**EPO Report 19 October 2016 – If not us, who? If not now, when?**

**ECDP Cubby House**

On the 12\(^{\text{th}}\) of October representatives from 4074 Community & Beyond and Greater Springfield Rotary ‘cut the ribbon’ officially opening the ECDP Cubby House. Thanks to the ECDP staff for providing a lovely morning tea and the opportunity for our guests to meet and chat with staff and parents/carers of the students who will benefit from this new addition to their playground.

![ECDP Cubby House](image)

**Learning Partnerships:**

Students from the Senior School attended **eWaste CONNECTION** on Thursday the 13\(^{\text{th}}\) of October. The day was a success with our students enjoying the activities and social experience provided by the centre. These visits will continue throughout the remainder of the term with the official work experience program to begin in 2017.

After careful consideration the decision has been made to cancel the Friday Horse Riding Program. The Wednesday program will continue on for the remainder of the year and will be available to us in 2017.

Options for programs to be considered for our Middle Years Sector have begun for 2017. Consultation with sector leaders will begin later this term to discuss curriculum priorities and to ensure that any proposed programs link to personalised learning goals and benefit student outcomes.

**Community Collaboration:**

Griffith Film School have completed filming and feedback from the students has been really positive. The crowdfunding venture that will be utilising the footage captured will be used for future fundraising activities in 2017.

Bunnings Oxley ‘I got worms’ program has been postponed to be rescheduled for week 4.

**Grants**

Research is ongoing for suitable grants.

**P&C Conference Gladstone 9\(^{\text{th}}\) & 10\(^{\text{th}}\) of September 2016**
On Thursday the 8th of September I travelled to Gladstone for the 2016 ‘Back to Basics’ P&C Conference. The conference offered a variety of workshops/information seminars and included a large number of exhibitors.

I had the privilege of meeting some amazing parents from Kuraby, Mitchelton and Caboolture Special Schools. There was a lot of conversation about the extra challenges faced by parents/carers of Special School P&C’s. Out of these conversations was the suggestion to arrange a meeting of interested P&C members from local Special Schools to share information and ideas. The planning for this is already begun with the possibility of Gayle Walters from P&C QLD and other key stakeholders (TBA) being part of this catch up. Also discussed was the possibility of a closed Facebook group specifically for special school P&C members across the area to engage in conversation on P&C business, fundraising, networking and idea sharing.

I attended four scheduled information sessions;

- **Back to Basics: Grants Project Planning for the future**
  This session highlighted the need to have a solid fundraising plan and grant database. Tips included long term goal setting, grant application planning across the year, addressing grant criteria and how to write specifically to the organisations that are offering the grants.

- **An Idea a Minute: Great Fundraising Ideas that leave you Buzzing**
  A fundraising session outlining the benefits of having a clear plan of what you want to achieve and providing examples of smaller connective ideas can contribute to the fundraising goal.

- **Cyber Safely – Be E Smart**
  Highlighted the need for awareness around our ‘digital footprint’ and what information can be accessed through social media. The focus of this session was more around how to address student’s access and use of social media.

- **Meeting Mash Up: Constructive Conversations at Meetings**
  Very interesting session with members sharing strategies on how to ensure meeting run smoothly, how to address tricky questions and behaviours and how to stay focused on key issues and agenda items.

Event highlight was the keynote address by Jane Caro and the featured presentation by Amy Grey who is a Placemaker and Community Activist speaking about volunteers and community engagement.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like any further information about the conference.

Thanks,

Kerrie Reid - EPO