Dear Parents/Carers,

It is great to be back after three weeks leave! A HUGE thank you to Mrs Charmaine Xinis who so capably lead our school over the past few weeks. It was reassuring to know that while I was gone, our school was in very safe hands. It seems that the term is rushing past very quickly! Luckily we still have a number of school events to look forward to, including our Harmony Day parade, the Harmony Day concert (featuring the Choir, Band and Ukulele Ensemble), Easter Hat Parade, P&C Annual General Meeting, Parent-Teacher Interviews and the French Film Festival.

**Adopt-a-Schools Launch:**

On Thursday our school welcomed the Minister for Education, The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP, The Honourable Jack Dempsey MP, Minister for Police and Community Safety, Police Commissioner, Ian Stewart, senior members of the Queensland Police Service, our Adopt-a-Cop, Constable Sebastian Looney-Cox and Assistant Regional Director, Mr Mike Kelly to the launch of the Adopt-a-Schools program. The program will involve officers in charge of stations communicating regularly with local schools, including hosting an annual principals meeting, to discuss policing related issues within school communities. It will also involve meetings between senior police management of the overarching police district and officers in charge of stations to tackle common policing issues within school communities across the district.

I was particularly proud of our school band, who worked hard as a group to perfect their playing of the National Anthem in preparation for the special event. A BIG congratulations goes to our Music Captains, Elisabeth Bell and Liza Turkevych who independently, and on their own initiative, rehearsed the band during lunch time to ensure that they were all able to play to the best of their ability.

**Parent-Teacher Interviews:**

In the next week all parents should receive a letter from their child’s teacher inviting them to attend a parent-teacher interview to discuss their child’s learning over Term 1. These interviews will be conducted between March 18 and March 28. I encourage all parents to attend an interview with their child’s teacher. These interviews provide an opportunity for teachers and
parents to celebrate a child’s achievements, provide an opportunity for feedback on their progress, and to develop goals for a child’s future learning. These interviews are also a great opportunity to share any concerns you as a parent may have regarding your child’s academic or social-emotional development.

Please join us in partnering to ensure your child’s continued success and development at school.

**P&C Annual General Meeting:**
The P&C’s Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday March 20 at 8:00am in the meeting room at the top of the hall. Our first P&C meeting in February was very well attended and we are hoping that we continue to have parents come along and be a part of the team.

**Harmony Day:**
Our school community will be celebrating Harmony Day on Tuesday March 19. On this day, parents and students are invited to wear their national dress to school. Alternatively, students may wear orange, to represent harmony. **Parents are invited to join us at 2:15pm in the hall, for our Harmony Day costume parade and assembly.** As over 60% of our student population was born overseas, or speaks English as An Additional Language, Harmony Day is an incredibly important day for our school community.

Parents are welcome to send a plate of food from their child’s home culture, for the students to share for morning tea. It is ideal to avoid sending meats and nuts, so that all students can enjoy your cuisine.

A HUGE thank you to Ms Alison Thomas for her organization of this event.

**French Film Festival:**
Students in Years 3/4, 4/5, 5/6, and 6/7 have the privilege of attending the Brisbane French Film Festival on **Monday 25 March.** Classes will be viewing the school screening of “Ernest et Célestine”, a cartoon film with English subtitles, rated G. The cost is $16.50 per student, which is based on all our students attending. This is a unique opportunity for students to practise their viewing and listening skills in French. Students have always enjoyed our trip to the French Film festival, and Mrs Rosa Maroto engages students in a number of related learning experiences prior to, and following the film. Please make sure that you send in your child’s permission form and money by 14 March.

**Instrumental Music News**
Congratulations to the band that played marvellously at the "Adopt A Cop" Launch yesterday!

Get ready to hear all they have worked on during their Wednesday morning band rehearsals at the Harmony Day Concert in 2 week’s time on Wednesday night, March 20! Band favourite is "Star Wars"!

Some of the Year 6 & 7 students will have the opportunity to audition for the Northside District Honours Camp. Year 6 and 7 students have already started working on the scales and audition piece during their lessons. A note about the Honours camp will be given to Year 6 and 7 band students soon.

**Clean Up Australia Day:**
A BIG “well done” to two of our school leaders, year 7 students Isabella McErlain and Jacinta Maxwell, who as part of volunteering in Clean Up Australia Day, filled bags nearly as big as themselves with rubbish collected amongst the very wet mud and hanging from the trees from local Kingfisher Creek, in the rain, from 8:00am on Sunday March 3. Congratulations to Isabella and Jacinta for volunteering to help keep our local environment clean, safe and healthy, and helping to protect our creeks. You can see photos of the girls in the mud on Councillor Helen Abraham’s website: [www.helenabrahams.com](http://www.helenabrahams.com).

**Every day counts:**
As we reach the end of Term 1, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school on every school day unless there is a reasonable excuse for the student to be away, such as illness. Research shows that students who have a good attendance record are more likely to achieve high results. Going shopping, visiting family, staying up late, being tired or extending school holidays are not acceptable reasons to be away from school. Help us to support your child by making sure they attend school every day.

**Dress Code:**
As the weather starts to become a little cooler, it is important to remember that the school has a P&C endorsed Dress Code. This code states that our uniform includes:
• BCSS black polo shirts with yellow/gold collar – This shirt is the preferred shirt for all formal occasions and all inter-school sporting events for student identification, sun-protection and aesthetic reasons.

• BCSS yellow/gold collared polo shirt with black collar

• BCSS black shorts, plain black shorts or plain black tracksuit pants. All shorts should be at least of mid-thigh length.

• Plain Black shorts. Skorts need to be worn at mid-thigh length or longer.

• Plain black leggings or tights can be worn but not by themselves, with a uniform shirt only underneath dresses or skorts. Leggings must be plain black, full length and without decoration.

• BCSS dresses. Must be at least of mid-thigh length or longer.

• Bike pants may be worn for modesty under dresses but should not be visible below the hemline of a dress.

• A broad brimmed hat is compulsory for all children while exposed to ultra-violet rays. A black broad-brimmed hat is available as a uniform item.

• Black shoes and white or black sports shoes/runners/sandshoes (plain or near-plain styles) are recommended as part of the uniform. Covered footwear is compulsory at all times for children attending the school. Sandals, thongs or high heeled shoes are not permitted to be worn. White or black ankle socks or sports socks are the uniform standard.

• Plain purple polo shirts (St Paul’s House) and plain red polo shirts (Rogers’ House) are available for school inter-house competition days.

• Revealing swimwear or swimwear with inappropriate designs or logos is not permitted. Bathing caps are compulsory.

• When warm clothing is required, BCSS black zip-up jackets are available. Plain black long trousers or tracksuit pants and plain black warm tops or jackets may be worn. Warm clothes in colours other than plain black or gold are not suitable.

• It is essential that parents/carers clearly label all uniform items with their child’s name so lost items can be returned to their rightful owners.

Parents and carers are encouraged to contact the school or the P&C for clarity on any of the details described above.

Have a wonderful week!
Melissa

The first six weeks have been a very busy time in Year 2/3! The students have been working enthusiastically at making our classroom a safe, responsible and respectful place for everybody.

Learning in the areas of English, Maths, Science and History is well under way and we have begun our literacy groups and Maths rotations with great success. In Science we are currently undertaking an investigation into living and non-living things and are growing our own seeds. Every day brings new surprises and much excitement! Our History unit has seen us begin to learn about celebrations and commemorations. We have had some truly interesting discussions surrounding celebrations and commemorations observed in our own families and communities and I look forward to learning more about them as the term moves along!

We also have a great team of teacher aides, specialist teachers and parent helpers who have become a part of our classroom this term. Their help and support is invaluable to us and to all of them we say a huge THANK YOU!

Miss Ross

Salut tout le monde/Hello everyone,

Just a reminder that the Brisbane French Film Festival is on this month on Monday 25 March and our 3/4, 4/5, 5/6 and 6/7 classes will be attending the school screening of “Ernest et Célestine” a cartoon film with English subtitles, rated G. The cost is $16.50 per student based on all our students attending. We need everyone to attend to help keep the bus cost down. Students have always enjoyed our trip to the French film festival, and we do class work before and after the film based on
the film and in collaboration with the Alliance Française, so please make sure that you send in your form and the money by 14 March.

I also would like to give a brief outline of the work our students will be covering during the first 1st Trimester. This can help parents who are interested in helping their students to do some revision and games with the help of “linguascope” as well as http://www.eduwweb.vic.gov.au/languagesonline/.

There are also lots of French songs for children under the heading “chansons pour les enfants” in you tube.

**Prep:** greetings and farewells, introductions “jém’appelle”, celebrations like mardi gras and Pâques, and poisson d’avril, the family, numbers 1 to 10, the French alphabet and colours.

**Year 1:** more celebrations, numbers to 20, revision of family, alphabet, months, days, birthdays, colours introductions and feelings.

**Year 2:** revision, introductions, months, days, greetings, numbers to 31, requesting things in the classroom, commands, instructions, describing things.

**Year 2/3:** same as year 2 but also school life, clothing.

**Year 3/4:** revision giving information about myself for example age, name, birthday, greetings farewells, numbers 1-100, animals, AIM vocab and gestures, requesting things in the classroom, permission to do things and an introduction to the play “le chat et la lune”

**Year 4/5:** revision giving information about myself for example age, name, birthday, greetings farewells, numbers 1-100, transport, AIM vocab and gestures, requesting things in the classroom, permission to do things and an introduction to the play “Comment y aller?”

**Year 5/6:** revision giving information about myself for example age, name, birthday, greetings farewells, numbers 1-100, animals, health and parts of the body, AIM vocab and gestures, requesting things in the classroom, permission to do things and an introduction to the play “les animaux de bayou”.

**Year 6/7:** revision giving information about myself for example age, name, birthday, greetings farewells, numbers 1-100, animals, health and parts of the body, hobbies, AIM vocab and gestures, requesting things in the classroom, permission to do things and an introduction to the play “le bistro des animaux”.

If you would like to talk to me about any aspect of our French programme, please feel free to contact me.

And again, can I please ask you to support our French excursion to the French Film Festival.

Merci et à la prochaine / Thank you and till next time.

Madame Maroto

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**HARMONY DAY**

On Harmony Day Australians celebrate our cultural diversity, and here at Brisbane Central we are delighted to mark our multiculturalism.

On Tuesday, 19th March, students and parents are invited to wear their national dress to school. An alternative is to wear orange, to represent harmony. Parents are invited to join us at 2:15pm in the hall, for our Harmony Day costume parade and assembly.

Parents, you are welcome to send a plate of food from your original culture, to your child’s class, for the students to share for morning tea. It is ideal to avoid sending meats and nuts, so that all students can enjoy your cuisine.

Remember... we all smile in the same language!

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**FIT ‘N’ ACTIVE**

If it is raining, we will be in the eating shed near the Prep/1 room. Please also remember that Fit ‘n’ Active afternoons are NOT for stay and play.

Thank you, Maree.

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**BOOK CLUB**

All book club orders need to be in by Monday, 11 March to Mrs Gilmour. Please remember that payment can be made by credit card or cheque, NO CASH.

Thank you, Mrs Gilmour.

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**CITY DISTRICT NETBALL TRIALS**

**DATE FOR TRIAL:** Friday, 22 March 2013

**TIME:**
- U11 Girls Trial – 9:00am – 11:45am
- U12 Girls Trial – 12:15pm – 3:00pm

**TRAIL VENUE:** Wavell Heights State School

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**CITY DISTRICT TOUCH TRIALS**

**GIRLS TRIALS:** Friday 15th March 2013
- 9:30am to 11:30am

**BOYS TRIALS:** Friday 15th March 2013
- 12:30pm to 2:30pm

**STUDENTS BORN 2001 & 2002: NO 13YRS (BORN 2000) ARE ABLE TO TRIAL**

**TRAIL VENUE:** St Margaret’s Playing Fields – Windsor Park, Albion
We would like to invite all new and existing parents to our craft group.

No sewing or cooking experience needed.
9am every Friday in the hall (children welcome)
Cost is $2 – includes tea/coffee and morning tea.

What’s on this week:
Wheat Bags

AGM
The P&C invite its current Executive and the school community to its Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 20th March 2013 at 8:00am in the hall (GLA).

General meeting to follow

All welcome!

UNIFORM NEWS

OPENING HOURS – The Uniform Shop will only be open Thursday mornings from 8:30am to 9:30am.

SWIM CAPS – We have a small supply of Red or Purple Lycra Swim Caps (Rogers or St Paul’s) at a cost of $8.00.

ORDERING UNIFORMS - If you would like to order uniform 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.

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).

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer in the Uniform Shop, please email Amanda bcsspandc@hotmail.com.

CITY DISTRICT RUGBY LEAGUE TRIALS

11 YEARS TRAIL: (Boys born 2002)
   Friday 22 March, 2013
   9.00am – 11.30pm

12 YEARS TRAIL: (Boys born 2001 - No 13yrs allowed)
   Friday 22 March, 2013
   12.00pm – 2.30pm

TRIAL VENUE: Norths JRLFC Club, Bishop Park, Franklin Street, Nundah.

Please nominate with Mr Waugh or Ms Paton by Tuesday 12th March.

BCSS Craft Group News

We would like to invite all new and existing parents to our craft group.

9am every Friday in the hall (children welcome)
Cost is $2 – includes tea/coffee and morning tea.

What’s on this week:
Wheat Bags