Northern School for Autism

"Learning for Life"

Jacana Campus Ph: 9309 6258

From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents/Caretakers,

Future Directions
The Future Directions process has taken much longer than anyone could have anticipated. School Council and the senior management team have been regularly following up with the Northern Metropolitan Regional Office to track the process of the school’s application. It is my understanding that the proposal (which is a lengthy and complex document the regional office prepared) has been submitted to the Department (Treasury Place) for consideration by the Minister for Education’s advisors. As soon as we have news from the Office of School Education I will let you know – this process has been out of the school’s hands. Thanks to all of you for your patience.

Lalor and Preston - playground works
This week new, smaller swings will be installed at Preston Campus. The larger swings are being re-located to Lalor Campus. The next job at Lalor Campus is the installation of a rope fitness centre (appropriate for older students) and the relocation of Room 12 to free up the multi-purpose room for specialist programs.

Jacana Campus - car-park
We are hopeful that the car-park works at Jacana will commence as planned over the June holiday break. Thanks to Corinne for coordinating the process. Stay tuned for actual start and finish dates. This capital works program will make a big difference to traffic management and student safety.

Jacana Campus - capital works program
Last week School Council ratified a proposal that the next major capital works program will be a specialist centre for specialist programs at Jacana Campus. It will take approximately four years to save and plan for this project. The senior management team will begin a community consultation process in 2013.

Healthy Food Service Review
The Teaching and Learning Meeting Teams (Leadership and Therapy Staff) will commence a review of food service and programs across NSA. The goal of which is to ensure that the food we serve the students is healthy and prepared in a safe manner, as well as to review the associated learning goals. Cooking, shopping, afternoon tea, and food as reinforcers amongst other topics will be discussed. Staff and community input will be invited in term 3 once the initial audit has taken place.

Appointments
Thanks to Corinne and Sue for chairing panels at Jacana Campus – shortly the Jacana Campus teacher aide and teacher appointments will be announced. Good luck to all the internal applicants.
Good Luck
All the best to Megan Kennedy and Mel Winch who will both take family leave in the near future – we wish you all the best for the upcoming birth of your babies.

School Council – Office Bearers
Congratulations to the 2012 School Council office bearers – Theresa Pilone is the SC President, Shane Garoni is SC Treasurer and Diane Bichler is SC Secretary. Thanks to all three of you for agreeing to take on these roles to support the NSA community.

Psychology Provision
Thanks to Lydia, Alice and Libby who are supporting the senior management team with a review of psychological services for students at NSA this year and into the future. The review and recommendations will be shared with the community later in the term.

Play NSA
Thanks to Pamela, Laura and Kara for coordinating the new pre-prep playgroup at Preston Campus. This program has been designed to provide students with a 7 week orientation to school program. The pre-school children attend for an hour and a half each Friday. If successful we may run another group in terms 3 and 4.

Family Support and Fundraising Meetings
Thanks to Pamela and Corinne for coordinating these outreach programs for the community and to all staff members who have given presentations. The attendance has been high and feedback positive – well done!

Thank you
Thanks to Graeme H (maintenance Lalor), Steve S and his brother (Arthur S’s dad and uncle) for donating your time to run cabling for the PA system at the Lalor Campus last Saturday. Thanks to Steve for sourcing the components and providing NSA with a big discount on the cost of the system – we really appreciate your support. Thanks also to Steve for sourcing phones and providing us with new phone extensions at Lalor Campus we all appreciate your generosity.

Anna Rigoni
Principal
Jacana News

Proposed VCAL Kitchen
Plans are underway to redevelop the Later Years Kitchen. Angela Mancini has been working with the staff in the later years to design the new kitchen which will include a domestic style kitchen. It’s anticipated that this will be a teaching kitchen as well as a supporting a health living specialist program into the future. We have planned to include a café style serving area so that students can sell food they create. A special thank you to Graeme (Anna’s dad), who has kindly donated his time to draw up the plans for us.

Capital Works - New front entrance
Work on the new front entrance commences very soon. School Council approved Eifer Services PTY LTD to undertake the works. We are anticipating the works will be finished for the commencement of term 3. We have engaged Shanley Management to manage the project and we will provide any relevant information to the school community in relation to restricted access as soon as its becomes available to us. This project is budgeted at $130,730. It will make a significant improvement to traffic management and student safety.

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

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th May</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy at NSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th June</td>
<td>Meet the Student Engagement &amp; Wellbeing Co-ordinator</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Victoria Rajaratnam (Senior Occupational Therapist)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deb Munt</td>
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<td>Professional Learning Centre 9-10.30</td>
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Fundraising News
The next fundraising event will be the special lunch order day planned for Thursday June 21st. An order form will be sent home closer to the date.

The Shopping Tour is back by popular demand! Please mark this date in your diary – Sunday 28th October

Student Banking
Student Banking will be reassessed next year as the numbers of interest was very low this year.

Education Week Friday 25th May – reminder
Please complete the attached form so your child’s teachers will know if you are able to attend. We would love to see you and share your child’s classroom and experiences.

Donation from Lions Club – Auxiliary Glenroy
Over the past 5 years the Lions Club – Auxiliary have supported the Jacana Campus with Year 7 scholarships and donations for various resources. Recently Janet Stephens from the auxiliary has worked with Catherine Schmidt (music specialist) and Sue Johnston purchase $1,000 of resources for a mobile music trolley and plants for the gardening project.

Thank you again to Janet and the Lions Club Auxiliary for their on-going support.

Parent Technology Support Group
Parent TIP: What programs/games will my child like?

TRY BEFORE YOU BUY - One parent suggested borrowing educational programs/games from your local library to see if your child likes them. Then you don’t waste money buying programs/games that will not be used.

The next meeting of the Jacana Parent Technology Support Group will be on Friday June 1st at 9.15 a.m.

Nicole Davies (Group Leader) & Denise Clarke (e Learning Co-ordinator)

Corinne Pupillo
Campus Principal
Education Week
NSA Open Morning

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

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: ____________
Early Years A
Room 7
The children in room 7 participate in a variety of activities throughout their school week.
ROOM 17 Middle Years

The students of Room 17 are engaged in learning and have fun in a variety of ways...
Room 18

In Room 18 we have been shopping at the supermarket and making spaghetti bolognese and fried rice. We have also been gardening. We are going to the city by train later this term to see Circus Oz. We could almost put on our own show because we have been learning some circus tricks such as hoop spinning and human pyramids. We have also worked on a few dance routines such as ‘Nutbush City Limits’ and ‘Thriller’.