Dear Parents and Carers

It took 35 years, and a little bit longer, for me to witness a chicken hatch from an egg. I know you’re probably thinking I’ve led a sheltered life, but it was only last Friday when I finally experienced the last of the 12 eggs in a year two classroom crack open and come to life.

I seriously surprised myself with my level of interest and excitement. It must be true that as you grow a little older you become more emotional. I even made excuses to visit year two classrooms, and I assure you, my curiosity paid off! I got to name a chicken, Night Fury, or more aptly known as Toothless to students. He or she, I’m yet to become an expert on chicken gender, shares a home with Shadow, Florence, Caramel Sundae, Zebra, Hero, Night and Hiccup.

Shortly these chickens will be looking for a home so I’m sending a general warning that some of us at school have become quite attached and you may be placed under a reasonable amount of pressure to adopt a feathered friend. Unfortunately, my house is full and our chi Tzu/Maltese dog, Ella, is just too untrustworthy.

The enjoyable learning experiences of having the Henny Penny Hatchings program in the year two classrooms has been enormous. For students, their observations have been a major point of discussion and teachers have responded to their interest with a range of writing, drawing and oral language opportunities.

I wish our year two parents all the best, either in their attempts to adopt a chick or find excuses like having an untrustworthy dog. Good luck!

District Athletics

Congratulations to our school athletics team who performed credibly on Monday at the State Athletics Centre. We have a number of athletes who will compete in the finals this Friday.

Seven Steps to Writing Success

Seven staff members attended a writing workshop on Saturday. The Seven Steps to Success writing program provides some very practical strategies to improve writing across a variety of text types.

The seven steps include:
1. Plan for Success
2. Sizzling Starts
3. Tightening Tension
4. Dynamic Dialogue
5. Show, Don’t Tell
6. Ban the Boring
7. Exciting Endings/Ending with Impact
Teachers who attended the program are introducing the steps to students in short 5-10 minute sessions each day. A number of elements will be incorporated into our whole-school approach to explicitly teaching writing.

I look forward to bringing you some examples of improved writing by our students over the coming weeks.

**NAPLAN Provisional Data**

Students in Years 3, 5 and 7 completed the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) in May this year. The provisional data was released to schools a couple of weeks ago. It outlines each student's raw score for the strands assessed (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy).

Using the 2013 conversion for Raw Scores to Band Scale Scores, we are able to gain some insight into our achievement for 2014.

The table below outlines the percentage of students in Years 3, 5 and 7 in the Upper Two Bands (U2B) for Reading, Writing and Numeracy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Reading % U2B</th>
<th>Writing % U2B</th>
<th>Number % U2B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The reading data is very promising as it has been a focus of our school improvement agenda. We look forward to the release of 2014 official NAPLAN data later this year.

**P&C Meeting**

Our August P&C meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday, August 12 beginning at 7pm in the staffroom. I will be presenting the annual Asbestos Awareness information from 6:30pm.

In my principal’s report, I look forward to sharing the outcomes of the Great Results Guarantee meetings, discussing the NAPLAN provisional data and outlining our position on expressing an interest in becoming an Independent Public School.

I look forward to your company!

**School Opinion Surveys**

The opportunity to complete a survey has been extended until Friday 08 August. Thank you to the 68 families who have taken the opportunity to provide feedback using the on-line link.

**International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)**

ICAS - Mathematics will be held on Tuesday 12 August. Students in Years 2 and 3 will sit the test with Miss Noonan in her classroom. Students in Years 4-7 will sit the test in the hall at 9am.

Students will require a 2B or B pencil, an eraser, sharpener and a ruler marked in millimetres. NO calculator is permitted.

**School Photographs**

Advanced Life Photography will be taking our school photographs on Wednesday 03 and Thursday 04 September. Next week, your child will receive a flyer/envelope explaining the products.

**OUR SPONSORS:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

Bella Thorne  
Nicolas Hardy
Bobby Hamilton  
Will Phillips
Callista Skehan  
Georgia Richardson
Alexander Brown  
Mackenzie Brown
Georgia Neale  
Keira Boundy
Monique Hile

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**Jason Richardson**  
Lic No. 24591

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**Cho’s Taekwondo Brookfield**  
Qld Taekwondo Federation Inc.  
Affiliated with the World Taekwondo Federation  
Phone: 3351 1956 | www.cttas.com

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**Belle Property**  
0405 911 550  
philip.blickler@belleproperty.com

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available and how they may be ordered. On-line ordering will be available.

Please keep an eye out for the flyer/envelope next week.

**EKKA Holiday**

Wednesday 13 August is our designated EKKA holiday. I hope you all enjoy the mid-week break.

**Free Dress Friday throughout August**

This Friday is the second of our Free Dress Days for August- Gold Coin donation. Funds raised will go towards the Years 6 and 7 end-of-year art project. Please remember to be sunsafe!

*Thought for the Week*

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

*If you focus on change, you will get results.*

-Jack Dixon

Enjoy your week,

Bruce

brobe66@eq.edu.au

**From the Deputy – Katie Lewis**

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

Congratulations to Prep A for being awarded "Most Respectful Class" on last week's assembly for being on time, sitting beautifully, listening and being respectful, well done Prep A!

We are starting "Gotchas" this term also. Students will receive a "Gotcha" when they are displaying responsible, respectful and safe behaviour in the playground. Prep - Year 3 "Gotchas" go into the draw for a prize from the Lucky Dip box. The weekly "Gotcha" draw will take place on assembly. Congratulations to last week's winners - Lucas E (2A) and Lucy H (3B), well done!

**Working hard in Year One**

The Year One children have been participating in an English Unit called "Create a Character". The children in 1A have written a booklet about their created character, and talked to the class about how this character is a good friend to "Willy" from Anthony Browne’s book "Willy the Champ".
Prep Orientation Morning

We would like to extend an invitation to parents and prospective 2015 prep students to meet our Principal, Deputy Principal and Prep Teaching Team and to find out about our Prep Program and schooling expectations for 2015.

When: Friday 12 September, 2014
Time: 9:30am to 11:00am
Where: School Hall
RSVP: By 5 September, 2014
Email: admin@brookfieldss.eq.edu.au
Phone: 3374 7333

Your 2015 Prep aged child will be invited to spend time in the Prep classrooms while you are in the hall. We ask that, if possible, child care is arranged for your other children on the day.

We are more than happy to accept enrolments before the Orientation Morning, and enrolments will also be taken on the day. Please ensure you have your child’s birth certificate as proof of age.

At the Orientation Morning, we will also be encouraging parents to book in for a 15 minute interview with your child and a member of the Prep Teaching Team on Monday 20 October, 2014. We will be conducting these interviews to enable us to get to know our future students and families better and to assist us with our preparations for classes in 2015. Bookings will be completed online, a link and required information will be provided shortly. More information about these interviews and Prep in 2015 will be available at the Orientation Morning.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact the school either by phone or email.

Footsteps Dance – Disco

Footsteps Dance Company is providing dance lessons for all students in Term 3 this year. These lessons will conclude with a lunch time disco on Monday 15 September where students will be able to perform the dances they have learnt during the term.

Have a great week,
Katie
klewi114@eq.edu.au
Musica Viva in Schools Program

On Monday August 25, we are very lucky to have the Musica Viva in Schools program presenting a concert for all of our students. Brookfield SS participates in this program each year as part of the Classroom Music program. This year’s performance is by a group called The Chambermaids and they feature the Woodwind family of the orchestra. All classes have begun preparations for this in their weekly music lessons. The children have been really enjoying the music presented to them and we are looking forward to having the group perform live in the school hall. The cost for this has been included on your Term 3 school account.

Music News

Tomorrow (August 7) our Senior Choir is participating in a workshop and concert at Kenmore State High School. Please make sure that everyone arrives by 3:45 so that we are ready to start singing right in the dot of 4pm. The doors to the concert open at 6:30, concert beginning at 7. Thankyou to all of the parents for the great response buying advance tickets on Monday morning. Tickets will also be available at the door on the night. Please remember that the venue will not be air conditioned, so rug up warmly for the concert. See you there.

Our Intermediate and Junior Choirs have been asked to perform at the Brookfield Uniting Church Country Markets on Saturday, September 13. Mark the date in your diaries and keep an eye out for more details closer to the event.

Melissa McMillan
Classroom Music Teacher

Resource Centre News

Book Covering Help Needed

We have many new classroom readers and fiction books with contact pre-cut for any parents who could some home and cover for us. Any assistance greatly appreciated!

Student Book Trailer ICT Competition!

Q. What is a book Trailer?
A. In short, it’s a succinct digital advertisement or teaser for a book.

Task: Make a Book Trailer of any book you love! Needs to be 30-90 seconds in Photostory3, PowerPoint, iMovie or any photo-editing software you like!

How: Photostory instructions on Student Intranet Page/ Shared Documents

When: On now! Entries need to be in the G:/Common/Finished Student Book Trailers folder by 3pm Week 6 Tuesday 19th August

Book Trailer Photostory Masterclass - How-to-Book-Trailer!
When: Wednesday and Thursday 1st & 2nd breaks Resource Centre Lab. All welcome!

Book Week Reading Festival - Weeks 5 & 6

Lots of fun activities before school at the Resource Centre and at break times at the Sail and Circle Lawn related to the short-listed Book Week Books. More to come soon!

Book Week Assemblies in Book Week -Week 6 at normal assembly times
Students - Remember to come dressed as a Book Character and join in the Book Week fun!
- Years 4-7 Wednesday 20th August
- Years P-3 Thursday 21st August

Fiona Allison
Teacher Librarian
**Father's Day Morning Tea**

It has become a much-loved event at our school, to hold a Father's Day Morning Tea. Each year it has grown in numbers with extremely positive feedback. It is a time for the significant male in your child's life to enjoy their child's schoolwork, as they proudly show you their classroom. It is also a time to meet with other male members of the school and it is amazing how people rekindle relationships as they discover they went to primary school together some 20 - 30 years ago!

Please mark **Friday 5 September 2014** in your diary and clear your calendar for this brief encounter from 8.30am until 9.30am. Forms will be attached to next week's Banter, asking for numbers and payment of $6.00 per adult attending. You will not only have a wonderful time, but you will also be able to enjoy a homemade muffin and a cuppa.

Hope to see you on the Library Verandah for this special occasion,

Arlene Aitchison
Fundraising Coordinator

**Chess Club**

Term 3 is a Coaching Term for chessplayers at Brookfield SS! But there will still be plenty of time to play chess after coaching is finished, and an informal competition will also run this term.

Starting in the second week of the term, both Seniors (Grades 4 to 7) and Juniors (Grades 1 to 3) will learn about the mysteries of chess on Wednesdays from 11.00am (the start of big lunch) until 12.00pm (children are allowed to stay after the bell).

There will be a class on Tuesday, August 12, to replace the missing class on August 13 (the Exhibition public holiday), but no other classes on Tuesday.

Parents should enrol their students for these classes at the Office.

Patrick Byrom
Chess Coach

**BSS Trivia & Games Night 2014**

Friday 24th October, 6.30pm for a 7pm start

*Release your inner child!*

The theme for this year’s Trivia & Games night is: **Children's TV & Movies**

As usual this will be an amazingly fun night. You do not need to be a trivia genius - you just need to bring your sense of humour and willingness to have a great time!

You have time to think up what you and your friends will come as, with tickets not going on sale until the morning of Monday 25th August.

Get your group ready to book your table and secure your theme on the 25th, as there can only be one of each theme on the night!

- Tables of 6-10 people, $20 per person
- Alcohol on Sale, BYO Food/Nibbles
- Decorate your table

If you require any further info regarding the night, please feel free to contact me on either [debmmobile@bigpond.com](mailto:debmmobile@bigpond.com) or 0409924608.

Deb Minczanowski
Join Online or at Sign on Day
Sat 9 Aug 2-5pm
Akuna Oval Kenmore
AFL Club House
kenmorecricket.com.au

JOIN IN THE FUN
and GET FIT!
Meets are held on Friday evenings from 5.30pm to 8.30pm. Season starts 29 August and runs until 31 March 2015.
Training is on Wednesday evenings for U7 to U17 from 6pm-7pm.

FAMILY
FUN & FITNESS

SIGN ON NOW
@ THE GAP LITTLE ATHLETICS

FINES
Tiny Tots - $40
Under 6 - $75
1st Child U7 - U10 - $110
2nd Child U7 - U10 - $100
Family (more than 2) - $150
Family levy - $50
Uniform - $40

REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE:
www.thegallittleathletics.org.au

WHERE:
The Gap State High School oval off Waterworks Road.

WHEN:
15th August 2014 from 6-8pm
16th August 2014 from 2-4pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Ph: 0416 866 395
thegapla@gmail.com
www.thegaplittleathletics.org.au

Proof of age is required. Bring Birth Certificate or extract.

Yoga Classes
Brookfield Hall
Tuesdays & Thursdays
9.30am – 11.00am

Contact Mardi
0409 660 531
yoganature.com.au

VITALITY. HARMONY. YOGA.
yoga nature
AWAKEN