Principal's Column

NAPLAN Testing:

As you would be aware, NAPLAN testing commences next Tuesday, May 12 and is completed by Thursday May 14, 2015 for all Year 3 and 5 students. Students who are absent on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are able to complete a “make up” test on Friday May 15, 2015.

The timetable for the tests is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. It is important to remember that NAPLAN tests are not pass/fail tests. At the classroom level it is one of a number of important tools used by teachers to measure student progress. The school also uses NAPLAN test information to determine whether we are improving outcomes for students in the long term, to design support programs for students, to set school learning targets and to review teaching and learning programs. For additional information about NAPLAN tests, please see the attached fact sheet.

Naplan.pdf

We understand that some students may be anxious about sitting the tests, and for this reason we urge you to see your child's teacher by Monday May 11, 2015 if you are concerned. To support students, we have increased supervision during the testing period and have created smaller testing groups. Prior to the tests, teachers will
ensure that students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance on the day.

**Important information for parents:**

- If your child is absent for any day of the tests, please notify Mrs Elywnne Buckley or Mrs Carol Fisher in our administration office as soon as possible.
- Please ensure your child has had breakfast the morning of the tests and is at school by 8.45 am.
- Speak positively about the tests. Let your child know that it isn’t a pass/ fail situation, and that the information obtained after testing is used by teachers and the school to support their learning.
- If you wish to withdraw your child from testing, please see either Mr Ben Laws or myself to obtain the relevant form. It is preferable that parents complete this form rather than keeping their child home from school for the four days of testing.

If you have any questions at all about NAPLAN tests, we urge you to see your child’s teacher.

**Reading Audit:**

This week, the school’s Assistant Regional Director, Ms Kerri Jones performed a Reading Audit of the school. She and a colleague interviewed teachers, teacher aides and students to discuss our Reading practices and to look for ways to sharpen our Reading focus across the school. I would like to sincerely thank the staff who were involved for their commitment to the process and their professionalism. I am looking forward to updating our community regarding our future direction in regards to Reading.

**A HUGE thank you to:**

- Our staff, students and parents who joined us last Wednesday for the Twilight concert. A special big thanks to our Music teachers, Ms Annette Grant and Mr Malcolm James, our MC Ms Sara Reynolds and Mrs Cheryl Narracott on sound. A big congratulations to our students who performed and the class teachers who worked hard to prepare them. The highlight was definitely the Twilight Singers who gave Mr Mai Lupo a beautiful send off with a sing-a-long.
- Our P&C and parent volunteers who put on a very extensive Mother’s Day stall this week. Your support for our school and our students is greatly appreciated. Hope all our Mums, Grandmas, Aunties and Carers enjoy their gifts this Sunday.

**Deputy Principal’s Column**

**ANZAC Day Ceremonies**

On ANZAC Day quite a number of students and staff participated in the Anzac Service at Sandgate. This ceremony was very moving and it was a wonderful opportunity to be a part of this service as we were joined by a number of other schools across the District. Our leaders delivered wreaths on behalf of our school community. Once again Bracken Ridge State School was very well represented with all students setting a wonderful example. Thank you to all parents who helped support this occasion by bringing their children down.
Once again I would also like to congratulate all of our students for their exemplary behaviour throughout our school’s ANZAC Service on Friday 24th April. I know that I speak on behalf of Ms Burke when I say that we are always very proud of the way the students behave, as well as the fantastic job the Captains do in leading the ceremony as well as other students who contributed. It is obvious that our students understand the significance of the occasion, a point made each year by our attending Diggers and Dignitaries.

Well Done Bracken Ridge!

**Cancer Morning Tea**

Planning for the *Cancer Morning Tea on Wednesday 27th May* is well underway.

Please do try to come and help raise money for the Cancer Foundation. Ask family and friends, and see your child perform with their classmates. As mentioned previously, this year all participants will be supplied with a morning tea, (similar to last year). The cost will be $5.00 with tickets available from the office.

For catering purposes, it would be very much appreciated if all tickets could be purchased by Monday 25th May.

Please, if you are able to support with the purchase of ingredients for baking in preparation for the day, or donations of any prizes – please see Bronwyn Brown.
Change of Tuckshop Closure Days

In week 6 (the week beginning 25th May) there will be a change of tuckshop closure days due to the Cancer Morning Tea. For this week only the tuckshop will be open on Monday 25th May and will be closed on Wednesday 27th May.

Come and See Us

From time to time, issues or concerns about aspects of our school will arise that need to be addressed. Please contact the school to make a mutually convenient time to speak to your child’s teacher about these issues. Please avoid walking in while the teacher is teaching. In this way, these issues can be sorted out so your child can continue on the road of successful, happy schooling. Schooling, like life, has many different pathways which teach us new skills and is a great learning experience for us all – open, honest, two way positive communication will help smooth out some of these different pathways.

Interschool Sports

On Friday the 22nd May Inter-school and Rec sports will begin. In preparation for this, the teachers responsible for the coaching of these teams are currently organising training sessions.

Children who have made the teams have been asked to sign a contract outlining their key commitments. The contract will also outline their ineligibility to be a part of these teams due to not satisfying all of the criteria.

All children who do not participate in Inter-school Sports will have the opportunity to take part in Rec Sports which will be held at the school.

Due to the Winter Sport program beginning in two weeks, we will have really tight timelines around getting the appropriate paperwork and payment back before the sports begin. All the paperwork should’ve gone out today. We do really need all paperwork back and payment made before children are able to participate in their chosen sport. All paperwork should be out early next week. We are waiting to finalise costs and to confirm buses.

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)

We have an exciting launch happening at tomorrow’s assembly. I would invite everyone to come along and join us. As well as the launch, we have a special video and possibly a visit from Will.I.Bee. There are some new initiatives that Will.I.Bee is also going to communicate to our students.

Please come along, have some fun and support the launch of some new and exciting initiatives.

Thank you and I look forward to sharing more in the next edition of the newsletter.

Ben Laws

P&C NEWS

We would also like to let you know that the Tuckshop will be CLOSED on Wednesday 27 May 2015 due to the Cancer Morning Tea being held in our School on that day. However, the Tuckshop will be open on Monday 25 May of that week. Any donations for our ongoing raffle or any cooked items such as cakes or slices for the
morning tea would be greatly appreciated. These could be left in the school office or Tuckshop. Volunteers to help with cooking and serving on the day are also most welcome. This is a wonderful and worthwhile event that we have held in our School for many years and your help and support once again is truly valued.

Issue 3 of the Scholastic Book Club order has now closed. However, orders can still be made ONLINE ONLY until the 19th of June.

CHAPPIE NEWS

SU Holiday Camp - In the next school holidays there will be a great SU Camp called 'Winter Mapleton Adventure Camp' happening in the second week of the holidays (6th - 10th July). This is a camp for Years 5 - 7's and includes activities like - canoeing, rock climbing, archery, nerf wars, a carnival, sports, games and lots more. Over the years we have had many students attend this camp, and they have all had a great time. For more info or to register for this camp please head to www.sucamps.org.au and look for 'Winter Mapleton Adventure Camp'.

CHAPPY WEEK PROGRAM 2015

Chaplaincy Week is from 17th- 24th May. To help celebrate here are some events happening at school!!

Tuesday 19 May
Free Dress Day.
Run by the Student Council.
Gold Coin Donation. All money raised is going to the School Chaplaincy Service.

Wednesday, 20 May
Colouring-in Competition
50 cents per entry. Prize for junior and senior winners are a $20 Amart All Sports voucher.

Prep Meet ‘n’ Greet
A light morning tea for prep parents to meet Rachael and other prep parents.
8.45am – 9.45am in the spare prep room.

Special Krave
Run by Rachael and Graham.
For grades 3-6’s at first break in the hall. 11.10-11.40am.

School Disco
Glow sticks on sale with money raised going to the school Chaplaincy service.
3.30 – 5.00 p.m.

Thursday, 21 May
Colouring-in Competition
50 cents per entry. Prize for junior and senior winners are a $20 Amart All Sports voucher.
Chappies Brekky
7.45 a.m. – 8.30 a.m.
D Block, outside of activities room

Free Dress Day
Run by the Student Council.
Gold coin donation. All money raised going to the school Chaplaincy service.

Staff Morning Tea
11.00am – 11.40 a.m. in the staff room.

Sunday, 24 May
Backyard Bonanza Stall
A Chaplaincy information display and donation box at the BRSS stall.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE
DUE TO A LOT OF ACTIVITIES HAPPENING THIS TERM, THE STUDENT COUNCIL DISCO HAS
UNFORTUNATELY BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL TERM 3.

Youth Excel
Small Group Programs – TERM 2

Where: Youth Excel – 138 Old Gympie Rd (cnr Nellies Lane), Kallangur 4503

Cost: These programs are **FREE** thanks to the generous sponsorship of Inclusive Kids.

RSVP: Monday 18th May.
Numbers are limited so please book early by phoning (07) 3482 3466. All other details below....

Pre-Teens Girls Excel
Creating Confidence in Young Women (10 – 12 years old)
Facilitator: Chantellaine Cruickshank
Date: Each Thursday for six weeks from 21st May (21st, 28th, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th)
Time: 4pm – 5pm

Pre-Teens Girls Excel Content
Lesson 1: Introduction to Girls Excel
Lesson 2: Handling Friendship Dramas
Lesson 3: Loving Who I Am
Lesson 4: Being Brave (even when I’m afraid)
Lesson 5: Choosing Support People for Life
Lesson 6: Learning to Apologise

Numbers are limited so please book early by phoning (07) 3482 3466.

SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR SCHEME
From Monday 20 April 2015 the school crossings will operate from 8.00 a.m. - 8.45 a.m. in the mornings and from 3.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. in the afternoons.

BRACKEN RIDGE SHS
EXPO 2015
You are invited to attend our OPEN NIGHT
On Tuesday 05 May at 4.30 pm

Events:
4.30 pm Free sausage sizzle
5.00 pm Tour of School
6.30 pm Principal’s Address

Come along & experience faculty demonstrations, see our facilities, discuss Life at Bracken Ridge with current students and meet members of our teaching staff.

We look forward to seeing you.
WAVELL STATE HIGH SCHOOL  
Open Day Information  
Afternoon  

Sunday 17 May 2015  
2:00pm – 4:30pm  
Assembly Hall  
Telopedia Avenue, Wavell Heights  

Organised Guided Tours of the School  
An Address by the Principal  
Opportunities to meet Teachers and Students  
Afternoon Tea  

Parents and Students of any year level are most welcome to attend.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE THAT NEW MUSIC SHIRTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE. COST IS $26.00.

THE "CARS" RACE!  

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE A "CARS" READING BOOK. ALL YEAR LEVELS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE AT A COST OF $5.50 EACH.

STUDENTS ARE USING THESE BOOKS IN CLASS. IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF ONE OF THESE COULD BE PURCHASED FOR YOUR CHILD (YEARS 1-6) AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO.

THE "CARS" RACE IS EXCITING. STILL A LONG WAY TO GO TO THE FINISH LINE TO SEE WHICH YEAR LEVEL WINS!
PARENTS PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THERE IS NO PARKING IN THE SCHOOL
GROUNDS AS THIS ENDANGERS THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS.

THANK-YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING IN THIS MATTER.

PARENTS PLEASE REMEMBER TO 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 on 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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