Wednesday 8th October, 2014       Issue 31

From The Principal - Bruce Robertson

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back! I hope you all had a refreshing break from the regular school routine and are enjoying the warmer weather. The term ahead is 10 weeks in duration with a Student Free Day on Monday 20 October and a public holiday on Friday 14 November for the G20 Summit. It’s great to see the students have settled back into their good work habits so quickly.

Can you remember the last time you found a solution to one problem which in turn created another? Several years back when I was the teaching principal at Comet, a small school located between Blackwater and Emerald on the Capricorn Highway, I opened the garage door from the inside only to be greeted by a rather large brown snake.

I’m convinced the snake was as surprised as me! It darted into the garage and went under the washing machine in the laundry area. I grabbed a straw broom, my tool of choice to defend myself, and bravely (or foolishly) went to show the snake who was the boss by moving it back outside.

After prodding and poking a bit, there was no sign of the snake so I gently lifted the lid on the washing machine. The snake struck out at me. With lightning reflexes I closed the lid and instantly turned on the spin cycle. As the cycle’s speed increased I knew I had trapped the snake firmly inside the machine.

My smile quickly deteriorated as I realised my new predicament. My wife shook her head and went back upstairs. In the end, the snake slithered away and I was very relieved!

The reason for mentioning this is that I was greeted by a very large brown snake in the school grounds quite recently. We all know they are present but it is timely for all of us to remind students of what to do should they encounter a snake.

Students should not approach or provoke the snake. They should move away, note the area and report to a staff member or adult as soon as possible. In some cases, they may be able to watch the snake from a safe distance and have someone else report to an adult for assistance. We contact a snake handler who relocates them. Safety of our students, visitors and staff is our highest priority, so please take the time to discuss these procedures with your child.

ICAS Mathematics

91 students participated in ICAS-Mathematics with outstanding results. Our students were awarded 1 High Distinction, 7 Distinction, 30 Credit, 14 Merit and 39 Participation Certificates. I commend all students who entered the competition.

Distinction Certificates: Matthew O (Year 2), James M, Tom G (Year 3), Breseya C, Nicola D, Sophie M, Brian Mc (Year 4),

High Distinction Certificates: Luke B (Year 3)

BYOD iPad Classes 2015

I encourage you to read the information Katie Lewis has been publishing on iPad classes for 2015. There is an opportunity to visit a current iPad classroom to see how the devices are used. The Expression of Interest will be taken from 8am on Friday 17 October.

Personal and Social Development Education

Our P&C has contracted Jenny Mason from Life - Work in Progress to provide two sessions for parents and children on Personal and Social Development. This biannual program is free and will be delivered on Monday 13 October for Years 4 & 5 and Wednesday 15 October for Years 6 & 7.

In order for us to determine the best location (hall or classroom), please inform the office administration admin@brookfieldss.eq.edu.au by Friday 10 October of your intention to attend. The details of the program are:

**Years 4 & 5 Session Title:** “Life’s Changing” Programme - “Life’s Ages and Stages”

**Date:** Monday 13 October 2014

**Year Level:** Years 4 & 5 Parent and Child Evening

**Time:** 7.00-8.30pm

The topics and content of the session will include: How we change through life - our unique story, foetal development before birth, birth, names of body parts - male and female, introduction to puberty, dealing with changes and self-care, trust circles and who to speak with about puberty, workbook discussions with parents, displays of models and resources.

**Years 6 & 7 Session Title:** “Life’s Changing” Programme - “Stepping up to Puberty”

**Date:** Wednesday 15 October 2014

**Time:** 7.00-8.30pm

**Year Level:** Parent and Child evening – Years 6 & 7

The topics and content of the session will include: Change as a natural part of life, who to speak with about puberty, anatomically correct names of body parts - male and female, developmental changes occurring during puberty, menstruation and wet dreams, fertilisation and foetal development before birth, birth, dealing with changes and self-care, displays of models and resources. I will be inviting parents and students to discuss various topics throughout the evening.

Enrolments/Classes 2015

Typically at this time of the year many of you begin to consider opportunities for your child for next year. This includes classes and teacher selection. I would like to assure you that we go to great lengths to place students in classes that will work harmoniously and positively in a supportive and disciplined classroom under the guidance of any of our teaching staff.

The greatest measure to determine the quality of our teachers is to look at our results. Over several years now, our school has performed very well and more importantly, we continue to improve in literacy, numeracy and science learning outcomes.

We have high expectations of learning and behaviour and value the positive and productive relationships that exist within our school community. This culture is something that we all contribute to through our interactions with one another.

The process of appointing teachers and students to classes will begin mid-term. If you have
any concerns, I encourage you to touch base with your child’s teacher, as they will form part of this selection process.

**Working Bee**

There will be a working bee at school on Sunday 02 November. If you are able to contribute a couple of hours it will be most appreciated and beneficial to all students in our school. More details to come in the following weeks.

**P&c Meeting**

The month’s P&c meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 14 October beginning at 7pm in the administration building. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Thought for the Week**

“Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later.”

Og Mandino

Have a great week!

Bruce

brobe66@eq.edu.au

---

**From the Deputy – Katie Lewis**

**BeLearning - BYOD iPad Classes in 2015**

**Expression of Interest - 2015**

An Expression of Interest was sent home on **Tuesday 07 October** for BYOD iPad classes at Brookfield in 2015. We will be offering BYOD iPad classes in **Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in 2015**. The Expression of Interest Form went to existing BYOD iPad students AND all other students in years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in 2014.

Expressions of Interest will be due for return to the Brookfield State School Office from 8:00am on **Friday 17 October, 2014**. **Please note:** Positions will be allocated in order of receipt of Expression of Interest forms and in consideration of establishing a balanced class within the school.

Returning an Expression of Interest enables your child to be considered for a position in an iPad class, it does not guarantee them a place. It is essential for us to collect numbers from this Expression of Interest to enable us to create our classes for 2015 effectively. At this stage, we are yet to confirm the teaching staff who will be taking our BYOD iPad classes in 2015.

To help you make an informed decision regarding participation in a BYOD iPad class in 2015, we are providing **BYOD iPad Open Classrooms**:

Mrs Deb Minczanowski, Mrs Bec Moore, Mrs Steph Weigel and Mr Kieron Skehan and the students of Year 3A, 4A and 5B will open their classroom for parents to visit and see how iPads are used on a daily basis to support and enhance student learning. These open classroom sessions will be for any interested parents (students and staff) to come and visit, see students at work and ask any questions they may have. This would be an ideal opportunity for parents considering being part of the BYOD iPad classes in 2015.

---

Disclaimer: Inclusion of an advertisement for a product or service in the “Brookfield Banter” is not to be considered as an endorsement or recommendation by Brookfield State School.
When:   Week 2, Term 4

RSVP: admin@brookfields.eq.edu.au

Thanks to these teachers and students for opening their classroom to share their learning with iPads.

For more information, refer to the BeLearning BYOD Information Pack available at the school office or on the school website. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me by phone or email.

Prep in 2015

Please make sure you have booked in for a 15 minute interview with your child and a member of the Prep Teaching Team on Monday 20 October, 2014.

When:   Monday 20 October, 2014
Duration:  15 minute interview
Time:  8:00am to 4:00pm
Where:  Resource Centre (Library)
Bring:  Your child’s favourite book

Please click on the link below and enter our event code M7PPE to secure your interview time slot.

Event Code: M7PPE

You are able to book in with either Teacher 1, Teacher 2, or Teacher 3. This does not indicate which class your child will be in next year and our teachers all meet to share and discuss the interviews when creating class lists for 2015.

Please be sure to arrive a few minutes early to enable us to keep to our scheduled times on the day, thank you.

Bookings will close Friday 17 October at 4pm. If you experience any difficulties booking please contact the school either by phone or email.

Pre Service Teachers

Practical teaching experiences are an integral part of a Pre Service Teacher’s degree. Brookfield supports Pre Service teachers from QUT throughout their degree by offering practicum placements in classrooms. During Term 4, we will have a number of Pre Service Teachers working in our classrooms:

- Britt Carseldine
  * With Melinda Kienzle and Prep C
- Stephanie Miller
  * With Bec Moore, Deb Minczanowski and 3A
- Kristine Koerper
  * With Fiona Echberg and 3B
- Georgia Proberts
  * With Tracy Findlay and 4B
  * 4 week block from 06/05/13 - 31/05/13
Please make these Pre Service Teachers feel welcome at Brookfield and be sure to talk with your child’s teacher should you have any queries about their role in the classroom.

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

Science Fair

Congratulations to the following Science Fair winners:

Best Stem - Emily F
Encouragement Stem - Zara D
Best Yr 7 - Jenny F
Encouragement Yr 7 - Sabine G, Lucy C
Best Yr 6 - Tom S, Danny Y, Jack D
Best Yr 5 - Curtis M and Nic H
Encouragement Yr 5 - Cody H
Encouragement Yr 5 - Emily P

Resource Centre News

Book Fair - Week 3! - We are looking forward to the arrival on Wednesday October 22nd of the Scholastic Book Fair to Brookfield State School. There will be a wide variety of popular titles of fiction and non-fiction books for sale until the following Wednesday 29th of October.

New Classroom Reading Books - We thank the Year 2 Parents who are covering new classroom reading resources for us. In particular Shanaaz Wilson and Michelle Williams who have taken an entire box and additionally Julie Kingston, Hayley Richman, Joanna Yesberg and Dominique Eza. Well done.

Year 5 and 6 parents - We have now processed classroom reading books for your students so if you are able to assist either in the Library or to take some home with pre-cut contact it would be greatly appreciated.

Unidentified Payment

We have a payment which was deposited into the School Bank Account with a reference that doesn’t identify the student account sufficiently.

Could you please ring the school office if you recognise the following details:

18 Aug - Mr Andrew Henty $37.00

Office Staff

Fiona Allison
Teacher Librarian

Kieron Skehan
P&C Monthly Meeting

The P&C Committee actively represents all Brookfield State School parents and we would like to make sure that we are engaged with your views.

"Be the change" - our regular monthly meetings are taking on a new approach. Come and find out what we are about, what we are doing for the school and if you like, how you can become involved. Meetings will be limited to around an hour - so in and out before you know it!

All parents (old and new) are invited to join the P&C for a cuppa and slice and be part of the change.

When: Tuesday 14 October 7-8pm
Where: Staff Room in the Office
We look forward to seeing you there.

Rachel Beitzel
P&C President

Band News

There will be no Year 5 band lessons next Tuesday 14 October.

Damon Lougheed

Western Suburbs Inter Schools Tennis Challenge Trials

Brookfield Tennis Centre will be hosting the first ever Western Suburbs Inter Schools Tennis Challenge. Brookfield State School will be competing against 6 other Western Suburbs schools. This competition will commence on Sunday 26th October and will run for 6 weeks.

Brookfield State School has been participating in the Inter Schools Tennis Cup at the Gap for the past two years, but this year we have managed to organise a Western Suburbs one. The schools that will be competing in the challenge will be:

- Brookfield State School
- Kenmore South Primary
- Kenmore State Primary
- Moggill State School
- Pullenvale State School
- Fig Tree Pocket State School
- Indooroopilly State School

This competition was started to allow school kids to represent their school playing the Tennis Australia approved ANZ Tennis Hot Shots. There are 3 levels: Red, Orange and Green.

Red Level - is open to children in Prep to Year 2 and is run as a round robin event with school teams consisting of 8 players allowing for maximum participation. The Red Hot Shots program uses modified balls, smaller nets and a smaller court designed to make play easier and allowing more kids to develop their tennis skills.

Orange Level - is open to Years 1 to 4 (Depending on their skill level) and is also run as a round robin event, with the school team consisting of 4 players. The Orange program also uses modified balls and equipment and is played on a three quarter court.

Green Level - is open to Years 4 -7 (depending on their skill level) and is also run as a round robin event, but uses green balls and a full court. The team consists of 3 players.
There will be a Red, Orange and Green Ball competition and the duration for each division will be approximately 1 hour.

We will be holding school team trials over the next two weeks. Cumulative results will be taken from Challenges, fixtures, lessons as well as having a trials date.

**Red Ball Trials** - Thursday 9th October at 11am (First Break school courts)

**Orange Ball Trials** - Friday 17th October 7:30am to 8:30am (Brookfield Tennis Centre)

**Green Ball Trials** - Friday 10th October 7:30am to 8:30am (Brookfield Tennis Centre)

---

**All Regional Trials Aquathon and Triathlon**

Trials for all regional teams are at Kawana on the 9th of November. For students born 2003 or 2004 race distance is 1km run, 200m swim, 1km run. For students born 2002 race distance is 400m swim, 12km bike, 3km run. Students must enter for the region that the school is in that they will be attending next year.

Entry closes the 2nd of November and is only via the triathlon Queensland website. [http://www.triathlonqld.com.au/Events/AllSchools/RaceEntry.aspx](http://www.triathlonqld.com.au/Events/AllSchools/RaceEntry.aspx)

---

**Uniform Shop**

Hi everyone and welcome back to term 4. Please note the shop will be closed on Monday morning the 20th of October as it is a pupil free day.

I will be asking our school bag supplier representative to come into the school in the next week or so. Please let me know if you have a faulty bag you would like looked at.

Although the weather is getting hotter and winter clothing is probably far from your thoughts we still have some winter garments for sale. Be prepared early for next winter!

Don’t forget the shop has some beautiful hair accessories. Pop in and have a look.

---

**Orienteering**

This week (8 October) sees the start of the 6 week orienteering programme. All children are welcome to participate (prep to 7’s). Meet down on the Oval at 8am on Thursday.

**Happy orienteering!**

---

**Chess Club**

Term 4 is a Competition Term for chessplayers at Brookfield SS! Starting in the second week of the term, both Seniors (Grades 4 to 7) and Juniors (Grades 1 to 3) can match their wits on Wednesdays from 11.00am (the start of big lunch) until 12.00pm (children are allowed to stay after the bell). There will also be coaching for beginning players.

At the end of the term there will be certificates for all players. The Senior and Junior winners will receive trophies, and there will also be medals for other Senior and Junior prize winners. Parents should enroll their students for these classes at the Office.
Sculpting Club

We are hoping to start a Sculpting Club next term week 2 with Ceramic Artist Hugo J. Vesara, member of Australian Ceramic Assoc. and contractor for 15 years with Brisbane City Council.

As a lot of people are aware, Ceramic and Clay is slowly disappearing from the world. Because of that, Sculpting Club would like to make it popular again. This is one of the most popular fun & design activity where students learn how to make sculptures, pots, cartoon figurines and design them.

The cost would be $170 for week 2 - 10 in term 4 for students in grade (1-7). The cost includes firing in the kiln, clay, glazes, underglaze and all tools. We are planning to start Tuesday lunch time 11:00 - 11:45.

Please register your interest by emailing admin@brookfieldss.eq.edu.au.

Sincerely,
Hugo J. Vesara

Ceramics | Sculpting | 3D Design

BSS Trivia & Games Night

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 be only 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 debm@bigpond.com or 0409924608.

Deb Minczanowski

Brookfield Fun Run/Walk date claimer

Mark the diaries - the 2014 Brookfield Fun Run/Walk is on Saturday 6 December from the Brookfield General Store and Café. The annual 5km event from the Brookfield General Store raises funds for the Christmas Bowl Appeal. Check out BrookieFunRun on Facebook.

See next week’s newsletter for more details.

Jan Martin