From The Principal - Bruce Robertson

Sweltering heat saw temperature records tumble across Queensland on Sunday, just as our Brookfield Swim Team created history by winning the overall champion school at the West Akuna District Swimming Trials last Friday. This is the first time Brookfield has won the carnival. We finished on 129 points followed by Kenmore South on 107 and Fig Tree Pocket in third with 102 points.

There were some outstanding individual achievements by the team; Zara K and Lucy H finished 1st, Henry S 2nd, and Kate N and Angus B finished 3rd in each of their respective age groups. Congratulations to all members of the team and thank you to the parents who supported and assisted Mrs Libby Wark on the day. See the full details in Libby’s article.

2017 Student Leaders

I met with Year 6 students on Tuesday and congratulated them on their interest and nominations for a student leadership position. It’s wonderful to see so many students apply for a position and although it can prove to be disappointing for a number of them, I hope the experience will motivate students to consider other opportunities that will undoubtedly present themselves in the future.

Our student leaders for 2017 are:

School Captains: Kelly Eekhout & Tom Graetz
School Vice-Captains: Georgie Gilroy & Jarra Breaden
Lawson Captains: Rory Ryan & Ronan Hile
MacKellar Captains: Calli-Mae Skehan & Ray Chow
Paterson Captains: Emma Neilson & Thomas Richman
Environmental Captains: Kate Marsden & Will Phillips
Technology Captain: Bobby Hamilton
Choir Captain: Jessica Harrison
Strings Captain: Alena Teh- Kobe
Band Captain: Haley Coltham

The presentation of student leadership badges will take place on Monday 20 February at 9am in the school hall. The Hon. Jane Prentice MP will be in attendance to congratulate the student leadership team. Parents will be invited to pin the leadership badge on their child during the ceremony.

The student leadership team will attend a day, “Imagination”, at the Brisbane Convention Centre on Monday 13 March with over 2000 young school leaders from across Queensland and northern New South Wales. Congratulations to our student leadership team.
2017 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)
ICAS is a skills development assessment program in key areas of learning for students in Years 2 -12. The assessments include Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing. These are highly valued tests and results can be used for entry into scholarship, gifted and talented and learning extension programs.

ICAS assessments are offered by the University of New South Wales and have taken place annually for over thirty years. The assessments are conducted at school in a supervised 30-60 minute test. Achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels: High Distinction (top 1%), Distinction (next 10%), Credit (next 25%), Merit (next 10%) and Participation (all other students).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS SUBJECT</th>
<th>ICAS SITTING DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies (Years 3-11)</td>
<td>Tuesday, 23 May 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science (Years 2-12)</td>
<td>Tuesday, 30 May 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing (Years 3-12)</td>
<td>Monday, 12 June – Friday, 16 June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling (Years 2-7)</td>
<td>Wednesday, 14 June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English (Years 2-12)</td>
<td>Tuesday, 1 August 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics (Years 2-12)</td>
<td>Tuesday, 15 August 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A rich diagnostic report is also provided pinpointing the student’s strengths and providing information comparative to national performance.

Registration for these tests will be taking place in the coming weeks. The entry fees range from $9 to $18. The school will only provide one opportunity for students to enter as it takes a considerable amount of time to do a school order. Once the deadline closes, there will not be another opportunity to enter through the school. Test dates are as follows:

I personally supervise these tests and encourage students to participate should they feel comfortable enough to challenge themselves. Further details are available on the ICAS website: [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about)

Religious Instruction (RI)
The RI curriculum is now available for perusal at the school office:
Year 1 Beginning with God;
Year 2 and Years 4/5 GodSpace; and
Year 6 Big Questions

**Thought for the Week**
If it doesn’t challenge you,
It doesn’t change you.

Anon

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Camden S
Alexander M
Kai R
Eden P
Martha F
Daisy H-R
Oliver K
Kaizen W

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From the Deputy - Katie Lewis

Reading, Reading, Reading
In 2017, we have sharpened our focus on reading as part of our explicit improvement agenda. We are working towards consistency in our Guided Reading strategies across the school, with the support of Mrs Rebecca Moore. Rebecca will be working with teachers and students throughout the year to ensure all teachers are implementing Guided Reading lessons as part of their daily literacy blocks.

The support of our parent volunteers is vital in enabling our teachers and teacher aides to work with small groups of students for reading each day. Thank you to all of our parent helpers! If you are able to offer any time to support your child’s teacher, please be sure to touch base with them to arrange a time that suits.

To further support our focus on reading, we encourage parents to read at home EVERY night with your child. Read with them, read to them, have them read to you….read, read, read!

Keeping cool in our air conditioned classrooms
We are always very grateful for the work of the P&C and perhaps no more so than over the last few weeks. Through the support of our P&C we have been able to air condition ALL of our classroom learning spaces, providing teachers and students with a cool and comfortable environment and maximising potential for learning. Thanks to the P&C for keeping us cool!

Free Microsoft Office 2016 for students
All Queensland state school students can now download multiple free copies of the latest Microsoft Office to their personal home computers and mobile devices.
With Office 2016, students and staff will have access to the latest version of Word for writing, Excel for spreadsheets, PowerPoint for presentations, OneNote for organisation and note taking and much more.

Students will need to use their school email address to sign in. The subscription lasts for as long as they are a Queensland state school student.

It is important to note that Office 2016 is available for personal devices only.

To download Office 2016 to PC or Mac, visit www.portal.office.com, log in using your school email address, click through to install and follow the on-screen process. For tablets and smartphones, download from the app store and sign in with your school email address. Detailed instructions are available at www.education.qld.gov.au/office2016.

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 from Thursday 1:50 – 2:30pm.

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

Brookie Bear has spent the week with the students of 1A, and we look forward to hearing about her adventures on assembly this week.

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

West Akuna District Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all the students who attended the West Akuna District Swimming Carnival on Friday last week. Everyone swam so well and cheered each other on so well. Thank you to Shameem Khan who managed the Brookfield Team, making sure no one missed a race!

Here are the Age Champion results from the Carnival.

1st, 11yrs girls - Zara K
2nd, 10yrs boys - Henry S
3rd, 10yrs boys - Angus B
3rd, 10yrs girls - Kate N
2nd (tie), open girls Lucy H
2nd (tie), open girls Zara K

Congratulations to the following students who have made it into the District Team to go on to swim at the Regional Trials.

Angus B
Lucy H
Zara K
Kate N
Thomas R
Henry S

Finally - the Overall Winning School this year was......
BROOKFIELD STATE SCHOOL!!!

Well done all our Brookfield swimmers and their parents who take them to all their training sessions!

Libby Wark

SEP News

Hello again from the SEP. I hope everyone is keeping cool in this warm weather. Just letting you know the Inclusive Education Centre (IEC) is now open during first break playtime from Monday to Thursday.

The IEC is located in the middle of upstairs D Block. It is a safe, quiet and calm space SEP students and their friends can come during first break playtime to join in supervised structured activities. It is a room open to all students and is incredibly popular, particularly in these warmer months.

Due to the IEC’s popularity with other students, all SEP students (and some of our regular customers) have been given a “golden ticket” to attend the IEC during first break playtime. This will give them (and a friend) priority access to the IEC, especially when it is busy. This means no SEP student will be turned away, should they wish to take part in the organised activities.

Does my child have to use the IEC at first break playtime? No. Not at all. It is a space that is open to everyone and promotes inclusion through structured social skill activities.

What types of activities will be happening in the IEC? Glad you asked:

Monday: Digital literacies with iPads
Tuesday: Collaboration skills with Board Games
Wednesday: Artisan and craft activities
Thursday: Manual Fabrication (hands on construction)

The IEC is open to everyone, with a cap put on numbers to keep things orderly. You never know who you will see in the IEC.

Grant Stephens
SEP Teacher

Resource Centre News

The Big New 60 - New Book Release This Week

We have 60 new fiction books hitting the shelves this week including new series and additional titles of existing popular series including Aaron Blabey’s The Bad Guys. They’ll go fast so students should come in early to stake their borrowing claim at the back display bulletin board!

Leaders and Legends Week - Week 5

Next week we are getting to know what our Year 6 School Leaders look like by their photos on the pin board display. Students can get to know them at first break at the Resource Centre while they lead games and activities on the verandah including giant chess, colouring, mural-making and reading to students.

We are highlighting leadership qualities students can show in the playground, in class and anywhere. We are also remembering how to show leadership in the library by earning a Library Legend reward ticket.

Read and be touched.
Fiona Allison
Teacher Librarian
School Banking 2017 .... On a Friday

Hi school bankers! Last week was a great week with 39 students making deposits into their youth saver bank accounts.

School banking day is on a Friday when the teachers collect the deposit books and I redistribute them at the start of the following week. Please remember to fill in the deposit slips with the correct 12 digit account number which includes the relevant BSB code.

After 10 deposits students you can choose a reward. You can see what rewards are available by looking online but you will still have to order through me as the School Banking Coordinator. Currently in Term 1 the rewards include Colour Change Markers, a Cyber Handball, a Money Box and a Bag Tag.

Dominique Eza

TUCKSHOP

We have been friends for a while and because we both have busy lives and live a couple of hours apart we don't get to see each other much. SO... when we discovered before Christmas that we both had a little grandchild at Brookfield State School and it was a good half way meeting spot for us we thought we could do tuckshop together if we were ever able find a day that we were both free. Last Thursday was the day we duly turned up, not quite sure what we were in for.

WELL what a pleasant surprise was in store for us! It would be 25 years since we did tuckshop back in the days when you wrote your order on a brown paper bag, things have progressed more than a little since then. Susan greeted us with much enthusiasm and appreciation and she is just The BEST ‘Boss’ you could ever ask for. She has a brilliant balance of keeping a high standard (and absolutely minimal wastage) without hovering over us making us feel we might not be doing it quite right. We were kept pretty busy but had plenty of laughs and our grandchildren (Prep and Grade 1) loved having us there. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience and we have signed up again.

If you are not able to do a full day you have the option of morning or afternoon shift or doing some baking - any help will be appreciated. We do encourage you to contact Sue robinandsusan8@bigpond.com or call in and see her in the Uniform Shop on a Monday or Tuckshop on a Wednesday - Friday, and put your name down to help her. Perhaps other grandmothers or special family friends might consider it too? Sue runs a fantastic operation, she is Mega Efficient but even she can't do it all on her own and does rely on people coming to help her and we guarantee you will enjoy being part of Tuckshop..... and what's more it is even air-conditioned!!

Elizabeth and Annelise

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PCYC

This year is well underway and we are set into our routines. The homework club is well underway, we run the home work club every day for a short time. We provide the time, space and resources for the children to work on their home work in the quiet.

If you would like your children to do their homework during after school care please talk to the staff.

If your child is booked into before or after school care and attends any extracurricular activity you must fill in a "Child Activity Escort Form". Without the correct form we cannot allow your child to leave the service.

This month has been a settle in month for all our new children and families. With all the children now following the routines that we have.

Big on the program has been the outdoor environment. Team sports are also very popular, including soccer, cricket and tiggy.

Today I am happy to release our vacation care program for the April holidays. This will be emailed out to all our current families as well as the booking sheet. These forms are also available from the service.

If you have any suggestions or ideas on how we can improve the service we provide please don’t hesitate in contacting us at PCYC.

Until next time, have an awesome week.

From Andrew and the team

West Akuna Trials

Boys 12 yr AFL and Soccer Trials.

Please contact Mr Skehan by Friday 17 February if you are interested in either of these trials. Please note that the soccer trial is limited to only 4 students per school. If there are more than 4 students who are interested in trialling a selection process will occur in consultation with our P.E teacher, Ms Wark and Mr Robertson. The soccer trial is very competitive in the last 3 yrs Brookfield has only had 1 student selected in the boy’s district team.

Information about all trials is placed outside the 5A room on the 'West Akuna Wall'.

Kieron Skehan
5A Class Teacher
Email: kskeh2@eq.edu.au

BUSH DANCE BUSH DANCE BUSH DANCE

Save the Date ---- Friday 24th March 2017!!

Be there, or be square--dancing.
Bring the family down to the Brookfield Showgrounds this Friday night (17th February) for the Brooky Bite Nite AND Kids Disco. Gates open at 5pm. The Brookfield Members’ Bar will be open for beverages. www.brookfieldshowground.com.au