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15 September 2017

From the President



Dear QASEL members

Welcome to the inaugural QASEL monthly newsletter utilising the fully electronic Schoolzine platform! It is a very exciting time for QASEL! Within this premier version you will find instructions as to how to upload the QASEL Schoolzine App (SZapp). This will mean you will be able to access the QASEL newsletter, which often contains links to various documents, from your smartphone or tablet as well as your PC. This is an exciting point in our QASEL history, in that we have moved to an interactive electronic format/tool utilised across Australia by many schools and other organisations/associations. The professional format brings more professionalism to our monthly communications and allows us to embed vignettes, photos and other relevant graphics as appropriate for your enjoyment and information. You will still receive emails however, notifications will also be sent through to our social media pages on Facebook (@Queensland Association of Special Education Leaders) and Twitter (@QASEL). So be sure to connect with us, so you can keep up to date.

We are also utilising Schoolzine to redesign and manage the content on our website to make it more of the 'face' of QASEL for those wishing to join or learn more about our activities. Our advice has been that if anyone looks to learn about a topic or in our case association-QASEL! They search for the website and what QASEL can do for them....Please encourage your colleagues to join QASEL ... the greater the membership the louder and more effective is your voice is, as a professional through YOUR association!

Enjoy the new format/s!

It has been an unusual 'winter' in 2017! It brought us the cold weather but not for long...it brought us the flu... but yes for long!! What I mean is, some unfortunate students, families, staff and colleagues are STILL dealing with the flu that has dragged on and from which recovery has been protracted (including yours truly)!!!

I trust Term 3 has been productive and that your wonderful students have made great gains! Many of you have had school reviews recently and during 2017, with at least two Special Schools to be reviewed during Term 4. This is a very well regarded process by schools and leaders and I commend you

on the work that you have done with your school teams to ensure everyone feels consulted and a valued member of your school throughout the process. You deserve this upcoming break. Make the most of it as the year fast tracks itself to an end!

Much has been happening throughout the term. I want to thank those of you who have hosted me in your schools whether in the SE corner or the regions. I plan to see more of the great work that you as leaders, together with your teams are doing for the benefit of our students across Queensland.

Please continue to invite me to your networks and schools. I already have some scheduled for Term 4 but it will fill up very quickly (and Term 1 2018!)

Have a great well deserved relaxing and enervating Spring break!

Yours in leadership and disability education,

Warm regards

Roselynn Anderson
President

Queensland Association of Special Education Leaders (QASEL)

president@qasel.org.au

Ph: 0418 715 359

Queensland Association of Special Education Leaders has a new app!



On the go? Simply download SZapp and subscribe to the Queensland Association of Special Education Leaders. Allow push notifications to ensure you to never miss a beat. The app will be the easiest way to access our newsletters, contact us, find out more about us, access forms or documents, change your contact details or see upcoming events as well as register for them.

- Newsletters on the go
- Latest News & Reminders
- Calendar
- Forms and Documents
- Contact Form



Installing SZapp



Apple Devices:

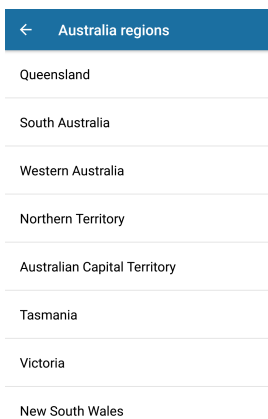
1. On your device, open the App Store.
2. Search the App Store for SZapp.
3. Download and install SZapp.

Android Devices:

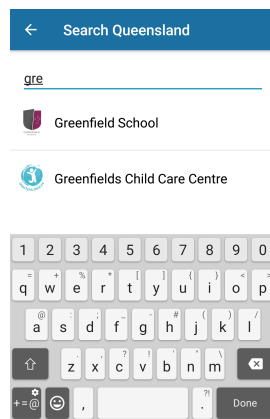
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2. Search the Play Store for SZapp.
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Find your School

Select your school's region.



Search for and select your school.

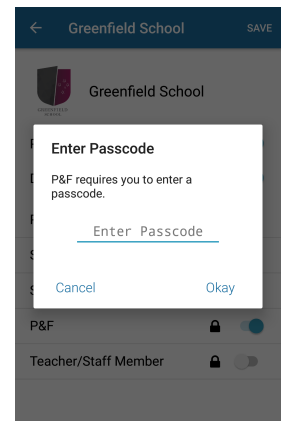
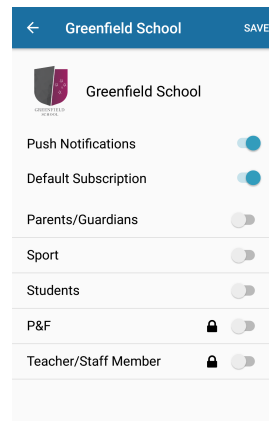


Managing Notifications

Choose which group/s you would like to receive notifications from. If you have installed more than one school, you can pick which school you would like to be your Default Subscription.

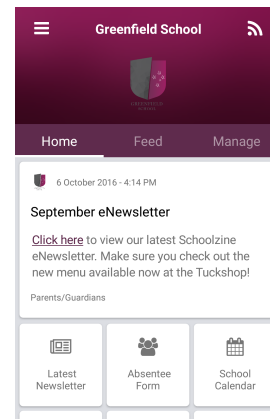
Groups with a padlock symbol next to them require a 4 digit passcode.

See your school for this passcode.



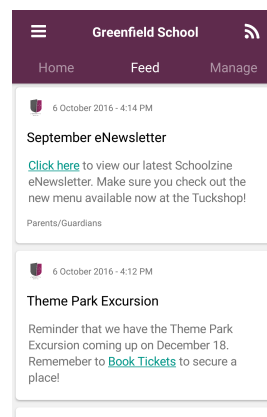
Home

View the latest feed item and school menu.



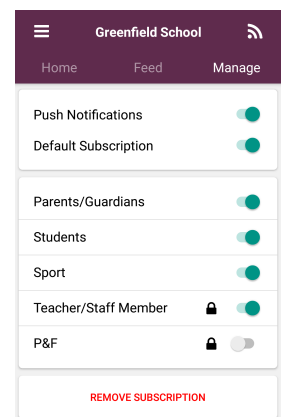
Feed

View all feed items for every group you belong to.



Manage

Manage push notifications, your default subscription and groups.



For more information please view our FAQs page

<http://www.schoolzine.com/szapp-faq>

Disability Action Week 2017

Don't forget this week is Disability Action Week. Celebrations run until Saturday 16th September.

<https://www.allabilities.qld.gov.au/>

QASEL Conference 2018



Discussions around venue and keynote speakers are ongoing. Andrew Thompson, QASEL Vice President, will be convening the QASELCON17-18 committee to debrief and plan in the near future reflecting on evaluations and our partnership with GEMs in 2017-2018.

Andrew and I have been evaluating and considering new venues under invitation from the venues and will consult with those of you who form the membership of the QASELCON18 committee regarding this decision also. We hope to convene a committee teleconference in Week 1 Term 4.



President- Advocacy, Activities, Collaboration and Partnerships

- **QASEL State Council** (4 August)
- **ARD State wide Special Schools and Lead Principal** Term 3 meeting (7 August)
- School visit **Ascot SS** -Thanks Simone and team! (7 August)
- **Injury Management System IT Project HR Central Office** –Kylie Dale (8 August)
- Meeting with **Minister Kate Jones** regular Term 3 meeting **Parliamentary Annexe** (8 August)

- **One School Business Advisory Committee** (OSBAC) (8 August)
- **Teacher Education Centre of Excellence: Special Education** (TECESE) Governance Board meeting (9 August)]
- **Islamic Council of Queensland** Term 3 liaison meeting (9 August)
- **State Schools Stakeholder Reference Group** meeting (9 August)
- **ICTs for Learning Forum** Term 3 meeting (10 August)
- **Rural and Remote Strategy Reference Group** meeting (14 August)
- **Special School/SEP visits with Gary Austen, Minister's DET Adviser** (15 August)
(Thank you Rod from Logan City Special, Kylie from Stretton College and Pat from Crestmead SS!)
- **Special School Principal Panel** (18 and 28 August)
- **Australian Special Education Principals' Association** – ASEPA Board and Management meetings Melbourne (21-22 August)
- **ARD Rural and Remote Strategy** meeting (29 August)
- **Michael Clifford Principal Information Analyst meeting** re HR planning tool for Special Schools (29 August)
- **SIU Stakeholder Reference Group** meeting (30 August)
- **QCT Principal Reference Group** meeting (30 August)
- **Wide Bay-Bundaberg President visit** HOSES aspiring leaders PL and HOSES network meeting
- **Director-General-DG Presidents of Associations** Term 3 meeting (4 September)
- **Metro plus Special Schools Principals' Alliance** Term 3 meeting (5 September)
- **Teacher Transfer renewal project Associations** meeting (5 September)
- **P&Cs Queensland Conference** (8 and 9 September)
- **Temp to Perm process DDG Jeff Hunt and ADG Leigh Pickering** meeting (11 September)
- **QCAA Special provisions Advisory Group –Senior Assessment and Tertiary Entrance** meeting (12 September)
- **Hilton Brisbane conference** venue tour (13 September)
- **HR Organisational Transformation – HEADSPACE** meeting (14 September)
- **AMP Advice partners dinner** (14 September)
- **State Schools Advisory Group** monthly meeting (15 September)

Review to Achieve Education Excellence in Australian Schools

The Federal Department of Education is conducting a review entitled: Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools.

Please find attached the key questions asked of your National Association ASEPA earlier this week in a teleconference consultation process.

QASEL member feedback is valued as I will provide a response on behalf of QASEL.

Can you please send the attached questions back and your responses (in yellow perhaps?) and I will collate these into our response.

May I have your valued responses please by COB Friday 6 October?

PRINCIPAL WELLBEING DET FUNDING SUPPORT OPTIONS UPDATE:

MOJO MAINTENANCE for PRINCIPALS:

QASEL has partnered with Nick Burnett and Paul Montgomery to tailor the Mojo Maintenance program they have developed to Mojo Maintenance for Principals (MMfP).

This program will specifically cater for the needs of Special School Principals, following interviews with a number of Special School colleagues to 'frame' the content moving forward.

On Thursday 9 November, QASEL Management member Principals will be trained in MMfP for the first time. If there are other Principal colleagues interested in participating that day, please let me know. It will be a full day commitment 8.30am to 4.00pm prior to QASEL State Council, AGM and Dinner on 10 November (venue and details TBC). Principals may then choose to utilise the broader aspects of the MM program for their staff professional learning in 2018. Nick and I will take the program to the regions in 2018. The first is planned for Central Queensland in late Term 1 2018.

THE NESLI (NATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE) WELLBEING TOOLKIT:

<http://www.nesli.org>

This toolkit is also available to QASEL members. Alistair Young is the contact for the online Wellbeing Toolkit. I am aware that some schools already utilise this program. The Principal Wellbeing funding to QASEL may be able to support you to access the Wellbeing Toolkit individually or with your staff. The cost is \$85pp. Alistair is also available by phone on (03) 9270 9032 or by email at ayoung@asam.edu.au.

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE:

Based upon William Glasser International's work, this program has many possibilities for you, as Principal, and for your staff, family and colleagues. There are six facilitated sessions...whole

of staff is also available, or I could negotiate group sessions for Principals. Background information is available on the link below:

<http://www.wglasserinternational.org>

Please either contact me or Lorraine Shaw (shawlorraine10@gmail.com) or Sue Fleming (slf96a@bigpond.com) for more local information/options.

HEADSPACE:

Louise Flaherty, who coordinates the HEADSPACE program for DET, funded by the DG and announced at the March Principals Conference, and I have met to discuss ways in which HEADSPACE is able to be utilised for proactive purposes to promote Principal Wellbeing. I am aware that some schools already utilise this program. I am available to give you more information also and Louise is contactable on email at Louise.Flaherty@det.qld.gov.au or on phone at (07) 3513 6567.

Upcoming Events

QASEL Annual Dinner (following State Council and AGM at the Autism Hub and Reading Centre) – Friday 10th November 6:30pm for 7:00pm at Royal on the Park

End of Year Function – Thursday 23rd November 5 – 7pm at Royal on the Park

Items for Information:

- **Promotion Positions and Classification Review submission** (see attached)
- Internal School Reviewer applications for 2018 are being called for on Smart Jobs (see attached)
- Leading Learning 4 All – this online tool/resource produced by ASEPA your national professional association, was launched around Australia earlier this year. Many colleagues are utilising LL4A in their work, particularly regional Inclusion Coaches.
- Training for LL4A Champions, with accreditation conferred, will occur around Australia facilitated by Dame Pat Collarbone of the UK in Brisbane 23 and 24 October (details to follow ASAP).
- QASEL Awards Committee – at August State Council this new committee was convened. Members are encouraged to send any nominations for Life Members, Friends of QASEL or Service Awards to Tracey Chappell (who volunteered as Chair!) on tchap29@eq.edu.au.
- Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) Special Schools Conference (see info attached as there are a few places left) is being held on 16 October 2017.
- QCAA Senior Secondary Principals' Conference 17-18 October

Message from Cofounder of Girls' Uniform Agenda

Hi QASEL members. Dr Amanda Mergler here, the cofounder of Girls' Uniform Agenda. Girls' Uniform Agenda advocates that all girls in all schools should be offered shorts and long pants as part of their everyday school uniform.



Roselynn and I had a coffee recently and a really good chat about the importance of social justice for all students. My particular focus is social justice for girls at school, and I'm keen to change girls' school uniforms.



Dr Angela Mergler, Cofounder of Girls' Uniform Agenda

Did you know that in 2017, there are many schools across Australia that **require** girls to wear skirts and dresses? It's an old fashioned idea that no longer reflects what happens in workplaces across the country. Thankfully, we live in a time where it is illegal in Australia to force women to wear dresses or skirts to work. It seems to me we should extend this protection to our school girls.

Recently, the West Australian and Victorian Education Ministers have come out in support of updating school uniforms for girls. In both states, it will now be mandatory for state schools to provide girls with the choice of shorts and pants as part of their everyday school uniform.

Girls' Uniform Agenda have worked hard to get these ministers to understand that choice for girls is the only answer that aligns with a social justice and equity perspective. We will continue to campaign across all other states and territories, so that girls are afforded choice and treated with respect across the country.

If you are a school leader, please consider your school uniform. Does it allow choice for girls? If not, please work with your uniform supplier and school community to have this rectified immediately. We cannot argue for equal rights for girls while forcing them into restrictive clothing that reinforces outdated gender stereotypes.

If you would like more information or support from Girls' Uniform Agenda, please visit our website at the link below. The mandate of state schools requires we support, nurture, respect and include all students. Let's make our girls as comfortable as they can be on their learning journey.

<http://www.girlsuniformagenda.org>



Amanda Mergler's children at school

Cairns Special School

Below are some wonderful photos from the Opening of Cairns Special School in late July.



Vale John Alcorn

Unfortunately John has recently passed away. John will be known to many of you as a passionate educator with a strong social conscience! A wonderful man! I'm sure you will join with me in wishing John's family all the very best on behalf of QASEL and QTU (ASEAQ) members.

Quote of the Month

'Change is the only constant in life' Heraclitus

Got a great tip for the next President's Update? We'd love to hear them. Email them through to bm@qasel.org.au



Schoolzine is proud to be a digital partner and supporter of Queensland Association of Special Education Leaders.

Schoolzine has been an industry leader in digital school communications for 10 years. They are dedicated to customer service, product development and understanding the school landscape that keeps them at the top of the industry. Schoolzine's Parent Engagement Platform consists of 3 packages, an eNewsletter, Mobile App and Website offering. Purchased separately or together, they guarantee each package will make engaging with parents easy and even enjoyable for a school of any size. Schoolzine addresses the need for media-rich, interactive content that engages parents.