

The theme for Education Week 2021 is 'Lifelong Learners'. It is a phrase that is used regularly in education settings – mission statements, values, student reports and policies. However, what does it truly mean for me, the Principal of a wonderful Public School with exceptionally motivated learners – staff and students – eager to know more?

The pressure is on for leaders within our schools to know more in order to provide opportunities for all staff and students within their school to succeed. This is a challenge that excites me and motivates me as I continue my research, investigation, discovery and implementation to make our school, Pitt Town Public School, the most engaging and inspiring environment that accommodates all learners all day every day.

I love learning and my staff and students know this. Often you will find me in the classrooms listening to the students and their teacher learning and reciting different sounds a letter makes, discussing facts about the Great Barrier Reef or how to subtract three-digit numbers. I don't know it all but I want to know more. Going into the playground I witness the creativity of our children as they use the asphalt games to suit them – they teach me that not everything has to be the same and it is ok to challenge and create a more exciting, engaging experience. Getting out of my comfort zone, realising that the norm is not always the most engaging and realising that you are never too old to learn, adapt and change your thinking and the way things have been.

So, I challenge you all to ask questions, research, read, discover and investigate in order to learn more each day. Our brain through our senses has been wired to learn until the day we die.

Yours in partnership as lifelong learners,

Mary Roche

