I was sitting attentively at a class information meeting earlier this week when a blast of adrenalin hit parents when they heard that Year 5 would visit St Helena Island later in the year. Immediately, fond memories came flooding back of great escapes in bathtubs and convicts swimming in shark infested waters.

Later that evening, parents were stung with a second dose of excitement, learning that Year 5 would study Storm Boy. This caused a commotion, but fortunately the teacher had the necessary skills to calm us down and complete the presentation.

Storm Boy and Blue Fin, by Colin Thiele, were two of my favourite books when I was growing up. Good authors engage you in the story and I lived every moment as the main character as I turned the pages in each of these books. It’s a great thing to be able to ask children about their favourite book.

To align with Valentine’s Day (without the romance) we have introduced “Library Lover’s Week” in the Resource Centre to celebrate literacy in general but also encourage reading for leisure and enjoyment. Mrs Allison has done a fabulous job with advertising around the school and running a variety of activities to accommodate all age groups.

If you get the opportunity, pop into the Resource Centre and have a look at the displays and the collective comments of students and staff on their favourite literature. Did you know that Ms Wendy Woods is a Wilbur Smith tragic? I only just discovered this myself as I also have the complete hardcover collection of his works. Now I better appreciate Ms Wood’s fascination with Egypt. See what you can discover this week!

P&C Meeting

There was terrific energy at the P&C meeting on Tuesday evening and it was lovely to see a number of fresh faces. Thank you to everyone in attendance as a number of positive ideas were presented for 2015. I hope many more will join us for the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 10 March to be held in B Block beginning at 7pm.

At the conclusion of last night’s meeting, our P&C president, Rachel Beitzel, announced her resignation. Rachel has been an integral member of our P&C over the past 4 years fulfilling the roles of secretary and more recently, president. I am well aware of the contributions our executive and committee members make and thank Rachel for her tireless work and leadership.

Car Parking

A map and instructions and has been handed to students today to explain the flow of traffic and parking requirements for the top car park. Please take a moment to familiarise yourself with these guidelines.

Please exercise common sense and patience in these areas to keep our students safe.
Student Leadership Positions

55 Year 6 students nominated for a leadership position and attended a workshop with Mrs Echberg and myself to consider the characteristics and attributes that would be necessary to fulfil our school student leadership roles. Following the workshop, students completed a written application. This application, along with input from staff members will now determine the short list of students moving into the final round.

I congratulate all students who have nominated for a position and wish them well.

School Voluntary Contributions

Thank you to those who have made a contribution. These funds will be used to enhance our school’s resources and services, ultimately benefiting your child.

Term Statements

Statements will be forwarded next week. These statements will have details of class excursions, district affiliation fees, interschool sport (Years 5 and 6 only) and other extracurricular activities. Your prompt payment is appreciated.

Thought for the Week

A single rose can be my garden... a single friend, my world.

Leo Buscaglia

Have a great week!

Belong - Strive - Succeed

Bruce
brobe66@eq.edu.au

From the Deputy – Katie Lewis

Parent Teacher Communication

We would like to thank all our families who attended the Parent Information Evenings held recently. These evenings provided a welcome opportunity for parents and teachers to meet and begin conversations about each student. We encourage regular communication between parents and teachers to ensure we continue to provide the best learning experience for all students at Brookfield.

To further assist with this regular communication, we have published our staff email addresses on the Brookfield State School website. These email addresses can be found under the ‘Our School’ tab in the ‘Our Staff’ link.

School playgrounds

For safety, students (and their younger siblings) are not to play on the play equipment before or after school. Please remind your children of this during drop off and pick up times.

Ice Blocks at Tuckshop

Please note: We do not encourage students to purchase food for their friends at tuckshop. We have noticed that some students, particularly in our junior school, have been purchasing ice blocks for their friends at lunch time. Our tuckshop volunteers will not allow students to buy multiple ice blocks over the counter to prevent this occurring.
Sun Smart Policy

Thank you for your suggestions as part of our review of the Sun Smart Policy. These changes were considered with the revised policy approved by the P&C at their meeting last night.

The updated Sun Smart Policy can be found on our website and will be effective immediately.

Please note: We have provided sunscreen for students and staff in each classroom. The sunscreen provided is a Banana Boat brand of SPF 50+ sunscreen, as approved by the Cancer Council. If your child has an allergy to this brand of sunscreen, please advise your child's teacher.

BeLearning Update

This year, we have significantly expanded our BYOD iPad classes, with 6 classes operating across years 2 – 6. Students and teachers are readily engaging with their iPads and using them effectively as a tool to enhance the learning experience.

If your child is in a BYOD iPad class, please be sure to remind them that their iPads are to remain in their bags to and from school, at all times. We do not encourage students to use their iPads whilst waiting before school or in Stop, Kiss and Go areas. This is to ensure the safety of the iPad whilst in the school grounds. Each classroom teacher has discussed their iPad use protocols with their classes and students in our early years have practiced safely transporting their iPads to and from their classroom.

Values Vouchers

This term, we will promote the Values for Australian Schooling and our Brookfield State School qualities of Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible through Values Vouchers. Students will receive "Values Vouchers" when they display our values and qualities in their playground behaviour and choices. Each week, Values Vouchers recipients will be drawn on assembly and will receive a prize to acknowledge their quality choices.

Our value for the week was ‘Respect’. Miss Noonan discussed the value with students on assembly, encouraging students to treat others with consideration and regard and to respect another person’s point of view.

Our Values Vouchers winners for the week were Grace B (3C) and Angus (3A) – well done! Grace and Angus receive a voucher for an ice block from the tuckshop. The Most Respectful Class on assembly this week went to Year 2C. Students in Year 2C showed respect by being on time to assembly, sitting with their legs crossed and paying attention to the speakers – well done students!

Have a wonderful week,
Katie
klewi114@eq.edu.au

Resource Centre News

Library Lovers’ Week

Around the world this week is Library Lovers’ Week when we celebrate libraries, books and reinforcing the importance of ‘reading for pleasure’.

There are lunchtime activities in the Resource Centre where students...
are writing love letters to our library, writing reflectively about their `Reading for Pleasure Selves' and contributing to a love letter to our fabulous Kenmore Library.

Teachers are telling us about their favourite series when they were in primary school and about their `reading- for-pleasure' selves too!

Parent Help Needed for Book Covering

Many thanks to our wonderful parents who are banding together in great team spirit to help to cover the 900 new home reading books we have purchased. If you are able to take books home books with contact already cut please pop into the Resource Centre. If you are able to cut contact during school time that would be fantastic too!

Happy Reading
Fiona Allison
Teacher Librarian

Christian Religious Instruction (CRI)

As part of an holistic, Education Queensland provides the opportunity for students to participate in Christian Religious Instruction (CRI) classes for 30 mins each week. These classes are run by approved teachers using authorised curriculums. These classes will recommence next Tuesday 16th February. If you would like further information about the program or to view the curriculum documents, then please contact the Co-Ordinator for our school, Mrs Karen Grenning. Further details are also available at www.whysre.com.au. Parents are very welcome to sit in on CRI lessons at any time. If you do not wish your child to participate in this program then please send a note to the classroom teacher.

Karen Grenning
CRI Co-Ordinator
Mobile: 0408493421
Email: grenning@bigpond.net.au

Music News

This week, some of our music groups started rehearsals and, by all accounts, have had a great turn out. Thanks to all of the parents for making such a great effort to get everyone there on time.

If you meant to come to Intermediate or Senior Choir but slept in / forgot / hadn't made your mind up yet, it isn't too late. Just come along next week and join us. We don't audition our choirs because we just want to encourage our children to sing and enjoy making a fabulous sound. Intermediate Choir (Years 3&4) is on Mondays at 8am in the Music Room, while Seniors (Years 5&6) rehearse on Tuesdays at 8am. We hope to see you all there.

We had a great response to the Expression of Interest for our marimba groups for 2015. Letters should be sent home next week offering positions and giving rehearsal times. Keep an eye out for yours.

Melissa McMillan
Classroom Music Teacher
Teacher Librarian

Our wonderful monitors read to students at first break.
Classroom Representatives

Thank you to the parents who have offered to be the classroom representative for their child’s class this year. As you can see from the table, there are still a large number of classes who need a Class Rep. These roles are vital in the communication chain within our school. We are hoping to have all the positions filled in the next week so if your child’s class is without a Class Representative, please think about nominating yourself or grab a friend and share the role. Being a classroom representative is a great way to meet other parents and is a really positive way to contribute to the smooth running of our school.

For more details on being a class representative contact Roanne Lemmon-Warde on rojolw@gmail.com or 0434 909 392.

A huge thank you to the following parents who have nominated to be our Class Representatives for 2015.

Roanne Lemmon-Warde

Scholastic Book Club

Orders for Issue 1 will close this Friday 13th February. By putting in an order from Issue 1, your class will be entered into a draw to win a year’s supply of books! Also, there is a chance of finding Golden Tickets worth $2, $5, $10 or $20 in your Issue 1 books when they arrive. See the attached flyer on how to order. NO cash is accepted, LOOP (online) payments only please! Contact me with any questions or to make alternative pick up arrangements for your order through bookclub@brookfieldss.qld.edu.au or 0413 443 632.

Thank you!
Nicola Hile

PCYC News

Hi Everyone!

Wow what an exciting couple of weeks here at PCYC. We have been busy meeting new children and families and are glad to see our new prep children settling in nicely. We would like to share with you some exciting things taking place in our centre this term.

− Planning activities that incorporate the children’s interests, skills and hobbies. Children contribute to our planning cycle and are the key stakeholders when it comes to writing our programs. We would like some more parent input though. If you have any requests on what we do here, let us know and we will incorporate it.
− Homework club on Mondays means the children have access to a staff member who has completed a bachelor degree in education so that your child receives the best available help.
− Cooking, gardening, art and craft, music, dance, outdoor sports and games are incor-
 incorporated into our weekly program
- Child Carers program is up and running which allows parents direct information about what their child is doing at our centre
- Our menu is continuously changing and we aim to make food healthy and delicious.

Please see our menu below as well as our planned activities for this week attached (Please note we have space for children negotiated activities on the day and spontaneous play to be captured.)

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Asking For Donations

We are asking for any plants or herb donations that could be used in our gardening projects this term as well as any old boxes (no toilet rolls) can be put to good use in our reverse garbage for the children’s craft.

If you wish to take a tour of the service or have any queries about enrolling your child, please do not hesitate to talk to Kristy at the centre or on 3374 2107 or via email brookfieldsac@pcyc.org.au

Have a great week!

Kristy Nuttall
OSHC Coordinator

URGENT 2015 Burger Bar Co-ordinators Needed

Unfortunately we were unable to run the Burger Bar last Friday night as we no longer have Burger Bar co-ordinators. We are desperately looking for a volunteer / team of volunteers to hand the Burger Bar tongs over to for 2015 and keep this iconic monthly tradition going. This really can be a fun event for a group of friends who would like to contribute to the school by assisting in organising the Burger Bar once a month.

The Burger Bar has proven to be both an incredible fundraiser for the school, (raising about
$8000 each year) and a great social event where both the school and broader community gather in an informal environment. Burger Bars are held on the first Friday of the Month from February to November. The Burger Bar is operated in conjunction with the Brookfield Show Society that provides a licensed bar and live music.

Gregg Warren will be continuing in his role of ordering meat, salad items, bread/rolls the week of the Burger Bar and collecting the orders on the day.

So the duties as the Burger Bar Co-ordinators each month will only be to:

- Liaise with the allocated Class Rep for the month done via email
- Liaise with the Brookfield Show Society as required
- Purchase additional items as required eg. ice blocks, float etc. - all other items are to be donated by the allocated class
- Place notices in the Banter via email.

Our next Burger Bar is scheduled for Friday 6th March so if you have a group of fun-loving social friends who are interested in taking on this valuable and rewarding role for our school, please contact Roanne Lemmon-Warde on rojolw@gmail.com or 0434 909 392.

Roanne Lemmon-Warde

Before School Sport

Cross country training will be on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings at 8am. All welcome.

Lizel Moore
lizelmoore@gmail.com

TERM 1 - KIDS YOGA

WHEN: Friday Mornings
TIME: 8.00 – 8.40pm
WHERE: Brookfield State School - Music Room
BRING: Yoga Mat
COST: FREE!

You are invited to bring the kids along to learn a range of traditional yoga poses, breathing techniques and relaxation practices through music, songs, stories and fun interactive games. It’s a great way for children to balance their thoughts, connect with their true nature and build strength and flexibility in their bodies and minds.

The benefits of yoga are numerous and super easy to experience in a fun and happy kids class. Parents are welcome to participate or stay and view the sessions (feel free to volunteer any support if you can). I look forward to meeting some of you then.

For more info call Janine Lee on 0407 698 277.