From The Principal - Bruce Robertson

What poems can you recite? I have an uncle who fancies himself as quite the bush poet.

“It was the man from Ironbark who struck the Sydney town,
He wandered over street and park, he wandered up and down,
He loitered here, he loitered there, till he was like to drop,
Until at last in sheer despair he sought a barber’s shop.”

The Man from Ironbark was one of Alan’s favourites. And thinking back on it now, I know why Alan had the most unruly beard and wore the most ridiculous out-of-shape Akubra hat. He was an agronomist and spent much of his time working in third-world countries. I always wondered whether the people he met thought all Australian men were like him – no offence to my uncle, but I hope not!

Alan loved to put on his best ‘Banjo’ expression and entertain family and friends. As the good nephew, I’d listen attentively, smile politely, and secretly wish I could rote learn some of our country’s most famous poems and ballads. So I did! I read ‘The Man from Snowy River’ over and over again until I had something to rival my dear old uncle.

Next week we will be celebrating poetry with a festival of our own. Mrs Allison has planned some exciting activities for all ages. Our Poetry Festival kicks off on Monday and if it’s anything like last year, it should encourage students to share some of their favourite poems, whether it be reciting or listening. Please encourage your child to participate. The details are in Mrs Allison’s Resource Centre News.

Independent Public School - School Council

As an Independent Public School, we have six months to establish our school council. The broad purpose of the school council is to ‘improve student learning outcomes’ through monitoring the strategic direction of the school, approving plans and policies relating to the strategic direction, and advising the principal on strategic matters.

The membership of the council comprises of official, elected and appointed members. The official members are the principal and the P&C president. Elected members comprise of at least one elected parent member and one elected staff member. Appointed members are appointed by the council and must not exceed two. There is a minimum of six members and maximum of fifteen members on the council for a period of between one to three years.

To date, I have interest from four parents and ten staff members. If you would like to be considered for council membership, please send me an email to register your interest. Following our P&C AGM in March, I’ll contact those parents who have registered to discuss the next stage in being elected.

Student Leadership Group 2015

I congratulate all students who nominated for a position because I believe it reflects the pride students take in our school.

Our student leadership group for 2015 is:
School Captains: Adam Charters & Sarah Lemmon-Warde
School Vice Captains: Jack McGrath & Chloe Burger
Environmental Captains: Brendan Hall & Sammi Christ
Lawson House Captains: Zac Harley & Emily Patullo
Mackellar House Captains: Angus Junger & Meg Stefanaras
Paterson House Captains: Archie Cameron & Kiera Moore
Choir Captain: Nic Hargreaves
Band Captain: Annalise Barnes
Strings Captain: Cody Hargreaves

A formal badge ceremony will take place in the near future once I have locked in representation from our local, state and federal politicians. Congratulations to our student leadership team.

Susan Gillion

It is with great sadness that I share the news of Susan’s passing after a long battle with cancer. Susan was inspirational, the most optimistic and determined person I have ever met. I have wonderful memories of my conversations with Susan that I will treasure. Our thoughts are with Brett, Olivia, Jamie and their family and friends.

Thought for the Week

Our greatest weakness lies in giving up.
The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.

Thomas Edison

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

From the Deputy – Katie Lewis

Belong, Strive, Succeed – Art Competition

As you know, we updated our School Vision this year to “Belong, Strive, Succeed”. This Vision represents our Brookfield State School (BSS) ethos and our focus on our sense of community, effort and achievement. To foster this new Vision, we are running an Art Competition for students to create works of art encompassing the words – Belong, Strive, Succeed. The winning entries will be framed and displayed in the B Block Meeting Room and also in the main office.

Competition Guidelines:

1. Three categories:
   a. Prep to Year 2
   b. Year 3 and Year 4
   c. Year 5 and Year 6
2. Art work is to be completed on A3 size paper.
3. Art work is to be completed at home.
4. Entry is optional.
5. Entries are due Friday 20 March, 2015.
6. Ensure you include your child’s name and class on the back of the entry.
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 ‘Doing your Best’. Miss Noonan discussed the value with students on assembly, encouraging students to do their best at everything they can.

Our Values Vouchers winners for the week were Hugo (PD) and Neve (1A) - well done! Hugo and Neve receive a voucher for an ice block from the tuckshop. The Most Respectful Class on assembly this week went to Year 1B. Students in Year 1B showed respect by being on time to assembly, sitting with their legs crossed and paying attention to the speakers. Mrs Wilson was very excited to win this award this week! Well done Mrs Wilson and Year 1B students!

Have a wonderful week,
Katie
klew114@eq.edu.au

Music News

**JUNIOR CHOIR BEGINS THURSDAY 5 MARCH**

Junior Choir is open to all interested students in years 1 and 2. Members are expected to attend all rehearsals. Rehearsals are held every Thursday at 8:10am in the Music Room. Please contact Mrs Melinda Kienzle (mkien1@eq.edu.au) if you would like your child to be a part of Junior Choir this year.

Melinda Kienzle

Sport News

Any child turning 12 this year who is interested in trying out for the West Akuna Basketball team please see Mr Skehan by this Friday.

Term 1 & 2 Friday sport is due to commence this Friday, 27 February (Week 5). All students will need to wear their sports uniform, a hat and take a water bottle. Trials have been held at school and some trials will be ongoing this Friday, with squads picked for each sport rather than teams. There will be some movement within these squads to take into account the fact that some students haven’t trialled yet due to bad weather and other commitments.

Whilst we try hard to place students in a sport of their first preference, sometimes this can be difficult as the district only permits a certain number of teams in each competition and the school has to balance the numbers. At this stage some Year 5 students have been asked to move to Touch from Netball where we have a need for more players. I would like to thank all of those students who volunteered to move. This was a fantastic example of school spirit in action! I’m sure that you will enjoy playing Touch. Your understanding with regards to this matter is most appreciated. Good luck to all teams!

Kieron Skehan
Poetry Festival 2015
Jump in and have some fun.

Poem-in-Your-Pocket Tuesday: We’re handing out poems just to fit in your pocket! Read them and keep them this week to have a fast poem to share with anyone!

Poetry Stations: Stop with a friend and read the poems put around our school walls!

Poetry Chairs: Sit in the poetry chairs anytime at the Circle and Sail Lawn and read some poems attached to the arms! Read your pocket-poem to a friend.

Poetry Slam For Fun: with the microphone at the Lawn. Read your own poetry, a pocket poem or a favourite from home. Come and listen to a poem!

Spotty Paper Plate Poems on the Lawn: Get creative, come along and have a ball writing a quick poem to decorate our beautiful big sail poles.

Poetry Trailer: Record yourself or a friend reading a poem with an iPad in iMovie. We’d love to see it!

RESOURCE CENTRE IS CLOSED AT BREAK-TIME THIS WEEK.
MRS ALLISON IS ON THE LAWN BOTH BREAKS TO JOIN IN THE FUN!

Remember: YOU’RE A POET AND YOU DIDN’T EVEN KNOW IT!

Read and be touched
Fiona Allison
Teacher Librarian

Uniform Shop

Thank you to the volunteers who have helped out, and to those who have popped in to lend a hand even when not rostered! Your help during these busy first few weeks has been greatly appreciated.

Senior shirts need to be ordered on Flexischools by this Friday please. This is a once off order and will not be repeated again. Thank you to the parents who have emailed with their child’s preferred name on the shirt. Unless previously arranged, your child’s name as it appears on the class roll list will be printed on the shirt.

Tuckshop - thank you to the lovely volunteers, home-bakers and pantry items donators! Should you wish to get involved in any or all of the above, please email me on robinandsusan8@bigpond.com

Susan Sansbury
Uniform and Tuckshop Convenor
Hi everyone!

We hope everyone stayed safe during the storm over the last few days! We had a great week creating play spaces for our service, watching our mini herb garden sprouting, hair styling and lots of outdoor games. Homework club has also been a huge success with children and parents as the children get access to a qualified teacher to assist them with their homework. Please see our attached programs for this week.

A new week means a new menu. Please see below for this week’s menu of healthy and fun food.

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<td>Ham &amp; Egg</td>
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<td>Smoothies-</td>
<td>Yoghurt Cups-</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scramble-</td>
<td>Child Input (Harry)</td>
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<td>Sausage Sticks</td>
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<td>Sandwich Shapes-</td>
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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

Junior Engineers Club

Junior Engineers kicks off tomorrow at Brookfield SS, in the library as a new addition to our after school activities, where students will to learn how to write computer software programs. Students that already registered we will receive an individual email with the relevant information and payment instruction.

Through their courses, Junior Engineers aims to promote problem solving, creativity and mathematical skills for young children. For more information and or register your interest go to http://www.jnrengineers.com/registration.html.
Bush Dance

Drinks Donation

Hopefully by now you would have received a flyer, noticed posters around the school or received an email from your class reps asking for your assistance to donate a carton of Coke, Coke Zero, Sprite, Fanta, or a slab of water or Golden Circle juice poppers all of which shall be used for school fundraising functions throughout the year.

Please note Coles at Kenmore Village have a sale on at the moment for a 24 pack of the above for $15 and Woolworths have a 30 pack for $21. Don’t forget to check out Aldi or Big W for possibly even better prices.

Remember when dropping off your donation to the Resource Centre (library) you will receive a ticket to go into the draw to win 4 all inclusive tickets to the upcoming Bush Dance. The very first draw is taking place during junior assembly tomorrow.

Colouring-in Competition

This week children shall be bringing home a colouring-in competition sheet which is totally optional for them to complete and enter. Entry is via a gold coin donation and lucky winners shall receive a prize. Entries along with the gold coin donation are being received at the front office.

Bush Dance - Friday 27 March

“What’s that Skip?”

“The flyer with more details is included in this week’s Banter?”

“And your going to be at assemblies this week to tell the kids you will be a prize for the Best Dressed Boy and Girl?”

“Well I hope people have saved the date of Friday 27 March 5.30 pm start to come to the school hall and join in!”

BROOKFIELD STATE SCHOOL P&C INVITES YOU TO OUR 2015

BUSH DANCE

FRIDAY NIGHT

27TH MARCH

BROOKFIELD STATE SCHOOL HALL

5:30pm till 8:30pm. The Bar will be open.

Beefa’s Bush Band from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

www.beefasbushband.com

TICKETS

Early Bird Tickets Only Available Online www.flexischools.com.au

Early Bird - Admission Only $7

Early Bird - All Inclusive $12.50

(Sausage, Drink (water, soft drink or popper), Icy Pole & Swag Bag)

Purchase on the night: Admission only $10 or All inclusive $15.

Extra food & drinks will be available to purchase on the night.

Bring the whole family to this fun filled event, young and not so young - everyone is welcome!