FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

Dear Parents/Carers,

On Tuesday, we formally introduced our Year 6 and 7 leaders to our school community, through our Leaders' Induction Ceremony. This year's ceremony was particularly special, as it marked a turning point not only in the lives of our school leaders, but for the whole education community, as we inducted the last of our year 7 leaders and the first of our Year 6 leaders. We are therefore doubly blessed to have both Year 6 and Year 7 leaders work together to lead our student community. I also believe that our school community has chosen exceptionally well, with our student leaders already exemplifying maturity, responsibility and a vision for our school.

A HUGE congratulations to our 2014 School captains, Ashley K, Emily B, Emanuel P and Shane K; our Rogers House Captains, Virat C and Max W; our St Pauls Captains, Arya B and Layan B; our Music Captains, Hans-William C and Alice K; and to Angus B, our Assembly Coordinator.

Our student leaders celebrated their induction with an afternoon tea. My thanks to Miss Kylie Wall for her coordination and running of the Ceremony.

Welcome back:

Welcome back to Mrs Debbie Cameron, who is replacing Holly Casagrande and Jenny Gilmour while they are on leave this term. Welcome to Mrs Kyle Spiers, who will be working in Prep and Prep/1 every Wednesday this term. Kylie will be teaching our Prep and Prep/1 students Science, as well as supporting the delivery of Maths and English.
**Data Inquiry Meetings:**

This week, our Year 1 to 7 teachers met with myself and our Head of Curriculum, Mrs Charmaine Xinis to discuss students’ 2013 numeracy and literacy data. Teachers also shared data that they have collected over the first 4 weeks of school, that provided a more up to date picture regarding how are students are tracking academically. These meetings are held every term to:

- Track and monitor student performance, achievement and under achievement
- Identify focus whole class, group learning needs
- Identify individual student learning needs
- Identify professional learning needs

As part of these meetings, we consider the following Data Sets:

- Internal Data and Summaries: 2013 Probe/PM Benchmarking Data; PAT
- Maths; I Can Do Maths; Single Word Spelling Test
- Systemic Data Sets and Analyses: 2013 NAPLAN; EAL/D Bandscales; A-E
- Data;
- Class Data: current data from 2014 school year that may provide
  - further information about individual student achievement e.g. Comprehension
  - activity results; Writing tasks; English or Maths pre-tests; anecdotal
- information

We will meet with every Year 1-7 teacher in a fortnight to develop Class Improvement Plans, which will inform resource allocation, Whole School program planning and implementation. As part of these meetings, we will be developing targets for students, looking at ways that students can be supported and extended within and outside of the classroom.

Our Prep teachers will be using the Early Start materials to start testing our Prep teachers to assess the entry point for our Prep students, and to identify areas for future teaching and monitoring.

**Learning French at Brisbane Central State School:**

This year, we have been able to increase the amount of time we have been able to offer French. Our Prep to Year 2 students still receive 30 minutes a week of French, our Year 3 and 3/4 students now receive 1 hour a week (an increase of 15 minutes) and our Year 4/5, 5/6 and 6/7 students receive 90 minutes a week. Our excellent French program, led by Madame Rosa Maroto, is based on the Accelerated Integrative Method, and uses gestures, songs and plays to teach French. AIM is now being adopted by a number of French teachers across Brisbane, who are now recognising the effectiveness of this technique.

So why learn a language? Learning a language:

- extends students' capability to communicate: proficiency in at
- least two languages expands their communicative repertoire, develops
- literacy and increases their engagement as citizens and participants within
- and across local, regional and global contexts
- strengthens students' understanding and knowledge of the nature
- of language, culture and of processes of communication
• develops an intercultural capability which includes an understanding of, and respect for, diversity and difference, and an openness to different perspectives and experiences that, in turn, develop world-mindedness and a sense of global citizenship
• strengthens the intellectual and analytical capability of students to engage with different ways of making meaning
• develops students' awareness of cultural assumptions and values that frame the world view shaped through their own first language(s) and culture(s)
• extends students' literacy repertoire
• strengthens cognitive and general learning capabilities such as creative and critical thinking: brain research shows that language learning uses and develops particular and unique conceptualisation skills and meta-cognition
• strengthen students' knowledge of concepts across the curriculum
• extends students' understanding of themselves, their own heritage and identities, and their sense of connectedness to others through reflection on their experiences and those of others
• enhances students' employment and career prospects.

I know that our culturally and linguistically diverse community understands the value of learning another language, and understand how French is an integral part of our school's identity. For further information about the teaching of languages, go to http://www.acara.edu.au/languages.html.

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

It's easy to find out more!!:
Have you recently lost a school form or letter? Not sure what time an event starts? Want 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 newsletter
• Access the school website - www.brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au
It was great to see our number of Twitter followers, Facebook "likes" and QSchools app users increase after the last week’s Parent Meet and Greet Evening. Social media is a fun way for us to share the great things that are happening around our school! So jump on board today!

Congratulations:

Congratulations to Emily B, Sam B, Emily H and Emanuel P, who all represented the school last week at the City District Swimming Carnival. Well done to our selected swimmers!

Reminders:

• Thank you to the parents who have signed the Play and Stay Agreement for this year. Teachers and parents have raised concerns about the behaviour of students in the afternoons. When you use our facilities on a Wednesday or Friday afternoon, you must be actively supervising your children. This means being within close proximity to your child and managing their behaviour, so that all students are safe.

• The drop off/ pick up zone is for the use of parents who are using the area to quickly pick up or drop off their children before or after school. The efficiency of the zone is dependent on cars moving quickly through the area. Taxis are unable to use this area to park and wait while parents pick up students. Taxis must use alternative parking spots to wait while parents collect students.

• When using the drop off zone in the afternoons, please queue and wait to leave in an orderly fashion. Please do not “jump” the queue if there is a slower car in front, as this is dangerous, and may cause an accident.

• Our staff have noticed students playing in the car park in the afternoon. This has caused great concern. Even after school, our car park is a very busy place, with staff departing for the day, and parents arriving to collect children from afterschool care. Our car park is an unsafe and unpredictable environment for children. When on our school grounds, please ensure that you are actively supervising your children and allow them only to play only on our oval and the bitumen area directly in front of the school grounds.

• With the commencement of swimming, it is important to remember to clearly name ALL of your child’s belongings. It is easy for these items to become mixed up, and for students to change into the wrong clothing. Please help your child by making sure that everything that your child brings to school is labelled with their name.

Have a great week!

Melissa

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LE JOURNAL FRANÇAIS/THE FRENCH NEWS

Bonjour tout le monde / Hello Everyone, and welcome back to a new and exciting year for French.

It was lovely to see and meet so many parents at the Parent information evening. This week, you should have received the letter for our planned excursion to the Brisbane French Film Festival. The trip is for all students from Year 3 to Year 7, and will take place on Tuesday 11 March, from 10:10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Please return the permission form to the office by Wednesday 5 March, in an envelope with your child’s name, and French Film Festival on the front.

Next week I will be writing to you about our program for all year levels of French, so please keep an eye out for that.

à bientôt / See you soon

Madame Rosa Maroto
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Next Thursday February 27, Colin McIntyre will be away on the annual music camp with Coorparoo Secondary College. The College has released Colin to come to BCSS on Friday February 28. Colin will be conducting a one hour lesson on this day for Year 5 students from 10 and 11am (Year 6 and 7 students will be at swimming) with no senior band rehearsal unfortunately.

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.

*** 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.

CITY DISTRICT SPORTS TRIALS

Parents of children interested in trialing for City District teams in the following sports –

- Netball
- Soccer
- touch football,
- rugby league,
- Australian rules
- hockey

Please contact Mr Waugh dwaug3@eq.edu.au by Monday 24 February for details.

Children must be born in 2002, 2003 and be of a high standard of ability in the sport.

Giveaway to a good home!

1 x male Guinea Pig

Cage, food, treatments.

Free free free

Please call Allison: 0402 488 185

Can bring to school or arrange pick up.
The Queensland Plan: a 30-year vision for Queensland
Our working draft created by Queenslanders, for Queensland

The Queensland Plan: a 30-year vision for Queensland – our working draft has been prepared by the Queensland Government on behalf of the people of Queensland.

“our working draft” represents the collective ideas and aspirations voiced by Queenslanders during the engagement process and has been released for your feedback and input.

The draft can be found at

The review process

This is your opportunity to have your say on whether our working draft reflects the collective aspirations expressed by Queenslanders in setting the goals for Queensland’s future.

Everyone is encouraged to contribute their thoughts about the draft and we will also seek expert advice to ensure our plan is robust and reasoned. A statistical baseline for all targets and measures will be developed through the review process and included in the final plan. We acknowledge a current baseline may not be available for all areas and will work with the relevant organisations to create one.

Feedback should be submitted through the online survey, available via the project website during the review period—www.qld.gov.au/queenslandplan

The review period will close on 7 March 2014.

Does the structure of our working draft best focus our future vision?

Do these goals and outcomes appropriately reflect Queensland’s feedback?

Are these targets and measures appropriate? Are there additional ones that should be considered?

At the end of this review period your feedback will be compiled and used to inform the final plan.