Message from the Principal

Dear members of the Ingleburn North Public School community,

It seems the tablet survey has everyone talking! The number of surveys returned already is just amazing – the best response to a survey in the past seven years! If you have not yet had a chance to complete the survey and get it back to me, there is still time. I have repeated the information below for those who missed it.

Attached below is a proposal to change dramatically the way we teach at INPS and the effectiveness of our teaching; please read it and complete the survey. With something as important as this it would be terrific to have every parent and carer having their say. A paper version of the survey will be sent home with your child today. Please return it as soon as you can. Thanks!

For those interested in the way tablet technology assists literacy in a child’s initial years of education:


INPS State Champions in Futsal! Congratulations to the boy’s and girl’s senior teams. The National Finals are held on the Gold Coast in November. I will investigate the cheapest travel options. Whatever happens we are going to have to raise additional funds – more information in the next newsletter.

Our best athletics carnival ever! That’s what everyone is saying and I certainly agree. The weather was fabulous, the students’ enthusiasm and behaviour were fantastic and the events ran like clockwork. A huge thankyou goes to Mr Smith and Mr Pearson for their outstanding efforts in organising the day, and to the entire staff and volunteers for making the day one of the highlights of 2013.

Last Thursday night it was my privilege to attend the South West Sydney Region Ambassador’s Night at the Revesby Workers Club. After spending the whole day at the University of Western Sydney with an ambassador from each of the 276 public schools in SWSR, Jye W. took to the stage to receive his award in front of 2000 parents, students and principals. Incidentally, Mellissa H. one of our wonderful ex-students, who now attends Robert Townson H.S. and is in Year 11 was also named as a school ambassador – we sure do know how to produce them at INPS!

Last Thursday was our Education Week Open Day. What a wonderful day! Once again the weather was spectacular. More than 70 parents, carers and guests got the chance to see their child’s classroom, saw a Peer Support session, had lunch with their children on the oval in glorious sunshine and then attend an assembly where three classes performed their items!
On Sunday 4th August, our School Captains Briana and Caitlin, and I, attended the National Servicemen’s Commemoration Day at Bardia Barracks. This is an annual event on the school calendar and is always a tremendous honour. Sadly a number of “Nashos” were killed in action in Korea and Vietnam (144 in the latter campaign). The sombre and moving ceremony paid tribute to these brave Australians. Caitlin and Briana’s behaviour on the day was extremely dignified and greatly appreciated by the veterans. Incidentally, Caitlin and Briana were in the presence of actual WW2 veterans – and when these two girls are old girls of 80+, which will be around 2070, they will be able to tell their grandchildren that they took part in an official ceremony with the veterans of a war that was fought over 125 years ago!

Are you sick and tired of your child’s jacket, etc., going missing? Mr Nguyen an INPS parent runs a shop called Accessorized, Shop UK11, Campbelltown Mall, 271 Queen Street. He is able to print their names on their clothing at cost price for parents from INPS (about $10 depending on size, number of letters, etc.). Can I suggest though that you have their names printed on the inside of the clothing (for child protection reasons).

As I announced at the assembly, due to our school having over 160 students, according to the Department of education and Communities policy INPS is now classed as a P4 school. What this means is that we will soon have two Assistant Principals, a slightly larger global budget and a principal officially non-teaching. Because of the change of category it became necessary for me to reapply for my job. I am pleased to announce that I was successful in that process. I am truly proud to be the principal of such a fantastic school and I believe passionately that together we will make this school better than it has ever been.

At present we have 60 students attend non-scripture each week and 110 attending scripture. Many schools are now offering students who attend non-scripture the option of attending ethics classes. Is this something we should offer at INPS? I will send home a survey to the parents of those students attending non-scripture. More information is available at: http://www.primaryethics.com.au/

A number of parents have requested that INPS hold assemblies and other events on days other than Thursdays and Fridays. While this will not always be possible to accommodate, when possible, we will endeavour to hold assemblies and other events on Mon, Tue, or Wed as well.

Over the past seven years I have written and spoken on numerous occasions about the importance of a healthy diet for children. Obesity, poor memory, lower intelligence, hyperactive behaviour, and illnesses usually related to later life have all been linked to poor diet by medical researchers. The one aspect of a healthy diet I have not mentioned is the proven benefits of a healthy diet in fighting cancer. The Cancer Council of NSW has developed a program called Eat It to Beat It and have offered to send a trained diet expert to our school to run an information session for parents (see the flyer below). Please drop in, email or ring the office to let us know of your interest.

Mr B. Moseley
Principal

Coming Events

**August**

Mon 12th: Responsible Pet Care

Tue 13th: NSW Uni Maths Test

Thurs 15th: ASSEMBLY (performance by 1/2P)

Fri 16th: Gala Day

Wed 21st: Wooglemai Excursion KQ & K/1L

Thurs 22nd: Wooglemai Excursion 1/2P & 2A

Tue 27th: Scavenger Hunt & Book Swap

Wed 28th: Dad’s Reading Arvo

Thurs 29th: Book Fair
September
Wed 4th: Father’s Day Stall
Thurs 5th: ASSEMBLY (performance by 4/5S)
10th, 11th, 12th: School Camp to Dubbo
Wed 18th: Money Talk (Infants)
Thurs 19th: Money Talk (Primary)
Thurs 19th: ASSEMBLY (performance by 6M)
Fri 20th: Last day of Term 3
Tues 8th Oct: First day of Term 4

Student Medical Forms
During Terms 3 and 4 we will be updating our medical records system to ensure we have the most up to date information on your child’s health.

If you have a child with a medical condition we would need you to fill out the new form which will be sent out today. After completing both sides of the form could you return it to the office as soon as possible.

The new forms will help us collect your child’s important medical information and the introduction of the new system will mean we’ll be able to better manage the daily and emergency health needs of your child.

We appreciate your support as we start collecting this information and if you have any questions, please call.

Commonwealth Student Banking
Student banking at our school is Wednesday mornings before the bell. All students with a Commonwealth Bank account are encouraged to bring their banking to the Office window. Every deposit through the school earns a token which can be saved and redeemed for fun Commonwealth bank items.

School Uniform Second Hand Pool
We are in desperate need of any second hand boys and girls track pants and shorts in small sizes. Our supply has dwindled to zero in all small sizes which make it very hard to offer a warm dry change of clothing to our smaller students. If you have any outgrown uniforms that would help us please drop them into the front Office.

Admin Staff
2013 INPS ICT Survey for parents

For those of you who had children attending INPS in 2007 you might remember that one of the parent surveys for that year was about internet technology; well, the world of communication technologies has changed dramatically since then. The race is on across the globe to ensure that children are prepared sufficiently to meet the rapidly changing challenges of the 21st Century. Quite simply, those children not literate in the latest computer technologies will be severely disadvantaged whether they attend university, take a trade or go directly into employment at the end of Year 12. At INPS we aim to stay ahead of the game!

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>1,073,380,925</td>
<td>4,514,400</td>
<td>167,335,676</td>
<td>15.6 %</td>
<td>3,606.7 %</td>
<td>7.0 %</td>
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<td>Asia</td>
<td>3,922,066,987</td>
<td>114,304,000</td>
<td>1,076,681,059</td>
<td>27.5 %</td>
<td>841.9 %</td>
<td>44.8 %</td>
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<td>Europe</td>
<td>820,918,446</td>
<td>105,096,093</td>
<td>518,512,109</td>
<td>63.2 %</td>
<td>393.4 %</td>
<td>21.5 %</td>
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<td>Middle East</td>
<td>223,608,203</td>
<td>3,284,800</td>
<td>90,000,455</td>
<td>40.2 %</td>
<td>2,639.9 %</td>
<td>3.7 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>348,280,154</td>
<td>108,096,800</td>
<td>273,785,413</td>
<td>78.6 %</td>
<td>153.3 %</td>
<td>11.4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America / Caribbean</td>
<td>593,688,638</td>
<td>18,068,919</td>
<td>254,915,745</td>
<td>42.9 %</td>
<td>1,310.8 %</td>
<td>10.6 %</td>
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<td>Oceania / Australia</td>
<td>35,903,569</td>
<td>7,620,480</td>
<td>24,287,919</td>
<td>67.6 %</td>
<td>218.7 %</td>
<td>1.0 %</td>
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<td>WORLD TOTAL</td>
<td>7,017,846,922</td>
<td>360,985,492</td>
<td>2,405,518,376</td>
<td>34.3 %</td>
<td>566.4 %</td>
<td>100.0 %</td>
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How do communication technologies support learning?

When computers first appeared in the classroom, they were used pretty much like electronic text books. Teachers would direct students through a lesson and the students would tag along. The aim now is to integrate technology into almost every aspect of the learning environment. Students should be able to pursue questions of enquiry individually or in small groups; they should be able to work at their own pace, at a suitable level of complexity. The teacher’s role then becomes one of guide, ensuring that students know how to evaluate, interpret and understand.

To really appreciate the challenges faced by educationalists please take a look at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pS3U97FALGI (a school in England and how the students and teachers use iPads – 5.50min)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpcEpmNbHds (Sugata Mitra and his now famous hole in the wall experiments – 22.32min, long but very entertaining and extremely interesting)

Where to next?
The best and cheapest option to achieve the above aims is to employ tablet technology (iPads etc.). However, tablet technology is quite personalized - each child would have to have their own tablet. To overcome this, a large number of schools are insisting that every child has an iPad (paid for by the parents). This I believe would be an unreasonable financial burden for many of our parents. Also, it will be necessary to keep the tablets at school so they can be synchronized and charged, ready for the day’s work. By buying bulk, the school will be able to purchase them for a much more reasonable cost.
I propose the following: Students in 2014 will rent the tablets from the school for $50 per year.

- Those students who have the same tablet for 4 years will be allowed to keep it.
- Students leaving the school who have had the same tablet for 3 years may purchase it for $75.
- Students leaving the school who have had the same tablet for 2 years may purchase it for $150.
- The school will bear the cost of all repairs.
- Apps and other programs loaded onto the tablet will comprise part of the textbook fees. (These costs seem quite reasonable and should not lead to an increase in textbook fees.)

Now for the maths: 175 students x $350 per tablet (we should be able to get them this cheaply on a bulk order) = $61,250 + $5250 protectors + $1,500 x 7 set up for each classroom ($10,500) + synching programs $3000 = $80,000 min, minus $17,500 rent = $62,500.

Now, while it is true that the school will receive $17,500 rent per year + $ from new students, we will have to purchase a new class set for kindergarten each year + replace those that are broken + purchase tablets for new students in other years (a total that is bound to equal the amount we will make from rental). So what this means then is that we need to come up with $62,500 which will not be recouped.

The biggest change to education at INPS in 50 years!

Obviously such a massive change to the education of your children requires your complete support. While I am asking for you to vote on such a momentous decision, I have decided to take the unusual step of continuing with this project only if a minimum of 80% of parents and carers are in favour of it. But your agreement would only be a first step: more than ever before the school will need your support and in particular, your support of your P&C.

While the bulk of the money needed will come from the school’s global budget, such an amount will drain the school’s resources. If this were not a project I believed in strongly I would not suggest taking such a radical step.

You are asked to consider each of the following statements and rate your level of agreement or disagreement. I will publish the results in the school newsletter early in Term 4. All comments will remain anonymous. The scale is as follows:

SD = strongly disagree. D = disagree. NS = Not Sure, A = Agree. SA = Strongly Agree

Place a tick in the box that comes closest to expressing your opinion.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>NS</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>SA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Learning about tablets and related technology is important for my child’s future success.</td>
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<td>2. Tablets can help students learn in other subjects, such as Maths, English, etc.</td>
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<td>3. Using tablets in the school setting is essential.</td>
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<td>4. At a minimum, schools should ensure all students are exposed to a basic education in tablet technology.</td>
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<td>5. To take complete advantage of communication technologies, students require more and consistent access to tablets and computers.</td>
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<td>6. You would be more likely to enrol your child in a</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Schools should allocate sufficient funds to support technology adequately.</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Special classes where much of the student’s learning program is done on a computer can help students become more independent learners.</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Student access to the internet can be a valuable resource for learning.</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>In the future students will spend a far greater amount of time using a computer, to assist their learning, and the role of the teacher will change.</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Learning about and being a capable user of technology will enhance my child’s prospects in gaining employment in the years to come.</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Schools need to plan so that computer skills are taught in an organized and systematic way from kindergarten to year 12</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>A</td>
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1. We have a computer/tablet at home. (If no go to question 3) | Yes | No |
2. We have internet access from our home computer/tablet. | Yes | No |
3. We are thinking about buying a computer/tablet in the near future. | Yes | No |
4. Someone in our house uses a computer/tablet in their work. | Yes | No |
5. We use the computer/tablet at home to help with school work | Yes | No |
6. We have a strong/ reasonable/ poor understanding of computer technology (circle correct). |   |
7. I believe that my child having consistent access to tablet technology will assist their learning. | Yes | No |
8. I agree to the proposal mentioned above: that the school should provide every child their own tablet technology in the classroom. | Yes | No |
9. I agree to hire the tablet technology for my child from the school for $50 per year. | Yes | No |
10. I would like to help the P&C to raise enough funds to support the school in this momentous endeavour. | Yes | No |

Name optional: ____________________

Comments: ___________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Thank you for completing this survey.

Mr B. Moseley
Principal.
Library News

Only a few weeks now until **Children’s Book Week** in week 7, 26th-30th of August.

Our events are;

- Tuesday 27th August~ Come as your **Favourite Book Character Mufti**, whole school **Scavenger Hunt** and **Book Swap**
- Wednesday 28th August~ **Dads’ Reading Afternoon**.
- Thursday 29th August~ **Book Fair**

Our **Favourite Book Character Mufti** is not a book parade but an opportunity for the students to have fun dressed as their favourite book character. It is hoped that because we try to keep the event low key and fun it will take some of the stress out of finding a costume. On the day the children are asked to bring a gold coin donation that will go towards buying books for the library.

Start looking for books to swap for our annual **Book Swap** which will start at 2:30pm (Tuesday 27th August) when the children and parents can bring a book from home that they no longer want and swap it with someone else. No money is required and bringing a book is optional. The library will also have old books available for swapping as well.

**Dads’ Reading Afternoon**

As part of the children's book Week celebrations we will again be holding our Dads' reading afternoon. It will be on **Wednesday 28th August**, at 2pm. We would love to see lots of Dad’s, Uncles, older brothers or Granddad’s along to read to a small group of children in your child’s class. Please fill out and return the form if you are able to attend.

I am able to attend the Dads' Reading Afternoon on Wednesday the 28th August from 2pm onwards.

Name_____________________________ContactDetails_____________________

Child/ren's Class/es __________________________________________________
Peer Support Program

Congratulations to our Year 5 & 6 Peer Support Leaders who ran their session with children and their parents. Although a little daunting it was a great opportunity for our parents to see this fantastic program in action.

The vision of this program is to develop mental, social and emotional wellbeing in young people who can make informed and skilled contributions to their communities.

Peer Support Australia envisions all young people to be:

- Personally responsible for their own wellbeing
- Able to manage their lives positively and safely
- Be involved in, and supported by, their community.

In session two the children shared the things they enjoy in life and had an opportunity to discuss their favourite activity. This enables them to recognise what makes them happy. In session three during the children will identify their strengths. They will explore the important strengths of curiosity, kindness and teamwork. Through the activities the children will be able to recognise which strengths they possess and how important it is to use their strengths in different situations.

If you have any questions concerning this program please contact our Peer Support coordinators through the office on 9605 2459.

Mrs Wyber & Mrs Morgan
Peer Support Coordinators
Cancer Council NSW

The simplest way
to improve the health of your family and save money

Come to our Fruit & Veg Sense Session

Date: Thursday 5th September
Time: 9am until 10:30am
Venue: Ingleburn North Public School

Did you know that eating adequate amounts of fruit and vegetables all their lives can help protect children against diseases, including some forms of cancer? This session run by Cancer Council NSW as part of the Eat It To Beat It program will show you how you can easily:

1. Save time and money making healthy meals
2. Learn clever ways to entice fussy eaters
3. Improve the long-term health of your whole family

Don’t miss out – register now by phoning or visiting your school front office or register online at www.cancercouncil.org.au/eatittobeatit/register

Eat It To Beat It