Dear Parents/Carers,

This was an incredibly busy week, with many school events. Next week promises to be just as full. Read on for a review of the events and a reminder about those in the week to come. With school finishing on Thursday March 28, this will be our final newsletter for the term! I wish all our families a very safe and relaxing holiday period. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday April 15, 2013.

### Harmony Day Concert:

Congratulations to all our Band, Choir and Ukulele Ensemble students for their performance last night. While not their first performance of the year, it was their first formal concert for 2013. I’m sure that all our parents who attended will agree that our Music program is growing in size, quality and competency. A BIG thank you to Miss Kat McGowan and Mrs Laurinda Davidson for their continued dedication and support of our Music students.

### Harmony Day Assembly:

It was very exciting to see how many parents and family members were able to join us for the Harmony Day assembly. The students who spoke on assembly shared their own personal histories and stories about their cultural heritage and journey to Australia. Our cultural diversity was also well represented by the range of traditional dress shared by students across the school. Our choir and Ukulele Ensemble played a number of pieces from around the world, and finished with a lovely rendition of “I am Australian”. Classes enjoyed a wide range of cultural food for morning tea. A MASSIVE thank you to Ms Alison Thomas and Miss Kat McGowan for their hard work in leading this special assembly!
P&C Annual General Meeting:
I was thrilled by the number of parents who attended our P&C AGM on Wednesday morning- we roughly trebled the number of parents who attended in 2012!! This is a great result, and we hope that the parents who attended continue to come and have an input into the school. Member for Brisbane Central, Robert Cavallucci also attended and was able to respond to members’ questions. My sincere thanks goes to the 2012 P&C Executive for their leadership and support. Our newly elected 2013 P&C Executive comprises of:

- President: Paul Wilson
- Vice-President: Miranda Crisci
- Treasurer: Peter and Megan Zunker
- Secretary: Alyson Fenton
- Uniform Convenor: Amanda Woolnough and Cecilia Huang

A big thank you to the parents who accepted an Executive position on this year’s P&C. I look forward to working with the P&C to further benefit our students’ learning!

Welcome:
Welcome to Rachel Tinney, who will be working in the office 3 hours a week on Friday mornings. Rachel also works at New Farm State School. We are very grateful to have Rachel working for us, as it will allow Wendy Armstrong to focus some more of her time on the financial aspects of her role.

Up-coming Events:
- French Film Festival - Monday March 25. Our year 3/4 - 6/7 students are very fortunate to have the opportunity to experience French film at an age and language appropriate level.
- Young Leaders Day - Wednesday March 27. This is an excellent and very worthwhile experience for our Year 7 students.
- Easter Hat Parade - Thursday March 28 at 9:15am. Come along and enjoy our egg-tastic hats! We will also be showing off what we have been learning in Dance Fever this term. It might pay to wear your dancing shoes!!
- Parent-Teacher Interviews: many of our staff are half-way through meeting with parents to discuss their child’s progress and to develop goals for future learning. If you have not made a time to meet with your child’s teacher, I urge you to do so. Even if you have no concerns or questions, meeting with your child’s teacher allows you to get a “full picture” of how your child is progressing at school. My sincere thanks goes to our wonderful class teachers who have given up their mornings and afternoons to meet with our parents.

Communication:
We value communicating with you via email, phone or preferably, face to face. It is much better to share your concerns openly, so that any issue, either big or small, can be resolved in a timely and sensitive way. Sometimes it is difficult for parents to know who to talk to, and about what. Please read the role descriptions below, so that you know the best person to talk to:

- Class teachers - If you have a concern about your child’s academic, learning or social-emotional needs, please see your child’s teacher in the first instance. They know your child well, have developed a relationship with them, and will understand the context of any events that may have caused any concern. Our teachers also liaise regularly with our Curriculum Coordinator, ST:LaN and ESL Specialists regarding students’ learning.
- Curriculum Coordinator – If you have any questions pertaining to the curriculum, or teaching and learning at Brisbane Central State School, you can talk to our Curriculum Coordinator, Charmaine Xinis. Charmaine provides strategic leadership in the area of curriculum development, enhancement and support. Charmaine works at Brisbane Central State School on Wednesday, Thursday and alternative Fridays.
- Support Teacher: Literacy and Numeracy - Alina Pugleise coordinates our student support across the school. She also analyses data and provides feedback to teachers and the Leadership Team regarding how best to support student’s learning. Alina works Wednesdays and alternative Fridays.
- ESL Specialist - Meredith Waghorn coordinates English as a Second Language support across the school. She works with teachers to ensure that they have the support, skills and strategies to support students who are learning English as an additional language. Meredith works on alternative Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- Guidance Officer - Vicky Alley provides recommendations and advice to students, teachers and parents concerning educational, behavioural, career
development, mental health and family issues. Vicky works alternative Wednesdays.

Reminders:

- **Play and Stay afternoons:** Our Play and Stay afternoons are on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. **Parents must be present and supervising their child during this time.** There is no school supervision during this activity. Should we become aware that your child is not supervised we will contact you and ask you to collect your child immediately. Should you be unable to supervise your child at Play and Stay, please contact Theresa at PCYC OSHC to arrange for after-school care - briscentralsac@pcyc.org.au.

- **Accessing lower playground in the afternoons:** Please be aware that PCYC OSHC access the lower playground during Play and Stay and Fit and Active afternoons.

Have a great holiday!
Melissa

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**PREP/YEAR 1 NEWS**

The preps have settled into the school routine. They have learnt the letters of the alphabet and their related sounds and they have learnt to recognise words. These are prerequisites to reading which they’ll be starting next term.

The year 1 children have developed their skills in maths (numbers 1 to 50), in reading more detailed books, in writing stories and in spelling and sight words. They all enjoyed activities on families and changes in history and animals in science.

Ms McKean

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**YEAR 3/4 NEWS**

Jenina said Year 3/4 is studying persuasive texts. We need to practise getting reasons for arguments so we can express what we believe, according to Trudy. Joshua thinks that it’s hard to make up ideas and strong words for our writing, because we need to think quickly. Ben says you have to make a few quite different ideas to make your argument strong.

Here are some reasons we think it would be awful if dinosaurs still lived. Sidney said that they could eat you or step on you, while Angus added that they would roar in the middle of the night, so people couldn’t sleep. Narjic commented that they could destroy your house and Benedict pointed out that if dinosaurs still existed, we could either be the monkeys we evolved from, or we could be extinct!! We would have to keep running around most of our lives, Mathilda said, to stay safe. Dinosaurs could eat our food, Bodi mentioned, and drink all of our water, Polina suggested. Marcus was concerned that herbivores would eat all of the plants which produce oxygen, so we could not breathe. Divyang declared that they would leave messes everywhere. Maeve thought it’d be hard to get to work, because you’d have to dodge dinosaurs’ feet.

Here are some advantages of dinosaurs still living. Santiago would like to ride on them, Brandon would train them, Michael said we could keep one as a pet and Ethan commented that they could prevent loneliness by playing with people. Jed thought they are big enough to help lift and carry building materials. Ellie mentioned they would be good for reaching high places. We could make clothing and instruments from their skins, Raheen added. Ha pointed out they are good, because they could eat your leftovers to reduce waste. Eleisha declared that we wouldn’t need to use cars and petrol anymore.

It’s amazing how many ideas some bright young people can produce together.

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**HARMONY DAY**

Harmony Day was celebrated at school on Tuesday with a parade of national costumes and interesting speeches from students with multicultural backgrounds, interspersed with glorious songs presented by the choir. In classrooms, children sampled delicious international fare for morning tea. Some classes played international games and others built and flew kites to celebrate. Thank you to the parents who supported our assembly, many of you resplendent in traditional clothing.

Ms Alison Thomas

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**CROSS COUNTRY TRAINING**

With the district and school cross country events on in Term 2, students will begin cross country running training during P.E lessons next week. Before school training sessions will also available for students in Years 3 – 7. Interested students can meet Miss Paton on the school oval on Tuesday mornings at 8:30am and Mr Waugh on Wednesday mornings 8:30am. The first training session is Tuesday 26th March. Hope to see you there!

Thanks,
Anna Paton (PE Teacher)

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**FIT ‘N’ ACTIVE**

If it is raining, we will be in the eating shed near the Prep/1 room. **There is only 1 week left of Fit ‘n’ Active**
sessions. PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THAT FIT ‘N’ ACTIVE AFTERNOONS ARE NOT FOR STAY AND PLAY.

Thank you, Maree.

**EVERY DAY COUNTS**

As we reach the end of Term 1, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year.

Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year.

More information on the importance of regular school attendance is available at:  

**SUCCESS 4 KIDS PARENT WORKSHOP**

The Success 4 Kids Parent Workshop will be conducted at the Enoggera Parent Education Centre on Thursday 2 May from 9.30 am to midday. The workshop offers parents information about how children learn and how parents can assist their children to achieve in their primary school years. Please contact the Centre on Tel 33559202 to express your interest in participating in this single session workshop. The number of participants will be limited so attendance will be based on order of registration. Child care will not be available on the day. Morning tea will be provided.

**PLAY BEAUTIFUL: HOLIDAY CAMP**

3 Day Soccer Camp: $35 DISCOUNT

Your child is invited to learn new skills through the one of a kind Play Beautiful Holiday Camp, presented in fun video game style levels, allowing children to ‘unlock’ 50 new skills.

Parents are welcome to choose their preference for Week 1 or Week 2 and then for each friend they invite, receive a $35 discount for both the new player and the registered player. Your child plays with their friends and you get money off, a win-win for everyone! Places at each camp are strictly limited so sign up for this great school holiday activity now by visiting the website:

**AGES:** 6-12 year old boys and girls  
**DATES:** Week 1: (Tue-Thu) 2-5th April 2013  
Week 2: (Mon-Wed) 8-12th April 2013  
**TIME:** 9:00am - 3:00pm each day  
**PRICE:** $219 (3 Day Camp)  
**PLACE:** Play Beautiful Stadium, Toowong 4066  
**SIGN UP:** www.playbeautifulfootball.com.au

**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.

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**BCSS Craft Group News**

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