Dear Parents/Carers,

It was great to see many parents at our “Meet and Greet” Parent Information Night on Wednesday night. On behalf of the teachers, our sincere thanks to the parents who were able to take time out of busy work and home schedules to attend. If you missed attending the evening, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher for a copy of their PowerPoint presentation.

Our Information Night is just one of the many ways you can learn more about your child’s education. Between March 24 and April 3, teachers will also be running Parent-Teacher Interviews so that you can have an opportunity to learn more about how your child is progressing. If you are concerned in the meantime, please ensure that you see your child’s teacher to make a mutually convenient time to meet. To know more about our school events, our website, QSchools app, Facebook and Twitter are regularly updated, so please check them out!!

**Around the classes:**

At our Meet and Greet Evening, hopefully you noticed our whole school pedagogical practices:

- Negotiated classroom rules
- Student profiling that demonstrates the amazing diversity in our school (did you know that at our school, 74% students speak English as an Additional Language or Dialect?)
- Word Walls for a range of subjects, in particular Maths and English
- Task sheets for Maths, English, Science, and History or Geography
- A exemplars (example of what an A looks like for a particular task)
- Child Friendly Guides to Making Judgements (what students need to do to get an A)
- Student goals

At Brisbane Central, we seek to understand our students, make learning visible and teaching explicit, and provide opportunities to push our students to achieve their best. Make sure on your next visit to your child’s classroom, you

**Fit n’ Active:**
(Commencing Week 4: 17/02/2014)

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<td>3:00pm – 4:15pm</td>
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**Play and Stay:**

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**Fridays:**

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At Brisbane Central, we seek to understand our students, make learning visible and teaching explicit, and provide opportunities to push our students to achieve their best. Make sure on your next visit to your child’s classroom, you
take the time to view these practices on the walls, and ask your child’s teachers further questions about how teaching and learning works in their room.

New Library space:
Our new library space is now up and running! New furniture has given the space a new lease on life, and there are now a number of special spaces and teaching areas. My sincere thanks to Ms Narelle Hoelzl, Mrs Janet Fletcher and Mr Glen Appleyard for their extra hours of hard work to ensure that the library could be operational as quickly as possible. Make sure you take a trip up to hall to see for yourself how great it looks!

In the near future, our library will be offering before school access for students and their parents to borrow and quietly read together. Keep your eye out for future opening times!!

Thank you:
Over the past three weeks, you may have noticed some significant movement of furniture and resources around the school. A MASSIVE thanks to our staff – Mr Glen Appleyard, Mr Gary Gradwell, Mrs Janet Fletcher, Ms Narelle Hoelzl, Mrs Jenny Gilmour and Ms Maree Lewis, who have worked tirelessly over the past three weeks moving, assembling, dissembling, directing and rearranging furniture, and reallocating resources.

Free Parent English Class:
Our free Parent English class kicked off this week! The class still meets in the hall on a Tuesday from 12:00pm to 2:00pm. All Brisbane Central State School parents are invited to be part of the program, to strengthen their English skills and to make new friends.

Student Leaders Induction Ceremony:
Our Student Leaders’ Induction Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, February 18 at 2:30pm. Parents are most welcome to attend. Parents of student leaders would have already received an invitation to the event. My thanks to Miss Kylie Wall and Mrs Annette Somerville for coordinating this event. We are excited about “officially” recognising our 2014 student leaders on Tuesday.

Start Smart program:
Our students received a lesson in Financial Literacy this week, with our annual participation in the Smart Start program. The Start Smart program is run for free by the Commonwealth Bank Foundation, and teaches students how to be financially literate through “hands on”, interactive activities. More information about the program and what was taught can be found at: http://www.startsmart.com.au/primary/program-overview/.

Great Results Guarantee:
Our school has received additional funding from the Great Results Guarantee and we need to decide how we can use this money to better support our students and improve their outcomes. Yesterday, our leadership team and some of our teachers met to explain our current data, and look for ways that we can use these funds to make the biggest impact
for our students in Prep to Year 2. We are now working to develop our own Great Results Guarantee with evidence-based strategies and actions to improve literacy and numeracy. Read more about the guarantee at www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee.

If you have an idea on a way to support our students to learn more or if you would like to take part in the discussion please get in touch.

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. As many schools ask families to contribute approximately $100 per child, our request is quite small in comparison!

Every family will receive a letter today regarding the Voluntary Financial Contribution, including the payment details. There is also a copy attached to this newsletter. Your monetary support is greatly appreciated.

It’s easy to find out more!

Have you recently lost a school form or letter? Not sure what time an event starts? What to know what is news around the school? Wish to check an important date? Knowing about our school and community is very easy:

- Like us on Facebook
- Follow us on Twitter: Bris_Cent_SS
- Download the QSchool app and make us a “Favourite”
- Read our weekly newsletter
- Access the school website – www.brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au

Have a great week!
Melissa

YEAR 5/6 NEWS

Year 5/6 have had an extremely busy start to the year! We are currently reading short stories and learning strategies and techniques which can make our own short stories brilliant! Did you know, you only have 60 seconds to grab the reader’s attention? We always make sure we start our stories where the action is and ensure our orientations sizzle with excitement!

We have also started solving lots of maths problems and in Science we are exploring electrical circuits! We even get to make our own! How cool is that! In Art, we are travelling on a journey into our past and learning about famous artists. Our classroom is starting to look like an art gallery as we attempt to recreate masterpieces by Van Gough, Leonardo da Vinci and Claude Monet!
This term in Year 2 we are learning to read, listen and create rhyming poems.

**WILF – What I’m Looking For**

I can...

- identify the purpose of poetry
- discuss the author’s choice of vocabulary
- listen to poems being read
- answer questions about poems

**TIB – This Is because**

We want...

- to learn how poems are written so we can reconstruct our own poems.

Here are some photos of us discussing rhyming words on our new personal whiteboards!

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**PARENT ENGLISH CLASS FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL**

The Parent English Class for 2014 started on **Tuesday afternoon, 11 February** in the school hall. This class starts each week at **12 noon** and continues until **2:00pm** allowing time to prepare for School Assembly.

We have an interesting program planned for you this term including an excursion to Shorncliffe by train. In addition to providing an opportunity to grow in your use of day to day English, you will meet and get to know other parents in our school community.

Please remember that we are happy for you to bring your young children (under 5 years old) to the classes.

We extend a warm welcome to continuing parents from 2013, and would encourage new parents to join us.

Allison Chard and Sandra Trickett (Adult ESL teachers)

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**UNIFORM CO-ORDINATOR POSITION VACANCY**

The position of Uniform Co-ordinator remains vacant. The parents that are currently fulfilling this role, Amanda and Cecilia, leave the school at the end of this year. This means that we need a volunteer to fill this role. If no-one steps forward the P&C will have no choice, but to out-source our school uniform sales. This would mean that to purchase uniforms you would have to go to a store in the city or suburbs. It is also likely that the price of uniforms would increase.

The Uniform Co-ordinator needs to be a member of the P&C and attend meetings during the year. Tasks include ordering uniforms, banking, keeping a record of Stock on Hand, operating within a budget agreed at P&C meetings and, of course, selling uniforms.

We already have some other volunteers that assist with uniform sales and stocktakes, but more volunteers are always appreciated. If you are looking at returning to, or joining the work force this could give you some retail experience to put on your resume.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Uniform Sub-Committee would you please contact Alyson Fenton on 0416 220 868 or myself on 0439 933 991.

Paul Wilson (P&C President)
Central Ward Councillor Vicki Howard has announced that Council is developing a new neighbourhood plan for Spring Hill to help plan its future.

Cr Howard said the existing plan was more than 30 years old making it one of the city’s oldest neighbourhood plans.

“Spring Hill is home to many character properties and Council will look to balance future growth in the suburb with protection of areas of significant character and heritage values,” Cr Howard said.

“We are seeking feedback from the community during February on future planning for Spring Hill and encourage residents to fill out the survey available online.

“A new neighbourhood plan for this area is a key initiative as part of our vision for a vibrant and accessible New World City.”

Spring Hill is home to a number of significant properties including hospitals, schools, recreational spaces and the heritage-listed Spring Hill Baths and Centenary Pool.

As part of the draft plan Council will look to enhance pedestrian and cycle links to existing green and recreational spaces on the periphery of the suburb.

Cr Howard said residents would have an opportunity to have their say on a renewal strategy later this year, before the release of a draft plan.

“As with any neighbourhood plan, consultation will be an important part of the process and further opportunities to participate in the development of the strategy and the draft plan will become available,” Cr Howard said.

“To begin with we are encouraging residents to fill out a survey available online or register their interest for the Community Planning Team."

This survey needs to be completed by 28 February 2014 and information about the Community Planning Team, along with the survey can be accessed here www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/springhillplan.

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.

*** NEW IN STOCK - Size 4 Black and Gold coloured polo shirts are now available ***

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.
DO YOU HAVE TIME TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Across Australia, during the month of April 2014, PCYC will be running our major fundraising event *Time4Kids*. Community members and leaders, business leaders, celebrities and sporting heroes such as yourself volunteer and commit to do time to stop youth crime. We are hoping that you would consider helping Fortitude Valley PCYC to raise funds for youth development and police crime prevention programs for local youth. All money raised by our Club will go towards ‘Breaking the Cycle’ which helps young people achieve the requirements to get their drivers licence.

What are we asking you to do?

Fortitude Valley PCYC is holding our event at the Fortitude Valley PCYC, 458 Wickham Street, Fortitude Valley on **Wednesday 2nd April 2014** and we will lock you up for around half an hour in our special mock jail. It is a fun event and you can invite your colleagues, friends and family to support you. To be released from our jail you will need to raise a minimum of $500 bail, but we will accept increased contributions towards your freedom!

The idea is for you to pre-arrange enough donations to meet the minimum bail of $500. You can raise all your donations in through our website [www.time4kids.org.au](http://www.time4kids.org.au). Donations $2 and over are tax deductible.

This is a great opportunity for you to join other community leaders and be a part of an exciting event that will attract strong media interest, keen fundraising competition, local benefit and community participation.

To help you get into the spirit of the event, on the day you will be provided with a prisoner uniform to wear and a tin to rattle while locked up.

Please feel free to contact me on **0414995557** to accept my invitation to be involved in this fantastic event or email me at robert.duffner@pcyc.org.au.

We look forward to you doing time for kids!

Yours sincerely,

Sergeant Robert Duffner
Branch Manager
PCYC Fortitude Valley
Police-Citizens Youth Clubs QLD

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**Brain Power: Developing Executive and Memory Functions**

**Saturday March 8**

**8:45am - 9:45am**

QASMT, Bywong Street Toowong

Executive and memory functions are the most important part of the brain and primarily responsible for academic achievement. The executive function of the brain is responsible for exercising self-control, managing impulses and focusing attention. Students need to draw on the executive power of the developing brain as they learn to organize their time, prioritise tasks, remember and utilise specific skills, maintain focus, exercise impulse-control, think flexibly and strategically. Memory strategies contribute significantly to learning.

Parents can help students to use their brain power by introducing daily habits that improve executive and memory functions. By making small daily changes, students can find better ways to think, learn, remember and improve academic performance. Introducing habits in learning, organisation, play and daily household activities can have an impact upon developing cognitive function. There are many strategies that can be adopted by parents to assist a child to improve their brain power by building executive and memory functions.

**Michele Juratowitch** is Director of Clearing Skies, providing a range of services to support high-ability children, their families and schools. Michele provides counselling for gifted children, adolescents and adults; conducts parenting programs and is a frequent presenter at schools, universities and conferences. She has been a regular guest lecturer in the postgraduate course for teachers and parent courses at the Gifted Education Research, Resource and Information Centre (GERRIC) at UNSW. Michele was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study the intervention needs of gifted children, adolescents and their families.
Dear Parents,

Re: Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum

As part of the Brisbane Central State School, Health and Personal Development Curriculum we will be implementing the Daniel Morcombe Child Safety (DMCS) Curriculum. This curriculum was developed through a partnership between The Department of Education, Training and Employment and the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. The DMCS Curriculum aims to support schools and teachers in the promotion of safety for all students in Queensland.

The DMCS Curriculum includes lessons about personal safety and awareness, cybersafety and telephone safety. The lesson content aims to develop student knowledge and skills to recognise, react and report when they are unsafe.


You may also wish to access a video featuring an interview with Bruce and Denise Morcombe discussing the Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S7rCe3rJfCk.

Should you have any questions or concerns or wish to discuss any aspect of this program, please see your child’s teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Charmaine Xinis
Head of Curriculum
Melissa Burke  
Principal

13 February 2014

Dear Parents,

**RE: 2014 VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION SCHEME**

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 resources needed to implement the Australian Curriculum in Mathematics, English and Science.

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

**The contribution can be paid through:**
- Cash
- Cheque
- Direct Bank deposit to school bank account BSB: 064-012 Account: 10035751

A Voluntary Contribution form is attached. Please complete this form and return with your contribution.

Your contributions allow us to provide additional learning opportunities for our students. We appreciate your financial support.

Yours Sincerely,

Melissa Burke