FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK…

Dear Parents/Carers,

GREAT news for our school community!!! On Wednesday, Education Minister, John Paul Langbroek informed me that the Child Youth Mental Health building, on the property adjacent to ours, will be refurbished to accommodate up to 7 classrooms from 2015!

From Minister Langbroek’s media statement:

Brisbane Central State School students will have brand new classrooms and more space to learn under a multi-million dollar project to increase the school’s capacity.

Minister for Education, Training and Employment John-Paul Langbroek said the Queensland Government would spend more than $1 million to refurbish the former Health site, for the students of Brisbane Central.

“My first priority has always been to future proof Brisbane Central State School,” Mr Langbroek said.

“That’s why we are spending more than $7.25 million to acquire the Health Department building, refurbish it and expand capacity for Brisbane Central.

“This investment will provide up to seven extra classrooms and increase capacity from 220 up to 400 students.”

Mr Langbroek said that in addition to this project, the Department would commence a master planning exercise for all Brisbane Central schools.

Member for Brisbane Central Rob Cavallucci said that he was pleased with the outcome and was looking forward to the master planning process.

“I’m delighted with the outcome, which will benefit both the Brisbane Central school community and other families of inner Brisbane,” Mr Cavallucci said.

Mr Langbroek commended Mr Cavallucci on his efforts in securing the site for Brisbane Central State School and delivering for his community as the Local Member.

“Mr Cavallucci has worked tirelessly on this with his local community and in doing so has ensured that the students of Brisbane Central get the education experience they deserve.”

Brisbane Central State School is significant to the history of Education in Queensland with the main school building constructed in 1874 and the site sustaining a Heritage listing.

The rest of the media statement can be found at: http://statements.qld.gov.au/Statement/2014/6/11/brisbane-central-future-secured. This is wonderful development, and
comes just in time as we prepare to create an additional Year 1 class from Semester 2 in the Music room. My sincere thanks to Minister Langbroek; State Member for Brisbane Central, Robert Cavallucci; Deputy-Director General, Jeff Hunt; and the P&C and Reunification Committee for their advocacy and support that has led to the expansion of our school facilities. I am very excited to be working with Central Office and Regional Facilities staff to develop our new classroom and school facilities over the next six months.

**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 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:


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 - cxinis@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 Arnie-sarne2@eq.edu.au, or Nicki Paul- 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. 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, 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 you have a smart phone or android phone, be sure to 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
- Classs times
- Links to the school’s Facebook account
- Links to the school’s Twitter account
- Links to forms and documents

Have a great week!
Melissa

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**YEAR 5/6 NEWS**

This term, the Year 5/6 class had a task to create 3 advertisements. A small billboard ad, a detailed poster and a TV commercial or PowerPoint.

Firstly we all had to think of a NEW product or service and then plan. Some of the products kids made were Bouncy Boots- Emily, Sleepy Buddy- Abi, Flavour Water-Grace and the Invisible Cloak-Sonia.

Secondly, we all started to design our first two still advertisements, using clip art, photos and many different colours.

Thirdly, we all got to make our very own TV commercial, some of which were shown on this week’s assembly.

We went around the school using technology such as iPads & iPhones and some props to film our 3rd ad. Our class worked together using teamwork to film our ads or star in other kid’s ads for them.

Our class ended up creating stunning and very persuasive ads. The 5/6s are proud of what was achieved and we had so much fun being a part of this English unit.

Thank-you,
Written by Emily B.
RE-UNIFICATION SUCCESS!

After a 3 long years of tremendous effort from dedicated and hardworking parents, citizens and staff, yesterday the Education Minister J.P. Langbroek announced the fantastic news that our Re-unification Project has been a success. The government has committed $1 million to refurbish our former Infant School building to accommodate our expanding school numbers. These extra classrooms will be ready for the start of the 2015 school year as this safeguards BCSS growth into the future. We hope with careful planning to be able to provide ample space for students to learn and play in safe, happy, environment.

Cheers and Congratulations to the Hard Working Team
Paul Wilson
P&C President

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. 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 or TEXT ONLY to 0449 017 711.

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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, compiling Composite Artworks for Auction and compiling our inaugural BCSS Recipie 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.mini@hotmail.com.

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BCSS Cookbook
‘The Melting Pot’

Dear Parents & Caregivers

It’s finally here!

For many years now we have been threatening to create our very own BCSS cookbook. This year we will do it. The recipes will be yours. The illustrations will be your children’s.

We know that we have a lot of fabulous cooks in our school community and we need those recipes. Not modernist recipes, but the sort of recipe you cook when there’s no time and nothing in the cupboard. Great Grandma Judy’s no fail chocolate cake — you get the idea.

We would like you to email your recipes to the address below or if it’s hand-written please copy and place in the letterbox outside the school office.

Include your name, your child’s name and their class. If the recipe has a story behind it, add that too!

The cookbook will take a lof of time to put together and check, so start sending your recipes in now or as soon as you possibly can.

Recipes must be received by midday 27th June 2014 for inclusion in the cookbook.

For further information please contact Amanda or Alyson at gooch_min@hotmail.com.