- **Halloween Night – Help needed!!**

This is a free event for students, kindly sponsored by our PS&F, starting at 5.30pm on Saturday 30th October. The night will include three activities to accommodate different ages and interest levels:

1. 5.30-6.30pm - Trick or Treat door knock of classrooms,
2. 6.30-7.30pm - dance in a mock “House of Horrors” and
3. 7.30-9.30pm - movie in the park.

Our coordinator, Dean Beazley, needs some volunteers to help if you are able to offer your services. Tasks include creating and erecting decorations, buying and distributing lollies (including gluten free) and supervision during the movie. Please contact Sarah-Jane at Reception or Dean directly by email inkjetqld@hotmail.com to register your support.

- **Senior School Semi-Formal**

On Saturday the 6th November, Senior School will be hosting its inaugural “Semi-Formal” in the multipurpose room at the school. It will feature a DJ and guest band “The 7.50s. Attendance is by invitation only. For more information please contact reception.

Australian Curriculum update

During the holidays I attended the Australian Curriculum Studies Association’s national symposium in Sydney. 150 delegates attended from all school levels, states and sectors to discuss issues specifically related to the new Australian Curriculum. This provided an opportunity for me to speak directly with other representatives from within special education and further reinforced my view that this is a good direction for us at The Glenleighden School. I look forward to keeping you informed of progress when the curriculum is released, most likely at this stage to be 3rd December. The implementation for The Australian Curriculum is still set for January 2012, with next year being a time for trialling and familiarising staff and students with the curriculum material.

Reminder: Morning Drop-off

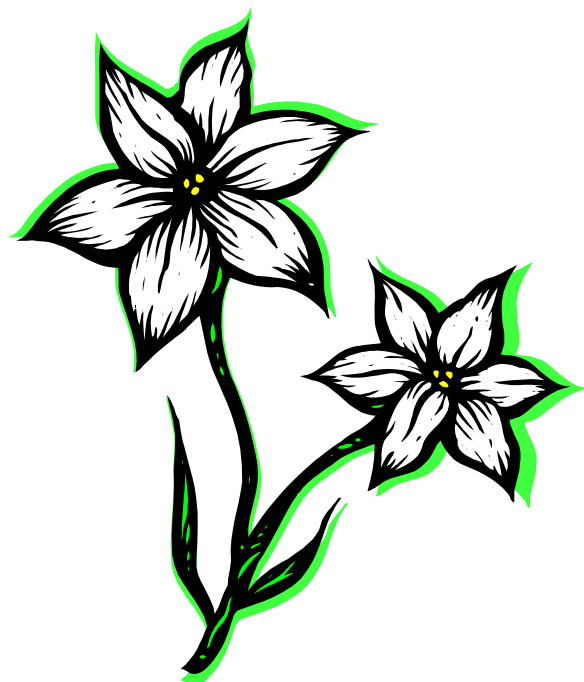
Students should not be inside the school gates before 8.30 am or left out on the footpath unattended. Please be aware that there is no staff on duty to supervise the children before this time.

When using the drop-off zone in front of the school after 8.30am, we ask parents to please consider others and depart ASAP to make the next available space. If you do need to park, I ask parents to be mindful not to park in our neighbours’ driveways.

Cae Ashton

Cae Ashton
Head of School

Email: cae.ashton@childassoc.org.au



The Role of Research for the 21st Century Organisation by Vikki Rose Graydon, Executive Principal

It makes for an interesting mix when professionals from different training backgrounds come together to share their knowledge and experiences in the context of their profession to assist a group of children with a little known disability, such as primary language or communication disorder. On one hand, you have a group of professionals trained with a focus on anatomy, physiology, psychology, linguistics, human movement, medical conditions, neurology and neuropsychology (as well as their specified therapy subjects) with a focus on improving the lives of individuals. On the other hand, you have a group of professionals trained in education processes, learning styles, academic development and progress, pedagogy, learning outcomes, curriculum and remediation, as well as specific content in subject areas, with a focus on operating within a system which aims to provide a quality education for the mass. To put these two groups together opens great possibilities, and no doubt was one of the primary reasons for the development of a multidisciplinary model of service delivery over thirty years ago by the founder of our organisation, Mrs Mancel Ellis Robinson. But to put these two groups together also opens a Pandora's box of real and perceived complexities, including balancing the needs of the individual and the group, focusing on therapy outcomes versus learning outcomes, following a curriculum or a developmental checklist, being differentiated for individuals in the teaching and learning environment the organisation provides, while providing a context which encourages resilience in a multitude of contexts in which our children will be a part. Often questions arise, such as *Who is right? What is more important?*

Over the past three years particularly, a performance management process has been put in place for all staff in the organisation to be supported in their endeavours to become better practitioners (regardless of age or previous experience), with an expectation that they will collect, collate and analyse data which will assist them in making best practice judgements about the quality of their teaching or therapy practice and ultimately whether what we are doing as individuals and as an organisation actually results in better outcomes for our students. To be honest, if we didn't think we were making a difference, I am certain that none of us would bother turning up to work every day. However, the 21st century organisation can no longer rest in its own assumption that it is doing the right thing. It now has to prove this to stakeholders, funding bodies and the general community as well that this is the case. I think it would be safe to say that the therapists as a group, because of their training background, have not had as much difficulty coming to terms with the process of data collection and analysis as maybe our teaching colleagues have. And the education sector itself has flung out the query "Can education be a research-based profession?" The answer is "Yes", and I am pleased to say that our professionals, teachers and therapists alike, as well as our support and administration staff, already have a head start engaging in what will become expected practice in the not too distant future.

In a recent article in *The Australian Educational Leader*, Qi and Levin identified a number of mechanisms used in promoting meaningful teacher learning, including personal reflection, observation and skill-focused techniques. What a delight for me to read this, as our performance management manual explicitly talks about these mechanisms in the context of a discourse-based process. The same article talks about three approaches for educational facilities which are perceived to be "alternative" or "new" by many educators. These involve the concepts of a professional development school (or PDS), university and school networking, and collaborative and/or action research. In more detail, a PDS is defined as "a school for the development of novice professionals, for continuing development of experienced professionals and for the research and development of the teaching profession". Partnerships between universities and schools "connect practitioners who share common interests and concerns about education". And the use of collaborative research as a professional development strategy "actively involves teachers in professional reflection, validates educators as producers of knowledge, and recognises their role in professional development and decision making".

As an organisation we have already started undertaking this journey. The aim of the performance management process is, essentially, to make us a professional development organisation – to provide support for our new staff with their recent knowledge about best practice and their eagerness to learn; to encourage and challenge our more experienced staff to reflect, share and mentor; and to encourage all in the organisation to take on projects or tasks in which they could be a part of developing, not only the teaching profession, but the education system as a whole. Recently funded projects being conducted in The Glenleighden School are an example of this new enthusiasm and highlight our growing reputation over the past six years for being an organisation which wants to be involved in education-based research. As part of our new strategic directions, partnerships with universities and other institutions will be sought by the Research Subcommittee. These partnerships may take on a variety of forms with a variety of purposes. However, they will be about connecting practitioners who share common interests and concerns about children with primary language disorders.

Collaborative and action research will continue to be promoted as part of professional growth as well as validating and strengthening what we do for our children. In addition to this, we have the advantage of being able to support and benefit from staff who choose to pursue further specific studies and research in the area of primary language disorders.

As a one-of-a-kind organisation, as an employer of health and education professionals of various disciplines, and in the context of increasing accountability and harder-to-get funding, we have no choice but to engage deeply and actively with our practices and programs, and to understand our children both as individuals as well as members of a larger, more homogenous group. This is not an easy task. We may find that we need to stop engaging in some practices because they don't make a difference. We may find that we need to do things better, and to do this we need training and support. We will find that we have to be more time-efficient to fit in all the things the organisation demands of us as professionals. But our children and families will be the ultimate beneficiaries, and I think we all agree that they deserve nothing less.

It is this kind of effort that will set our course and guide us, and our activities and our programs into the future.

ⁱQi, J. & Levin, B. (2010). *Professional Learning. Part 2 of 'Can education be a research-based profession?'*. The Australian Educational Leader, Vol 32 (3).

ⁱⁱHolmes Group, cited in Qi & Levin, 2010

ⁱⁱⁱMiller, 2001, cited in Qi & Levin, 2010

^{iv}Burbank & Kauchak, 2003, cited in Qi & Levin, 2010

School News

Dear Parents and Guardians,

You may have noticed a story in the Sunday papers about an organisation called Aidarena (see attachment).

We are registered with these people, so if you, or anyone you know would be interested in taking part at any time, we would of course be grateful. You can visit their site at www.aidarena.com or click on the link on www.glenleighden.org.au.

With thanks,

Vikki Rose Graydon
Executive Principal

From eBay to free bay

CHARITIES will get a boost from a new online auction site that allows sellers to donate the proceeds directly to their favourite cause.

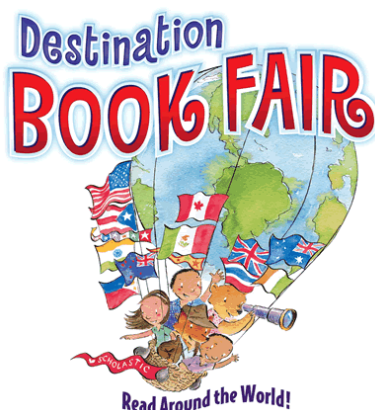
AidArena, developed by Queenslanders Don MacMillan and Mark Wilson, is believed to be a world first.

"Neither of us has a background in charity but we saw an opportunity to make a difference," Mr MacMillan said.

The initiative works in a similar way to eBay and other auction sites, with people posting photographs of new or used items for sale and taking bids over a specified time, but instead of the seller pocketing the cash, it goes to a registered charity they have nominated.

www.aidarena.com

Book Fair



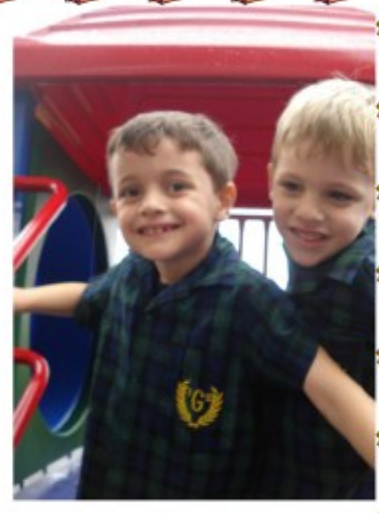
is coming!

Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th November.

This year we are conducting a colouring-in competition for our students. These will be sent home with your child today (and attached to the end of this newsletter). We have 4 \$10 Book Fair gift vouchers to be won (1 prize for each level). The winners can spend their \$10 gift voucher only at our Book Fair. Entries will need to be returned by Wednesday 3rd November. All entries will be on display at our Book Fair.

Happy colouring!

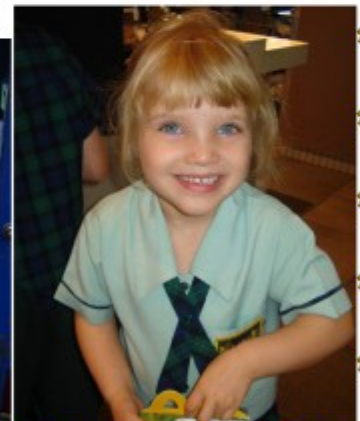
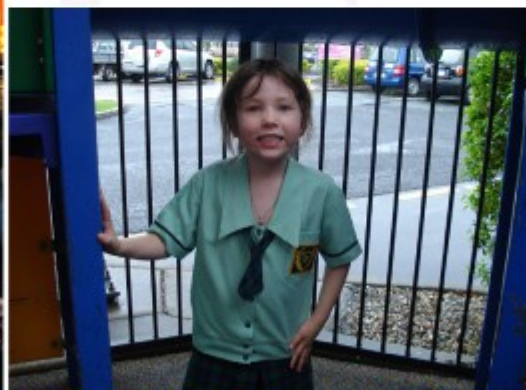
Early Childhood News



Early Childhood's Excursion to McDonalds



At the end of Term 3, Early Childhood went on an excursion to McDonalds. We had to order and pay for our own food and use our table manners. We then got to play on the playground with our friends.



School News

BUSH STONE-CURLEWS

We currently have a pair of Bush Stone-curlews nesting in our tyres next to the basketball court. Stone-curlews are also known as Thick-knees and are in the same bird family as the plover, and NOT closely related to the true curlews although their colours are similar. The Bush Stone-curlew is a mostly nocturnal bird, spending their nights hunting for spiders, insects, frogs, small snakes, lizards and even small mammals. During the day the Bush Stone-curlew usually remains inactive amongst shrubs or tall grass and use their 'freeze' actions to protect them from being seen. They are protecting their eggs at the moment so Frank has roped off the basketball court until they have hatched.



CONCERT DVD

The 2010 concert DVD will soon be available for purchase at \$15.00 per copy. To reserve your copy please return this slip indicating the number of copies you would like to purchase.

I _____
would like to order _____ (number of DVD's) at \$15ea.



PS&F News

Bollywood Night

**NOVEMBER 6TH, 7:30 – 12PM, TOOWONG BOWLS CLUB,
INDOOROPILLY ROAD**

**CHAMPAGNE ON ARRIVAL
LUCKY DOOR PRIZE
RAFFLES**

**3-COURSE INDIAN BUFFET PREPARED ON TANDOORI OVENS
TEA / COFFEE / ICED WATER
FULL BAR - DRINKS AT REASONABLE PRICES**

BOLLYWOOD ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDING MUSIC & DANCING

\$80 PER PERSON—PLEASE PAY AT RECEPTION

Contacts: Rohini Singh 33743388 & Carolyne Carroll 38787877



**Organised by The Glenleighden School
All profits will go towards school resources**

Community News

Help us win the ultimate staffroom with QTCU's Staffroom for Improvement competition

4 October to 22 October 2010

Following the success of last year's competition, Queensland Teachers' Credit Union are again running the Staffroom for Improvement competition and are expecting a bigger and better response in 2010.

The inaugural campaign generated a total of 40,000 votes for more than 1,000 schools in Queensland—an outstanding result. Last year's winner, Gympie Special School, whose teachers work tirelessly in teaching and caring for special needs children, was awarded the \$30,000 prize to create their very own ultimate staffroom. This year another school will win an amazing makeover, transforming their staffroom into an amazing oasis for all their school's staff to enjoy. So help us rally the support of our local school community to collect as many votes as possible to help us win!

Any size school can win - 2009's top ten schools

Final Position	School	Approx. no. of students
1	Gympie Special School	51
2	Clinton State School	642
3	Pilton State School	25
4	Pine Rivers Special School	183
5	Kolan South State School	140
6	Back Plains State School	15
7	Jindalee State School	865
8	Wellcamp State School	41
9	John Paul College (Daisy Hill)	2168
10	Good Shepherd Lutheran College	826



This could be our school in 2010! Tell your family and friends, as the more people you can encourage voting for our school, the better chance we have of winning!

Don't delay, vote online today at
www.staffroomforimprovement.com.au

FREE ENTRY for Kids to see the Brisbane Roar in Action!

HEY KIDS! Come and see the Roar in action for free at our NEXT HOME GAME!

*FREE JUNIOR TICKET 15YRS & UNDER.

KIDS 4 FREE
SATURDAY OCTOBER 16

BRISBANE ROAR V NEWCASTLE JETS
 SATURDAY OCTOBER 16 – SUNCORP STADIUM 7.45PM

TO GET YOUR **FREE JUNIOR TICKET:**

Ph Ticketek 132 849
 OR
 Get to a Ticketek agency
 OR
 Go to a Suncorp Stadium Ticket Office on game day

ADULTS FROM **\$20**

Next Brisbane Roar Home Game:

Date: Saturday 16th October 2010

Time: 7.45pm

Opposition: Newcastle Jets

Where: Suncorp Stadium

FREE ENTRY 4 KIDS!!!*

*15yrs and under



The Glenleighden School NAB AFL Auskick Centre Ages 5 - 12

Due to the rainy weather we will be having another sign on day so no Auskickers miss out!

Sign on & 1st Session: Tuesday Morning 19th October

Time: 7.30am-8.30am (every Tuesday Morning for the rest of school term)

Venue: Fig Tree Pocket School Oval

Address: Cubberla Street Fig Tree Pocket 4069

For more information contact: AFL Qld Brisbane West office on 3033 5432

TO REGISTER:

OPTION A - PREFERRED OPTION

- 1 Three Easy Steps:
- 2 Register online at www.aflauskick.com.au
2. Print submitted registration form
3. You can pay online or on the day with cash or cheque.

OPTION B-

Complete a handwritten registration form and give along with payment to your AFL Auskick Co-ordinator at the

Sponsors

Thank-You



finely crafted wine



Name:

Level:

Destination BOOK FAIR



Read Around the World!