Hello Everyone

We have a need for your assistance. Next Wednesday, 26 March is our P&C AGM and general meeting and we would really appreciate lots of support. We have lots of things that we would like to do this year and a major project will be the installation of new playgrounds. To do this I know that our P&C president Lyndee would love to see your support at our P&C meetings. We have taken the big step of trialling a change of time to see if this allows a greater number of people to attend. Let’s see. Please give the office a call if you can come.

On Thursday this week at 10.00am we have the first of our parent information sessions. This one will be held at our school and the presenters will include people from Disability Services, Carers Qld and Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre. Morning tea is on us. There will be 4 parent information sessions throughout the year in different schools and are your opportunity to keep up with what’s out there. I hope you can join us for as many as you can. Please see the attached brochure.

Our student leaders have been decided for 2014. My congratulations go to our school captains Jeremy Sharp and Maddy Smith, and to our school vice captains Luke Mandelkow and Jasmin Strickland. I look forward to working with them and with the other student leaders. Our first student leader morning tea will be in the last week of school this term.

All the best

Bruce
**IMPORTANT DATES**

Tuesday 25 March—School Photos.
Friday 4 April—Last day of Term 1.
Tuesday 22 April—First day of Term 2.

**P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Our 2014 P&C AGM will be held on Wednesday, 26 April at 12.30pm in the Terracotta Room. Lunch will be provided. All welcome.

**OUR SCHOOL CODE OF BEHAVIOUR**

Our school follows the Positive Behaviour Support Program. This program involves active teaching of our School Code of Behaviour. It is our expectation that all students will be following the three key parts of the code. They are:

*We are SAFE*
*We are RESPECTFUL*
*We are LEARNERS*

Our school welcomes your support with this program.

**VACANCIES AVAILABLE FOR AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

at Ipswich Special School
(Operated by Focal Extended Inc.)
Vacancies exist for children with a disability, aged between 12 and 18 years.

*When*
Between 2:45pm and 5:30pm
Monday to Friday (school term)
Permanent and casual bookings are available

**Fees**

$10.00 per session. (Childcare benefit fee reductions apply for eligible participants).

For more information

Please contact the OSHC coordinator
Kerri
(07) 3812 2014
0424 506 546
via email childcare@focal.org.au

**CHANGE OF STUDENT DETAILS**

Please ensure you make any changes of details eg phone numbers, emergency contact and medical details. ASAP. Thanks
OUTSTANDING STUDENT WORK

LITERACY
Heidi Vestey x2
Matthew Van de Meulen
Allie O’Meara
Jaimee McLean

NUMERACY/MATHS
Matthew Van Der Meulen
Heidi Vestey
Jaimee McLean

CREATIVITY
Jack Skilton
Rhyley Schultz

FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS
Zac Grbin

RHYMING
Jaimee McLea
Allie O’Meara

SPELLING
Emily Horsfall

FISHING PROGRAM
Dylan McCann

SIGHT WORDS
Telara Curnock

WRITING
Aaron Arditto
Rhys Bramich

READING
Allie O’Meara

COMPUTER
McCoy Clayton
Yin Yin Platell
What supports are available to school leavers with a disability in 2014?

Have you had an assessment with Disability Services?
To be considered for any Disability Services funded supports you need to have an assessment. This will mean that your support needs are captured by the department and can be considered whenever funded supports become available.
It is strongly recommended that you have an assessment before 31 May 2014. You will need to contact your local service centre to organise this. Your booking may be made several weeks in advance and you should make contact as early as possible to meet this timeframe.
It is advised that students and their families interested in support and assistance via Disability Services contact their local Disability Services service centre for information and advice. Please refer to http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/contact-us for the student’s local Disability Services service centre.

What supports are available to you now?
For students in their final years of secondary school assistance is available through the My Future: My Life strategy to help students achieve the goals set out in their SET plan for life after school. Further information can be found at My Future My Life - Assistance for young people with a disability http://www.myfuturemylife.com.au/

What resources can I access to help with my transition?
There are various resources available to you and your family to help with the transition. Many of these can be found on the internet.
Disability Services has developed two resources to specifically assist school leavers. 
Explore the possibilities – life after school is a guide which aims to provide a starting point for young people with a disability and their families for exploring the range of options available.
Supporting school leavers – a guide to understanding your supports is a guide intended to be used by young people with a disability and their family to assist with the implementation of supports once they have been approved.
These documents can be found at: Support for school leavers—resources | Publications | Queensland Government
or you can ask your local Service Centre for a copy when you have your assessment.
The Department of Education, Training and Employment has also developed a resource to assist students with the transition from school. It can be found at: The Department of Education, Training and Employment