125 celebration planning well underway

By now you may have heard murmurings about the school’s imminent anniversary! Well, it’s true! The school is set to celebrate its 125th anniversary next year, and to mark this milestone achievement, the school and the P&C are planning a number of activities.

It is a very exciting time for the school, and we hope to have an inclusive celebration for our 700 students, 45 staff and 450 families which make up the current Aspley State School community. The community also extends to all the 13,000 past pupils and 700 teachers who have a connection with our school, as well as the broader community of Aspley residents and businesses.

Following consultation with the school community, a number of ideas and options have been investigated. ‘Team 125’ has been established and is already working on plans for 2015. At the school’s P&C meeting, a broad outline of the year was approved.

The following are the priorities for the year:

- We will launch our 2015 fun with an event in February where students can dress up in the style of 1890s school students (see over for tips and guidelines to inspire!).

- The anniversary coincides with the ANZAC Day centenary, and this will be reflected appropriately in the school’s ANZAC commemorations in April.

- August 6th is Foundation Day and the school will mark the day in an appropriate manner.

- The highlight of the year will be a significant celebration. On Friday 11th September, the school will host the ‘125th Birthday BLASS!’.

- Also in September, the Aspley State School Reunion will be held on Saturday 12th September.

- A commemorative book will be published and a suite of anniversary memorabilia will be available to purchase.

‘Team 125’ is well and truly up and running! We hope you can join in the fun somewhere along the way!

125 anniversary logo and style

Following a classroom competition run during October, a design for the Aspley State School 125th anniversary is being finalised. It will include a logo and a style for all our activities.

A big thank you to the teachers who ran the competition through their classes, and to the creativity of our students for their ideas which will help inspire the outcome.

Watch this space for the new logo early next year!

Search for former students and teachers begins

The 125th anniversary celebrations provide an important opportunity for the school to reconnect with its 13,700 past pupils and teachers.

That is why ‘Team 125’ has a team of volunteers specifically working on ways to connect with those associated with the school’s past. The register will be used to keep past pupils and teachers informed of the school’s plans in the hope that they will return and join in the celebrations and commemorations.

If you were associated with the school, or know somebody who was, you can connect in one of the following ways:

- Visit the school’s website on www.aspleyss.edu.eq.au and follow the prompts to ‘Register’.

- Email us your contact details on Reunion125@aspleyss.eq.edu.au

- Phone the school office on 3863 9111 and a volunteer will contact you.

We look forward to hearing from you NOW!

You can also connect:

- www.facebook.com/groups/AspleyStateSchoolReunion
- @AspleySSReunion

bLIASSSt from the past

Aspley State School was formerly known as Little Cabbage Tree Creek School.

The school opened on Wednesday 6 August 1890.

There were 40 children enrolled. Within a week, enrolment had jumped to 56. This rapidly rose and the average daily attendance for 1890 was 73.5 students.

Subjects taught were reading, writing, arithmetic, object lessons, drill, vocal music, geography, grammar, composition, derivation, history, mechanics, domestic economy, needlework and home exercises.

The inspector’s report for 1890 said that the school had a good discipline and was progressing very satisfactorily.

By 1893, there were 83 children enrolled at the school. However attendance fell well short of this number and in January of that year was only 39 due to the fact that the head teacher’s wife, Mrs Wing, was suffering from Diphtheria and parents were afraid to send their children to school!
Volunteers are not paid—not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.

‘Team 125’!

Of course 2015 will be heaps of fun, but it also creates just a little bit of extra work (guffaws all around from ‘Team 125’!). So here’s the update.

We’re doing really well—we have assembled lots of great people from within our community of parents and teachers. It’s amazing the wealth of talent and knowledge that we have between us. We have divided the work into bite sized pieces and there are lots of tasty morsels to sink your teeth into.

It’s always great if we can source items for the celebrations from within the school community.

With this in mind, please let us know if you can do any of the following:

- If you work in, or know someone who can offer us a good deal with essential services including printing, letter box drops, supplying services or products for our celebration events, etc.
- If you work in a company, or know someone who might like to sponsor an aspect of our celebration, or contribute financially.

Alternatively, let us know if we can call upon you to help with general duties during the year and as the need arises (if you’re not already on our lists!).

Contact one of our team leaders:
- June Reynolds (june.reynolds@me.com)
- Dee Small (ddsmall09@gmail.com)
- Cindy Hill (cinhill1@gmail.com)

Connect via Reunion125@aspleyss.eq.edu.au, via the school’s facebook page or in person.

1890s fashions on display

Take a step back in time with us in February when we plan to have a free dress day where students can come to school dressed in the style of students from the 1890s. (A collective groan from the parents!). But don’t worry, we’re going to try and make it easy (easier!). Here are our styling tips, and yes we know it will be hot in February!

For girls: Think ‘Little House on the Prairie’ meets ‘Alice in Wonderland’:

- ¾ length dresses
- team with a plain or frilled apron/bib (see below)
- dresses could have large collars or frilled emperor line collars or frilled sleeves
- braids or hair tied off face with big pretty ribbons, bonnets optional!
- lace up or other boots.

To make a simple apron/bib: get an old pillowcase and from the closed end, cut a hole for the head, and at the corners, cut two armholes. Frill at end is an optional extra!

For boys: Think sailor neck lines and button up jackets with long or short pants (good luck getting your cool dudes into these!).

So, failing that, keep it really simple by teaming up a long-sleeved collared shirt with a pair of shorts or pants, with or without braces! Wear with a pair of boots and a broad rimmed hat....and step back in time!

Please note, although not altogether historically accurate, enclosed shoes must be worn on the day for H&S reasons!

You will be notified of the date of the free dress day early in Term 1.