From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy Mothers’ Day
Sunday May 13th is Mothers’ Day – over the coming weeks the Fundraising Group are coordinating Mothers’ Day stalls at each campus. Thanks so much to all the ‘mothers’ who are assisting the student purchase gifts for the special women who care for them. I hope all our Mothers’, Grandmothers and others caring for children have a very happy day. Happy Mothers’ Day to all our staff members who are mums – we hope you are all spoilt by your families and that you get breakfast in bed (not too burnt)!

Principal Visits to Classrooms
Thanks to the classrooms who have hosted principal visits so far this term. The purpose for the visits is for the principal team to ensure that the Teaching and Learning Protocols and ASD Principles of Teaching and Learning are being implemented in the classrooms. We are committed to ensuring that all students have access to high quality ASD specific educational programs. The school provides a lot of PD for teachers and teacher aides – it is great to see the theory and ideas presented in action in the classrooms.

National Volunteer Week
The week commencing Monday 14th of May is National Volunteer Week. At NSA we rely on our strong team of volunteers to assist with swimming programs, excursions, fundraising, resource making and many other tasks. Our team of volunteers includes not only parents and grandparents of students but the relatives of staff members and members of the public who donate their time to assist the school. All volunteers have formal induction and must have a Working With Children Check. On behalf of the staff and students I would like to extend a BIG THANK YOU to all our marvellous volunteers. We highly value the time you give to the school. We could not do all we do without you. Have a great week.

SSG Week – Thank You
Thank you once again to our marvellous parent/carer community for keeping your child at home on their classroom’s designated SSG day. We know it’s not always possible but the reduced numbers of students enables teachers to meet with all the families of the students in their classroom regarding each child’s educational program. Thanks for your support.

School Council
The next meeting of SC is on Thursday 10th of May at 5.30pm at the Jacana Campus.

Staff Professional Learning
Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS)
Over the coming weekends over 20 staff will participate in PECS training. PECS is an alternative communication system which is provided to students who are experiencing difficulty with expressive language. There are several other alternative and augmentative communication systems (AACs) in use across the school, however, PECS is most commonly used. If a child needs access to an AAC this will be discussed during SSG meetings. Communication is one of the triad of impairments for students on the autism spectrum. The school's team of therapists work closely with classroom teams to make sure all students are able to maximise their use of AACs and develop their capacity to communicate.

Mandatory Reporting
In schools all staff are legally mandated to report suspected child abuse or neglect to the Department of Human Services. Training is provided yearly to staff to ensure they are aware of their responsibilities. This term staff from across the school will participate in training.

First Aid & Anaphylaxis
Over 40 staff of 160 are first aid trained. This is wonderful as it means that if or when an emergency arises there are plenty of people available to assist. Thank you to all staff who gave up their Saturday to complete the training. Thanks to Denise Clarke for coordinating the training and Angela Mancini for opening up the Jacana Campus last Saturday week. Thanks to Denise Clarke for organising anaphylaxis PD for the whole school. It is good to know that students and staff who suffer from severe allergic reactions are surrounded by staff who know what to do in the event of an emergency.

Anna Rigoni
Principal
Jacana News

School Photos
School photos for the staff and students at the Jacana Campus will be held on Monday 7th May. Students have been sent home an order form. Please return on the day of the photos.

Family Support Meetings
Please put these dates in your diary, we would love to see you at these meetings.

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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th May</td>
<td>Educational Psychology Provision at NSA</td>
<td>Lydia Wilson (Educational Psychologist)</td>
<td>Professional Learning Centre 9-10.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th May</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy at NSA</td>
<td>Victoria Rajaratnam (Senior Occupational Therapist)</td>
<td>Professional Learning Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th June</td>
<td>Meet the Student Engagement and Wellbeing Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Deb Munt</td>
<td>Professional Learning Centre 9-10.30</td>
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Mother's Day Stall
A special thank you to the parents who assisted with the Mother's Day Stall

Lisa Sette  
Nicole Davis  
Marissa Griffiths  
Anne Graham  
Teresa Beasy  
Handan Coskun  
Janelle Braden

It was a very successful fundraiser this term, $400.00 was raised for the school.
Next fundraising meetings will be held on Wednesday 16th May at 10.30am. New members welcome.
The fundraising committee are in the process of planning a special lunch day in term 2.

Student Banking
Nine families were interested in accessing the student banking program. This will be discussed by the Senior Management Team with more information to follow. Thank you to the families who responded.

Shopping Tour
Back by popular demand. The fundraising committee at the Jacana Campus is organising a shopping tour later this year. Please mark this date on your calendar if you are interested. Sunday 28th October.

Hand Foot and Mouth Disease
There has been a confirmed case of hand, foot and mouth disease reported at Jacana Campus. This presents with a person having a fever for a few days and a sore throat. The person will then have a rash on their hands, feet, inside the mouth or on the face. This rash will turn into blisters. Children need to be excluded from school until all blisters have dried. Please see your GP if you notice any of these symptoms.

Corinne Pupillo  
Campus Principal
On Friday 25th of May, NSA is celebrating Education Week by hosting an Open Morning.

The Open Morning will include classroom visits followed by morning tea.

We invite NSA families, friends and the community to join us for this event.

Jacana Campus will be opened at the following times:

Jacana Campus -
9:15 classroom visits followed by morning tea at 9:45

Please Return this slip to the office by Monday 21st of May

Yes, I will be attending the open morning. Number of people attending _______

No, I will no be attending the open morning.

Name of student: ___________________ Class: ___________
Room 2 – Early Years B

Here are the students and staff from room 2 in our school library, enjoying the variety of books and many comfy spots to sit and read their favourite books.
Room 16

mothers day stall

Liam is playing the iPad

Malik is playing with dinosaurs

Jack on the gymball

Ekrem is doing yoga

Logan is playing basketball

Ido likes music and dancing

Bianca and Mason are buying from the mothers day stall

Thank you to the wonderful mothers who operate the...
We have had a busy start to the year in Room 19. We have especially enjoyed tending to our vegetable garden, cooking, participating in our Road Safety program, going on excursions and science experiment fun. We are looking forward to the start of our swimming lessons next week. Here are some photos of some of the highlights so far...
This presentation will provide some tips and strategies to use to promote positive (desirable or appropriate) behavior in children.

Strategies that will be discussed include...

- Labeled Praise
- Giving Simple and Clear Instructions
- Developing a Helpful Routine
- Planning positive interactions with your child
- Using Social Stories
The Department of Human Services recently announced new funding for Aspect to deliver a Positive Behaviour Support program in Victoria

April 2012: Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) has been funded by the Department of Human Services to develop and deliver a Positive Behaviour Support Program for children and young people (aged 6-25 years) with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) across Victoria over the next three years.

According to Beth Sutcliffe, Manager Aspect Victoria, "The program that we will implement will be based upon Aspect's highly successful behaviour intervention program that has been operating in New South Wales for some time."

"It will be underpinned by a strong evidence base regarding best practice in the development and delivery of behaviour support services to individuals with an ASD."

"A cornerstone of the Victorian program will be that it focuses on working in partnerships: with the person with an ASD, with their family and their community including with other service providers. We know that our Positive Behaviour Support program is most successful when it operates as a complement to other services," continues Beth.

When the Victorian program is launched in June, parents will initially be able to access free Positive Behaviour workshops. These workshops will support and assist families, carers and others to develop a greater understanding of the young person's ASD and the impact that this has upon learning, behaviour and development; and to design and implement an individualised positive behaviour support plan based upon an identified behaviour of concern. The workshops will take an individualised approach with Aspect staff working closely with participants to develop the skills they need to address behaviours of concern. Parent and carers will learn, step by step, how to create an autism friendly environment, define a behaviour of concern, understand the importance of what happens before and after the behaviour, replacement behaviour, teaching new skills and develop a behaviour response plan. All families seeking support to manage behaviour will be encouraged to attend these workshops.

Families of clients who require support at a more intensive level will also participate in these Positive Behaviour Workshops, but, in addition, will be able to apply to receive individualised support to define specific goals and to design and implement a detailed behaviour support plan in the home and in other settings (including schools). As indicated by need, additional training and support will be provided to local services and providers.

More intensive support may include specific support at home and in other environments (eg school) to develop, implement, monitor and review an individualised behaviour support plan. Services may be delivered in a variety of ways at times that suit families – involving the whole family.

The highest intensity of support will be longer term and designed to address issues with people who have more complex needs and enduring challenges. Clients requiring this level of support may be at significant risk of family breakdown or loss of school placement.

The Positive Behaviour Support program will commence with a series of workshops held in all regions across Victoria. Families will be able to register to attend these workshops online with a calendar to be posted shortly.
More intensive support programs will be rolled out progressively across the state over the three years. Referrals for this more intensive level of support will be considered by a local panel so families will get quick access to support and the most appropriate service to meet their needs. The panel will include representatives from Aspect, DHS and non-government service providers.

**More about Aspect Positive Behaviour Support**

With the assistance of philanthropic funding, Aspect was able to deliver its Positive Behaviour workshop called "Aspect Recipe for Success" in Victoria in late 2011. Feedback from families and other participants included:

- "Recipe provided me with a huge amount of knowledge, strategies and confidence in understanding and managing my son's difficult behaviours. All parents of kids on the spectrum should have the opportunity to participate in Recipe." (Parent from Ballarat)
- "For the first time we have practical information about what we can do about current and future issues." (Parent from Craigieburn)
- "I've been to lots of other workshops, but have never come across anything this useful. Amazing." (Service provider from Geelong)
- "I have a sense that the family I am working with now have some skills and techniques they can apply over the coming year." (Service provider from Geelong)
- "Three days of this three years ago would have saved me years of Behaviour Intervention Support." (Parent from St Albans)
- "I loved the amount of clear help that was given. Everything was so useful." (Parent from Craigieburn)

Please contact Aspect Victoria on 03 9377 6600 with further enquiries.
Two Day Workshop and Information Sessions for PARENTS/CARERS of School Aged Students on the Autism Spectrum

Workshop: 2012VICPC1  Location: COBURG

The Positive Partnerships initiatives have been developed and delivered by Partnerships between Education and the Autism Community (PEAC) and funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations through the Helping Children with Autism package.

What will you learn?
As a result of participating in the workshops and information sessions as parents/carers you will gain:

- a greater understanding of the impact of autism on your child, both at school and at home
- knowledge about how to develop effective parent, school and teacher partnerships
- specific strategies on how to:
  - advocate for your child
  - support your child’s participation at school
  - develop an awareness of ongoing learning needs
- information about your local school system’s processes
- opportunities to network and share strategies with other parents/carers and key community members
- opportunities for discussion around a range of topics relevant to students with an ASD and their families

Some key community representatives that support families living with autism will be identified and invited to participate in the workshop with a view to supporting a community focus beyond the workshop.

Workshop details
Venue: Glenroy Football Club
Sewell Reserve, Glenroy Road, Glenroy

When: Two-Day Workshop – Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th May
Day 1: 9.00 a.m - 4.30 p.m (Registration from 8.15am)
Day 2: 9 a.m – 4.00 p.m

Registration opens 6 weeks before the workshop, and closes 2 days prior.
Registration may stay open until one day before the workshop if spaces are still available, but we strongly recommend that you register as soon as possible.
You will receive a confirmation of your registration.

Online registrations preferred: please go to the website www.positivepartnerships.com.au. If you know of someone who wishes to attend but is unable to register online, please print this form for them to fax and/or mail to ensure a place.

Only complete the following form if you do not have access to the internet and fax or mail to:
Fax: 02 9451 9661; Mailing: Positive Partnerships, ASPECT, PO Box 361, Forestville NSW 2087

Positive Partnerships Info Line number: 1300 881 971
Two-day workshop and information sessions for PARENTS/CARERS of School Aged Students on the Autism Spectrum

Registration Form

Only complete the following form if you do not have access to the internet and fax or mail to:  
Fax registrations to: 02 9451 9661 Mail to: Positive Partnerships - ASPECT, PO Box 361 Forestville NSW 2087

This form allows you to register to attend the Parent/Carer Workshops and some information sessions  
Each person attending must complete their own form even if from the same family.

The locations and dates for each of the Parent/Carer Workshops and Information Sessions were chosen through a collaborative planning process in each state and territory.

For more information, please contact parents@autismspectrum.org.au or call 1300 881 971

The following information will help the Positive Partnerships facilitators best support you during the workshop.....

**Code:** 2012VICPC1  **Location:** Glenroy  **Dates:** 15th & 16th May

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

- **Title:** □ Mr  □ Mrs  □ Ms  □ Prof  □ Dr.  □ Other: ____________________________
- **First Name:** ____________________________  **Last Name(s):** ____________________________
- **Mailing address:** ________________________________________________________________
  ________________________________________________________________
  ________________________________________________________________

- **City/Suburb:** ____________________________  **State:** __________  **Postal Code:** __________
- **Email 1:** ____________________________ (for confirmation and reminders)
- **Email 2:** ____________________________ (for confirmation and reminders)
- **Phone (daytime):** ( ) ____________________________  **Phone (home):** ( ) ____________________________
- **Mobile Phone:** ____________________________

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

The following information will help the Positive Partnerships facilitators best support you during the workshop.

Please answer by ticking (✓) the appropriate box

1. Would like to attend the workshop as  □ Parent?  □ Grandparent?  □ Fulltime Carer?
2. Are you □ Male?  □ Female?
3. Do you identify with any of the following groups?
   □ Aboriginal or Torres Strait  □ Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities
   □ Regional or Remote Community  □ Grandparent  □ Person with Autism Spectrum Disorder
   □ Literacy or Learning challenges
4. Are there any additional supports that would assist you at or beyond the workshop?
   □ Interpreter required – language __________________
   □ Translation of information – language __________________
   □ Key Support person at workshop  □ Representative from particular service
   □ Support accessing online resources  □ Other __________________

Positive Partnerships Parent/Carer Workshops 2012
5. How did you hear about the workshop?
☐ Media  ☐ School  ☐ Autism Organisation  ☐ Friend  ☐ Other

6. Have you attended a Positive Partnerships workshop before?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

ATTENDANCE

For catering purposes, please indicate which days you will attend
Attending Day 1:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Attending Day 2:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Please indicate if you have any dietary requirements
☐ Vegetarian  ☐ Vegan  ☐ Gluten free  ☐ Halal  ☐ Kosher  ☐ No nuts
☐ No red meat  ☐ No dairy products  ☐ Other: ____________________________

INFORMATION SESSIONS

ON DAY TWO a number of information sessions will be conducted.

The following information is able to assist the Positive Partnerships Team to plan effectively for Day 2

Please indicate three areas of interest by writing 1, 2 or 3 in the box provided
1 = first preference  2 = second preference  3 = third preference
If you have no preference, please tick (✓) the “No preference” box

☐ No Preference
☐ Completing work  ☐ Making Friends
☐ Communication  ☐ Managing Everyday Transitions
☐ Bullying  ☐ Siblings
☐ Understanding Behaviour  ☐ Sexuality, Personal Hygiene
☐ Sensory Processing  & Safety

CHILD INFORMATION

Please fill out the required information for each of your children who are on the Autism Spectrum. Please include the age group, the school name and the school address. These details will be used to prepare the information presented during the workshop.

YOUR REGISTRATION CAN NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS YOU COMPLETE THIS INFORMATION.

How many children with ASD do you have? ___________

Child no. 1 (REQUIRED)

Age:  ☐ Under 5  ☐ 5-8  ☐ 9-13  ☐ 14-18

School: ____________________________

Child no. 2

Age:  ☐ Under 5  ☐ 5-8  ☐ 9-13  ☐ 14-18

School: ____________________________

Child no. 3

Age:  ☐ Under 5  ☐ 5-8  ☐ 9-13  ☐ 14-18

School: ____________________________

Positive Partnerships Parent/Carer Workshops 2012
Woolworths ‘earn and learn’ program is on again.
From the 9th of May to the 1st of July please collect your stickers when shopping at Woolworths. Shoppers will receive a sticker for every $10 they spend.
Please find your sticker card attached to the newsletter. Stick on your sticker and once full please send to school with your child, or place in the box at the front office. If you require more sticker cards please contact school and we will send home another.
Please encourage family and friends to share their stickers with you.
Last year’s dockets enabled us to purchase class sets of ‘tap tap’, biro construction, gears and Duplo for use in the classrooms.
my sticker card

Place your stickers in the squares below, then drop your completed sticker card into the collection box at school or your local Woolies.

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my name is: __________________________

my school is: _________________________

Entry to the promotion is open to registered Primary and Secondary schools across Australia. Promotional period is from 9th May-1st July 2012. Check with your school to ensure they are registered or visit Woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn and follow the prompts. One sticker is given for every $10 spend. Minimum $10 spend. Excludes purchase of liquor, tobacco and gift cards. Each sticker is redeemable for one E&L point. Stickers will not be accepted by Promoter unless attached to sticker card. Sticker cards must be received by the Promoter by the 27th July for counting. For full set of terms and conditions please visit Woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn.