Principal's Column

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The end of the term is fast approaching, and while we have been very busy with many events across the school, we still have many more to come. Please make sure you put the following dates in your calendar:

- Our next Coffee, Cake and Chat is after assembly this Friday, August 26 in the hall foyer. Join us for a cuppa and catch up with myself, Ben and Elwynne.
- Our next Transition to Prep Information Evening is next Thursday, September 1 at 6.00 pm. We invite all our prospective Prep parents to attend this important session.
- Our next Fathering Project event is next Saturday, September 3 for a Physical Training Session along the Sandgate foreshore. Please see below for booking details as we can only take the first 25.
- Parent Teacher Interviews are being held for most classes on Wednesday, September 7. Notes regarding our new PTO booking service were sent home on Monday, August 22. Please see your child's teacher if you did not receive a letter. This term, we are particularly encouraging Dads to come along and join us to learn more about how their child is progressing at school and to raise any questions or concerns.
- Book Week Parade is on Tuesday, September 13, with the Book Fair being held September 12 - 13. We encourage all our students to dress as a character from a book to celebrate the joy of reading.
- Our quarterly Twilight Concert is being held on Wednesday September 14 in the school hall. Our students have been busily preparing their musical and dance numbers. We look forward to all our families joining us.

A HUGE thank you to the staff and volunteers who make these events happen!! For any event to be successful, it takes a lot of time, dedication and commitment, without any additional remuneration, and I am greatly appreciative.

In the past few weeks, we have also hosted a number of events for parents and the community. Thank you to the staff and volunteers who worked exceptionally hard to organise and coordinate the annual Cancer Morning Tea. As many of you are aware, this is an extremely important event in our school's calendar, and would not have been possible without the hard work and enthusiasm of our Music Teachers, Mrs Annette Grant and Mr Malcolm James, our class teachers, MC, Mr Ben Lawes, and our P&C Committee, in particular Jo Roberts and Linda Wease and their band of volunteers. It was a beautiful event, and I am very grateful for the support of parents and community to ensure the morning was a success.

The dedication of our P&C this week, has also extended to the Fathers' Day Stall. Our P&C are very committed to ensuring our students always have access to gifts for Mums, Dads and significant others. Thank you to Bronwyn Brown and her volunteers for her coordination and organisation of the stall.

We conducted a repeat session of Parenting with the Brain in Mind with Leigh Inglis last week. We were joined by 4 staff members from one of our local child care centres, who were very keen to transfer knowledge of the Neuroscience we are teaching at school, with children in their care. If you couldn't make the session, but wish to know more about what we are teaching our students and why, check out these very short videos:

- Dr Dan Siegel and the hand model of the brain: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=enR17dQAw
- Mindfulness and how the brain works: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AP1M2dOQgOA
- Mindfulness versus Mindlessness: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNB1M2dOQgOA

Thank you to our parents who attended our second Building the BRSS Culture Session with Ben and myself last week. We are excited that parents are wanting to know more about what we are doing to build a strong, brave and courageous environment for our students.

Are you keeping up with our Facebook page? We are updating the page several times a day with announcements, reminders, photographs and celebrations. Make sure you “like” us today so you don’t miss out!!!

Just a reminder to parents, if your child arrives after the bell in the morning or departs prior to the bell in the afternoon, please ensure you sign your child in or out at the office. As we move to an automated text messaging system, we need to be very accurate with our arrivals and departures so parents aren't unnecessarily sent an inaccurate message. Thank you for your help with this.

We wish our Year 5 teachers and students a safe and successful camp next week. My thanks to the staff who are giving up precious time with their own families to be with our students, to ensure they have a wonderful time - Mr Jason Morish, Ms Rachel Gaskin, Mr Nic White, Mrs Kellie Mills and Ms Lynn Firth.

Deputy Principal’s Column

At Bracken Ridge State School we are committed to providing a safe, respectful and disciplined learning environment for students and staff.

We have high expectations around behaviour. This is something that all staff work extremely hard on and want to continue to build upon, ensuring that all students feel safe and enjoy coming to school and have the potential to achieve the best they possibly can.

The school has a Responsible Behaviour Plan for students which is designed to facilitate high standards of behaviour so that learning and teaching in the school can be effective and students can participate positively within the school community.

Our school rules have been agreed upon and endorsed by all staff and our school P&C. They are aligned with the values, principles and expected standards outlined in Education Queensland’s Code of School Behaviour. While classroom rules may be different from class to class, they all still relate to the overall school rules.

- Be Safe
  Follow safe behaviours towards people and property.
- Respect Others and Our School
  Treat all people with respect and tolerance.
- Strive to Learn
  Learn to the best of our ability and allow others to do the same.
- Solve Problems the High 5 Way
Manage conflict peacefully, calmly and fairly.

Our school seeks to ensure that responses to unacceptable behaviour are consistent and proportionate to the nature of the behaviour.

Much of this work continues to happen as part of the school’s Positive Behaviour for Learning focus. As a part of the school’s review cycle, a review of the Responsible Behaviour Plan (RBP) for students is currently being undertaken. This involves consultation with staff and parents to ensure the content within the plan fits with the school community expectations. It will be important to capture in the next iteration of the RBP, the school’s current neuroscience and mindfulness focus. The review of the plan will take us through to the end of the year, so hopefully we will have the new fully endorsed plan to begin 2017.

Biggest Morning Tea for Cancer
Yesterday we saw a large number of school community members join us for the annual Cancer Morning Tea Fundraiser. Thank you to all who attended. Your participation in this event not only helped raise funds for those battling the disease but provided the opportunity for our students to demonstrate their musical talents.

Thank you to all classes and teachers who provided the entertainment including the choirs, and the concert band. It was a great morning tea and fellowship. Special thanks to Jo Roberts & Linda Wease for their overall organisation, to Mrs Grant who coordinated all the entertainment for the day and parents who helped cook for the event. It is also worth mentioning our 6 student school leaders who did a wonderful job waiting on the tables.

In the next RidgeTalk I will let you know the amount that we raised.

Parking Before and After School
I would again like to convey thanks to the majority of our parents and families who continue to ensure the safety of our students through observing speed and parking signage around the school, especially at drop off and pick up time.

Unfortunately there has been a couple of instances where parents or family members picking children up are not adhering to signage and thus are putting their children and others at risk due to the speeds they are travelling or where they are parking.

I would particularly like to encourage all parents to take extra care when parking around our crossings and nearby the school, as this is where there is a high volume of children crossing roads, walking or riding.

With extra care and vigilance around these areas as well as with the help from our Crossing Supervisors, this should help minimise any risk of injury or a more serious accident.

Ultimately we want to ensure the safety of all children as well as parents and families, especially during the busy times of pick up and drop off. Everyone has a part to play, whether it’s the crossing the road in the right place, wearing helmets, dropping off and parking in the right areas or adhering to the speed limits.

Fathering Project
Dads!!! We have partnered with Paul Timms to support and enhance our Fathering Project. Part of the project is surveying Dads about what it means to be great father . Check out Paul’s video below, and complete the survey!

The survey can be found at:  http://www.coachingcoursescours.com.au/fatherhoodsurvey

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=NAevn7I-wJA&feature=youtu.be

Spinning off the success of our first get together, Mr Garath Roberts and I are very interested in getting our Dads and father figures together again.

For our second get together, we are going to have an exercise session on the foreshore at Sandgate followed by a BBQ for Dads and father figures. The session will be run by one of the local Personal Training instructors. It will not be too serious as the focus will be on having some fun.

The cost of the PT session will be covered by the school. We would love you all to stay after and enjoy a BBQ and drinks.

This event will be limited to the first 25 RSVP’s.

When: Saturday 3rd September.

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Where: Meeting at Sandgate foreshore at the Sandgate Swimming Pool Car Park.

BYO: Meat and Drinks for an after workout BBQ.

Mums - We would really love your support in encouraging your husbands or partners to come along to connect at this event with other fathers or father figures. If they are interested in attending could they please RSVP to me at blaws61@eq.edu.au

Our Fathering Project initiative has certainly raised some interest within the community. The school has engaged a business coach to support myself in helping to progress this agenda and connect with as many Dads as possible. We have been very happy to share our story in regards to what we are trying to achieve and thus have made a connection with the local paper who are keen to run our story. This will be exciting to see.

Ben Laws

PREP ENROLMENTS 2017

We are currently taking enrolments for PREP in 2017. If your child is born between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012, they are eligible for PREP next year. Please call into the school office for an Enrolment Pack or alternatively, contact Carol Fisher on 3869 7888 or email cfish63@eq.edu.au to organise for this to be sent to you.

SCHOOL TOURS

School Tours will be commencing on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 10.00 - 11.00 a.m. commencing in August. If you know of any families who might be interested in having a tour of our great school, please contact Carol Fisher on 3869 7888 or email cfish63@eq.edu.au to organise this.

CHOCOLATE DRIVE

Thank you to our families for the wonderful support you have given to our School with the Chocolate Drive. It is now time to return all money collected and any unsold chocolate and lollies back to the School office please. The support and effort that parents and students have shown
towards this fundraiser has been overwhelming and greatly appreciated. Our thanks must go to Mrs. Buckley for her incredible organisation and Mr. White for all of his help as well.

P&C NEWS

Uniform Shop News
• We are open Monday, Wednesday & Fridays from 8.30 am - 9.00 am at the moment.

Tuckshop News
Volunteers are needed and welcome in the Tuckshop. If anyone is interested, please ask Libby about it at the Tuckshop. All help is greatly appreciated.

• McDonald Day is the 7 September.

P&C News
• The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 September at 7.00 pm in staff room. All parents of the school community are invited to attend.
• Father’s Day Stall will be held on the Thursday 25 (the main day) & Friday 26 August.
• Family photos will be held on the Sunday 11th September with a cost of $20.00 per family. Please remember to book.
• Thanking you in advance for all the support with fundraising this year. It will be used to go towards shade covers over all of the new playgrounds.

If you have any questions or comments on any P&C information, please feel free to contact me Bronwyn at brssfundraiser@optusnet.com.au or 0402 459 164.

Book Week Dress Up Parade - 13 September, 2016

The Book Week Dress Up Parade will be held in the hall, on the morning of Tuesday 13 September. To celebrate Book Week and the love of reading, all students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character. The theme of the nationwide Book Week this year is Australia: Story Country. Our Book Fair will be in the library and selling books on Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 September. Look out for more information to come.

Happy Reading!

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

Thank you to all parents who contributed to the Voluntary Contribution Scheme in Term 1. Your financial contribution helps the School enormously. The Voluntary Contribution Scheme is not a school fee but a voluntary financial contribution to the school. This is used for many consumable items that students use "behind the scenes" throughout the school year which is not a part of their class Book List. These include: photocopying costs, white paper, coloured paper, cardboard, art and craft supplies, etc. The costs for this is $40.00 per student per year or $10.00 per Term. Your financial assistance is greatly appreciated and will be put to very good use.

CHAPPY NEWS

You are invited to a Chaplaincy event on August 30th. Below is the link where you can book a seat. Please come along and support our Chaplaincy Program.

Thank-you to Phil Henley at Steadfast Realty Qld who has made a generous donation towards helping students attend the upcoming Scripture Union Qld Holiday Camp – Winter Mapleton Adventure Camp. Phil is a supporter of School Chaplaincy and also sees the value and importance of students attending camps. Thank-you Phil for your generosity once again.

WILL I BEE FOCUS TERM 3: STRONG, BRAVE AND COURAGEOUS!

As you know, this Term we are all striving to be STRONG, BRAVE AND COURAGEOUS. One way to do this, is to solve problems the High 5 Way especially in the playground when we are on our own. In the Hive, we see this as well, but we call it the Hive 5 Way. It’s really quite simple... Talk Friendly, Talk Firmly, Ignore, Walk Away or Report to a Teacher. In the Hive we follow this and it often prevents any conflict from occurring. I will be buzzing around watching you all use the High 5 in the playground. Have a great time until I see you next.

Will.I.Bee
Will.I.Bee@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

TINY LEGENDS 10 YEAR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS
Tiny_Legends_10_Year_Celebration.pdf

Sandgate District State High School would like to invite families who are yet to enrol their child in Year 7 in 2017, to contact the Enrolment officer on 3869 9888 to arrange an interview time as places are filling fast.

AUSSIE HOOPS MID WEEK BASKETBALL PROGRAM
COMMENCING 20 JULY - Phone Michael Pitman on 3325 5474

COMMUNITY MARKETS
Markets.pdf

GATEWAY UPGRADE PROJECT
Gateway_Upgrade_North_project_Depot_Road_start_of_works_August_16.pdf

FUTSAL INFORMATION
Flyer_2016.pdf
Bald Hills Scout Group - Scout Leader Search

The Bald Hills Scout Group is searching for adults that may be interested in training to be Scout Leaders. For information please contact Kerin Smigielski on 0407 730 414 or email kandasmig@westnet.com.au

School Dental Visits

Parents please note that it is now a requirement that there be attendance by Parents/Carers at all dental appointments for children and adolescents aged 14 years or under at Metro North Oral Health Services facilities in the future. Children will no longer be called over from class for dental treatment without an adult present.

If you have any queries regarding this service, or would like to discuss this please telephone oral health services [ph: 3646 7838] or email MNOHS_Directorate@health.qld.gov.au
School Banking with the Commonwealth Bank is running an exciting competition in Term 3.

Students who make 3 or more School Banking deposits during Term 3 will be automatically entered into the Prize Lights competition for the chance to win one of the Star Saver Prizes.

**Star Saver Prizes:**

- 90x Fujifilm Instax Mini 8 Instant Cameras ply Mimi Film (10 pack).
- 50x Camping kits including headlamp, Bluetooth speaker and sleeping bag.
- 200x 12-month subscriptions to Total Girl or K-Zone magazines.

PLUS students have the chance to also win one of the Supernova prizes by completing the fun Stargazing online activity. See the flyer that will be inside your bank book next time you do School Banking.

**Supernova Prizes:**

- 50x PlayStation 4 packs plus Just Dance 2016 and FIFA 16 games.

Another bonus is the chance for our school to win one of 75 bags full of sports equipment, valued at $200.

Also School Banking is still running a wild Grand Prize competition. Commonwealth Bank are giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three children to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin. Plus many extras including 4 nights' accommodation, 5 days' car hire and $1000 spending money. HOW TO ENTER: Simply make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 and you’ll automatically receive an entry into the competition for a chance to win.


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PARENTS PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO PARKING IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS AT ANY TIME AS THIS ENDANGERS THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS. MANY THANKS FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING IN THIS MATTER. ALSO PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS A TWO MINUTE DROP OFF ZONE AT THE FRONT OF THE YEAR 1 PLAYGROUND IN BINBURRA STREET. THIS IS FOR DROP OFF AND PICK UP ONLY.

PARENTS PLEASE PHONE THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON 3869 7888 OR EMAIL CAROL FISHER cfish63@eq.edu.au FOR ANY STUDENT ABSENCES. IF WE HAVE NOT HEARD FROM YOU REGARDING YOUR CHILD’S ABSENCE, WE ARE NOW REQUIRED TO CONTACT YOU REGARDING THIS SO THAT ANY UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES CAN BE MANAGED. YOUR HELP IN THIS MATTER IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

BRACKEN RIDGE STATE SCHOOL Facebook Page is now available. Please ‘like’ our page and share with other parents at our school. We will endeavour to use this page to keep you informed with upcoming school events as they happen.

If you would like the school newsletter emailed directly to you, please email Carol Fisher at cfish63@eq.edu.au, or phone the school office on 3869 7888. Our newsletter is also available via our School Website. If you are unable to access the internet, a paper copy can be collected from the office on request.

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**Address:**

1 Binburra Street

BRACKEN RIDGE, QLD 4017

**Phone:**

07 3869 7888

**Fax:**

07 3869 7800

**Email:**

cfish63@eq.edu.au

**Web:**

[http://www.bracridgss.eq.edu.au](http://www.bracridgss.eq.edu.au)

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