Do you have a favourite book?

When I was considerably younger I quite liked “Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day” by Judith Viorst. I am quite disturbed to learn it was first published in 1972, but I obviously didn’t read it until several years later.

From the moment Alexander wakes up things just did not go his way. As he gets up, the chewing gum that was in his mouth the night before winds up in his hair. When he gets out of bed, he trips on his skateboard and drops his jumper into the sink while the water is running. At breakfast, his brothers, Anthony and Nick, reach into their cereal boxes and find amazing prizes, while he ends up with just cereal.

In the car on the way to school, he doesn’t get a window seat. His teacher doesn’t like his picture of the invisible castle, criticises him for singing too loudly and leaving out 16 when counting in multiples. His friend, Paul, deserts him for his third best friend and there is no sweet snack in his lunch box. The dentist tells him he has a cavity (and thus Alexander is the only one who had one) and he has to come back next week so it can be fixed; the elevator door closes on his foot; Anthony pushes him into a mud puddle; Nick says he is a crybaby; he punches Nick in response, and their mother punishes him for being muddy and for trying to punch Nick.

At the shoe store, they’re out of Alexander’s choice of sneakers, so his mother has to buy him plain white ones, which he refuses to wear. At his father’s office, he makes a mess of things when he fools around with everything there (the photocopier, the books, and the telephone), getting to the point where his dad tells the family not to pick him up anymore.

At bedtime, the bulb in his lamp blows; he bites his tongue; Nick takes back a pillow he said he could keep; and the cat chooses to sleep with Anthony. It really was a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day!

A running gag throughout the book is Alexander repeating several times that he wants to move to Timbukto because he thinks it’s better there. It ends with his mother’s assurance that everybody has bad days, even those who live in Timbukto.

This was one of my favourite books because I could relate to Alexander and his two horrible brothers. It probably also had something to do with my mum tucking me in at night and being the last person to say goodnight. Plus, I hated kissing on TV when I was Alexander’s age!

Our Book Week festivities kicked off on Monday and Mrs Allison and her team in the Resource Centre are doing a brilliant job in raising our reading profile. “Books Light up our World” is the theme for Children’s Book Week 2015 and the planned activities over the next two weeks provide plenty of opportunities for all students to share and shine. The festival will culminate with dressing up as a favourite book character at a whole school assembly next week on Thursday 27 August beginning at 9am.

Next time you are sitting around the dining table as a family, you might like to delve into a deep and meaningful conversation about your favourite books and discuss the plot and characters with others.
NAPLAN

It was great to be able to share our school's NAPLAN results at our recent P&C and School Council meetings. I have included some of the graphs as attachments with today's edition of the Banter. The graphs show our school's achievement (mean score) against like schools, the nation and Queensland. Our P&C President, Victoria Brown, and newly elected Council Chairperson, Jeff Hunt, were quick to pass on their congratulations to staff for the high levels of achievement and overall improvement.

We are unapologetic about our focus on Literacy and Numeracy. The table below shows our Year 3 Reading and Writing NAPLAN mean scale scores compared to a number of local state and independent schools. These results are very promising and clearly demonstrate our high yield strategies are paying dividends.

Most of the local state schools listed are the highest performing schools in our cluster, along with a couple of schools that receive considerable media coverage showing parents camping out to enrol their child at the school.

Yes NAPLAN is point in time testing, however, these results are worthy of celebrating.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year 3 2015 NAPLAN Mean Scale Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookfield State School</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapel Hill State School</td>
<td>482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenmore South State School</td>
<td>491</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pullenvale State School</td>
<td>482</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fig Tree Pocket State School</td>
<td>505</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indooroopilly State School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ascot State School</td>
<td>460</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brisbane Boys College</td>
<td>477</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somerville House</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Aidan’s</td>
<td>529</td>
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<td>St Peter’s</td>
<td>484</td>
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<td>OLR</td>
<td>462</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ipswich Girls Grammar</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ipswich Grammar</td>
<td>480</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Influenza Outbreak

Please be mindful of sending a sick child to school. The flu is prevalent at the moment so all students are encouraged to exercise good hygiene practices.

Service Learning

Three groups have visited the Tarry Brae Hostel on consecutive Tuesdays. The residents of Tarry Brae look forward to these visits and our students are enjoying the experience of their interactions and discussions.
Strive to be Kind

Mr and Mrs Dickie called in last week, following up from “Strive to be Kind” day. They asked me to express their thanks for our school raising almost $800 for Allison’s Gift Foundation. Well done!

ICAS

The suite of ICAS tests for 2015 is over. We had more than 300 entries for the Digital Technologies, Spelling, Writing, English, Science and Mathematics competitions. These tests are very challenging and I was most impressed with the determination and positivity our students demonstrated. Results from the recent competitions should be returned to us shortly and will be promptly distributed to students.

Free Dress Friday throughout August

Mrs Carolyn Parsons has been engaged to work with Year 6 students on an Art Project. The money raised from these free dress days will go towards purchasing the necessary materials to complete the project.

Students are reminded to wear sun-smart clothing and have their school hat. Student leaders will visit classrooms to collect a gold coin from those participating.

Thought for the Week

If you focus on results, you will never change.
If you focus on change, you will get results.

Jack Dixon

Have a great week!

Bruce
brobe66@eq.edu.au

From the Deputy – Katie Lewis

PAT Testing – Reading Comprehension

Last week, all students in Years 2 to 6 completed a PAT Reading Comprehension Test. Students complete these tests each year and it provides us with a reliable form of data to track their progress throughout their schooling. This year, we completed the tests in the new online format and utilised our school iPads to facilitate this. Completion of the tests online enables a more rapid turnaround of the data and a more comprehensive data analysis process to occur. Teachers use this data to further inform their teaching and to set appropriate learning goals for students.

Book Week Assembly

Have you got your costume ready for Book Week??

We will be having a special whole school assembly in Week 7 – Thursday 27 August at 9am. This will include our usual assembly items along with special Book Week Awards presented by Mrs Allison and the opportunity for students to parade in their Book Week costumes.
This is always a wonderful celebration of books and reading and we love having parents join us to view all of the fabulous costumes.

We hope you can join us at 9am in the Hall on Thursday 27 August for this assembly.

**Prep Orientation Morning**

As I am sure you have read, the Prep 2016 Orientation Day is on Friday 21 August (I am sure many of you remembering attending last year!).

Our current Preppies are our special helpers on the day and show the future Preppies their classrooms and play with them in the playground. We are requesting that all current Prep students wear their full school uniform on Friday 21 August (as opposed to Free Dress Friday) to assist us with ease of identification of current and future Prep children.

Can you please make a note of this on your calendars now - **Friday 21 August: 2015 Prep children to wear school uniform** - thank you for your support.

If you are attending our Orientation Morning on **Friday 21 August from 9:30am**, please be sure to RSVP your attendance to: admin@brookfields.eq.edu.au or by phoning (07) 33 747 333.

**Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful**

Our “Gotcha” winners from weeks 4 and 5 were Michael (1A), Jacob K (PB), Henry (1A) and Alira (1A) congratulations! The Most Respectful Class went to Mrs Kienzle and Prep D in week 4 and to Miss Noonan and Year 1C in week 5 – these students were sitting and listening with respect throughout the assembly, well done!

Nota bene: Have a wonderful week,

Katie

**Music News**

Next Wednesday, our Junior Choir, Senior Band, Senior Strings and Senior Choir will be performing at our annual Senior Citizens’ Concert. We have guests coming from three local retirement villages, as well as a great number of school families coming to be entertained by some of our best and brightest. We are still in need of some parent helpers to assist with the morning tea held after our concert. If you are able to lend a hand, please email Melissa McMillan (mmcmi10@eq.edu.au) so that we are able to plan ahead. Thank you to everyone who has already offered help for this wonderful community event.

Don’t forget that our Junior and Intermediate Choirs are singing at the Brookfield Uniting Church Country Markets on Saturday September 12. Keep an eye out for emails with further details coming home soon.

**Parent-Teacher Interviews**

Parents are encouraged to book in for an interview with their child’s teacher. We conduct these interviews to enable us to communicate with parents regarding student progress and plan for the term ahead to improve student outcomes.

- **When:** End or Term 3 or beginning of Term 4 (see below)
- **Duration:** 10-15 minute interviews
- **Where:** Individual Classrooms
- **How:** [Follow this link](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/)
5B parent/teacher meetings will be offered in both Term 3 and Term 4. If there is no availability in one term please check the other.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep A - Mrs Michele Higgins</th>
<th>2A - Mrs Kirsty Cunnington / Mrs Lisa McKay</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep B - Ms Tracey Spies</td>
<td>4C - Mrs Jodie Drew</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep C - Mrs Rachel Beitzel</td>
<td>5B - Mr Kieron Skehan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep D - Mrs Melinda Kienzle</td>
<td>6A - Ms Hilary Evans / Mrs Libby Wark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A - Mrs Margie Dixon / Mrs Leah Cathcart</td>
<td>6B - Mrs Fiona Echberg / Mrs Margie Dixon</td>
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<tr>
<td>1B - Mrs Bev Wilson / Mrs Robin Kerr</td>
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<td>1C - Ms Bernice Noonan</td>
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<td>2B - Mrs Steph Weigel</td>
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<td>2C - Mrs Alicia Nembach</td>
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<tr>
<td>3A - Mrs Nola Cullhane / Mrs Christine Gourlay</td>
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<tr>
<td>3B - Miss Kristine Koerper</td>
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<tr>
<td>3C - Mrs Fiona Ryan / Mrs Rebecca Moore</td>
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<tr>
<td>4A - Miss Sally Woods / Mrs Teale Jooste</td>
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<tr>
<td>4B - Mrs Tracy Findlay</td>
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<tr>
<td>5A - Miss Wendy Woods / Mr Brad Hume</td>
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<tr>
<td>5B - Mr Kieron Skehan</td>
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<td>5/6 - Mrs Deb Minczanowski</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

5B parent/teacher meetings will be offered in both Term 3 and Term 4. If there is no availability in one term please check the other.

Steph Weigel
Resource Centre News

Author Visit – Pat Flynn

The students all greatly enjoyed having author Pat Flynn entertain and inform them in such a humorous way during his sessions on Friday. Students loved talking into his microphone and him bringing his books to life with songs, plays and readings. Students were given excellent writing tips such as ‘take something important away from your main character’ and ‘put someone up against something or someone that’s tough to beat’. We’re looking forward to some wonderful entries in the Short Story Competition!

Book Week Assembly Next Week

The Book Week Assembly is now changed to a full school assembly for all year levels next Thursday at 9:00 am. All students enjoy dressing as their favourite book character for the day!

Premier’s Reading Challenge

Reading Record Sheets for the Premier’s Reading Challenge are due next Friday August 28 when the reading period closes. Please hand them into the office. We
look forward to students receiving their certificates from the Premier for their excellent reading efforts!

Sport News

All the best to the following athletes competing next week in the Met West Regional Athletics Carnival:


RSPCA Cupcake Day

A big thank you to everyone for donating money to the RSPCA! We have raised $517.40! That will be a big help for a lot of animals in need.

Father's Day Breakfast

Dads, Granddads and Friends... come and see your children's work and spend some time with them in an informal setting in their classroom, followed by some delicious muffins and tea or coffee on the Library Veranda. This will be happening on Friday 4th September at 8:30am. Cost is $7 per adult. This is a very special catered event, so to ensure quick entry and to enjoy every minute, we encourage you to purchase your tickets in advance. Please RSVP by placing your booking sheet in the ALL RETURNS BOX at the office, along with your payment by Friday 28th August.

Parking will be available on the School Oval that morning for the Dads and Granddads that will be attending the breakfast.

Brookfield Fun Run and Community Fun Day

Thank you to everyone who participated in and supported the family fun run and end of year cross country celebration in honour of Lizel Moore at the Tennis Centre. It was a very successful day and lots of fun was had by all.
Tennis Trials

Tennis Trials for the Inter Schools Challenge that will be held in the fourth term.

We are excited to announce that The Inter Schools Challenge will be held in the 4th term against approximately 9 other Western Suburbs schools on a Sunday. We have been running play-offs at the various squads over the past few weeks and will also be taking into consideration results from our school tournament held earlier on as well as from our holiday clinic. We will be holding additional trials on the following dates during first break at 11am:

**Green Ball:** Friday 21st August at 11am (Years 5 and 6)
**Orange Ball:** Friday 28th August at 11am (Years 3 and 4)
**Red Ball:** Tuesday 1st September at 11am (Prep to Year 2)

Please can you let me know whether your child will be trialing so that I can ensure they are there. For the Red ball if you let me know the names, I will collect the kids from their classrooms as the bell rings.

If your child is looking at trialling for the Orange Ball Team, they need to be able to serve over the net.

Please email me on rojolw@gmail.com or contact me on 0434 909 392 if you have any queries.

Roanne Lemmon-Warde

**WORKING BEE – DATE CLAIMER – Sunday 13TH SEPTEMBER**

Please put aside Sunday 13th September from 8am until 12pm to join our annual Working Bee. Our school relies on this event to boost our beautiful facilities, and increase awareness of our environment. The P & C have been lucky enough to receive a NRMA environmental Grant to help re-vegetate the area above our tennis courts to stop soil erosion and runoff.

This event also provides a great social time to catch up with friends (old and new). The P & C will be providing a sausage sizzle and drinks to make sure everyone is well fed and hydrated throughout the morning. Please could we ask that you let either myself or your class rep know whether you will be able to assist for a couple of hours, so that we know how many people to cater for. Kids are very welcome to come along and help out too.

We have a long list of jobs that need to be attended to such as mulching, planting & weeding.

We will be needing additional tools to help us with these jobs, so it would be much appreciated if you could bring any of the following: wheelbarrows, mulching and gardening forks, crowbars, matics, garden spades both big and small, post hole diggers,( personal gloves, hats, water bottles). Look forward to seeing you and catching up.

Thanking you from the Brookfield P & C

**August P&C Meeting Update**

Highlights from last week’s P&C meeting:

- We are investigating a water bubbler for the seniors’ area near D Block.
- Children’s crossing on Boscombe Rd - Meetings have occurred with members
from Qld government and Brisbane city council to explore road crossing options. The school has been advised it is not viable to have a zebra crossing. Bruce and Calliope will continue to explore various road safety options. Calliope liaising with Main Roads regarding painting of car park lines in the 2 minute drop off zone. Bruce meeting with Chris Rowan to provide an update and discuss.

- Positive Behaviours Programs - Agreement that we should support a positive behaviour program that is linked to our culture and values. Discussed supporting parenting workshops aimed at building kind, confident, capable and resilient children. Must be aligned to school behaviour program and have a direct link with teachers. Agreement to pursue the possibility of hosting and inviting other schools in the community and to look at scheduling for best outcomes, possibly holding the parenting workshops in first term next year. This will be discussed as part of the broader school culture at the School Council Meeting.
- Cybersafety parent sessions - Katie to investigate programs and possible speakers.
- Funds raised for the year our Thermometer is now at $44,250. Will send out another opportunity for families to make voluntary contributions to the general account and/or building fund.
- Bruce presented and discussed Brookfield’s Naplan results and trend data. Great data and very impressive results!
- Tuckshop - Current operational structure (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) will remain in place for at least the rest of the term. Acknowledged Sarah O’Donaghe and Lizzie Melsom for coordinating the Tuckshop while Susan took a well deserved break - great job ladies!
- Uniform shop - Adopted an updated uniform price list.
- Fundraising -
  - Father’s Day Stall - Thursday 3rd September; in new venue the music room.
  - Father’s Day Morning locked in for Friday 4th September; 8:30am - 9:30am.
  - 5c Jar fundraiser going well - winners to be announced first week of term 4.
  - Trivia Night confirmed for 16th October 2015.
- Grounds - All families are invited to our Annual Working Bee with Sausage Sizzle 13th September 8am -1pm, look out for more information in the Banter in coming weeks.
- $20,000 was transferred to the school as first payment for the School wide WIFI installation project.

Our next meeting is Tuesday 8th September, all are welcome we would love to see you there to share your ideas, I’ll share the chips and chocolate.

Victoria Brown
P&C President

Woolworths Earn & Learn Program

A very big thank you to all those families who have brought in their Earn & Learn stickers and sticker sheets. Our school total is currently 5,700 points. A great effort Brookfield!
Remember, the more stickers we collect, the more free educational resources we’ll be able to select for our school. So please keep collecting those Earn & Learn stickers and remember to drop them into the box located in the school office or at Woolworths Kenmore. Also ask family, friends and neighbours to collect stickers for you too.

Please also keep an eye out for the Everyday Rewards School prizes at the bottom of your receipt and products that give bonus stickers.

Thank you for your support!

Tamar McCullough

Burger Bar News

Despite it still being Winter, we had a pretty good turnout at the Burger Bar on Friday night.

We sold lots of delicious steak burgers and sausages in bread. People were raving about the quality of the steak!!

The raffle was also popular with lovely donations from Helen Orr and Hamper Me, Brookfield Vet vouchers, a huge urn of chocolates, wine, pot plants and more.

A special thanks to Angie Fraser and Jamie Fitzpatrick for doing such a great job at selling the raffle tickets and announcing the winners!! Well done 2C!

Next Burger Bar will be on FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER, so come on down and celebrate SPRING.

Thanks,
Andy Dart

Scholastic Book Club

Issue 6 has arrived and orders are due Friday 4th September. Please order online only by going to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or by using the LOOP app for iPad, iPhone or Android. No need to return forms to the office. Contact me at bookclub@brookfieldss.eq.edu.au or 0413443632 if you have any questions.

Thank you
Nicola

Trivia Night

Start planning your costumes, start organising your tables, Trivia 2016 is coming! With the very best 80’s song, games, competitions and costumes you will not want to miss out on this one.

Tickets go on sale next week through flexischools. It’s going to be RAD!

For further information email bsspc_fundraising@hotmail.com

Aneta Zielinski

Commonwealth Bank School Banking Update - Please Read

Concerns have been raised regarding the ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ reward item due to the inclusion of four button batteries that can be accessed by unscrewing the back of the torch.

Whilst this reward has been independently tested and deemed to meet relevant
product standards the Commonwealth Bank have made the decision to proactively withdraw this item from the School Banking Rewards Program.

Parents/Guardians are requested to dispose of any ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torches’ their child may have already received as part of the Rewards Program. Students who have previously received a ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ are welcome to redeem an alternative reward item.

Louise Rae

PCYC News

Hi everyone!

Ashleigh here! I will be filling in for Kristy again over the next two weeks while she is assisting at another service!

You will notice when you come into our service there have been a few new changes in our front room! The most obvious area that has been added into our room is our indoor garden with our recycling bins! We look forward to implementing some more ways to create a more sustainable environment here at PCYC!

Another area within the front room that has been updated has been the “Chill Out Zone”. This section encourages children to recognise their emotions to how they are feeling and then gives children a few different calming down strategies and breathing exercises! As well as physical and social development being significant developmental areas that are included in our programs, we are happy to also be able to support children’s emotional health where we can!

Have a great week!

Ashleigh

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TOTALLY RAD TRIVIA NIGHT REVAMPED!

16TH OCTOBER