From The Principal  - Bruce Robertson

My son is the youngest of five children and he will finish primary school in 7 days from now. I enrolled him at Brookfield in Year 3 when I was appointed permanently as principal. Don’t worry – permanently doesn’t mean forever! At the time, I convinced my wife, a teacher at an independent P-12 college, that Brookfield offered more and provided a supportive and inclusive environment where his natural talents could thrive while still maintaining a relentless focus on literacy and numeracy.

Over the past 4 years, my son has been taught by Miss Noonan, Mrs Weigel, Mr Skehan, and Mrs Minczanowski. Each of these teachers has their own unique personality and my son can tell me the things he was able to get away with, the things that were not negotiable and the things that he enjoyed most about being in their classes. Whether they were a Cowboys or Titans supporter, whether they favoured girls and didn’t care about the boys or whether they were mean or just lovely, I have listened to his stories on the way to and from school each day and helped him process some of his thoughts.

Whatever the case, my wife and I have always worked positively with the teachers and specialists to best support any of our children in their schooling. I can honestly say that no single teacher at Brookfield has consistently achieved better student learning outcomes than any of their colleagues. Our school-wide processes ensure there is consistency in teaching and learning expectations and that all students are achieving. All teachers are reflective on the pedagogical practices and we have a formal feedback cycle to continue to build on our teaching capabilities. Providing a safe, disciplined and supportive learning environment is core to what we do.

So for my son’s final week at Brookfield, I am grateful for the opportunities this wonderful school has offered him, thankful to the teachers and staff who have encouraged, supported, pushed and nurtured him, and appreciative to the school community for helping to raise him. Thank you Brookfield!

Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships

Congratulations to Georgie G and Jake HR on their outstanding performances at the Australian Athletics Championships in Canberra. Georgie is the national champion after winning the 10 years 800m in a quick 2:29 mins. Jake finished 4th in the 11 years Discus. This is an outstanding achievement and well deserved for their commitment and dedication to training and determination, strength and fitness in competition.

Australian Tennis Awards

Brookfield was a national finalist for the Newcombe Medal – Most Outstanding School at the Australian Tennis Awards in Melbourne on Monday evening. Congratulations to Wembley Primary School of Western Australia on winning the prestigious award.

To be one of three primary schools short-listed across Australia was an outstanding achievement and a credit to Libby Wark on the successful implementation of Hot Shots Tennis in the PE curriculum, and also our very healthy partnership with the Brookfield Tennis Centre who offer their support in Hot Shots and provide opportunities and pathways for developing tennis skills for our entire community.

Thank you to John Lemmon-Warde who attended the Tennis Australia Awards Ceremony on our behalf.

Pullenvale Environmental Education Centre

Year 4 enjoyed the Pullenvale Environmental Education Centre’s (PEEC) Bugs R Us experience last week. Students adopted the role of entomologists-in-training and attended the fictional ‘Annual Arthropods Conference’.

PEEC uses the storythread pedagogy where students engage in stories and blanket roles to make deep
connections to themselves, others and natural places. Our school has a wonderful relationship with PEEC with many students attending the programs on living and learning for sustainability.

Final Whole School Assembly

Our final school assembly for 2017 will be held on Monday 05 December beginning at 9am. There will be a number of presentations including the swimming carnival age champions and the announcement of the school captains and vice-captains for 2017. At the completion of the assembly, all students will form a time tunnel to farewell our year 6 graduands. Please join us for assembly if you can and feel welcome to take your position in the time tunnel to high five our year 6 graduands for the last time at Brookfield.

Year 6 Artwork

The year 6 artwork has been completed and can be viewed outside of N Block alongside last year’s works. We are very fortunate to have local artist, Carolyn Parsons, working with students to produce something memorable that will last for years to come. Students are very pleased with the result.

Staffing 2017

This week we will be forming classes for 2017. There will be 21 classes based on our 515 enrolments with the only composite class being a 5/6 in the upper school. Class lists will be published late next week. There are minimal changes to teaching staff for next year.

Farewell Tracey Walsh

Tracey Walsh, our Administration Officer since 2003, is leaving and heading back to Grafton where she grew up. Tracey has been the first point of contact and first face you see on many occasions when you have visited the office. Tracey is taking leave from Brookfield with the view of establishing herself permanently in Grafton.

I take this opportunity to wish Tracey and her family a successful transition and all the very best for a new beginning. Tracey will be sorely missed by us all.

Thought for the Week

I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.

Mother Teresa

Have a great week,

Bruce
brobe66@eq.edu.au

Belong - Strive - Succeed

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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From the Deputy – Katie Lewis

BYOD iPads in 2017

A reminder to our Year 2 families that your questionnaire regarding iPad use in 2017 is due to be returned to your child’s teacher by Friday 02 December.

In 2017, all students in Years 3 to 6 will be welcome to bring an iPad, if they choose to. The iPad will be used to increase engagement and interest in learning as a modern teaching tool, better facilitate differentiation, and the device provides the added bonus of improving the learning connection between home and school.

Mrs Rebecca Moore has offered an open class room on Thursday from 9-10am in 3C. See iPads in use and ask any questions they might have.

Bringing an iPad in 2017 is not a requirement, it is an option. Teachers will support and cater for students with iPads and those without, in the same classroom. Brookfield State School will provide banks of 12 iPads in Prep, Year 1, Year 2 and 24 iPads across Years 3 to 6. At least 5 computers, either laptops and/or desktops will be available in each class to assist with the integration of ICTs.

In 2017 we will be conducting a review of the BYOD program at Brookfield and are keen for student, staff and parental input into this process.

Apps lists for BYO iPads in 2017 will be distributed by Friday 20 January. Each year, we aim for approximately $50 worth of apps for each year level. Current apps lists are available on our website.

Should you have any further questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me via phone, email or in person.

Have a great week!
Katie Lewis
klewi114@eq.edu.au

From the Deputy – Tracey Campbell

Swimming Carnival

What a fantastic day we had at the Brookfield State School annual school swimming carnival. It was great to see so many students enjoying themselves and putting their best effort into swimming lengths of the pool. It was also wonderful to have such a large number of parents and friends support. I must commend our students on their exemplary behaviour whilst at the Kenmore pool, they were respectful and responsible throughout the day.

A special thank you to Libby Wark, our PE Teacher, who organised such a great event, and to the P&C for providing such yummy treats to buy on the day. A sausage on bread and a juice always goes down well after a big morning of swimming! A great community spirit was definitely present on this fun filled day!
Senior Strings and Band Workshop Day

Last week, strings and band students from Upper Brookfield State School and Kenmore State School joined our music students here at Brookfield to enjoy a full day of learning at a combined schools, music workshop.

The students worked tirelessly throughout the day to learn a few pieces to share at the end of the day concert.

It was a huge turnout, and from what I heard, the music they made together was sweet.

Thank you to the Instrumental Music Teachers, Damon Lougheed and Jennifer Hemmings, for hosting the day. The music made on the day is a credit to your wonderful teaching skills and dedication.

Junior Assembly

Our last Junior Assembly for the year will be held at 1:50pm this coming Thursday the 1st. Next week we have a Whole School Assembly on Monday 5th December at 9am.

Have a great week!
Tracey Campbell
tcamp10@eq.edu.au

Swimming Carnival 2016

What a great day we had yesterday at the Swimming Carnival. It was fantastic to see so many students so enthusiastic about working as a team, swimming for their houses.

A big Thank You to all the Teachers and Teacher Aides who helped with the running of the Carnival. What a great team effort!

I will put out in next week’s Banter, students who have made district qualifying times so you can be practising over the holidays.

Libby Work
Resource Centre News

All library books are now due back in the Resource Centre.

Hour of Code Event

Students enjoyed an hour of computer coding on Monday in programs such as Scratch, Scratch Junior, Kodable, Star Wars, Infinity Playlab, Lightbot amongst many others on offer. We look forward to more coding activities in 2017 at B.S.S! The classes were assisted by the Tech Crew and activities were recorded by photographers from the Junior Tech Crew and their senior counterparts. The Scratch Junior Coder club members have moved on to share their expertise as the Junior Tech Crew for the remainder of the year.

Book Covering Help Needed

We have some wonderful new resources ready for release to students and classrooms requiring covering with contact which is already cut. If you are able to take some home or cover them here it would be greatly appreciated. It’s as easy as wrapping a present- we’ll show you how if needed.

Dear Parents and Teachers

Can’t quite believe it’s nearing the end of another school year! I just wanted to take the opportunity, on behalf of the P&C, to say a very big thank you to all those people who have supported and volunteered for events throughout this year. Thanks to your support we have been able to reach our target of $75,000 this year which has been used to fund:

- The airconditioning in classrooms
- The upgrade of the playground on the bottom ovals
- And a contribution to the new and improved top playground
- Mathletics, Literacy Planet and Special Ed Programs

We have set 2017 budgets and have once again committed to funding Mathletics, Literacy Planet, Aircon maintenance as well as a contribution towards the completion of the Junior Playground (all items that the school does not receive funding for). What we would like to do though is gauge from the parents what other areas you would like to see our funding going towards.

Once again thanks for your support and we will communicate 2017 Calendar at the start of term 1 next year. Hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

- We will be seeking feedback on choices:
  1. Contribution towards completion of Junior and Senior Playgrounds
  2. Contribution towards completion of Junior and Senior Playgrounds and contribution to library, PE and Music
  3. Contribution towards completion of Junior and Senior Playgrounds and construction of handball courts and stencilling for undercover games
  4. Other suggestions for funds

Read and recover
Fiona Allison
Teacher Librarian

Fiona Allison
Teacher Librarian

Phone 3374 7333
**Christmas Assembly**

There will be a special Christmas assembly in the Hall at 9.30am on Thursday 1st December. Kenmore Anglican Church will be presenting their Nativity Play, involving the retelling of the Christmas story as found in the Bible. This play involves colourful costumes - and a real baby! The play will also involve the singing of a number of traditional and modern Christmas carols.

All students from Prep-Year 6 who bring in a signed permission note to classroom teachers are welcome to attend. Please ensure that the signed permission note is returned by next Tuesday 29th November. Students currently opted in to RI will still need to return a signed permission note in order to attend.

Parents and younger children are also very welcome to attend. Please contact me via the School Office if you have any further queries.

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**School Banking**

There will be no school banking this Friday 2nd December due to the school banking portal closing on the 5th December for the upcoming school holidays. School banking will resume next year on the first Friday of term 1. A big thank you to all the children and parents who participated in the scheme this year. Enjoy your holidays!

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**Donations Needed**

At this time of the year it is more important than ever to remember those who aren’t as fortunate as many of us. There are over 20,000 homeless people in Queensland. "Rosies - friends on the street" help our local homeless community and are looking for donations of toiletries to help improve their day to day lives and their dignity. If you could please send an item with your child - toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, shampoo, etc. and get them to put it in the box in the office it would be amazing. Many thanks and merry Christmas.

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**Tuckshop Closed Week 10**

The Tuckshop will be closed during the last week of this term, week 10.

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**Friday morning soccer**

Thank you to all the children who have attended soccer training on Friday mornings this year. It’s been great being part of this and I hope your children have had fun and learnt a few soccer skills along the way. I would also like to thank the other parents who have volunteered their time Friday mornings to help with training.

Friday Nov 2nd will be the last soccer training morning. There will be NO SOCCER on the last day of term (Fri 9th of Dec).

As of Term 1, 2017, Friday morning training will only be available to the following children:

- Yrs 3-4. Open game supervised by a volunteer parent,
- Yrs 5-6. Open game supervised by a volunteer parent,
- and only the following UQFC Teams:
  - U6 Brookie Bears
  - U7 Brookie Stars
  - U8 Brookie Tigers
  - U8 Brookie Blue Tongues
  - U9 Brookie Girls Dev Team

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**Right Here!**

Phone 3374 7333
If your child is part of one of the above UQFC Brookie teams please confirm with your coach the start time. If you have any questions please let me know. Thank you.

Shameem
shameem.khan@iinet.net.au

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Tamara Hamilton

December Holiday Tennis Clinic - Brookfield Tennis Centre

With the Holidays almost upon us we are now taking registrations for the holiday clinic that will run in the first week of the holiday.

When: Mon 12 Dec – Thur 15 Dec from 8:00am – 11:00am come and drop your kids for a morning of tennis.

Classes open for online registration at www.brookfieldtennis.com.au/kids or call Brookfield Tennis Centre on 07 33741046.

Lessons will be run for Red Ball, Orange Ball and Green / Yellow Ball. Registrations are limited so best to hurry. Cost $180.

Term 1 - 2017 Tennis Lessons Enrolments

We are busy taking enrolments for our Term 1 lessons. Please call us to enquire about the kids and adults program – we would love to have you on the court with us. 07 33741046 or email tennis@brookfieldtennis.com.au

Countdown to Brookie Fun Run/Walk

I hope you have been pulling on your runners and getting ready for the 2016 Brookfield fun run/walk on Saturday 10 December.

With just over two weeks to go, you should have the shoes, the family and the neighbours all organised for the annual 5km run/walk. All proceeds go to the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

Registration will be just inside the showgrounds to the right hand side of the Brookfield School oval, inside the Showgrounds at 7am. We’ll head out towards Brookfield Road, then turn left over the bridge and left again past the Brookfield Produce and Pet Pavilion. The run will continue along Rafting Ground Road on the bike/pedestrian track to Huntington and back, round the corner past Brookfield Produce and Pet Pavilion and into the Brookfield Showground.

Hungry athletes can refuel and help raise funds at the race finish by making a donation in exchange for breakfast laid on by the Brookfield Uniting Church volunteers.

Registration opens from 6.30am on race morning - $7 per person or $25 per family.

More information: Georgie Townsend 0432 350 364 or like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/brookiefunrun/
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