Quote of the Week

“Reading gives us some place to go when we have to stay where we are.” - Mason Cooley

Date Claimers

October
04 Day 1—Term 4
10 Bazil Grumble Shining Stars, Term 4 begins
12 Teddy Bears’ Hospital, Preps
13 YSS Swimming Lessons commence
13 York 6 visit Stephens RSL Sub Branch to hear Diggers
14 Bazil Grumble Masterclass Term 4 Drama begins
15-16 Camp at School with Dad, ‘Chappy’ event
17 Student Free Day
18 P&C Meeting
19 Year 5 “yLead” Leadership Experience
21 Gala Day 3
21-23 Brisbane Schools’ Music Festival (Snr Band & Strings)
29 BCC Movie Night

November
01 Yr 5 Hoodwinked Pullenvale
02 Yr 4 Big Bang Science
03 Yr 5 Hoodwinked Pullenvale
04 Free Dress Day $2 Donation
05 P&C Fundraiser—Estee Lauder Shopping Day
09 Prep 2017 Orientation 9am
11 Big Sing concert and awards 6.30pm YSS Hall
14 4W Pullenvale Excursion
15 YSS Senior Swim Carnival
15 P&C Meeting
16 Active School Travel Celebration

From the Principal
Debbie Spanner, principal@yerongass.eq.edu.au

WELCOME BACK

It is hard to believe it is Term 4 already. It was delightful to see all students return and looking so happy to be back. You may like to do a quick check to see if your child has enough equipment to see them to the end of the year. Thank you all for continuing to maintain the high uniform standard.

Term 4 is a very busy term. Please take note of the many activities planned in the Date Claimer section of the newsletter.

QUALITY TEACHER MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Over the holidays I attended the ACEL conference in Melbourne with two members of the school strategic team. The opportunity to network with fellow state, national and international education leaders and gain insights into how other schools are operating was invaluable. It was a very affirming experience for us at Yeronga that we are leading the right improvement agenda. We hear a consistent message that it’s quality teaching that makes the difference for our students. Building teacher capacity to adopt the changes in practice is important work. For real changes in teaching practice to occur teachers, must engage in regular professional learning communities. Our teachers meet regularly to discuss student work, reflect on student progress, to observe and reflect on their own and each others’ practice. In the recent school audit (executive summary available on our website) they highlighted the strong collegial culture of our school and the high expectations we have in a deep belief that every child can learn and make progress. This is the foundation every school needs to be able to make continuous improvement.

The debate around education funding has begun in earnest again. The Investment for Success funding (I4S) that our school receives is used to enhance the excellent practices of our teachers to allow them to maximise their impact on our students. Teachers engage in Peer Coaching, Moderation, Year Level planning team and Data conversations to help them to collaboratively address the needs of our children. We also use this money for targeted Speech Language lessons, targeted reading support for flying squad, extension writing programs and additional numeracy support. Talk about funding always makes me nervous as I know we are using the money we have very effectively. Quality teaching will not come without investing in quality professional learning opportunities. Teachers need to be engaged at optimal times of the day to ensure they transfer the change into their practice. I am hoping that any future funding support will continue to support our commitment to support our teachers to be the best they can be so your students can too.

Student World Teachers Day is coming up on Friday 28 October. You may like to show your appreciation on that day by supporting the P&C afternoon tea or dropping an acknowledgement of the support your child’s class and specialist teachers give your child. There are a number of our teachers who have been nominated by members of our community at this website www.adaymadebetter.com.au. You may like to add some of your comments to their pages. Thank you for letting our teachers know how much you appreciate them!!

STUDENT ENROLLMENTS - 2017

To ensure we are able to plan successfully for next year and to try to avoid the necessity to renegotiate classes after Day 8, it is important for us to have accurate information regarding student enrolments for 2017. Please advise the school office if your children will not be returning for 2017. We understand that plans may change between now and the beginning of next year, however families who know they are leaving can help us plan for a successful 2017. Thank you for your help.

Continued...
CLASS ALLOCATIONS - 2017
Prep interviews for 2017 have almost concluded. If you or someone you know is yet to enrol, please do so ASAP. Student class allocation for 2017 will commence shortly. As advised previously, if you have any information of an educational nature you would like us to consider, please write to Mrs Spanner or Mrs Walker by this Friday 7 October. Any requests received after this date may not be able to be considered.

STUDENT FREE DAY – Monday 17 October
Please take note of the above date as there will be no school on this day. The Student Free Day is used for moderation and professional learning. Our teachers will be moderating with Sherwood and Oxley State School and engaging in professional development on delivering descriptive feedback to help children take the next step in learning.

YEAR 6 SENIOR LEADERS PROGRAM
All students in Year 5 are eligible to become Senior Leaders by completing an application form, that must be signed by staff against set criteria, to apply for the Senior Leader badge. Senior Leaders engage in many activities, including peer mediation, prep buddies, sports room monitoring and are regularly consulted regarding school matters.

Once children have been approved as Senior Leaders, they are able to apply for positions such as School Captions, House Captains and Music Captains. The election process for these positions will begin later this term and be concluded prior to the end of the year. We wish the Year 5 students every success as they begin their leadership journey.

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL – Date Claimer 16 November
We will have a walking school bus on the 16 November to celebrate the wonderful effort for active school travel this year, every Wednesday, rain, hail or shine! We currently have 60-65% of students engaging in Active School Travel. I wonder if we could have 100% of children participate by walking or riding or using public transport on 16 November. Councillor Johnston is providing a small breakfast on this morning and we will acknowledge those children who have gained 50 or over stamps in recent times.

The Golden Boot award for October is the greatest improvement in participants since the baseline data at the beginning of the year. It would be great to win this. Could we have at least 70% for each Wednesday in October. Can the children find a friend to walk, ride or car pool with?

FLASHLING LIGHTS SCHOOL ZONE ON PARK ROAD
Flashing light school zone signs will soon be installed on Park Road. Yeronga State School was nominated to receive these new signs as part of a Queensland Government commitment to improve school road safety. You will notice that the new signs look similar to standard school zone signs with the addition of a red flashing ring around the speed limit as well as two flashing yellow lights at the top of the sign. The installation of flashing light school zone signs is proven to improve visibility of school zones, serving as an active reminder for motorists to slow down.

So next time you’re dropping off or picking up your child, keep an eye out for the new signs and make sure you stick to the signed speed limit.

Debbie Spanner, Principal

From the Deputy Principal
Carla Walker, Deputy Principal, cwalk51@eq.edu.au

It was wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents and friends cheering on the ballgame teams. Many thanks to Cameron Bateman and all his helpers.

Carla Walker, Deputy Principal
Hello everyone from the P&C Executive! We hope your holidays were enjoyable. Please join us for our next P&C meeting on October 18th at 7pm in the library.

**Estee Lauder Shopping Experience – November 5th** Looking for that special gift (Christmas is just around the corner), looking to spoil yourself, or wanting to stock up on bargain cosmetics and skin care? Grab your ticket for the Yeronga State School Estee Lauder Shopping Experience! Exclusive shopping opportunity at Estee Lauder Companies. Brands include: Estee Lauder, Clinique, M.A.C, Bobbi Brown, Jo Malone, La Mer, Tom Ford, Coach, Aveda, Aramis & Designer Fragrances.

How does it work? We have only 100 tickets available at a cost of $12 each. All ticket proceeds go to the P&C. Your ticket gives you entry to the shopping warehouse on November 5th between 10am and 4pm at Level 2, 33 Park Rd Milton. Transport to and from the venue is the individual’s responsibility. You can buy as many as you want for your friends and family but don’t leave it too late, once our 100 are sold, we cannot get more. A great opportunity to grab some bargains for Christmas!

**Brisbane City Council Movie Night – October 30th** Nicole Johnston is sponsoring an outdoor community movie night at the school on October 30th. We will be asking for volunteers to help sell food and drinks on this night – it’s a great opportunity for us to develop relationships with our wider community and put on a fun, cheap family night. If you can help out on the night, please go to [http://signup.com/go/3MkNQ6](http://signup.com/go/3MkNQ6) to register your details and we hope to see lots of Yeronga families there enjoying the movie!

**Free Dress Day for 2017 Fete – November 4th** Did someone say FETE?? Yes, it is that time again. 2017 Fete is on May 27th 2017, so mark the date in your calendars now! While you are there, mark November 4th as a FREE DRESS DAY. Bring along $2 which will go towards fete costs which helps us to pay for some of the upfront costs associated with the fete. Thanks for your support and keep your eye out for more exciting fete news as the term progresses.

**Fairfield Family Picnic – November 19th** The P&C are running a snow cone stall at the Fairfield Family Picnic on November 19th. Please go to [http://signup.com/go/ELiEYi](http://signup.com/go/ELiEYi) to sign up for the snow cone stall. This is a great event for the kids to help at too with adult supervision.

**MUSIC NEWS**

***Jayne Plumridge, Music Specialist***

**Music News — Senior Showcase**

What a wonderful night the biennial Senior Showcase was last term. I was so proud of our community as a whole, and very proud, of course, of every student who performed. The Senior Band, Brandenburg Strings, Wind Chamber Ensemble, String Quintet, Senior Choir (Stella Voce) and soloists Jade Wolter (Oboe) and Orla Angelos (Cello) provided an outstanding example of team spirit, commitment and achieving goals. All three programs in our co-curricular offering are strong and getting stronger each year.

Thank you goes once again to our music leaders and MCs, Rebecca, Madeleine and Jade, with Ansuiya coming along to support her musical team by MCing, even though she was injured and could not play – now that’s commitment!

The Showcase served as a farewell night for Mrs Tamsyn Eastgate, our Strings Instructor, as she leaves us to welcome her second child in December. We will miss her dynamic program direction and hope to see her in 2018. It was Mrs Robyn Rosewarne’s first Senior Showcase as it was for the Junior Band members who joined with the seniors to form a combined band in semester 2. The achievement of this very large group in such a short time is quite amazing and testament to the expert skills of Mrs Rosewarne.

I personally have to thank all the parents and brothers and sisters who were a wonderful audience and our fabulous cleaner Mark who once again magically organised the hall.

**Choir Rehearsal Change Reminders**

Week 2 – next week only!!!! All three choirs will rehearse on Thursday October 13 – Piccoli, Cosmio and Stella Voce. There is NO Cosmio rehearsal on the Tuesday next week in lieu of this full rehearsal. Stella Voce are asked to rehearse on Tuesday morning if they do not have any other commitments, instead of Friday October 14 (no rehearsal then) which I already cancelled.

The Big Sing is week 5, Friday November 4.

**TAIKOZ Visit**

The Australian Japanese Taiko Drumming Group, TAIKOZ presented a performance to years 3 to 6 last term. It was really loud, and high energy. Some students also had the opportunity to play some of the drums. Year 4, 5 and 6 students will be presenting their own ‘remix’ creations for assessment in the next two weeks.

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**PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**
pandc@yerongass.eq.edu.au
It is important that educators understand the world in which our students are going to be heading into and changing for the better. I attended a range of events over the holidays that brought together the best and most current thinking and programs with a focus on technologies, design, science and arts.

I experienced the world of collaborative app/software design and business strategy in a workshop run by a medical software company, Genesis. The collaborative and iterative nature of this work, and the way in which both people-skills and problem-solving were fundamental to success echoed the current discussions around collaborative learning and the development of sets of thinking skills. I also saw the way in which every member of the business team added value through their individual skills, personalities and interests.

The Techgirls Are Superheroes awards showcase event that followed threw a lens on the other end of developing these skills – Primary School. Student-designed apps, many of which are now available in app stores, were amazing, considering most students began their journey with no coding or programming skills, and managed to also develop the skills to ‘pitch’ their idea and plan a business case. A four year-old who could not read yet, planned, designed and pitched an app. in one of the break-out activities, in 15 minutes. There’s a lesson in not overthinking. The app allowed kids to gain points for finishing jobs before their friends (brush your teeth, make your bed) by sharing on the social-media type app. Just wonderful, and a huge ‘ah-ha’ moment for me.

Education Queensland teachers gathered for 2 days for the first STEM Education Symposium. Louise Vaggs joined me as we heard about the latest research into humanoid robots in schools, entrepreneur education, inquiry mathematics, the Internet of Things (IoT) and lots of programs and initiatives going on here in Queensland schools. Every teacher there was bubbling with enthusiasm about the next phase of science and technology education in Australia.

Finally I attended a strategic morning, where technology educators from all sectors responded to the global Horizon Report from an Australian perspective. Our experiences will now go into developing a strategy and writing a report on the future of Technology and Education for K-12 Australian schools. I also kept up with the Australian Council for Computer Education National Conference and the Gold Coast iPads in Education conference, iPadpalooza, via Twitter.

The holidays also gave me an opportunity to complete the EQ/Griffith University STEM Teachers course, where I focused on the Digital Technologies. I am very grateful to EQ for supporting this learning and proud to have completed it. While my head is spinning with really big concepts, I now have good grounding for ensuring investments in technologies are quality and purposeful.

I heard the same messages around 21st Century education in all my holiday professional development and around my global Professional Learning Network. Successful future citizens will be agile, global, empathetic, questioning and connected in all they do. I look forward to the challenges and successes ahead.
Ball Games Carnival Term 3
As Ball Games was in the last week of last term we didn’t have the opportunity to thank parents, staff and children for a wonderful day. As always the costumes were spectacular with the Junior (Prep to Year 2) section for best dressed team being won by the 2B Bubble Blasters and the Senior Section (Years 3 to 6) being taken out by the 3W Wise Monkeys.

The competition was tight in most year groups, but as always there has to be a winner. The Year One winner was 1P Power. The Year Two winner was 2S Bright Sparks who won every game. I’m not sure if I have seen a clean sweep before in my time at Yeronga. The Year 3 winner was 3C Sea Eagles. The Year Four winner was 4W Winning Joggers. The Year Five winners were 5M Middleton’s Monsters. The Year Six winners were 6M Wise’s Woofers.

Congratulations to all again on a great day.

The Last Gala Day for the Year
The last Gala Day of the year is on 21 October. Please ensure that monies are in before time and that you are assembled in your areas with your coaches and ready to leave by 8:15. Don’t forget to thank your coaches for all their hard work through the semester.

Swimming
Swimming lessons are set to commence for term 4 in week 3 from 18 October. These will be held in the times stated in the permission note. Please remember to refer to the list on the permission note so that your children have everything they need for these lessons.

Swimming Carnivals
From week 3 preparations will begin for these very important events on the Yeronga State School Calendar. Students need to be thinking, from the commencement of lessons, exactly which events they would like to swim in this year as once the program is written there will be very little room for changes. On a lighter note the big question is; who can end Lawson’s 5 year dominance in swimming? Can Kendall, who won cross country, do it? Can Evans, who won Athletics by the narrowest of margins? Could Paterson, who are yet to chalk up a win this year? Only time will tell.

Congratulations and Good Luck
Congratulations to Henrietta Moor and Abbie Curness on their selection in the Met West Athletics Team. We wish them the best of luck at the Qld Athletics Championships.

Additionally Abbie has been very busy. As well as the Qld Athletics Championships which commence on October 18 she will also be participating in the Qld Cricket Championships in Bundaberg from 30 October to 2 November.

Best of luck also goes to Molly Stoddart, who is going to compete against the best touch players in Australia at the National Touch Championships in Mandura, Western Australia. Molly has experienced and achieved so much over the last 3 years in sport, that I know that she is ready to compete and thrive at this very high level.

Upcoming Events
18 October: Swimming Lessons Commence & Qld Athletics (Henrietta Moor & Abbie Curness)
21 October: Gala Day 3
30 October to 2 November: Qld Girls Cricket (Abbie Curness)
15 November: Years 3-6 Senior Swimming Carnival
24 November: Years 1-2 Junior Swimming Carnival
25 November: No swimming due to another carnival at the pool.
2 December: Prep Fun Day at the Pool (Morning)

Cameron Bateman, PE
CHAPPY NEWS
Jennifer Bennett, School Chaplain, jenniferb@chappy.org.au

Camp at School with Dad (15-16/10)...

“Camp at School with Dad” is coming up very soon on the night of Saturday 15th October. It is the major fund-raising event for Chaplaincy each year, but it provides a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time with your children, as well as meeting lots of other Dads and their kids from across all year levels. The school oval is transformed into a sea of tents and activity.

The Kurilpa Scouts are again hosting a campfire for us to enjoy, and I have some fun games ready to go (a bit different to previous years) testing our Dad’s abilities with soccer, paper planes, strong-man and hula-hoop competitions to name a few. There’ll still be time to sit, relax and spend time with your children. Dinner and breakfast are included in the price, and I will have vegetarian and halal options if required. The camp shop will be selling hot and cold drinks, as well as ice-cream with mix-ins for dessert. So come prepared for a treat or two.

The flyers for this event have been emailed out, but paper copies are available at the payment boxes, and the download link attached. Please register before Wednesday next week (12/10) to make sure you can join in with the fun. All you need to bring is your own tent, bedding, camp chairs, toothbrushes and torches. I’m looking forward to seeing you there.

Blessings, Chappy Jenny

EAL/D NEWS
Marg Malouf, EAL Specialist

A big thank you to all EAL/D parents who attended our ‘Greet and Meet’ afternoon last term. It was lovely to meet you and to get to know you a little better. We will be holding another afternoon tea early Term One 2017, so hope to see you there.

Kelly, Marg and I feel very privileged to work with your children every day and I would like to remind you that our room is open to you if you ever need to contact us about anything to do with school routines, activities or your children. I am always here on Tuesday afternoon from 2.30-3.00 to meet with you about any issues. I would love to hear from you about how we could support you more. There is no need to make an appointment, just drop in.

COMMUNITY NOTICES
Camping at School with Dad - Join Chappy Jenny for a fun filled night at on the main school oval.
Kurilpa Scout Den 100 Year Celebration - Celebrate the Cub Centenary with Kurilpa Scout Den.
FAF National Inter School Futsal Championship - Coomera Indoor Sports Centre, Gold Coast
After School Art - A great way to learn about art.
Queensland Academies Creative Industries A selective entry senior state high school for highly capable students. Open Day 1pm - 3pm, Saturday 8 October. Register your attendance at qaci.eq.edu.au/open-day/