



BRISBANE CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

Cnr St Paul's Tce & Rogers St, Spring Hill Qld 4000



newsletter

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06 December 2013

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a fabulous evening we had last night at our Annual Christmas Concert! This year, we were able to significantly expand our concert program to include the Junior Choir, Ukulele Ensemble and soloists. This is a testament to our growing Music program, and passion for Music across the school.

A MASSIVE thanks to Mrs Julie West, our music teacher, who coordinated, rehearsed and organised the performances. Julie brought much passion to the role, and was able to take this mammoth task on at relatively short notice. A HUGE thanks also to our teachers and teacher aides who dutifully rehearsed their students for weeks before the concert. A HUGE thanks also to our Christmas Concert organising

committee and supporters for their decoration of the hall, preparing and selling food, and for setting and packing up. A special thanks to Allison McDonald for the donation of air conditioners, and to Fedele Crisci, for the donating and setting up microphones and amplifiers for use on the night. Finally, thank you to Maree Lewis, who year after year puts together a number of Christmas hampers to be raffled off. I really appreciate the support of our school community to put on a great concert! Thank you!

This will be the last newsletter of the year. My thanks to our incredibly professional staff, who have worked very hard this year to ensure that every day, every student is achieving to their potential. My thanks also to our parents, who have supported the school through volunteering their time in classrooms, coordinating events, running fundraising activities and developing school resources – your involvement is greatly appreciated! Finally, my thanks to our community partners, and our state and local leaders for their ongoing support of our school.

To our families who are leaving us, we wish you the best of luck in your new schools. I wish all our families a safe and happy holiday season, and we look forward to seeing you back on **Tuesday January 28, 2014**.



Classes for 2014:

Our class allocations will be released on Wednesday December 11, 2013. You would be aware from the school newsletters this term, that current class teachers have been working with specialist teachers and myself to form balanced classes that best take into account the following:

- A balance of academic abilities across the classes of the year level;
- A gender balance across the classes of the year level;
- A balance across the classes of the year level in relation to social and behavioural factors;
- The combinations/dynamics of the group of students.

At Brisbane Central State School, we take the formulation of classes very seriously. Our teachers work closely together to ensure that each class is balanced according to the factors described above. We ask that parents understand this, and respect the decisions made about class placements when released next week. Should you have any questions or concerns about your child's class placement, please see your child's teacher in the first instance.

Please be aware that any class allocations will be temporary, as I am unable to confirm permanent staffing arrangements until Day 8 (Thursday February 6, 2014), which is Education Queensland's census date.

10/12/2013	Announcement of School Leaders
11/12/2013	Report Cards Issued Notification of Classes for 2014
12/12/2013	End of Year Break Up
13/12/2013	Clean Up Day Last school day - Term 4, 2013
14/12/2013 – 27/01/2014	End of Year School holidays
28/01/2014	First school day – Term 1, 2014

Our proposed class compositions for 2014 will be as follows:

Class	Teacher	Room
Prep	Darren Waugh	D01 (Prep rooms)
Prep/1	Jan McKean	D02 (Prep room)
Year 1	Wendy Fitzgerald	A01 – Main block
Year 2	Brendan Stock	A03 – Main block
Year 2	Rae Ross	A05 – Main block
Year 3	Gemma Zielke	A08 – Main block
Year 3/4	Jonathan Gagan	TBA
Year 4/5	TBA	C01 – Demountable
Year 5/6	Kylie Wall	C02 – Demountable
Year 6/7	Annette Somerville	Hall



Staffing for 2014:

Welcome to Jillian Samuels who will be joining us as our new EAL/D teacher next year. Jillian will be working with Shona Arneil, who will be returning to Brisbane Central next year, after being away for most of 2013 on maternity leave. We are very lucky, as we have been assigned 1.1 EAL/D teachers next year! We say a sad farewell to Meredith Waghorn, who has worked tirelessly this year as our part-time EAL/D teacher. Meredith has worked hard to provide a range of support programs for our EAL/D learners. My sincere thanks to Meredith for her dedication and commitment to our school over the past year.



Year 7 Graduation:

A BIG thank you to Mrs Annette Somerville for her organisation of a touching Year 7 Graduation (Leaving) Ceremony last night. It was great to see the number of parents and family members present to witness this important event. We wish all our Year 7's the best of luck as they navigate their new schools in 2014.



Thanks to TUH:

Our HUGE thanks goes to Teacher's Union Health for their on-going support of the Oral Language Program during Semester 2, 2013. A BIG thanks also goes to Sandra Roe from Teacher's Union Health for coordinating and supporting volunteers who donate their time regularly every week, and to Mrs Meredith Waghorn for coordinating the program and training volunteers. The program was made successful also because of the commitment of our wonderful Prep staff – Darren Waugh, Jan McKean, Megan Hale, and Jenny Gilmour.



School Leaders for 2014:

Our School and House Captains will be announced at our last Assembly. Congratulations to the students who have nominated for a leadership position. With many quality candidates in the pool, we are sure to have great School, House and Music Captains next year!



Arriving and leaving school in 2014:

The beginning of the school year brings considerable pressure on our already limited parking here at Brisbane Central State School. I recommend that if possible, you walk to school or use the school drop off zone. **Should this not be an option for your family, please be aware that if you choose to park in our car park, you will, in most likelihood, be parked in until at least 9:15am.**

When dropping off and picking up students from school, it is crucial that you follow Queensland road rules to ensure the safety of our students. This includes refraining from double parking and not parking in “no standing” zones, or on parts of the road bordered by a yellow line. Please ensure that if your child walks to and from school independently, that they know to cross only at designated pedestrian crossings and at lights. Please help us to ensure that all students are safe when arriving and leaving the school grounds in 2014.



Report cards:

Report Cards will be sent home in a sealed envelope on **Wednesday, December 11** via your child. Please let your child's class teacher know if you did not receive your child's report card.



2014 Booklists:

2014 Booklists were distributed on **Friday, December 1** and will need to be returned to school by **Wednesday, December 11**.



Break-up day:

Break Up day will be on the second last day of school (Thursday, December 12), with many classes holding special celebrations, parties and Secret Santa activities. You teacher will, or should have sent home a letter explaining the type of festivities they will be holding on the day.



Clean- up day:

Students may wear free dress on the final day of school (Friday, December 14). Students will be helping teachers to clean up rooms and organise resources on this day. There will be no formalised learning on this day.



Uniform shop:

The Uniform Shop will be open on Friday, January 24 from 10:00am to 11:00am. The Uniform Shop will then be open every Friday 8:30am – 9:30am. My thanks goes to Cecilia Huang and volunteers who keep this essential service running at our school.



Preparing for 2014 - Please let us know if you are leaving our school or returning to Brisbane Central State School after January 28, 2014

Thank you to the parents who have already let us know their intentions for 2014. Preparations for 2014 classes and staffing have already commenced. **It is crucial** that parents let either Carolina Duncan or myself know **as soon as possible** if their child/ren will not be returning to Brisbane Central State School.

We understand that many of our families use the summer holidays to visit family and friends overseas and interstate, and may return to school after the **commencement of school on January 28, 2014**. Should this be the case for your family, **it is crucial** that you return the form sent home last week, or provide an email/ letter to Carolina Duncan (admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au) stating your return date so that your child is still considered as being enrolled in our school. Should your child be away for more than 10 consecutive days from the commencement of Term 1, 2014 (January 28, 2014), you will need to complete an *Application for Exemption from Compulsory Schooling* form. These forms are available from Carolina Duncan in the office.

Our final staffing numbers for 2014 depend on the number of known enrolments (either students present at school, or students for whom we have a written correspondence stating their return or start date). Knowing whether you are leaving the school or taking an extended summer holiday makes a difference to our staffing and the number of classes we are able to make. **Please let us know now so we don't have to make unnecessary class changes at the beginning of the year.**

So... in summary:

If you are leaving the school and will not be returning:

- Please email Carolina Duncan – admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au stating your child/ren's name and the

name of the school your child/ren will be attending in 2014, or,

- Address a letter to Carolina Duncan stating the same, or,
- Complete the form at the end of this newsletter or return the form sent home last week, and return to the office.

If you will be returning to Brisbane Central State School, but your child will not be returning until after January 28, 2014:

- Please email Carolina Duncan stating your child/ren's name, the reason for their absence from school, and the expected date of return to school, or,
- Address a letter to Carolina Duncan stating the same, or,
- Complete the form at the end of this newsletter or return the form sent home, and return to the office, and,
- Complete an *Application for Exemption from Compulsory Schooling* form (required if absence from school is greater than 10 days)

Please help us to make accurate predictions about our staffing for student numbers by letting us know whether you intend to leave our school, enrol a child, or return to school after January 28, 2014.

Have a safe holiday season,

Melissa

YEAR 2/3 NEWS

The Fun Beach

By Jonah M.

I can see:

Kids playing in the soft stony sand
The jellyfish swimming silently
A man waving with his hand
Brilliant brown birds flying violently

I can hear:

The waves crashing against the sunny shore
Dirty dangerous dogs barking louder than ever
People biting to the apple core
Bugs buzzing around like they have never

I can feel:

The hot rays of the scorching sun
Washing wind against my sunburnt skin
I am edgy energetic, I really need to run
I feel like swimming with my dorsal fin!

FIT N' ACTIVE NEWS

We have finally come to an end for Fit n' Active 2013.

The children have had a great time throughout the year and many parents have personally informed me that their children's bedtimes were much earlier than usual after Fit n' Active days. It's always nice to see children playing a sport and having fun.

Looking forward to another exciting year next year, please keep an eye out for the coming dates and program for Term 1, 2014

Thank you,

Mare Lewis

PARENT ENGLISH CLASS

Our final class for 2013 will be on Tuesday 10th December.

To celebrate our time together we will have a Christmas/Festive break-up lunch. We will meet as usual at 12:30pm in the school hall. If you have attended our English class at any time during the year, we would love you to join us for our lunch.

2014 English Class

We are looking forward to resuming our Parent English class in 2014. The class will start on Tuesday 11th February (Week 3).

SCHOOLS UPDATE

Easier access to school information through updated version QSchools app

A recent update to the QSchools app means our parents will now be able to find tuckshop and class time information more easily.

As well as being able to access calendar, newsletter and other information from our school website the upgraded app can also access uniform shop information and school social media pages. It all makes staying in touch and up to date a little easier for your family.

Visit the department's apps page for more information and all the features: <http://deta.qld.gov.au/about/app/>

The QSchools app is available for free download through iTunes, Google Play and the Windows store.

The Websites for Schools development team would love to hear your ideas for future functionality for QSchools. You can leave feedback within the app via Settings, then Leave Feedback.

KEEP A WATCH ON OUR SCHOOL THESE HOLIDAYS

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don't intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

UNIFORM NEWS

OPENING HOURS – The Uniform Shop will only be open FRIDAY mornings from 8:30am to 9:30am.

ORDERING UNIFORMS - If you would like to order uniforms you can email Amanda on bcsspandc@hotmail.com and it will be put in your child's school bag after payment is received. If you have ordered the wrong size, it can be returned as long as it has not been worn.

METHODS OF PAYMENT: You can put **cash** or **cheque** in an envelope for your child to give to their teacher, or

(1) You can put **cash** or **cheque** in an envelope for your child to give to their teacher, or

(2) You can bank the total into the P & C account

BSB: 064012, Account: 0090 4486 (NOT THE SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNT) - Detail uniform with your name (e.g. Uniform Smith).

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer in the Uniform Shop, please email Amanda bcsspandc@hotmail.com.



Quality Education in the Best Learning Atmosphere



Learning Benefits

- ✓ Experienced teachers
- ✓ French lessons Prep to Year 7
- ✓ Comprehensive Music program
- ✓ Interactive whiteboards in every classroom
- ✓ Air conditioned classrooms
- ✓ Gifted and Talented programs, including dedicated Extension teacher
- ✓ Differentiated swimming programs
- ✓ Free English lessons for parents
- ✓ Oral language and Reading programs
- ✓ High student and parent satisfaction ratings on school opinion surveys
- ✓ High expectations for student behaviour
- ✓ High levels of academic achievement

LEAVING US? PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN

Child's name: _____

Parent's name: _____

Will not be returning to Brisbane Central State School in 2014. Please state the school child will be attending:

Will be returning to Brisbane Central State School after Tuesday January 28, 2014 (first day of school). Please state reason:

Signed: _____

Date: _____