Dear Parents/Carers,

There may only be three weeks of the term left, but we are super busy at Brisbane Central State School! While students start to commence final assessment tasks in all curriculum areas, teachers are collecting work samples ready to share with you at the parent-teacher interviews, which will be held between September 8 and September 19. If you haven’t received an invitation to these meetings, please ensure that you let your child’s teacher know so that they can make a time to meet with you.

Our biennial Art Show is only 2 weeks away! Classes are busily putting the final touches on individual art and class composite pieces, while our Choir and Instrumental Music students are rehearsing for their performance. The climax of the night is our great Art Auction, so get your bidding hand and cheque books ready to grab an original and unique art piece! We are looking forward to seeing all our families for the Art Show on Friday, September 12, starting at 5:00pm.

**NAPLAN update:**

All Year 3, 5, and 7 students should have received their Individual NAPLAN Report on Tuesday August 19. This year, the results were made available to schools and parents a month earlier than in previous years. This was great news for our teachers, who are keen to use this data to further improve and enhance classroom and individual learning programs. I am very proud of our 2014 NAPLAN results!

In Year 3, our students performed:
- Reading: above like and state schools mean
- Writing: above like, state and nation schools mean
- Spelling: above like, state and nations schools mean
- Grammar and Punctuation: above like, state and nation schools mean
- Numeracy: above like, state and nation schools mean

In Year 7, our students performed:
- Reading: above state and nation schools mean
- Writing: above like, state and nation schools mean
- Spelling: above the state mean
- Grammar and Punctuation: above like, state and national schools mean
- Numeracy: above like, state and nation mean
Our Year 5 students performed similar to like, state and nation schools in all test areas, with all students exhibiting relative gain between Year 3 and Year 5 in the areas of Numeracy, Writing, Spelling, and Grammar and Punctuation. I am very proud of the work of all our teachers, teacher aides and students, and would like to acknowledge the support of our parents in ensuring that every day their child is at school and ready to succeed. It is by working as a team, that we are able to ensure that every day, every child is learning. Well done everyone!!

A HUGE thank you to:
- Ms Michelle Martin for a fun filled Book Week celebration on Tuesday August 19. Thanks also to the parents who were able to join us for dress ups and book reading under the trees.
- Mr Dave Johnson for a jam packed and enjoyable P-3 Sports Carnival on Thursday August 21, and to Sergent Rob Duffner and Theresa Totman from PCYC for a free sausage sizzle, much enjoyed after a morning of running, jumping, throwing, bouncing and balancing! Thanks also to the parents who were able to join us on the oval.
- Mrs Julie West, who led our Senior Choir at Singfest on Wednesday August 20. Our students were complimented on their behaviour and standard of performance. Thanks also go to the parents who helped transport students to and from the venue and helped out on the day.
- Our P&C Fundraising committee for their work in preparing for the Art Show on September 12.

If you weren’t able to join us for Sports Day and Book Week, you can check out the photos on the website, Facebook and Twitter!

Welcome back to:
Ozlem Asan and Kathryn Milikota who have commenced their final teaching practicum in Year 6/7 and Year 2B respectively. Both Kathryn and Ozlem will return to Brisbane Central State School after the holidays to complete a four week internship, during which time they will have a 50% teaching load.

Parent -Teacher Interviews:
From September 8 to September 19, teachers will be offering parents the opportunity to meet with them to discuss their child’s learning over the past term.
Within the coming weeks, all parents should receive a letter from their child’s teacher inviting them to attend these meetings. I strongly encourage all parents to attend an interview with their child’s teacher. These interviews provide an opportunity for teachers and parents to celebrate your child’s achievements, provide an opportunity for feedback on their progress, and to develop goals for your child’s future learning. These meetings are also a great opportunity to share any concerns you as a parent may have regarding your child’s academic or social-emotional development. A couple of tips to make the most of your meeting with your child’s teacher:
- The interviews are short, so please come prepared with a list of questions you want to raise.
- Attend with a partner or friend, particularly if you are nervous or unsure. It is easy to miss a point and often difficult to relay information to a partner.
- Let the teacher have a chance to make an assessment of your child’s progress - they have a lot of your child’s work to show you!
- Take notes and clarify information that you don’t understand. “What do you mean by ‘he needs to spend time reading’....?” Make sure you have a good understanding of the messages your child’s teacher is giving.

Ask how you can help your child if there are any areas that need to be strengthened. No doubt your child’s teacher will have some strategies for you to assist your child, so make sure you have a clear understanding before you leave.
If there are unresolved issues or you wish to discuss your child’s learning in greater detail, consider asking for another interview. This is being respectful of the teacher’s time and of those parents who are to follow. If you are unable to attend an interview due to unforeseen circumstances, please let your child’s teacher know so the time can be offered to another parent.
We highly value parents’ attendance at these interviews, and always aim for 100% parent attendance. Because we are aiming for 100% attendance, parents who do not attend an interview with their child’s teacher will receive a friendly note asking them to make a time early Term 4 with their child’s teacher.
A HUGE thanks to our class teachers Jan McKean, Darren Waugh, Hailey Hammor, Kayleen Morgan, Brendan Stock, Rae Ross, Gemma Zielke, Edwin Martan, Caitlin Ashcroft, and Annette Somerville for balancing teaching, planning, and
preparation with parent-interviews during this busy time. I know our teachers put in a lot of time ensuring that they are prepared for interviews so that you leave as well informed as possible about your child’s progress. Miss Kylie Wall will offer parent interviews upon her return at the beginning of Term 4.

**Parent details update:**

A few weeks ago, you would have received a print out of the contact details, emergency contacts and medical conditions for your child that we currently have on file. Please check that the details are correct, note where details are incorrect (or state that all details are correct) and return to the office as soon as possible. We have commenced updating our database to ensure that all details are accurate. Thank you to the parents who have already returned their contact details.

At the end of this semester, we will be distributing report cards by email only for students in Prep to Year 5. It is therefore imperative that we have your correct email address stored in our database system. Thank you to the parents who have notified Carolina Duncan of your change of email address following the electronic distribution of report cards. Parents are advised that in your email settings, you should add oneschool.application@dete.qld.gov.au to your list of safe senders so report card emails are not sent to the junk folder.

**Enrolments for 2015:**

We are now accepting enrolments for Prep and all other year levels for 2015. If you have a child who will be turning 5 by June 30, 2015, please pick up an enrolment pack from our school office, or download the form from our website: https://brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au/Enrolments/Pages/Enrolments.aspx.

Please return completed enrolment forms to the school office via email: admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au or in hard copy. We appreciate you returning the enrolment forms in a timely manner so that we can start to anticipate the number of classes and our staffing needs for 2015.

**Free Parent English Class:**

Don’t forget, our free Parent English class is now held on Thursdays from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. All families should have received a flyer inviting you to attend these classes. We welcome all parents, regardless of your level of English, to join our volunteer English teachers, Sandra and Allison in the library for a few laughs and to make some friends. My sincere thanks to Allison and Sandra for their ongoing commitment to our school community.

**Payment of monies to the office:**

Due to increases of large cash amounts being received by the school and to ensure there is a safeguard for prevention of loss or theft, cash amounts over $20 will be required to be paid online to the School’s Bank Account (BSB 064-012 Acct No. 10035751). If you are unable to pay online and need to make large payments of cash over $20, please contact Mrs Carolina Duncan on 3230 4333 or email admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au to arrange payment options.

Cash payments under $20 can be still made at the office. We ask that parents and students pay these directly to the office, rather than through the classrooms so that a receipt can be immediately issued.

We will be phasing this process in over the remainder of the term, for full implementation after the holidays. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

**Congratulations:**

Congratulations to our “mathletes”- Ashley, Shane, Caitlyn, Emanuel and Yasmin, who came second at the recent Maths Tournament at Graceville State School. A HUGE thanks to Mrs Annette Somerville and Mrs Supriya Sant, who trained the students in readiness for the competition, and to Cecilia Huang for transporting and supporting our students to and from, and at the venue. Well done team!

**Rule Reminders:**

Every week at assembly, I take the opportunity to remind our students about our three school rules, “Be Safe, Be Responsible and Be Respectful”. We appreciate our parents reinforcing these rules at home. This week, we discussed the importance of being “safe” by not sharing our lunchbox and tuckshop items with other students at lunchtimes. As
many of our students have food allergies and intolerances, it is very important that students do not eat food unless packed for them by a parent, or during shared lunches (e.g. Harmony Day and Book Week) that can be monitored by a parent. We appreciated parents discussing these rules with their children so we can ensure that every day, every child is happy, safe and learning.

**Good bye for now:**

On Tuesday I informed our staff and students that I have accepted a position as Principal Advisor with Great Teachers = Great Results, based in Central Office. I will be there until the end of the year with possible extension in 2015. I will be replaced by Mr Graham Rickuss, who is from Redbank State School. Graham visited on Thursday, to meet our staff and students, and for a handover.

I want to sincerely thank the wonderful staff of Brisbane Central State School for their support during my time as principal. Words cannot express the gratitude I have for their commitment to their work, their professionalism, and their desire to make our school as great as it can be. My thanks also to our wonderful students - I believe that we have the best students in Queensland! They are focussed, motivated, caring and creative. My thanks also go to our lovely, supportive parents who have entrusted us with their child’s education every day. I really appreciate the large number of parents who have gone out of their way over the past few months to let me know that they appreciate the hard work our staff have put into teaching and learning.

Good bye for now!

Melissa

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**YEAR 6/7 NEWS**

Five 6/7 students entered the District Maths Tournament which was held at Graceville State School. They did exceptionally well gaining 2nd place. Well done - Ashley K., Emanuel P., Caitlyn L., Shane K. and Yasmin T. Thanks Mrs Sant for helping to coach the team and Ashley’s mum for transporting the team.

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**ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES – MINI WRITERS FESTIVAL, MINI THINKERS AND MINI SCIENTISTS 2014**

**A word from the Mini Writers**

Participants: Fareeha Q., Lucy D., Reonna A. and Francis L.

This event took place at the New Market State School library. Julie Finson (an author) was telling us some stories about her life like: her childhood, being held tightly by an orang-utan or being followed by cheetahs and having nowhere to go. After warming up our imagination, our topic was given to us - A Precious Item. Then we started planning and writing. On the second day of the Mini Writers Festival, everyone had a buddy, to give feedback about your writing. On the third day, we had to conference with a teacher, and finished our work. Illustrations were done last. The fourth day was pretty busy. The parents were allowed to come and look at the kids’ work. Certificates were handed out by the Principal of New Market State School. Later, we also got group pictures taken with Julie Finson.

I had a terrific time at the Mini Writers Festival and had learnt some new things too. The book was published and we all got our first story published.

By Francis L.
A word from the Mini Thinkers

Participants: Raheem S., Benjamin T., Jed C. and Divyang C.

We attended 2 mini thinker sessions. We began with the brainstorming process which gave us a chance to think hard by doing various activities, like puzzle and role playing. We made up a short play, props and a script, with a modern message in a fairy tale format. We chose to explain the dangers of internet use. We had two weeks to practice our script for performance day. On the day I was very nervous but I did it!

By Raheem S. and Benjamin T.

A word from the Mini Scientists

Participants: Mathilda L., Jeremy P. and Brielli S.

I was really excited to get to be a Mini Scientist. We got to do lots of experiments so that we could figure out how to make a bouncy ball. It was fun meeting different people with the same passion for science. All up it was a great learning experience.

By Mathilda L.

I am extremely grateful that I got the experience of the mini scientists. I had a lot of fun, and got very messy, and I would like to do it again, next year.

By Jeremy P.

CREATIVE WRITING YEAR 4 WRITE ON – ONLINE PROJECT TERM 2

Congratulations to the participants of the write on project.

Ten dedicated year 4 writers participated in this challenging and very difficult online project, “Write on”. It took 10 weeks and consisted of an hour online session plus a 45 minute homework session in the school computer lab every week with Ms Martin. All students really needed to work hard on improving their computer skills.


At Write On, we have been doing captivating climaxes, figurative language and dynamic dialogue, onomatopoeia, alliteration, metaphors, similes and personification just to name a few. This helps us to write more creatively. It was a very challenging experience for us.

By Eleisha H., Joshua K. and Divyang C.

Write On was a great way to learn and I thought it was great to express our feelings through writing. We used fun games, challenges and songs through the computer. Twice a week, the Write On kids and Ms Martin would meet in the computer lab to talk through what page we would be visiting and meet with our online instructor. We really got to learn a lot and have fun at the same time.

By Mathilda L.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/SPORTS NEWS

The fun and exciting Junior Sports Day was held on Thursday 21 August, 2014. The day was full of colour, music, movement, laughter and good cheer. Congratulations to all students who participated in this great event. Students demonstrated positive team spirit and enhanced their game skills and sprinting. All students earned points for their teams, let's celebrate our house winners, St Pauls - 352 points and Rogers - 413 points. Thanks to all students, parents, community members and staff for supporting our sports day season. Enjoy your sport!

Dave Johnson
PE Teacher
SINGFEST MASSED CHORAL EVENT 2014 – A GREAT SUCCESS!

Brisbane Central State School Senior Choir students represented their school admirably at the Singfest Massed Choral Event last week culminating in a fantastic concert last Wednesday night. I would like to congratulate them on their beautiful singing, exemplary behaviour and focussed participation.

The school had twenty students participating and it was wonderful to witness the student’s enthusiasm and joy in performance.

The Massed Choir was conducted by the experienced choral conductor, composer and music educator Stuart Gillard, and he ran an extensive workshop with the choir students throughout the day before the Concert. The students learned skills in musicianship, breathing, vocal range and presentation, while having great fun along the way.

I would like to thank Ms Burke, Mrs Duncan, Amanda Woolnough and Cecelia Huang for all their support and assistance in getting our students ready and organised and I would like to thank all the choir parents as events like this wouldn’t happen without your care and support.

Yours in Music,

Julie West
Classroom Music Specialist / Choral Conductor

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Next Wednesday September 3rd is photo day. If you would like to purchase a class or individual photo of your child, please return the envelope to the class teacher before next Wed. Online credit card payment is the preferred method of payment. You may pay by cheque or cash. If a cash payment is made, you must include the correct money as no change will be given. If you require another envelope Mrs Duncan has additional envelopes in the office. She also has sibling envelopes if you would like a photo of all your children together. If you have any questions please see Mrs Gilmour in the prep building.
CHALK AND PARENT DIRECT TOY CATALOGUES

If any parents wish to purchase toys from the catalogues which were sent home earlier in the month, please give your orders to Mrs Gilmour in the prep building.

The school receives commission on all items bought. These are all good quality toys supplied by the same company that we purchase from for the school. Any commission received will be spent on new sandpit toys. All orders need to be returned by Sep 12th. Mrs Gilmour has additional catalogues if you need one. Thank you to the families who have already brought in orders.

BRISBANE CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL ART SHOW

5:00PM to 8:00PM Friday 12 September 2014

Every two years BCSS teachers blend their teaching skills with their artistic skills to stage the BCSS Art Show. The outcome is memorable.

If you have not yet had the pleasure of experiencing a BCSS Art Show then you are in for a surprising treat. This is a big event showcasing the immense size of our students’ talent. We know those that have experienced this event will be first in line when the doors are flung open revealing a spectacular kaleidoscope of colour and brilliance created by our students. The enthusiasm is delightful and the pride long lasting.

Canvasses are drying in readiness and plans are under way. It is now time to get the date into your schedules and to invite everyone to participate.

ART SHOW

This is a fun filled evening bringing together the entire community mixing the art show up with lots of performances. The students have been busy in their classes collaborating on an Artwork that will be auctioned on the night. It is a time to pull out the address book and invite everyone and anyone to come and view our school and celebrate our students’ art. Oh, and leave a little of the contents of your wallet in support of the P&C fund raising efforts. It is a great event for the students who delight in showing off their art. The usual suspects will be there with entertainment and the guarantee of noise, laughter and lots to eat.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP

This is the part where the P&C calls on your generosity and good spirit.

Everyone is invited to help and it is only through everyone’s helps that it becomes the event that our children remember. Your assistance need not be time consuming – the idea is that everyone has time to enjoy the event as well as enjoy working on it.

If you would like to assist please contact the P&C Fund-raising Sub-Committee (see contacts).

We are currently looking for helpers to curate the Classroom Artwork on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the hall – no experience required. If you can use scissors and tie a knot, you’re in!

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO

Look Out: More notices will be sent out in the coming weeks communicating what is happening and asking for specific things. Keep an eye out, it might be for something you have.

Attending: However you chose to help, it is important that BCSS has your support and coming to enjoy the students’ art is the most important help you can give - it all goes towards building pride, increasing positive profile and raising funds to help our children enjoy their time at BCSS.

It is all fun and it is all worthwhile.

Contact: BCSS P&C Fund-raising Committee:
Amanda Woolnough email: gooch_min@hotmail.com
Alyson Fenton email: donaly@bigpond.com
Cecilia & Sunitha Head Chefs
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@brisbanecentralsss.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@brisbanecentralsss.eq.edu.au or TEXT ONLY to 0449 017 711.

On our off newsletter weeks, don't forget to check out Facebook, Twitter and the QSchools app for all the information and updates!

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.
“Art is Everywhere”

Art Show 2014

Friday 12th September 5:00pm – 8:00pm

Every two years BCSS teachers blend their teaching skills with their artistic skills to stage the BCSS Art Show. The outcome is memorable!

If you have not yet had the pleasure of experiencing a BCSS Art Show then you are in for a surprising treat. This is a big event showcasing the immense size of our students’ talent. We know those that have experienced this event will be first in line when the doors are flung open revealing a spectacular kaleidoscope of colour and brilliance created by our students. The enthusiasm is delightful and the pride long lasting.

Canvases are drying in readiness and plans are under way. It is now time to get the date into your schedules and to invite everyone to participate.

Art Prizes

Choir & Instrumental Performances

Art Auctions

International Food & Drink

Classroom Displays

Fun for the whole family!