



APCS On the Move – Number 3

With the end of Term 2 fast approaching we are excited that the construction phase remains very much on schedule. The school’s vision for our students and staff to move into a brand new, future focused learning environment by early Term 4 is becoming a reality. There have been some changes to the school’s organisational plan as we prepare for the transition to our new location. The most notable change is the Pupil Free Day (normally in Term 3) moved to the beginning of Term 4.

Transition timeline

<p><i>Monday - July 20</i></p> <p>No Pupil Free Day</p>	<p>TERM 3 begins- All students and staff return to school</p> <p>No Pupil Free Term 3 Day – (changed to Mon 12 Oct Term 4)</p>
<p><i>Friday - September 25</i></p>	<p>TERM 3 concludes</p>
<p><i>Monday - September 28</i></p> <p><i>Friday - October 9</i></p>	<p>SPRING VACATION</p>
<p><i>Monday - October 12</i></p> <p>Pupil Free Day</p>	<p>Pupil Free Day – Camp Australia available</p> <p>All staff to attend School Development Day</p>
<p><i>Tuesday – October 13</i></p>	<p>All students K-11 return for our first day on the new APCS site</p>

The realisation that our new school will soon be finished was further reinforced when some of our primary and support staff had the opportunity to see first hand, the newly completed learning spaces. Our first stop on the visit was to the area known as “**Bunin**” (new K-12 Reception and Administration space). This area, will be called the ‘Bunin’ which is a Gomerbee word meaning ‘welcome’. The Bunin is representative of one of the APCS educational principles as operating as one school Kindergarten to Year 12. The Bunin will be the place that welcomes our students and community and where all our Administration Staff (K-12) will work alongside each other. The next stop on the visit was upstairs to the Primary spaces.



From staff reaction and their general comments it was clear that they were very impressed with the extent of work completed. Floors are carpeted, walls painted, large glass sliding doors and partitions have been installed. Throughout the visit staff commented on the quality of the fit out and the high level of finish in each of the learning spaces. With the spaces almost fully complete staff could clearly see how students might interact with their new learning environment. The space has been cleverly designed to enable students to move quickly and efficiently between various activities and settings. To aid in this movement there is a deliberate visual connectivity between the various learning spaces that are conveniently located in each learning hub. Staff are able to supervise and support students across a variety of activities occurring at the same time or they may work collaboratively in a co-teaching phase. The spaces have been designed to enable students to make choices in their learning and provide access to spaces that support students with additional learning needs such as retreat and acoustically private locations. Staff will continue their professional development in reviewing the various levels of functionality available to best support student learning and how to guide students in applying this flexibility and choice. The site visit also enabled the staff to see how our educational assumptions informing the build were being incorporated.

“New learning spaces will be flexible and allow for a range of learning activities to occur in a collaborative setting”.



From the beginning of the project the school stressed the importance of incorporating furniture in the learning spaces in order to suit a variety of learning styles and purposes.

“Furniture is a critical component of space planning and should be used to achieve a specific pedagogic function.”

Staff had the chance to view some of the furniture inventory during the visit to the learning spaces. The furniture has been provided to allow students greater flexibility in their learning and to encourage both collaborative and independent learning.

Alex Forbath and Sheree Bourke have maintained a positive connection with the construction group to advise on specific school requirements and to provide the school's response to various aspects of the project. Along with other members of the Executive and School Leadership Team they have used the APCS Educational Model as a guide for determining how the room layout can best support our educational principles. Next the site visit viewed the "**Oraway**" (Gomerbee word meaning 'playing in the clouds'). The rooftop playground space is taking shape with large planters and garden beds being installed to provide greenery. Areas for both active and passive play have been included, as have areas with seating and shade.



Executive Team - Sheree Bourke, Alex Forbath and Debra Lade

Students on the move – Kristoffer 7X

Last week, I was lucky enough to get a tour of our brand new school that is currently under construction. Here are some of my thoughts and observations. Firstly, the classrooms are a lot



bigger and structured in clusters called hubs. Each hub contains three to four classroom spaces as well as a tiered seating and a presentation area. There is one huge screen per classroom and lots of space for practical work as well as book learning. The furnishings look fantastic and are definitely an improvement on what we have in our demountables. For example, the junior rooms have a variety of seating including fuzzy, fold up, floor chairs and wobbly stools – I think that younger students will love the comfier furniture. The

office and reception areas are much improved with more space and separate entrances for students and the public. There are teacher workspaces in every hub where teachers can plan together, prepare lessons and complete other essential schoolwork. The teacher only spaces and classroom spaces are close together and separated by a mesh privacy screen. Lunchtimes will also be improved as there are going to be more sports fields, more basketball courts and a colossal rooftop playground. There will also be specialised classrooms for different subjects such as the agriculture rooftop garden and better-equipped Science Labs. I am very excited to move into the new school in Term 4 and hope that it will be an easy transition.

