23 April, 2015.

Principal's Column

Welcome back to Term 2!

It was with great pleasure that I accepted the offer to replace Mr Mai Lupo as Principal while he takes some well-deserved leave during Term 2 and 3. I am well acquainted with the Bracken Ridge community, as I was Deputy Principal at Norris Road State School from 2007 to 2010. Since 2011, I have been Principal of Stafford and Brisbane Central State Schools, and most recently spent 6 months in Central Office as a Principal Advisor and Principal Education Officer. I’m very excited to be a part of Bracken Ridge State School, and am looking forward to meeting our families and getting to know our students and staff. If you see me around, please stop me to say hello and introduce yourself. A huge thank you to the staff and students for their warm welcome this week, and to Mr Ben Laws, Mrs Elwynne Buckley, Mrs Nunzi Hyde and Mrs Carol Fisher for their amazing support and help while I learn the ropes!

Staffing changes:

You may be aware that Mrs Katie Lawler (Year 3A), informed the school that she was unable to continue with her teaching responsibilities this year due to personal circumstances. Mrs Donna Hobbs has offered to take fulltime responsibility for 3A for the remainder of the school year. Shona McEvoy (Monday and Tuesday) and Julie McDowall (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) will take responsibility for Prep 1 until the end of 2015.

Parents of students in Prep 1 and 3A should have received a letter yesterday, Wednesday April 22 explaining the changes.

To support the successful transition for students, Donna has kindly cancelled her leave and Shona McEvoy has offered to work an additional day to work shadow Donna. We have committed to temporarily increasing the number of teacher aide hours in Prep to support this transition period. Mrs Carolyn Hope, who is currently in the Prep 1 class, has also committed to an additional week to provide support for the transition between Shona and Donna. We thank parents for their continued support and understanding, and our whole hearted thanks to Donna Hobbs, Shona McEvoy and Katie Lawler for their tireless commitment to their respective classes.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Melissa or Ben directly.
Cross Country:
Our rescheduled Cross Country event took place on Wednesday with glorious weather! My thanks to our PE teacher, Wayne Moore for his organisation of the event, and to our staff for their support in ensuring that it all ran smoothly. Thank you to the parents who were able to join us to cheer on the students.

Twilight Concert:
Our rescheduled Twilight Concert from last Term will be held next Wednesday 29 April, 2015 commencing at 5.00 p.m. in the School Hall. This is an opportunity for our students to showcase their musical talents. Groups involved will be Year 1, 2 and 3, Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Concert Band.

A special Sing-A-Long for Mr. Lupo has been organised. Please come along and join us in singing some of Mr. Lupo's favourite songs with him and other staff members. The Concert should finish at approximately 6.00 p.m. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Deputy Principal's Column
Welcome back! I hope everybody had a restful and enjoyable holiday and was able to make the most of the beautiful weather (after the Easter weekend).

I would like to welcome Melissa Burke who is our new school Principal. I look forward to the opportunity of working with her and building on the great things happening at our school.

Tomorrow we have our school’s ANZAC Ceremony from 9:00 a.m. in our School Hall. I would invite all parents and community members to attend this service. It is particularly significant this year due to commemorating 100 years since the ANZACS landed at Gallipoli.

Our students have once again been invited to march in the Sandgate Anzac Day Commemorative March on Anzac Day Saturday 25th April. Our school leaders will be representing our school as well as any other students and families are welcome to march.

This term we also have a number of other events to follow.
Some of these include:- Cancer Morning Tea, NAPLAN testing, Under 8’s Day, Behaviour Awards, Senior Pentathlon and Junior Athletics Carnivals to name a few

All will be included in the school calendar.

RACQ Streets Ahead Visit
In week 2 of this Term, the RACQ Road Safety Education program “Streets Ahead” will visit our classes, teaching us how to be safe pedestrians, passengers and bike riders. For videos explaining the...
content in the RACQ program, please scan the below codes using a smartphone.

Crossing the Road  Safety Door  Bike Safety

National testing for Years 3, 5, and 7 (NAPLAN)

On 12, 13 and 14 May students across Australia will take part in national literacy and numeracy tests.

The tests will see all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sitting the same tests as their interstate counterparts.

The test results will provide useful information about how all state and non-state school students are performing in literacy and numeracy at their year level in comparison to their peers across Australia.

The literacy assessment will focus on areas of reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar while the numeracy testing will cover measurement, chance and data, space, working mathematically, algebra function and pattern.

Results from the tests will be used for reports to parents, school reporting to their communities, and reporting by states and territories to form a national overview.

University of NSW Competitions

Beginning in June and continuing through until August, students from Year 4 through to Year 6 will have the opportunity to participate in a number of competitions across English, Science & Mathematics run by the University of NSW.

Below is a table which lists the cost, date when entries close as well as the sitting dates of each of these tests. If you would like your child to participate in one or more of these tests could you please send the appropriate money to the office in an envelope, clearly stating the student’s name and the test/s they will be completing, before the closing date for entries.

Students will sit all tests at the school with results provided to the school later in the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Type</th>
<th>Entry Closing Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Date Test Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>1 May</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td>3rd June</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ANZAC Day March
Traditionally we march as a School Group together with other groups in our community at the Sandgate ANZAC Ceremony. All students are invited to march with our school on Saturday 25 April. Please ensure a full school uniform is worn with a school hat. No sports uniforms please

Assembling time will be: 8:30 a.m. with the march starting around 9:00 a.m. Please assemble in front of the RSL Building on Keogh St, Sandgate.

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)
This term as well as the continuing focus on our school rules, from week two we will be focusing on the teaching of social skills through the use of the ‘Focus Forty’ programme.

Some of the skills included will be things like:- lining up, how to introduce yourself/greet people, using manners & managing time, just to name a few.

The social skills focus will continue to be a focus across the school as well as will be linked to our ‘Gotchas’.

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

Ben Laws

P&C NEWS

The Mother’s Day Stall will be held on Thursday the 7th of May and we will have wonderful gifts for our Mums starting from 50c up to $5.00. The stall will be run all day. However, we will need some volunteers to help serve the children so if you can help out at any time, please contact me and let me know what time would suit you.

Your time would be greatly appreciated as it really helps if we can get at least 4 people working at all times throughout the day.

Thank you also to everyone for your fantastic support of the Fun Run last term. We managed to raise a just over $5000.00 this year which is an excellent effort for our School.

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.

**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](http://www.sucamps.org.au) and look for 'Winter Mapleton Adventure Camp'.

**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.

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**BRACKEN RIDGE SHS**

**EXPO 2015**

You are invited to attend our OPEN NIGHT on Tuesday 5 May at 4.30 p.m.

Events:  
4.30 p.m. Free sausage sizzle  
5.00 p.m. Tour of School  
6.30 p.m. Principal’s Address

Come along & experience Faculty Demonstrations, see our facilities, discuss life at Bracken Ridge State High School with current students and meet members of our teaching staff.

We look forward to seeing you there.
STUDENT COUNCIL DATES TO REMEMBER

STUDENT COUNCIL DISCO - WEDNESDAY 20 MAY - WHOLE SCHOOL - 3.30 P.M. - 5.00 P.M.

FREE DRESS DAY FOR CHAPLAINCY - THURSDAY 21 MAY - GOLD COIN DONATION.

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 WILL BE USING THESE BOOKS IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE. 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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