From The Principal - Bruce Robertson

"From little things, big things grow." It was wonderful to see an older sibling (and former student) come to the Years 4-6 assembly last week to show his support for his younger brother receiving the prestigious "Student of the Week" award.

Caden Atzeni graduated from Brookfield in 2011. He completed his secondary schooling at St Peter's Lutheran College where he achieved an OP1 and will begin a Law and Economics degree at the University of Queensland this year.

I enjoyed a brief conversation with Caden where he reflected on some of his primary school highlights, particularly a teacher who helped him to reach his potential. It’s very satisfying for staff at our school to catch up with past students and discover some of the amazing things they have accomplished.

Independent Public School (IPS)

Being an IPS means we partner with our school community to create and pursue a shared strategic direction that focuses on student wellbeing and improved student outcomes. We were successful in becoming an IPS on the basis of our ability to clearly demonstrate the ‘distance travelled’ in each year of our operation. While this affords us some operational flexibility to test new ways of working, it comes with an expectation that we are fully accountable to our community and the department and share innovative practice that lifts the performance of our school and other schools across the state.

One of the key features of IPS is innovating, trialling and sharing good practice. Using IPS funds, we established B Block as our Professional Collaborative Learning Centre (PCLC) with a focus on building teaching capability across the school and with other schools in our cluster. Professional learning opportunities are scheduled on Tuesday mornings to share innovative and high impact practices. Last year, a number of our teachers entered into agreements to explore innovation with the objective of increasing student engagement and improving learning outcomes. Already this year we have heard from Miss Hitzman and Miss Noonan on the outcomes of their ICT and Coding project, along with Mrs Allison who researched some of the strategies aimed at engaging boys to improve literacy outcomes. We look forward to our next session on Robotics with Mr Skehan and an Outdoor Learning Space presented by our year 3 team.

Christian Religious Instruction (RI)

From Tuesday 14 February, weekly lessons (30 mins) in the basic beliefs in the Christian faith will be offered at Brookfield State School in Years 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6. Further details on the curriculum and a consent form (only if opting in) are attached to this Banter. Information will be made available on the school’s website shortly.

If your child participated last year, they will automatically be enrolled again this year. If you nominated a Christian denomination on your child’s enrolment form, they will also attend Christian RI. All other students will need to bring in a signed consent form (attached) in order to participate.

Students who are not opted into Christian RI will complete other instruction and will be supervised in a separate learning space. Other instruction will relate to part of a subject area already covered in class and may include, but is not restricted to: personal research and assignments, independent reading, revision of class work such as literacy and numeracy activities and/or online programs currently accessed by the students (eg. Mathletics, Literacy Planet).
Please note that there will be the following annual cost to cover RI workbooks as follows:
Year 1 $5.25
Years 2 and 4 $3.95.
There will be no charge for all other year levels.
If you would like more information or you would like to discuss any aspect of the program in further detail, you may contact the RI coordinator, Karen Grenning, by email grenning@bigpond.net.au or on mobile 0408493421.

P&C Meeting
Our first meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday 14 February beginning at 7pm in B Block.
I look forward to meeting with past and new parents and welcome your company.

Thought for the Week
Unity is strength...
when there is teamwork and collaboration,

wonderful things can be achieved.

Mattie Stepanek
Have a great week!
Bruce
brobe66@eq.edu.au
Belong - Strive - Succeed

From the Deputy – Katie Lewis

BeLearning BYOD iPads 2017
Does your child bring an iPad to school? If so, have you updated their iPads with this year’s apps? Apps lists are available on our website. Please ensure apps are loaded to your child’s iPad and that their iPad is charged for school each day.

Have you returned your child’s Student Participation Agreement? If not, please endeavour to do so this week.

Thank you once again for your support of this exciting initiative.

Life Education
If you are interested in attending the FREE Parent Session held on Thursday 23 February at 1:45pm, please email admin@brookfieldss.eq.edu.au or call 3374 7333.

Junior Assembly
Our Junior Assembly is always a warm and inviting event, we love having parents join us for assemblies. We meet in the Hall and assembly runs every Thursday 1:50 - 2:30pm.

Our Most Respectful Class last week went to Year 2C, congratulations on your respectful behaviour during assembly.

Brookie Bear has spent the week with the students of Prep A, and we look forward to hearing about her adventures on assembly this week.

Medication - REMINDER
Medication forms need to be returned to the office by Friday 10 February, 2017 to ensure...
our medical records are up to date. It is an Education Queensland requirement, that we cannot administer medical aid unless these forms are provided to the school.

Hello from the SEP

Wow, doesn’t time fly? Week 3 already! Am I the only one still getting used to writing the date with the year 2017? Just a quick one to reintroduce myself. I am Grant Stephens the SEP Teacher here at Brookfield State School.

Brookfield State School promotes inclusion of students with disabilities through its inclusive Special Education Program (SEP). The role of the SEP is to support students and teachers in mainstream classroom settings.

The SEP room is still located upstairs in the middle of D Block, however our room has a new name. Formerly TORAC, the SEP room is now known as the Inclusive Education Centre (IEC). A name which better reflects the work which goes on there.

In addition to the change in room name, we have also had a change in staff. Mrs Sonya Blight will continue working as the SEP Teacher Aide on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. While we are joined by Mrs Mel Otto, who will be working as the SEP Aide on Friday afternoons.

I have had a chance to visit all classrooms and have been very impressed with how all the students have transitioned so smoothly into the new school year. This really comes as no surprise to me, considering the immense time and effort all of our staff put in to make our school as enjoyable, supportive and inclusive as possible.

As the term and year progresses I will keep you up to date with all the news and events coming from our SEP.

Grant Stephens
SEP Teacher

Resource Centre News

Library Legends Reward Tickets

This term, we will promote our Brookfield State School qualities of Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible through Library Legend Reward tickets. Students will receive tickets when they display our values and qualities in the Resource Centre during borrowing time. Each week some tickets will be drawn to receive a prize at each of the assemblies.

Student Borrowing

Student borrowing begins this week. Students are reminded that that the loan period is two weeks only. Prep – Year 3 will require a book bag each borrowing day to bring their books to and from school. These can be purchased from the uniform shop for $11 or a strong plastic bag brought instead. We look forward to a great year of reading for pleasure!

Happy Reading
Fiona Allison
Teacher Librarian
Scholastic Book Club

The first issue of Scholastic Book Club is now out with orders due back this Friday February 10th. For those not familiar with Scholastic Book Club, catalogues are sent home to all year levels twice a term offering a selection of books. They can be as little as $2 and vary across reading levels and interests. Orders usually arrive one to two weeks after the due date. Also, every parent order benefits the school by helping to earn free books and teaching resources but there is no obligation to purchase. Last year the school earned $1500 worth of resources.

Orders are only done online by going to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or by downloading the app from Apple or Google. No cash or cheque orders please and no need to return forms to the office.

Please note that when ordering, the Prep classes maybe at the bottom of the class list under ‘Foundation/K’.

If you have any questions, I am more than happy to help. Please contact me through bookclub@brookfieldss.eq.edu.au or on 0413 443 632.

Basketball Trials

West Akuna 12 yr Boys Basketball Trial

Boys who are turning either 11 or 12 this year and currently play club basketball who would like to trial for the West Akuna team please see Mr Skehan by Friday 10 February.

Thanks
Kieron Skehan

Cross Country Training

Cross country training is on a Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8am. Next Thursday, 16 February, we will be running over the school cross country course.

Please email lizelmoore@gmail.com if you require any further info.

Lizel Moore

Congratulations

On the weekend Angus B competed in the Brisbane Sprint Champs (swimming). He scored two personal best times to go on and win a silver medal in the boys 9yrs 50m Breaststroke. Well done Angus!

District Swimming Carnival

All the best to the following students who are competing in the West Akuna Swimming Carnival on Friday this week. Go Brookie!

Alec B  Finley TD
Alfie B  Georgina G
Angus B  Henry S
Ava S  Jessica H
Emma N  Kate N
Erica M  Kelly E
Evie W  Lucy H
Miranda M  Noah RdL
Reuben P
Sarah W
Thomas R
Vanna U
Zara K
Alex B
Connor F

Libby Wark
Our Sponsors:

Elementary Education: Brookfield Brumbies Playgroup

Would you like to join Lions and have:
- Fun
- Friends and
- Community Action

Join Mogill Family Lions, a branch of
Mogill McCrosky Lion Club

First Meeting: Friday 4th February, 11 am
Lions Park Education Place, Brisbane Rd, Currimundi, QLD 4551
Contact Jennifer Cooley on 0477 071453

For more information visit our website:

www.bellbowrie.ipswichhockey.com

FREE Come and Try day, 9am,
11 Feb.

RSVP on website to help ensure
enough coaches on the day

Or Contact us:
Girls-Ladies - Julie 0422 986 848
Boys-Men - Troy 0406 120 033

Or Email: bhc.strikers@gmail.com

Breakfast

6AM – LATE DAILY

Lunch

Wednesday 9-11am during school term times

Please contact Katie for further details - 0409774803

Fun family culture. Supportive
learning environment. Development
pathways into representative and
senior grades.

Players of all ages (from 3 years)

welcome.

Junior teams train at Bellbowrie
Sport and Rec fields. Games are
played at Ipswich hockey grounds
each weekend, generally Saturday
morning.

For more information visit our
website:

www.bellbowrie.ipswichhockey.com

Show your membership card and get 10% off the
cafe menu!