13 August, 2015

Principal's Column

We are now half way through the Term, and the time has flown by! The second half of the term will prove to be just as busy, with parent-teacher interviews, students completing assessment tasks, and School and Music Camps. Teachers are currently working hard to ensure that students are focussed on their continuous improvement. Our Teacher Aides are working behind the scenes to continuously support teachers to teach, and students to learn. We are indebted to their hard work and dedication.

Our Schools' Officer, Mr Sean Wallace has been dedicated to making our school look attractive, and to restoring and repairing our facilities and grounds. Our office staff, Mrs Elwynne Buckley, Mrs Nunzi Hyde, and Mrs Carol Fisher are continuously looking for ways to ensure that our school runs smoothly and how they can serve our school community efficiently and supportively.

Our Leadership Team, compromising of Mr Ben Robyne Harris and Ms Sam Hawton have been focussing support teachers to ensure that we are aiming for continuous improvement academically and social-emotionally. I wholeheartedly thank our wonderful team for the work they do at our school.

Data Meetings:

We have recently completed data meetings with all class teachers with myself, Mr Ben Laws, Acting Head of Curriculum, Robyne Harris, Head of Curriculum, Louise Celledoni, and Support Teacher: Literacy and Numeracy to examine and review all students' Reading Data.

The overall purpose of this data inquiry was to find out about collaborative Class Action Plans to improve students. Teachers were involved in analysing and interpreting data sets in Reading to:

- Track and monitor student performance, achievement
- Identify focus whole class, group learning needs
- Identify individual student learning needs
- Identify professional learning and coaching needs

Our work is based on the research of Sharratt and Fullan (2012) : Putting FACES on the Data. Sharratt and Fullan recognise that looking at student achievement data helps teachers to:

- Know the students (make our work about the students)
- Plan for them (align teaching strategies, specify strategies required for improvement)
- Ensure everyone knows they are responsible or “own”
- Assess progress widely and for individuals (understand if the processes and strategies we are using are having an impact)

At the end of the meeting, each teacher walked away with an Action Plan tailored for their class, that aimed at ensuring that every child is progressing in Reading. Myself and Ben will be following up with teachers to review the plan and the process towards the end of the term.

Learning Walks:

Over the next few weeks, Mr Ben Laws and I will conduct Learning Walks to discuss what students are learning and provide feedback to you. During our visits to classrooms, we will ask students the following:

- What are you learning?
- How are you doing?
- How do you know?
- What do you need to do to improve?
- Where do you go for help?

When we visit, we will interview 5 students about their learning feedback to students. Student feedback is incredibly powerful until we ask the students.
NAIDOC Assembly:
Thank you to Mr Ben Laws, Mrs Lizzie Knudsen and Mr Becky Bligh for their organisation of a moving NAIDOC Ceremony that celebrated and acknowledged our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people as our first Australians. Thank you to the parents who took the time afterwards.

Bramble Bay Athletics Carnival:
Congratulations to all our students selected who represented this week. Thank you to staff and parents who helped on selected to represent Bramble Bay at the Metropolitan North Carnival. Thanks Monique, Kani, Caleb and Caitlin Mc. Good luck to you all.

Melissa Burke

Deputy Principal’s Column

Classroom and Playground Behaviour Processes
At the beginning of this Term we rolled out updated Classroom and Playground Behaviour Processes across the school. The reason for introducing school wide processes for:

• Ensure consistency in the way all staff approach and manage behaviour
• Ensure that students understand how behaviour will be managed by every staff member
• Ensure that all stakeholders are on the same page
• Ensure there is a timely response to behaviour incident
• Developing a shared commitment in responding to behaviour

The differences that you will notice from the previous processes are, that if students are being issued with an Orange Card in the classroom, parents or carers should expect a phone call from their child’s teacher to discuss the event. Each week Ms Burke and myself will also be following up on behaviour data from the playground and making contact with parents of students whom are receiving multiple orange cards.

It is intended that by maintaining regular contact with parents, there can be a shared commitment by both the school and home to turn things around. The response from parents whom have been contacted already, has been overwhelmingly positive.

I would like to thank all families for their continuing support.

Before School Procedure
Recently there have been some concerns involving students’ behaviour. It is very important that the children who arrive from 8:00 a.m. onward from 8:15 a.m. everyday, the school has staff members on duty at this time as well as to help minimise any behaviour incident.

It is also very important that children are not arriving at school before 8:00 a.m. and if they are, they are attending Before School Care due to safety concerns.

Children are able to wait in the Year 1 Area (Under A Block) or the Year 2/3 Area (Under B Block), as long as they are in the direct supervision of a parent. Children should not be going to the tuckshop before school as well as waiting until the first bell at 8:40 a.m. to go.

The school certainly does appreciate all parental support with the above requests. As the overall intention is to ensure the safety of all children as well as a smooth transition into the classroom to focus on learning.

EVERY DAY COUNTS
EVERY DAY COUNTS because children achieve better when they attend school all day.
EVERY DAY COUNTS because going to school means a better chance at life.
EVERY DAY COUNTS because school helps children build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.
EVERY DAY COUNTS because going to school is a legal requirement.

What the Law says…

Under the law, you must make sure your child is enrolled and attending school on ALL school days unless you have a reasonable excuse.
You must not keep your child away from school for minor reasons.
Under the law, schools must monitor attendance of students unexplained absences.

What you can expect from the school ...

• Monitoring of student attendance;
• Following-up any unexplained absences as soon as possible;
• Effective teaching strategies to engage your child in learning;
• Strategies to help you to encourage your child to go to school.

Get involved in our P&C

Getting involved with a Parents & Citizens Association (P&C) many people may be unsure of how it works. If you’ve never t
P&C Executive Officers is a great way to get familiar with what sets out the roles and responsibilities of members in an easy-
Officers has been produced by the Queensland Council of Pa Queensland and is available for download from the Departme

Change of Details

Change of Details – Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency, we need to contact a parent as soon as possible. It is imperative that we have the most current contact phone numbers, address and email contacts for parents. If you have had a change, please notify our school of the change immediately.

Year 5 Camp

Year 5 Camp will be held from Wednesday 2nd September through to Friday 4th September held at the same venue as last year – Camp Somerset. Noti
and the documentation that needs to be returned before children can attend. Children’s participation in the camp will also be based upon meeting certain behaviour requirements, incorporating their attendance and attitude towards their learning. Continue to have discussions with the students around this.

Ben Laws

PARENTS PLEASE REMEMBER TO PAY FOR YOUR CHILD’S CHILDREN’S FOOTSTEPS PROGRAM. THE COST FOR THIS IS $13.65. PERMISSIONS FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU SO MUCH TO THOSE FAMILIES WHO HAVE ALREADY DONE SO AND ESPECIALLY TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SENT IN THE CORRECT CHANGE. YOUR HELP IN THIS MATTER IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

It’s dancing time again! The Student Council Disco will be held on Wednesday 19th August commencing at 3.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m. This will be a whole school disco. Come dressed as your favourite celebrity or just be your AWESOME SELF. Cost to enter is $3.00, Drinks will be $1.00 and Chips $1.50. So dust off those dancing shoes and join us for some fun. Perhaps students have learnt some great moves from participating in the Footsteps Program. I look forward to dancing with you there....

Will I Bee Focus

Advice from Will-I-Bee on controlling our anger.

When we feel frustrated with others at school, sometimes we can lose our temper and become very angry. We might feel like exploding and stinging others with cruel words and start fighting.

We can use our (Hive) High Five to help us when we feel angry. To help our bodies calm down we can breathe in slowly and deeply.

We can ignore others and walk away taking these big deep breaths.

http://publish.ne... 14/08/2015
Even bees can sting with their anger sometimes. It’s important to remember that we can always change our behaviour. 

Bee all you can be.
From your friendly, calm friend Will-I-Bee.
See you next time.

FROM THE P&C

Tuckshop News
If you have any suggestions for the tuckshop, please drop them into the tuckshop ladies at any time e.g. food item suggestions, allergies etc.

P&C News
There is so much happening at the moment that you can be a part of –

• We will be having a Spelling Bee in September. Please keep an eye out for the forms for this. It is this semester’s biggest fundraising event.

• Father’s Day stall is coming up. If anyone can help on the stall please let me know. Date for this will be confirmed.

• Woolworths- Collect the stickers. The more we get, the better.

• Aspley Hypermarket- If you are shopping at the Hypermarket, please place any docket into our school box located between Kmart and Coles for a chance to win $4000.

• CUA Community Grant- This is now open for voting. Visit the website and vote for our school listed under Bracken Ridge State School. Please vote for us using every email address you have.

• Grassroots- If you are looking to book a holiday, please go to this website and check out what they have available in the school office. You can also go to the website and book a holiday with our unique Grassroots code. For anyone who books a holiday with our code, we get a percentage back.

www.quickbeds.com/?grassrootscode=1692

• Education Experience Fundraising Catalogues have been sent down to Prep classes and there are some available in the school office. You can also go to the website to have a look through a catalogue. Remember it is never too early to start Christmas shopping.

Remember to pass this information onto family and friends as the more people involved the more we can get for our school.

Bronwyn Brown
P&C President/ Fundraising Coordinator
Bracken Ridge State School
mobile: 0402 459 164
email: brssfundraiser@optusnet.com.au

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Here is your unique Grassroots Code:

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Brisbane City Council Libraries

Exciting news, the Gold Star Reading Club program starts again in Council libraries across the city on Monday 1 June 2015 running for three months until the end of August.

• Membership to the Gold Star Reading Club is free.
• Register at your local library. Your child must be a library member to join Gold Star - library membership takes only a couple of minutes.
• Children will be rewarded for reading with exciting monthly incentives - a bookmark, coloured pencil kit and torch pen.
• All children can enter the monthly draw to win a $25 book voucher.
• Finally the Gold Star is a fun way to help children enjoy reading.

For more information about the Gold Star Reading Club, visit your local library or call Council on (07) 3403 8888.

1-2-3 MAGIC® & EMOTION COACHING

Learn:

• To engage your children’s cooperation by positively noticing and encouraging them.
• To set clear expectations and help them develop frustration tolerance.
• To help children’s brains develop filters for behaving well.
• To resolve family conflict quietly.
• Simple strategies to practice being a calm parent.

Learn to manage difficult behaviour in children 2-12 years old

A three-session program for parents and carers at the Positive Learning Centre
83 Gilston Street, Keperra
Held over three Wednesdays
26/08/15
02/09/15
09/09/15
Starting promptly at 6.00pm

Registration fee

The course costs $20.00 with book.
OFFICE NEWS

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

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO PURCHASE A ‘CARS’ READING BOOK IF THIS HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN DONE.

ALL YEAR LEVELS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE. STUDENTS ARE NOW USING THESE BOOKS IN CLASS.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL ONCE AGAIN WITH THE ‘CARS’ READING BOOK. YOU CAN PURCHASE LOTS OF EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AT THE SCHOOL STORE AT BRACKEN RIDGE. THIS PROMOTION RUNS UNTIL 8TH SEPTEMBER. PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM.

Earn_and_Learn_2015_School_Flyer_4.pdf

WIN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL AT THE ASPLEY HYPERMARKET

Bracken Ridge State School is now registered for the chance to win a share of $7,000 at the Aspley Hypermarket with the winning prize being $4,000!

The Promotional Period commences on Wednesday 22 July. Simply make a purchase at the Aspley Hypermarket Shopping Centre during the promotional period and drop your receipts into the allocated Bracken Ridge State School entry box located between Coles and Kmart at the Aspley Hypermarket. It’s that simple!

The School with the highest points will win. First Prize is $4,000, Second Prize is $2,000 and 3rd Prize is $1,000. If you are shopping at the Aspley Hypermarket, please support our school and encourage other family members and friends to do so as well.

CUA Community Care 2015

Stage one

Help Us Win $5,000 to Improve Our School

At Bracken Ridge State School we think it’s very important to encourage our students to lead active and healthy lifestyles. Through our participation in the adidas School Fun-Run – a healthy alternative to the traditional chocolate fundraising drives – we are eligible to enter a program called ‘CUA Community Care’ that gives us the chance to win $5,000 for a school or community project of our choice.

This program is a community-focused initiative from CUA, Australia’s largest customer-owned financial institution. Our project proposal is to upgrade the sandpit in the Year 2-3 Playground area.

We’re up against 12 other schools in the area to take out the $5,000 prize and as the winner will be determined by community voting - we need your votes!

Voting is open from 27 July – 24 August, and you can register your vote online at www.cuacommunitycare.com.au and in CUA’s Brookside branch.
branch vote. Also, voting is open to anyone so please feel free to get friends and families involved and voting. Please give us your support and help us win $5,000 to improve our school!

The Kookaburra Playgroup operates out of our Prep 3 Classroom on a Thursday morning from 9.00 – 11.00 a.m. They are currently looking for someone to take over the role of Playgroup Facilitator. Call Deidre Steyn on 0414 786 057.

Nicki's Decadent Delights specialises in delicious Coeliac Friendly, Gluten Free and Paleo baked products. We bake to orders, creating treats for all occasions! Whether a birthday is coming up or you would like a tasty treat on a Sunday afternoon, try a decadent delight! Call 0437827358 or email nickisdecadentdelights@gmail.com.

Parents please note that there is no parking in the school grounds as this endangers the safety of our students. Many thanks for your understanding in this matter.

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 '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.

1 Binburra Street
BRACKEN RIDGE, QLD 4017
07 3869 7888
07 3869 7800
mailto:the.principal@bracridgss.eq.edu.au
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