Dear Parents/Carers,

We are right in the swing of things here at Brisbane Central! Students have commenced new units of work and are working towards their assessment items in Week 5. Across the school we have a number of other activities in full swing. Read on for an update!

**ANZAC Day:**

This Tuesday we observed ANZAC Day through our annual Commemoration Service. We welcomed Mr Bruce McCleary from the New Farm Returned Services League, and State Member for Brisbane Central, Robert Cavallucci as our special guests. Our choir and band also performed beautifully, with a standout rendition of the Last Post by Elisabeth Bell. My sincere thanks to Mrs Annette Somerville, Mrs Wendy Fitzgerald, Ms Kat McGowan and Mrs Laurinda Davidson for their work in ensuring that the ceremony was well organised, students were prepared, and all arrangements proceeded smoothly. A BIG thank you to the parents who attended the ceremony, and prepared, served and made morning tea. It was a lovely community event.

**Gardening Club:**

Our first Gardening club meeting kicked off this morning, with a number of students coming along to pitch in and keep our vegetable gardens mulched, watered and weed free. A MASSIVE thanks to Mr Brendan Stock and Mr Greg Hunt (parent) for their leadership of this project. We’re looking forward to some bumper crops over the next few months!

**Tag League:**

Eighteen of our Year 5-7 students played their first game of Tag League against local City Cluster schools at Gibson Park, Stafford. A HUGE thanks to Mr Darren Waugh for his hard work in training students and preparing them to participate in the competitions, and to Ms Maree Lewis for her ongoing support of the Gala Sports program. Students will be participating in another two Gala Days, on Friday May 10 and 24.

**NAPLAN (National Assessment Program: Literacy and Numeracy) Tests- May 14-16:**

Our Year 3, 5 and 7 students will be sitting the NAPLAN tests. The test schedule will be as follows overleaf:
Tuesday May 14  | Language Conventions Test  
(spelling, grammar and punctuation) 
Tuesday May 14  | Writing Test 
Wednesday May 15 | Reading Test 
Thursday May 16  | Numeracy Test 
Thursday May 16  | Numeracy Test 2 (Year 7 only) 
Friday May 17   | Catch up tests are administered to students who were absent on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. This is the only day catch up tests can be administered.

Teachers are currently ensuring that students are familiar with the test format prior to the NAPLAN Tests. Our students have been practising writing persuasive texts “on demand”, and are currently receiving extra tuition from our Intervention/Extension teacher, Mr David Thornton.

How can parents support their child during the NAPLAN tests?

• Ensure that your child gets a good night’s sleep before each NAPLAN Test
• Ensure that your child has a big breakfast the morning of the tests
• Ensure that your child is at school by 8.55 am as the tests will need to start promptly to ensure students can access breaks on time
• Reassure your child that the tests are a “point in time” assessment that give an indication of how they are progressing in Literacy and Numeracy, and that teachers continue to gather evidence throughout the year regarding student achievement.

An individual NAPLAN report for each child will be sent home later this year. Please contact the school if you have any questions about your child participating in NAPLAN testing. Further information is available on the ACARA website: http://www.nap.edu.au/

Extra-Curricular Activities:

At Brisbane Central State School, we are constantly looking at ways to provide additional learning opportunities for our students. Throughout the year, students have the opportunity to engage in a number of activities both in and outside school hours, including:

• Instrumental Music program (Years 5-7)
• School Band (Years 5-7)
• Ukulele Ensemble (Years 5-7)
• Choir (Years 4-7)
• Gardening Club (all year levels)
• Chess (all year levels)

• Fit and Active Program (all year levels)
• Student Council (Year 7)

In addition to the above, this term, we will also be offering:

• Tag League – Gala Sports (Year 5-7)
• Cross-Country Training (Years 4-7)
• UQ Sports (Years 4-7)
• High Achievers Program (selected students, Years 6-7)
• Mini Writers’ Festival (selected students, Years 3-5)
• Mini Science Festival (selected students, Years 3-5)
• SPARK Reading program (selected students)

For a small school, we are already offering a range of extra-curricular activities across the academic, musical and sporting fields. We are also looking for other ways to provide additional extra-curricular opportunities for our students, including accessing on-line extension programs through the Brisbane School of Distance Education and joining inter-school competitions and tournaments. A MASSIVE thanks to the staff who lead these activities, and lend their own time to ensure our students have access to a range of different extra-curricular activities.

Staff Professional Learning:

• Moderation: On Tuesday, all class teachers attended Moderation sessions, joining their Year level colleagues from a number of different schools from across the City Cluster. This professional learning event provided teachers with the opportunity to moderate a mathematics task with other teachers, to ensure there was consistency in the way that teachers marked students’ work. The purpose of Moderation is to ensure that all teachers are interpreting a student’s work in the same way, so that an “A” at Brisbane Central State School is the same as an “A” at any other state school.

• Fire Extinguisher Training: Before school on Wednesday, all staff completed Fire Extinguisher Training. Teachers were briefed in the different fuel types, as well as the appropriate fire extinguisher to use. Staff also had the opportunity to practise extinguishing a real fire.

• Student Protection: All staff have now completed on-line Student Protection training conducted by the Department.

New staff member:

Towards the end of last term, we welcomed Rachel Tinney to our team. Rachel recently accepted a position in her field of training in Melbourne, and completed her last day at Brisbane Central last week. Next week, we
welcome James Price. James will be working 7 hours a fortnight, helping Mrs Wendy Armstrong in the office, and also working with our Information and Technology technician, Mr Matt Duncan. A big welcome to James!

Voluntary Contributions:
To date, we have raised almost $5,000 in voluntary contributions! When reviewing the contributions this week, I was surprised and very grateful to the families who donated above the $50 per student/ $100 per family requested. To all our families who have contributed, a heartfelt thank you for helping to support our students. It is not too late to pay your voluntary contribution. Please contact Wendy in the office for a form. Payment can be made in cash, or via direct deposit into the school account. The funds raised this year will be focussed on continuing to purchase additional resources in Maths, Science, English and History this year.

Have a great week!
Melissa

PREP NEWS
We have been very busy during our first two weeks.
In math some of the things we will be working on are counting and number names and simple addition and subtraction, and 2D and 3D shapes. Children will investigate telling the time, days of the week and calendars. They will discuss positional language.
In English we will be learning letter names, letter sounds and basic sight words. Children will be practising handwriting each day. In reading groups the children will begin simple reading books. We will be listening to and retelling stories.
In Science children will learn about the weather, day and night and the seasons.
The class will study the use of different cards. Children will have the opportunity to create their own Mothers’ Day cards.
Children will be participating in Friday afternoon sport activities. They will be climbing, batting and balancing.
In SOSE children will be studying different occupations, what these people do and the services they provide us, and the past and present in relation to their families.
In Art children will be using a variety of techniques to create different pictures including using perspective.

FIT ‘N’ ACTIVE - TERM 2, 2013
We will be starting on the 29th of April for the Years 4/7 and on the 2nd of May for the prep/3.
If your child’s name is down and he/she has a sibling, I am happy to look after them, this saves you coming twice for a pick up.

These days are not for play and stay. The children will be hitting, throwing or kicking balls. I do not want to see other children or parents get hurt.

Pick up time is 4:15. The children meet me at the lunch shed on the oval at 3pm where we have fruit and do a roll call. All children need their hat and a water bottle. If your child does not want to join in after the first session, you need to tell me so that I can replace them. Please do not be late for pick ups.

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<tr>
<th>Years 4 – 7</th>
<th>Years Prep - 3</th>
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<td>Alex Conners</td>
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<td>Temo Robertson</td>
<td>Janet Su</td>
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<td>Laura &amp; Liam Dewar</td>
<td>Yohaan Doshi</td>
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<td>Alex Larder</td>
<td>Jackson Webb</td>
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<td>Liam Salangang</td>
<td>Morgan McDonald</td>
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<td>Bodhi Mashat</td>
<td>Julianne &amp; Francis Lau</td>
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<td>Benedict Jackson</td>
<td>Isiah &amp; Sh’kaylah Meagher</td>
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<td>Rahul Despande</td>
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We still have some more spaces for the seniors if they are interested in joining.

When we play these games the coaches like to get the children to practise throwing, catching and the rules. So if you come and the children are not playing the game at hand, it is because of those reasons. By week 2/3 they are well and truly getting into the sport.

Thank you,
Maree Lewis

MUSIC NEWS
ANZAC Day has been and was marked by a very lovely and reflective ceremony in the hall. I would like to personally congratulate all of the musicians involved in the service. Your mature demeanour and musical efforts played a major role in marking this special day.
My special thanks to Ms Davidson for the work she has done with the band, you really are improving all the time. Thank you to everyone involved.
Year 2 have been learning to “BE” the music by making rhythm shapes with their whole bodies.
UNIFORM NEWS

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

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.

ANZAC Biscuits
(Australian Women’s Weekly)
Makes approx 40 biscuits

INGREDIENTS
125g butter, chopped coarsely
2 tablespoons golden syrup
¾ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
1 tablespoon water
1 cup (90g) rolled oats
1 cup (90g) desiccated coconut
1 cup (150g) plain flour
¾ cup (165g) brown sugar

METHOD
1. Preheat oven to 160°C or 140°C fan-forced.
2. Combine butter and syrup in a small saucepan.
3. Heat gently until butter and syrup melt.
4. Combine bicarbonate of soda and water in a small bowl and stir into butter mixture.
5. Combine remaining ingredients in a large bowl.
6. Pour over warm butter mixture and stir well to combine.
7. Roll rounded teaspoons of mixture into balls.
8. Place about 4 cm apart on baking paper lined baking trays and flatten slightly.
9. Bake in preheated oven 12-15 minutes or until golden brown.
10. Remove from oven and cool 5 minutes on baking trays; transfer to a wire rack to finish cooling.