“We’re going to need more seats!” These are without doubt my favourite words at any school event. For all of our events, we always allow seating based on the last similar event and then add a few just in case. Our recent Mothers’ Day liturgy was over-subscribed, and on Tuesday night we had the same problem. This ‘issue’ is happening with increasing regularity now at school – and I love it. It means that our school community is supportive, engaged and willing to go the extra mile in order to support both the academic progress and the digital citizenship awareness, which is so important to today’s learners.

The large number of parents who came, engaged in our learning process. They shared their perceptions about how students were learning. They gave insight into the challenges faced by parents and students. They offered ideas of what the future might look like and really importantly these parents showed their children by their presence and example, that learning is important – even to adults.

Here’s the thing. The children in our classes are among the first generation of learners who grew up with the internet, touch screens and the ability to connect globally in an instant. We’ve all seen the two year olds who grab Mum’s phone or iPad, scroll through screens, open their favourite app, and begin playing a game. Technology is here to stay. It’s not going anywhere and it’s going to become more prevalent.

Victor Frankl said, “When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves.” He’s right, and the parents who came along Tuesday night showed they too are aware of it. If we want to remain in touch with, and relevant to our children and students, we have to learn and change. It’s a little confronting. It’s quite challenging and no one finds it easy. We are however all heavily invested in our children and in their learning now, and into the future. If we are to help direct that future for and with our children, we too have to be learners who change and learn to change.

We really appreciate the interest and support. On June 9 at 7:00, we are offering a Parent Session at Shalom entitled Anxiety – Understandings and Strategies to Reduce Anxiety in Children. I’m sure parents will also recognize the importance of this issue, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Mark Fox

Student Travel Rebates

STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES
Semester 1, 2016

Bus Fare Assistance
Does your child attend a school outside the Brisbane City Council boundary?
Does your family spend more than $35/week on fares to and from school (± $2/week if you hold a concession card)?
Does your child travel on a publicly available bus not owned or associated with the school?

Students With Disability
Does your child have a verified disability that requires transport assistance to and from school?
Has your school’s learning support team assessed your child’s travel capability rating as ‘semi-independent’ or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at www.schooltransport.com.au by 31 May 2016.

Late applications cannot be accepted.
Walk Safely to School Day

Today’s Walk Safely to School Day was a huge success. Many thanks to the parents who made the extra effort to get their children ready that little bit earlier for school this morning, the teachers for all of their organisation and being here bright and early preparing and Avoca IGA for the generous donation of breakfast items to feed our hungry walkers.

Tuckshop

Please make sure you are using the correct Menu. Each day there are several orders that have the incorrect prices written on them. This only applies if you write out a paper bag and include cash. QKR orders have correct prices set.

Please click the tuckshop logo to be taken to the tuckshop page on the school website. Here you will find the current Tuckshop Menu, the Cupcake Order form and the Sticky Beak Tuckshop Bags information.