From The Principal - Bruce Robertson

I have a confession but please don’t tell my wife! I was reading a book on her bedside table the other night, “Inspired”, by Lorna Jane Clarkson. To be honest, I was skimming rather than reading. But to my surprise, there was some interesting material, on page 165 the author outlined a few essential elements that can promote happiness.

It got me thinking about Bounce Back, our school’s wellbeing and resilience program. Happiness and wellbeing are surely closely linked. I can’t tell you how many parents have commented on their desire for their children to be happy above anything else.

LJ Clarkson outlines 4 essential elements in her book:
− Live a healthier life;
− Love what you do;
− Treasure your relationships; and
− Do things that make you happy.

She encourages people to take charge of their happiness. Live, love and laugh, and most importantly, share your happiness with those around you. A simple message but something that all of us can strive for.

So enough of my Lorna Jane experience. In Bounce Back, a definition of wellbeing is derived from the social context of schools. Optimal student wellbeing is defined as a sustainable emotional state characterised by:
− Positive relationships at school;
− Predominantly positive feelings and attitudes;
− Resilience;
− Self-optimisation (making the most of your strengths); and
− High levels of satisfaction with learning experiences.

More simply, student wellbeing is their satisfaction with their quality of life at school. The degree to which a student demonstrates effective academic, social and emotional functioning is an indicator of their wellbeing. Bounce Back will help us build and implement processes that in turn help students to feel safe, supported and connected. The program also teaches the skills, values and understandings that underpin wellbeing and resilience.

Explicit Instruction

Katie and I have begun formal observations in classrooms focusing on explicit instruction. These pedagogical reflections are an important part of our school’s improvement agenda.

In the quest that every student is succeeding, one of the best tools available to teachers is explicit instruction. It is a structured, systematic and effective methodology for teaching academic skills. The instructional practices of this pedagogy is evidenced as dramatically improving students’ academic achievement.

Following our classroom observation, we meet to discuss the elements of the lesson that had the highest impact on student learning and achievement.

Student Leaders’ Badge Ceremony

The Badge Ceremony will take place on Wednesday 09 March at 2pm in the hall. Parents of our leaders are requested to attend the ceremony and participate by pinning the badge on your child. More information to be forwarded shortly.
Thought for the Week

True beauty comes from knowing, accepting and being yourself.
The more you show who you really are, the more beautiful you become.

Lorna Jane Clarkson

Have a great week!

Bruce
brobe66@eq.edu.au

Belong - Strive - Succeed

From the Deputy – Katie Lewis

Social Media Presentation

Thank you to the P&C for funding our Student, Teacher and Parent Social Media presentations last week. The sessions were well attended by parents and general feedback indicates that insights were gained into Social Media safety and use for both adults and children.

Trish Munn from Eyes Open Social Media spoke with students, parents and teachers about the important considerations when using Social Media, including:

1. Inappropriate material posted or created:
   a. Consider the impact of the material if it were to be shared
   b. Remember that screen shots can be taken of images
   c. Know what you can do and who you can tell if necessary

2. Digital footprint:
   a. Consider your digital footprint and the ‘online reputation’ you are creating with your posts

3. Identity theft:
   a. Consider your privacy settings, be sure to check them and update them regularly
   b. Settings and filters are tools to help you remain visible to friends and invisible to people you would never choose to have in your life.

4. Bullying:
   a. Consider what information you are providing about yourself online

5. Predators:
   a. Consider not using your face (or your child’s face/s) in your profile picture

Trish then went on to share 5 tips for safer Social Media fun:

1. Secure who sees your posts:
   a. Friends only

2. Secure information that has been shared in the past:
   a. Friends only access

3. Secure timeline and interests:
   a. Remember that ‘likes’ and ‘follows’ create clickable links back to your profile

4. Know the grooming magnets:
   a. No security, open access, appearing vulnerable or oversexualised, too many friends/contacts

5. Sign into each account separately:
   a. Linked accounts show habits and too much information

For more information, visit www.eyesopensocialmedia.com.au. If you have any feedback regarding the sessions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Religious Instruction

All year levels are now receiving Religious Instruction lessons. A letter went home recently regarding participation in RI lessons.
Life Education

Lessons have begun! Be sure to ask your child if they visited the Life Education team and Harold the Giraffe!

Junior Assembly

Prep - Year 3 assembly runs every Thursday from 1:50 - 2:30pm. Each week, the Most Respectful class is identified on assembly. This is the class who shows that they are sitting with respect, looking and listening to the speaker and being positive audience members. Last week’s Most Respectful Class went to Prep B - congratulations Prep B!

Positive Behaviours

This term, students and teachers are being awarded ‘Gotchas’ for demonstrating our school rules of Be Safe, Be Responsible and Be Respectful. Each week, names are drawn from the collection for a prize on assembly. Our winners last week were Eva (3B) and Sophie (3A), congratulations!

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

Resource Centre News

We are looking forward to the Short Story Festival here at Brookfield next week with the Resource Centre closed at first break with activities going on in the Festival area instead.

Read and be touched.
Fiona Allison
Teacher Librarian

Short Story Festival - Week 6

* Sizzling writing on display from every classroom in CPA 3 outside tuckshop!

* Monday Author Visit – Aleesha Darkison

* Short Story Competition!

* First Break Activities in CPA 2
  - One Big Long Growing Story – add your word to grow our story!
  - Lunchtime Rainbow Writing Chalkboard!
  - Our Best Words – Bring your best word and write it here!
Junior Choir Rehearsals Begin Next Week

Hooray!!! Junior Choir is back!!!! This choir is open to Year 1 and 2 students who are able to commit to attending rehearsals every Thursday at 8:10am. Rehearsals commence next Thursday 3 March at 8:10am in the music room. Please email me (mkien1@eq.edu.au) to let me know that your child is joining and so that I have your contact details for Junior Choir notices. I am looking forward to another great year of enthusiastic and joyful singing.

Mrs Melinda Kienzle

District Girls Soccer

Any students turning 11 or 12 this year interested in trying out for the district soccer team need to let Mr Skehan know by Friday 26 February. Please note the school is limited to only 4 nominations. If there are more than 4 nominations a competitive selection process will occur.

Cross District Boys Hockey

Any students turning 11 or 12 this year interested in trying out for the cross district hockey team need to let Mr Skehan know by Friday 26 February.

District Netball Trials

Any girl turning 11 or 12 this year interested in trialling for the district netball team needs to see Mr Skehan by this Friday 26 February. Students need to be playing at a high standard for a club to be considered.

Kieron Skehan

P&C Update and Notice of the AGM

It was great to welcome everyone back and see some new faces at our first P&C meeting for the year, highlights of the meeting:

- Summary of 2015 - was a great year. Our income target was $75,000 and we achieved $83,000.
- Investigating an Honour Board for the Hall.
- Burger Bar and Event Signage Boards being sourced.
- P&C Gazebo to be purchased.
- Bush Dance 18th March organisation going well.
- Election Day Stall (19th March) – need to find a coordinator to make this possible.
- Drinks fundraiser to be held 22nd February - 4th March.
- Marimba ordered and payment transferred to the school.
- Administration Update – Strategic direction, Improvement agenda, Bounce Back.
- ICT Update – Cyber safety sessions planned, iPad banks established and 20 new laptops have been purchased this term with another 20 coming next term.
- Lower staff carpark is going to be closed for a month from Monday. Will use the equipment to do some improvements in the top car park.
- Fundraising ideas discussed – Brookfield Produce weekend BBQ/juice bar, movie night in the hall.
- Sun safe, Sun smart policy endorsed.
- 2016 Calendar of Events in place.
Looking ahead...

On Tuesday 08 March (two weeks away) we will hold our Annual General Meeting, at this time all of our memberships lapse and we elect office bearers for the coming year. Please see the attachment with today’s newsletter email detailing all of the roles and a short description of each. All roles are open to be contested, some members have already expressed interest in a few of these roles.

We would like to fill all of the roles at the AGM and ask everyone to consider these roles and express your interest. Many hands make light work - we are all volunteers and enjoy getting involved to support the school that supports our children. There is guidance available and the roles have been designed to be achievable. We all have busy lives and work in various ways, volunteering your time and skills is a great way to support our wonderful school.

Please read the descriptions and feel free to contact me to discuss any of the roles. Victoria Brown
P&C President
vicandab@bigpond.net.au
0429 475 625

BUSH DANCE! TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Friday Night March 18, starting at 5:30pm in the Hall. Tickets are now available on Flexischools. Early Bird tickets are the best way to purchase for our great event.

Admission Only is $7 or the popular *All Inclusive Ticket is $12.50. (*Admission, sausage on bread, drink, swag bag and zooper dooper).

The Bush Dance BBQ will be selling Steak Burgers, and we will have the bar open. Tickets will be sold at the door, however Admission prices will be $10 and All Inclusive will be $15. For catering purposes we recommend using the Flexischools online system.

Thank you to all that have volunteered their time to help out with the organising of the event, we always need more, so please contact us if you can. Many hands make light work!

Nerolee Huxham
neroleeh@yahoo.com.au

Drink Fundraiser for 2016

It is time for the drink fundraiser to begin for 2016! It will be a little different this year, we will be running it for only two weeks this term!

We are asking for your help to donate a carton or slab of any of the following: Coke, Coke Zero, Sprite, Fanta, Water or golden circle poppers. These drinks will be used throughout the year to assist with fundraising at various functions and sports events.

Our first function is the Bush Dance! For your donation you will receive a ticket to go into the draw to win one of 4 all inclusive tickets to the BUSH DANCE (to the value of $50). 2 tickets will be drawn each week of the drink fundraiser, these draws will be done at assembly.

Donations can be dropped off at C Block commencing on the 22 of February, 8.15am every morning or from 2.15pm every afternoon. Final donations will be received the afternoon of the 04 of March.

Please assist our school to make our fundraising this year a huge success.

Monica Jones
Crazy Hair Day

Friday 12 March is Crazy Hair Day to help raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation. Colour or style your hair for a gold coin donation - or get it coloured at school on first break. Prize for the craziest hair! Cupcakes will also be on sale on the day. Donations of hair spray/chalk greatly appreciated, please bring to the office.

Nicola Danslow