Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the 2014 school year! We hope that all our families had a relaxing and safe summer break. Over the holidays our school grew by approximately 30 students, with the addition of an extra class. We extend a very special welcome to our new families from overseas and interstate, as well as our families who have joined us from Fortitude Valley State School. We are thrilled to have you join our school community, and hope you enjoy your time at Brisbane Central.

New staff:

A HUGE welcome to our new staff to Brisbane Central State School:

- Gemma Zielke: Year 3 teacher
- Jonathan Gagen: Year 3/4 teacher
- Caitlin Ashcroft: Year 4/5 teacher
- Jill Samuels: English as an Additional Language/Dialect Specialist Teacher
- Jenny Battersby: Music Specialist Teacher
- Dave Johnson: Physical Education Specialist Teacher
- Colin McIntyre: Instrumental Music teacher
- Vicky Jevson: Guidance Officer
- Tamara Hearne: Teacher Aide - Tamara joins us from Fortitude Valley State School
- Ozlem Asan, Karlee Heslip and Kathryn Mikota: QUT students

If you see one of our new staff, please go out of your way to introduce yourself - I know they are all keen to get to know you. I know our school community will go out of their way to make our new staff feel very welcome. A special welcome back to Shona Arneil (English as an Additional Language/Dialect Specialist Teacher) from maternity leave! It is great to have Shona back at Brisbane Central State School!

Facilities update:

Prior to the end of the school year, we had a shuffle of rooms to accommodate our additional class. The “old” library is now occupied by our Year 6/7 class, and the “new” library, has
been accommodated in the back end of the hall. Our Year 6/7 room was also repainted and re-carpeted in time for the commencement of the school year. A HUGE thanks to our Regional Facilities team for their support in helping the school to make the transition as smooth as possible. C Block (Year 4/5 and Year 5/6) also received a new coat of paint inside and out over the summer break. We were also the beneficiary of some furniture and resources from Fortitude Valley State School. We are very grateful to have received these on Thursday.

Parking:
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, parents walk/cycle with their child to school or use the school drop off/pick up zone. Due to recent hazardous parking in our car park, we will now be locking the car park gates from 8:40am, to enhance the safety of our students. Please be aware that should you park in the school car park before 8:40am, you may be locked in until after 9:00am. Should you wish to drive your child to school, we recommend utilising the drop off zone that you can access via Water Street. Our drop off zone is supervised by our teacher aides, who will ensure that your child will safely get to class.

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 avoiding parking in “no standing” zones, or on parts of the road bordered by a yellow line. Please refer to the information at the end of this newsletter about where to safely park and drop off your children. 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.

Meet and Greet Class Information Nights:
Our “Meet and Greet” Parent Information Night will be held on Wednesday February 12, 2014. Prep, Prep/1, Year 1, and Year 2 will hold their information sessions from 6:00pm – 6:30pm. Years 3, 3/4, 4/5, 5/6 and Year 6/7 will hold their information nights from 6:35pm – 7:05pm.

I would like to strongly encourage all our parents to attend their child’s class Information Evening. This is an excellent opportunity to find out about the following topics:

- Class procedures and routines
- Class timetable and overview of the curriculum that will be taught
- Teaching and learning within a multi-age class
- Homework
- NAPLAN tests (Years 3/5/7)
- Communication

There will also be opportunities for parents to ask questions and clarify any information. Our French teacher, Ms Rosa Maroto will also be available, to discuss our excellent French program.

Voluntary Financial Contributions:
At the end of 2011, the P&C approved the introduction of a Voluntary Contribution Scheme for Brisbane Central State School. The Voluntary Contribution Scheme is used to supplement the funding provided to the school by Education Queensland and the P&C. Voluntary financial contributions will be used by Brisbane Central State School to provide an enhanced educational service and to enhance resources available for student learning. The scheme and its operation are also incorporated in the school’s audit process, regularly undertaken by Education Queensland.

In 2014, the monies raised will be directed towards the purchase of additional resources to implement the Australian Curriculum in Mathematics, English, Science, History and Geography.

2014 Voluntary Contribution Rate: Years 1-7: $50 per child, $100 per family.

Every family will receive a letter regarding the Voluntary Financial Contribution, including the payment details. Your monetary support is greatly appreciated.
Communication:

Our school has a number of ways that we communicate with our parents and these are:

- **School newsletter:** Our school newsletter is disseminated on Friday afternoons, and contains a range of important information and updates. It is essential that you read our newsletter every week so that you are up to date with all that is happening at our busy school. We disseminate the newsletter electronically to parents on Fridays. If you do not receive an electronic copy of our school email, please email James Price - jpric192@eq.edu.au, with a request to add your address to our distribution list.

- **School website:** Our school website is updated every Friday with news, events, and parent letters. You can also find information about our class times, tuckshop menu and Outside School Hours Care. Go to www.brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au for an instant update.

- **QSchools app:** The QSchools app can be downloaded from iTunes Store and Google Play for free. All information from our website is downloaded to the app, and is a quick and convenient way to keep informed.

- **Social media:** Follow us on Twitter – Bris_Cent_SS and like us on Facebook- Brisbane Central State School. Like and follow us today!!

- **Parent letters:** Class teachers will be sending home Class Information letters by the end of next week. Please keep an eye out for these so that you have an overview of what will be happening in your child’s class this year. Periodically, permission letters will also be sent home via your child for excursions, activities and events. If you suspect that these letters have not made it home, please follow up with your child’s class or specialist teacher.

- **Email:** All Education Queensland teachers are allocated an email address. As it may be difficult for working parents to “touch base” with their child’s teacher on a regular basis, email can also be an efficient and effective way to maintain effective communication between parent and teacher. Should you wish to obtain the email address of your child’s teacher, please do not hesitate to contact Carolina Duncan in our school office or via email – admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au. Our class teachers will be sharing their email address with parents at the information evening also.

- **In person:** Often the most effective ways to communicate with either myself or your child’s teacher is in person. Sometimes teachers are available before and after school for a quick chat. When a more in-depth discussion is required, we ask that you make a time with either myself or your child’s teacher so that we can allow enough time to discuss your concerns and questions. If you are worried about your child or have a concern, we ask that you discuss it with us earlier rather than later. Often issues can be resolved quickly when they are raised in a timely, open and honest way. We believe that there is a solution to every problem, and we want to ensure that all students are happy, safe and learning. To help us to do this, we need parents to let us know when something isn’t working well for your child. You can also let us know when something is working well for your child!

Term 1 Calendar:

Our Term 1 Calendar is attached to this email. Please print and put it on your fridge! If you lose it, just remember that all the information will be transferred to our website and updated through the QSchools app.

Staff Professional Learning:

While students were enjoying the last golden days of their school holidays, staff were back at work and engaging in a range of professional development activities. The three days together also allowed the staff to work together to review and refine our direction as a school, and provided valuable opportunities to discuss teaching and learning.

Our learning activities included:

- Reviewing our progress against our 2013 school priorities and reviewing our 2014 priorities (I look forward to sharing these priorities with you in next week’s newsletter);
- Reviewing and giving input to the school’s Explicit Improvement Plan
- Completion of 2 modules of the “Teaching ESL students in Mainstream Classrooms “ course (a 50 hour course that all teachers will be completing over the next three terms)
- Essential Skills for Classroom Management  2 hour workshop
- Mindfulness workshop
Music program:

Our new Music teacher Mrs Jenny Battersby, our new Instrumental Music teacher Mr Colin McIntyre and our Junior Choir teachers Miss Kylie Wall and Miss Rae Ross, will be working hard this year to further enhance our Music program, and provide greater opportunities for our students to engage in musical activities. Rehearsal times for Band, Choir and Ukulele Ensemble will be as follows:

- **Band**: Day and time to be confirmed
- **Junior Choir**: Tuesday 8:00am in the hall
- **Senior Choir**: Wednesday 8:15am in the Music Room
- **Ukulele ensemble**: Wednesday 11:00am - 11:30am

Band students will need to remember to bring their instrument on Tuesdays so that they can continue to play the National Anthem at assembly.

Swimming:

Swimming commences on Friday 14 February, 2014. Please look out for a note about swimming with this newsletter. Payment and a completed permission form are required before students are permitted to attend swimming.

A couple of reminders to start the new school year:

- **“Stay and Play”**: is an arrangement whereby students under the direct supervision of their parents are able to use the playground equipment after school, is on **Wednesdays and Fridays ONLY**. The use of this equipment is subject to the signing and return of the attached form which outlines the guidelines for “Stay and Play” for 2014. A reminder that the school is not a public park and these rules are necessary for a well-ordered and safe school. We must insist that the playground is not used before school on any day of the week or after school on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays due to it being allocated to After School Care, Fit and Active and to allow staff meetings to occur in a quiet and confidential environment.

- **Before and after school**: Students are required to sit and wait for their parents to arrive after school at the top of the driveway or under the supervision of staff and parents in the 2 minute zone. We require parents to arrive promptly at 3:00pm to collect children or ensure they are booked into after school care. Additionally, students should not arrive at school before 8:30am. At 8:30am students may put their bags outside their classrooms and play handball on the concrete area in front of the school. Prep and Year One students who are without their parents before school need to wait with the rest of the students out in front of the school. A reminder that students and/or their parents are not permitted to enter classrooms in the absence of a teacher. This ensures the safety of students and the security of their belongings and information.

- **Assembly**: Our first assembly for the year will be held on Tuesday February 4 at 2:30pm. We welcome all our families to come along. Our Year 2B students will perform an item at our first assembly. Each week we will be showcasing the work of one of our classes, our choir, our Instrumental Music students, our band or our Ukulele Ensemble. A reminder that Band students will need to bring their instruments to school on Tuesdays so that they can play the National Anthem.

Have a great week!
Melissa

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**SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB**

Every year we give out Scholastic Book Club brochures twice each term. If you would like to order any books for your child, please return the order forms to the class teacher by the due date. We accept credit card payments and cheque payments only - NO CASH payments, thank you.

We receive bonus points for all purchases made and we use these points to get free library books. Last year we received approximately $1200 in free books. If you have any questions please see Mrs Gilmour in the prep building.

Thank you for your support.
FIT N’ ACTIVE TERM 1

For those who are new to Brisbane Central State School, there is an excellent program available to all students called “Fit n’ Active” which runs 2 days a week, for 7 weeks, 4 terms a year.

Mondays are allocated to Years 4 to 7 and Thursdays are allocated to Prep to Year 3. The program starts at 3:00pm and finishes at 4:15pm.

The school is funded for this program, which means we can only take 25 children in each session. Places this term will be allocated based on a “first in, first placed” basis. I have a waiting list if any child decides that he or she wants to pull out.

Each term I try and make sure that everyone gets a chance to be taught how to play a different sport. This term is Basketball. We start on February 17, and the forms will go out next week.

Thank you,
Maree Lewis

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 bcspandc@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 bcspandc@hotmail.com.

Would you like your family to live a healthier lifestyle?

Raising healthy children is an important aspect to positive parenting. Your child’s physical health can affect their growth and development, their ability to participate in school, sport and other activities, and how they get along with other children. Children who eat well and stay active are more likely to develop into healthy adults. Researchers at the University of Queensland are currently offering a FREE Triple P parenting program to parents of children 3 to 10 years in exchange for participation in research. Across three seminars you will learn strategies for...

✓ Managing both general and lifestyle-specific child problem behaviours
✓ Helping your child eat a healthy balance of nutritious foods
✓ Motivating your child to be more active
✓ Limiting screen time

The program is run at St Lucia and Ipswich, with free childcare available for families. To register visit our website: www.exp.psy.uq.edu.au/life

Jessica Bartlett — Project Coordinator
Email: lifestyletriplep@uq.edu.au
Phone: 0424 321 086 (please leave a message)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>27 Jan</td>
<td>No assembly</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting - 8:00am</td>
<td>Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 Feb</td>
<td>Assembly 2:30pm - Year 2 B presenting</td>
<td>Senior Choir 8:15am</td>
<td>Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>10 Feb</td>
<td>Junior Choir 8:00am StartSmart Program Parent English class 12-2.30 pm Assembly 2.30 pm - Year 5/6 presenting</td>
<td>Senior Choir 8:15am StartSmart Program SLP visit Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm Meet and Greet Parent Information Evenings: Prep-2: 6:00pm - 6:35pm Year 3-7: 6:35pm - 7:05pm</td>
<td>Gardening Club 8:30am</td>
<td>Years 1-7: Swimming - as per timetable</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>17 Feb</td>
<td>Fit and Active - Year 4-7 Junior Choir 8:00am School Leaders' Induction Ceremony - 2:30 pm Parent English class 12-2.30 pm Bilingual French/English Assembly 2:30pm</td>
<td>Senior Choir 8:15am Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Fit and Active - Year P-3 3:00pm-4:15pm</td>
<td>Gardening Club 8:30am Years 1-7: Swimming - as per timetable</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>24 Feb</td>
<td>Young Leaders' Day - Year 6-7 students Junior Choir 8:00am Pancake Tuesday Parent English class 12-2.30 pm Assembly 2.30 pm - Year 6/7 presenting</td>
<td>City District Swimming Carnival Senior Choir 8:15am Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Fit and Active - Year P-3 3:00pm-4:15pm</td>
<td>Gardening Club 8:30am Years 1-7: Swimming - as per timetable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3 Mar</td>
<td>Fit and Active - Year 4-7 3:00pm-4:15pm</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM - time TBA Senior Choir 8:15am Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Fit and Active - Year P-3 3:00pm-4:15pm</td>
<td>Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10 Mar</td>
<td>Junior Choir 8:00am Parent English class 12-2.30 pm French Film Festival excursion Years 4-7 Assembly 2.30 pm - Year 6/7 presenting</td>
<td>Senior Choir 8:15am Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Gardening Club 8:30am Years 1-7: Swimming - as per timetable</td>
<td>Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>17 Mar</td>
<td>Fit and Active - Year 4-7 3:00pm-4:15pm</td>
<td>Senior Choir 8:15am Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Fit and Active - Year P-3 3:00pm-4:15pm</td>
<td>Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>24 Mar</td>
<td>Parent-Teacher Interviews Year P-7 Junior Choir 8:00am Parent English class 12-2.30 pm Assembly 2.30 pm - Year 1 presenting</td>
<td>Senior Choir 8:15am SLP visit Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Gardening Club 8:30am Years 1-7: Swimming - as per timetable</td>
<td>Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>31 Mar</td>
<td>Parent-Teacher Interviews Year P-7 Junior Choir 8:00am Parent English class 12-2.30 pm Assembly 2.30 pm - Prep/1 presenting</td>
<td>Senior Choir 8:15am Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Gardening Club 8:30am Years P-7: Easter Hat Parade - 9 am</td>
<td>Play and Stay 3:00 - 4:00pm</td>
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Please be aware that these dates are subject to change. Please regularly check the school newsletter (published every Friday) to ensure you are informed of any date or time changes.
ROAD SAFETY for BRISBANE CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

Please follow this guide when dropping off and picking your children up from school.

Please remember to obey the road rules and practice safety to avoid receiving fines.
Please consider the safety of your child and the safety of other children, as well as other road users. Educate your children and lead by example.
STAY AND PLAY GUIDELINES – JANUARY 2014
(students are not permitted to stay and play without this completed form)

Stay and Play is an initiative designed to provide green space and playground equipment for students that live in residences with limited play spaces. This initiative takes place between 3 and 4 pm on the designated days each week as determined by the Principal each school term.

Continued participation in Stay and Play is based on you and your child’s written agreement with the Stay and Play guidelines. Additionally, your child’s play and your supervision of them must be according to these guidelines to maintain the safety of your child and the smooth operation of the school.

1. My child will use the oval and playground equipment outside of school hours only at the designated Stay and Play times. For 2014, these times are for Wednesday and Friday ONLY until further notice. These days are subject to change due to other school activities. These changes will be advised through the school newsletter.
2. My child will be directly supervised by me. I understand that direct supervision is defined as being within 25 metres of my child at all times. I will use the seating situated next to the playground equipment or make use of equipment such as a picnic blanket placed nearby to enable effective supervision.
3. The Teen Ranger Playground is not used for Stay and Play at any time.
4. My child will not play near or with students enrolled in the After School Care Program.
5. My child will not play running games on any of the playground equipment.
6. My child will keep their hands and feet to themselves.
7. My child will play with care and respect for others and with respect for school property. e.g removal of own rubbish etc.
8. My child will not ride scooters, bikes and skateboards on school premises during Stay and Play.
9. My non-school aged children will play on the equipment with me standing beside them at all times.
10. I understand the school car park side of the cricket pitch is the designated space for Stay and Play if there are other activities taking place on the oval.
11. My child will be directly supervised by me if they need to leave the playground or oval at any time to access the toilet or drink taps.
12. I understand that my child and I will not access other school buildings or facilities whilst at Stay and Play. I am willing to pay for any damage to or loss of school property arising from the use of the venue or equipment.
13. I understand the school is not responsible for damage, loss, or injury to any person or property as a result of participation in Stay and Play. I am willing to indemnify the school, its employees and agents against all claims for damages, loss, costs, or injury arising from the use of the venue or equipment. I warrant that I have satisfied myself that the venue and the equipment are fit for my child to participate in Stay and Play, the venue and the equipment are in good condition and I have been given adequate information about the venue and the equipment to ensure its use without risk to any person.

My child and I agree to abide by the expectations outlined above as a condition of my child’s participation in Stay and Play.

Parent Name: ______________________________ Parent Signature: ________________________________ Date:

Child’s Name: ______________________________ Child’s Signature: ______________________________

Child’s Name: ______________________________ Child’s Signature: ______________________________

Child’s Name: ______________________________ Child’s Signature: ______________________________
31 January 2014

Melissa Burke
Principal

Religious Instruction (optional)

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Religion will commence on Monday afternoons from 2:30pm – 3:00pm. The Religious instruction will alternate weekly with Years 1 – 3 commencing week one of this term and Years 4 – 7 the following week.

There is no provision for Prep students to attend Religion.

The Religious Education being offered this year at Brisbane Central is by Baptist Pastor Mark Redman and Catholic instruction is provided by Veronica Blackwell.

I am requesting parents complete the appropriate permission note below for their child/ren to participate in Religious Education. If at any time you wish for your child’s participation to cease you will need to inform the school in writing.

Many Thanks

Melissa Burke
Principal

For Baptist Religious Education

I give permission for my child/ren: ________________________________________________________________

Year/s: _____________________________ to participate in Baptist Religious Education.

Signed: ____________________________

For Catholic Religious Education

I give permission for my child/ren: ________________________________________________________________

Year/s: _____________________________ to participate in Catholic Religious Education.

Signed: ____________________________
31 January 2014

YEAR 1 – 7 SWIMMING FOR TERM 1 - 2014

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Swimming for Year 1 - 7 will begin on Friday February 14, 2014. This is part of the school curriculum and it is an expectation that students attend. Preps will not be swimming this Term. The children will travel by bus to Healthstream Aquatic Swim Centre, Kelvin Grove for swimming. Please make sure your child has swimming costume - Girls (Sunsafe shirt and board shorts or a full one piece swimsuit). Boys (Sunsafe shirt and board shorts or swimming trunks), swimming cap, towel, goggles (if preferred). All clothing should be clearly named. As the swimming pool is undercover sunscreen will be optional.

The total cost for this activity includes Term 1 bus hire, pool entrance and tuition. Payment for buses and tuition is negotiated at the beginning of the term based on the number of seats/students attending each week. Therefore refunds for individual non-attendances cannot be made. Cost per child is $48 each. You will need to sign and return the permission form below, together with your payment before the first swimming day.

We would very much appreciate your assistance at the pool-side as a spotter or in the water with the children. Final swimming times will be available closer to the date. Please check with your child’s class teacher.

Melissa Burke
Principal

________________________________________

SWIMMING FOR TERM 1 – 2014 PERMISSION NOTE

I hereby give permission for my child/ren ____________________________ in Year/s ____________________________ to participate in swimming for Term 1, 2014. I understand they will travel by bus to Healthstream Aquatic Center.

A lump sum payment of $48 per child will cover all cost. Please ensure that your payment is in an envelope marked with your child’s name, year and monies/cheque enclosed or pay by direct debit:

Brisbane Central State School General A/c – Commonwealth Bank
BSB 064 012 A/c No – 10035751. Reference – initials, surname and activity eg. J.SMITH swim

I am able/not able (please circle) to assist with “spotting” at the pool.

My child has the following medical conditions that may affect his/her participation in the swimming program: ____________________________________________________________

__________________________________________

Signature__________________________________ Name__________________________________