



# BRISBANE CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

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



# newsletter

Tel: 3230 4333 | Fax: 3831 5469 | Absentee Line: 3230 4366 | Principal: Melissa Burke | Email: the.principal@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au  
Administration: admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au | P&C: pandc@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au | Web: www.brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au

06 June 2014

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear Parents/Carers,

Congratulations to Mr Colin McIntyre and our Band who received a Bronze at Fanfare on Friday! If you missed the performance, please join us for our school concert on Thursday June 19 at 6:00pm. Along with our band, you will hear our Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Instrumental Music students play. Congratulations also to our student leaders, who raised over \$700 for the Cancer Council last Thursday as part of the Biggest Morning Tea! This was a mammoth effort. A HUGE thanks to the parents who baked and donated goods for the students to sell.



### New class - Semester 2, 2014:

I have been successful in negotiating with Regional Staffing for an additional Year 1 teacher, starting from the beginning of Term 3, for the remainder of the year. As our Prep and Year 1 families will be aware, our classes have exceeded DETE targets due to large in-catchment enrolments post-Day 8. This will mean that our Year 1 students in the Prep/1 class will form the basis of the new class. They will also be joined by a few students from our existing Year 1 class, to form a class of only 20 students. There will also be a number of students who will transition from Mr Darren Waugh's Prep class to Mrs McKean's Prep class, so that all classes will be reduced, and under target size. I will be contacting the parents of students who will be directly affected by the change in the coming week. This is very exciting development for our school and a great indication that our school is the school of choice for residents residing in our catchment.

To support our teachers and students in our larger classes this semester, the school has paid for an additional 300 teacher hours and 350 additional teacher aide hours across the Prep to Year 1 classes. My sincere thanks to Mr Darren Waugh, Mrs Jan McKean and Miss Brid McGrath, who have worked hard to meet the needs of all students.



### National Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability.

All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with

<b>Fit n' Active:</b>	3:00pm – 4:15pm Mondays: Year 4 – Year 7 Thursdays: Prep – Year 3
<b>Play and Stay:</b>	3:00pm – 4:00pm Wednesdays and Fridays
Mondays:	Uniform Shop Open: 8:15am – 8:45am
	Religion: 2:30pm – 3:00pm Years 4 – 7 fortnightly from 28/04/2014 Years 1 – 3 fortnightly from 05/05/2014
Tuesdays:	Junior Choir Rehearsals: 8:00am
	Parent English Class: 12:00pm – 2:00pm <b>Recommencing June 10<sup>th</sup> (NEXT Tuesday)</b>
	Assembly: 2:30pm
Wednesdays:	Senior Choir Rehearsals: 8:15am
	Ukulele Ensemble: 10:45am
Thursdays:	Chess Club: 8:00am
	Write On Program: 10:30am – 11:30am
	Science Club: 11:00am – 11:30am
	Instrumental Music: 12:00pm – 2:30pm
	Band Rehearsals: 2:30pm
Fridays:	Gardening Club: 8:30am
	SPARK Reading Program
	UQ Sport Aussie Rules Program: Years 4-7
<b>09/06/2014</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday Public Holiday</b>
10/06/2014 – 12/06/2014	Northside Junior Music Camp
11/06/2014	Mini Writers' Festival
18/06/2014	Mini Thinkers' Festival
19/06/2014	Concert: Choirs, Instrumental Music & Band
20/06/2014	P-7 Under 8's Day: 9:00am – 10:45am
24/06/2014	School Disco
25/06/2014	Report cards distributed to parents
26/06/2014	Year 2 Out of the Box Excursion
	Year 4-7 Athletics Carnival
<b>27/06/2014</b>	<b>Last school day – Term 2, 2014</b>
28/06/2014 - 13/07/2014	Term 2 School Holidays
<b>14/07/2014</b>	<b>First school day – Term 3, 2014</b>

disability.

In 2013, 10% of Queensland state schools participated in the first year of implementation. In 2014, two thirds of Queensland schools will participate and all schools will collect data from 2015. Our school will be involved in the nationally consistent collection of data from this year.

Please be reassured that the Department will not provide on to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
- level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
- broad category of disability.

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child.

While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child's details to be included, please let me know.

Information and fact sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:

- Department's website: <http://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/disability-data-collection.html>
- Australian Government Department of Education website: <http://education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability>

Alternatively, if you have any queries about the collection or use of this data I encourage you to contact me directly.



### Communication – who do I contact?

Sometimes it is difficult to know who to contact when you have a question or concern.

- *Your child's teacher:* If the issue is about your child (learning, behaviour, social-emotional) please ensure you contact your child's teacher first. Your child's teacher knows your child the best, and will often have background information or a contextual understanding of an event or incident. Our teachers are unable to take parent phone calls during school hours; however, any phone messages will be emailed through to them. Alternatively, you can email them directly to make a time to meet. **Please ensure that you make a mutually convenient time to meet with your child's teacher, so they can give you their full attention.** Teachers are often busy before and after school, and often need to attend meetings or are preparing for learning and teaching. Please be aware of this when "popping in" for a quick visit or conversation. On Wednesday afternoons, teachers generally have an hour staff meeting, and will not be able to meet with you at this time.
- *Head of Curriculum:* if you have a question or a concern about our curriculum, learning or pedagogy, you can contact our Head of Curriculum, Charmaine Xinis. Charmaine is at Brisbane Central State School every Thursday and Friday, and alternative Wednesdays. Charmaine is also contactable via phone or email- [cxini1@eq.edu.au](mailto:cxini1@eq.edu.au).
- *English as an Additional Language Specialists:* If you would like to know how we are supporting your child to learn English, you can contact our English as an Additional Language/ Dialect specialist teachers, Shona Arniel-[sarne2@eq.edu.au](mailto:sarne2@eq.edu.au), or Nicki Paull- [ntpaul0@eq.edu.au](mailto:ntpaul0@eq.edu.au).
- *Administration Manager:* If you have a financial question, or a question about school processes you can contact Carolina Duncan – [admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au). Carolina is available in the office from 8:30am to 3:30pm every day. If you require a transfer note or a letter, please ensure that you provide Carolina with **three days' notice**. Carolina needs to balance many roles and tasks across the day, and will be unable to meet your request with limited notice.
- If you need to know about a school event, check a date, locate the tuckshop menu, find the uniform shop details or find a missing form, please use the QSchools app or check our website in the first instance. We update our website regularly, which in turn updates the QSchools app. Our website is: [www.brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au](http://www.brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au), and the QSchools app is available from iTunes or Google Play stores. Our Facebook site and Twitter are also regularly updated.

Next semester, we will be transferring to a fortnightly newsletter. As we now send electronic newsletters, update our website every Friday, and utilize the QSchools app, Twitter and Facebook to keep in touch, parents are now even more informed than ever about what is going on in our school. On the "off" newsletter weeks, there will still be updates to the QSchools app, website, Facebook and Twitter, so parents will continue to know about what is going on in our school. A fortnightly newsletter will also ensure that our staff spends more time focusing on student learning, rather than on editing and publishing. If have a smart phone or android phone, make sure you download the QSchools app today for free from iTunes or Google Play stores.

Did you know that the Qschools app contains the following information?

- Uniform Shop
- Tuckshop
- News Events
- Calendar events
- Newsletters
- Class times
- Links to the school's Facebook account
- Links to the school's Twitter account
- Links to forms and documents



### **Welcome:**

Bon Voyage to Mr Darren Waugh, who is taking some well-earned Long Service Leave as of Tuesday June 10. Welcome to Ms Susan Forrest, who will be replacing Darren for the final three weeks of term. Susan is very familiar with the school, having completed a number of relief days in our Prep classrooms previously.

Have a great week!

Melissa

## **EAL/D NEWS – BILINGUALISM**

Brisbane Central is a culturally and linguistically diverse school. Many of our students speak more than one language at home, and all of our students learn French as a language other than English at school.

Bilingualism and raising bilingual children is good, not only for your children but also good for your family and your community. At Brisbane Central we acknowledge the benefits of bilingualism and encourage students to continue speaking their first language at home, at school during break times and even in the classroom to teachers or classmates when appropriate.

Speaking more than one language easily is linked to:

- Better academic results – this is because bilingual children can often concentrate better, have better analytical skills and are better at multi-tasking
- Increased sense of self-worth, identity and belonging – this includes feeling good about cultural heritage and minority language, feeling confident about communicating and connecting with extended family members, and being able to enjoy art, music, movies and literature in more than one language.
- Diverse career options later in life.

### **Bilingualism: frequently asked questions**

*Does speaking two or more languages confuse children?*

No. Children can learn two or more languages at the same time and can understand the difference between languages at a young age. For example, they realise very quickly that they need to speak Korean to Grandma, and English to the teacher.

*Will speaking two or more languages at home affect the way children learn English?*

No. A good knowledge of your native language can actually *help* your child with learning the language of the wider community – for example, English in Australia.

Bilingual children who have a solid foundation in their native language learn the majority language more easily and do better at school than children who aren't learning their native language at home. For example, children who are familiar with books and stories in their first language find it easier to learn to read and write in English when they get to school.

*Will children have problems reading and writing if they are learning several different languages?*

No. Bilingual children who are exposed to two different written languages – for example Spanish and English – or even two different writing systems – for example, Chinese and English – can read and write English at high levels. They might

also have a better understanding of the relationships between how words look and sound than their peers who only speak English.

*Does bilingualism delay speaking?*

No. Bilingual children develop language at the same rate as children who speak one language only. Children learn to speak at different rates, but this isn't because of learning more than one language at the same time.

### **ESL/D support at Brisbane Central – What does this look like?**

New arrival students to our school with little or no English are provided with daily support to acquire Standard Australian English. These individual or small group classes focus on oral language and we are extremely fortunate to be able to offer up to 2.5 hours intensive support per week to these learners.

Other EAL/D learners, who have already been supported for one year at Brisbane Central, continue to receive support through small group intervention. These small groups receive targeted support addressing their specific English language needs.

Our EAL/D teaching staff also support classroom teachers through team teaching and shared planning sessions.

### **Reporting – What does this look like for EAL/D learners ?**

All EAL/D learners in their first 3 years at Brisbane Central will receive an EAL/D section on their report card. These achievement standards are based on the 1-6 Bandscale rating. A 1 rating indicates that a student is new to English and a 6 rating indicates that a student is a highly competent user of English.

Students who are in their first six to twelve months at Brisbane Central, and have little or no English, will receive an EAL/D report card only. This report replaces the regular report card until the student has acquired enough Standard Australian English to access the curriculum more appropriately.

More information can be found on <http://raisingchildren.net.au/> or come and chat to our EAL/D teachers Shona Arneil and Nicolette Paull

## **CURRICULUM NEWS**

### A Focus on the Explicit Teaching of Mathematics Vocabulary

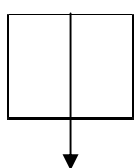
This term, all teachers have been involved in an action learning project, as part of our school priority in Numeracy. Throughout the term our teachers have been developing lessons and strategies that are designed to promote every student's deep understanding of the maths terminology.

The explicit teaching of mathematics vocabulary differs from incidental teaching as teachers are deliberately **selecting** maths vocabulary and connecting each word with its definition and corresponding mathematical diagram or matching symbolic representation. Teachers have carefully selected and prioritised which words to teach explicitly, based on several criteria such as the conceptual importance of the mathematics terminology within the current mathematics unit of study.

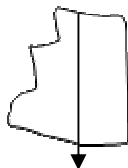
Students have been pre-tested on their depth of understanding of these words so that we know what each student already knows about these concepts. We can then develop lessons that will resolve any previous misconceptions. To promote student understanding and knowledge, teachers are very skilfully utilizing a wide range of proven classroom strategies in their teaching and learning cycle such as flash cards, word walls, warm-ups and games, and developing new, innovative approaches to teaching mathematics vocabulary.

### ***Some examples of our work in teaching mathematics vocabulary:***

*Symmetrical - A shape has symmetry or is symmetrical when one half of a shape can fit exactly over the other half. Shapes are called symmetrical if they have one or more lines (axes) of symmetry.*



This regular shape is symmetrical. One half fits exactly over the other.



This irregular shape is **not** symmetrical.

Some of our mathematics words for this term:

Year 1	Year 3	Year 5	Year 7
pattern	symmetry	polygons	angle
position	perimeter	quadrilaterals	area
whole	translation	triangles	probability
part	rotation	lines	data
equal	reflection	rotation	decimal fraction
addition	mixed numbers	vertex	factor
subtraction	length	congruent	fraction
fraction	fraction	prism	multiple
decimal	equivalent fractions	pyramid	integer
length	area	multiplication	ratio

### FROM THE PODIUM - FANFARE CONCERT BAND COMPETITION

BCSS you can be so very proud of your Concert Band! Last Friday we travelled to State High to perform in the State-wide Fanfare Concert Band competition. We listened to BSHS's amazing Brass ensemble, which contained past BCSS students, before warming up and returning to the auditorium to take our turn performing. As only a 14 piece band the students had nowhere to musically "hide" and bravely performed their pieces for the judges and audience members.

We were awarded bronze; however, the experience for our young musicians was priceless. To hear such talented high school bands and mingle with them in the warm up rooms, to meet ex BCSS musicians who are playing at higher levels, to perform in such a dedicated atmosphere and receive positive adjudicator comments just added to the fun and excitement of it all.



Thanks go to our school community for all your support and special thanks to the parents for enabling this experience. And the greatest thanks to our young musicians in the concert band for having a go. You have been, and will continue to be rewarded.

Two parent emails reflect the day well,

"It's great to see them having fun!"

"Today, he said he made a few mistakes and was a bit nervous but he enjoyed it so much. This experience made him enjoy not only the music but the whole school and Australia."

You can hear the concert band perform at our school concert on Thursday evening, June 19.

Happy Music Making,

Mr Colin McIntyre (Senior Instrumental Music Teacher)

### FIT N' ACTIVE

Due to next Monday (09/06/14) being a Public Holiday, the children will get a makeup day next term.

Keep an eye out for the date.

Thank you,

Maree Lewis

### MINI FESTIVALS

Currently, twelve lucky and specially selected students, in Years 4-7, are participating in some off campus focussed learning experiences. These opportunities provide options for students to extend their educational experience in Writing, Science and metacognition. We have nominated students into 3 Mini Festivals; Writers, Thinkers and Scientists. These activities have been organised by the City Cluster GEM Network in conjunction with Queensland Academies. Parents were required to register students online and information was sent directly to them. Fees ranged from \$35-\$60 and were payable to Qld Academies. Parents transported their children to a number of city schools e.g. Newmarket SS, Ascot SS and Windsor SS. Stay tuned and you will hear from our students when they have finished their activities.

Michelle Martin

### BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Last Thursday the 29th of May, we held the Biggest Morning Tea.

It was a very successful day of selling cupcakes, brownies, muffins, cookies and cakes before school, during morning tea and after school.

In total, we raised a huge amount of money! Just over 725 dollars!

All the money raised has been donated to the Cancer Council Research Centre.

We would like to thank anyone that purchased an item, contributed treats to our stock, or anyone who dedicated their time to help us sell the items.

I hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

Emily B. and Abi K. (Year 5/6)

### UNIFORM NEWS

**OPENING HOURS – The Uniform Shop will be open Mondays from 8:15am - 8:45am** (or by appointment only).

**ORDERING UNIFORMS** – If you would like to order uniforms you can email Paula at [uniforms@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au](mailto:uniforms@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au). The order will go home in your child's bag once payment has been received. If you ordered the wrong size, it can be returned as long as it has not been worn.

**\* NEW IN STOCK\* - all sizes of black zip up jackets available \$35. Plus old style jackets & jumpers available at lower cost.**

#### METHODS OF PAYMENT:

(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).

**SECOND HAND UNIFORMS** – The uniform shop also has second-hand uniforms for sale. If you are leaving the school or have old uniforms at home please donate them to the school office.

**ENQUIRES** – If you have any questions or would like to volunteer in the Uniform Shop please email Paula [uniforms@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au](mailto:uniforms@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au) or TEXT ONLY to 0449 017 711.



# BCSS Art Show

## 'Art is Everywhere'

# 12 September 2014

Dear Parents & Caregivers

Every 2 Years BCSS celebrates our children's amazing Art. This year the theme is "Art is Everywhere" and you will certainly see that in coming months.

This year we will be displaying classroom Art, completing Composite Artworks for Auction and compiling our inaugural BCSS Recipe Book. This will culminate in our function, where there will be food, drinks, competitions and an Art Auction.

How you can help — your child's teacher may need help in the classroom to complete and display Artwork. Watch out for notes coming home and the school Newsletter. Meanwhile, put the date below in your diaries, tell your friends and look forward to:-

**12th September 2014, 5:30 to 8:30 pm**

**At Brisbane Central State School**

For further Information please contact Amanda or Alyson at  
[gooch\\_min@hotmail.com](mailto:gooch_min@hotmail.com).