Hello Staff, Parents, Carers and friends,
These last two weeks have been highlighted by students participating in the ‘Learn to Swim’ program at the East Ulverstone indoor pool. This year, with an increased number of students taking part, staff at both campuses divided the students into two groups with each group taking part over 5 successive days to promote kicking, stroke and breathing techniques and confidence in the water. The program also encouraged students to improve on their independent dressing skills and management of their own personal possessions within a public place.

**Snapshot of the AASE conference 27th – 30th September**

In the last newsletter I mentioned that I was attending this conference which was held on the Gold Coast. The title of the conference – ‘tensions in competing agendas’ focused heavily on the constant state of reform that educators continually face. There is increasing pressure to perform according to changing policies, standards, and expectations. Keynote speakers, Professor Peter Freebody and Professor Bob Conway, both spoke of the increase of student enrolments in special schools across Australia and models of service delivery to develop ‘inclusive’ schooling. Latest research clarifies the definition of ‘equity’ as not the production of identical learning experiences for all students but rather it is the product of a broad range of differentiated experiences that takes into account each student’s unique strengths.

I attended many thought provoking workshops over the 2 days. One in particular, ‘Eat to Learn - The Critical Link Between Nutrition and Childhood Learning’ presented by Paula Tazzyman, Paediatric Dietitian. This workshop was very informative as it linked nutrition with brain development, brain functioning and brain protection. Paula discussed the likely behavioural problems that arise when a child opts to maintain a restricted daily diet of the same foods for prolonged periods of time. If you’re interested in learning more – go to [www.fedup.com.au](http://www.fedup.com.au) and explore this website!
2 day Music/Art Exploration at Camp Clayton Ulverstone – Monday, 14th & 15th November

Information regarding this event was sent home earlier this week with your child. Please read the information and sign the permission slip as all our students from both campuses will be expected to take part. A funding commitment from Ability Employment has assisted us to book the amenities at Camp Clayton along with engaging musicians who will share their talent throughout this unique 2 day experience. A sincere thank you to Mrs Jacqui Astley, who has initiated the planning of the two day event along with suggestions from other staff members.

TASBASH visit on Monday, 17th October

Parents, carers and family members are invited to visit the school to share in the fun of viewing the cars and the drivers. There will be approximately 21 themed cars along with 8 official vehicles who will be expecting to take up the parking space in front of the school. We expect the cars to arrive at 11:00 am.

Reminder

If you are noting that your son/daughter is exhibiting some behavioural changes or irregular medical symptoms within your home and family settings that are different from usual, please remember that teachers would appreciate you contacting them to share information about these changes either by writing in the communication book or phoning the school and speaking directly to the teacher.

Prior warning to staff members at school allows them to provide further feedback to you, which can then be shared with your child’s Paediatrician or GP.

Yours sincerely,

Grace

Coles and Woolworths Shopping Vouchers

A reminder that we are collecting both the Coles Sports Vouchers and the Woolworths Earn and Learn Points. Please send yours in to the school office and help us get some great gear for your kids as time is running out.

Closing date for both Coles and Woolworths vouchers is now the 18th of October. We’ve had a great response from members of the public who have been very generous and donated their coupons to our school. Please send along any remaining voucher before the end of this month.

THANK YOU
Week 1 photos