



# BRISBANE CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

Cnr St Paul's Tce & Rogers St, Spring Hill Qld 4000



# newsletter

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22 November 2013

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear Parents/Carers,

There are only 3 weeks to go! This term has been zooming past! Over the past few weeks, our Facebook and Twitter sites are gaining momentum, and are gathering a number of "likes" and followers. We would like to start developing these methods not only as ways to share important information, but as another means to celebrate the great work of our teachers and students. Facebookers can "like" our page - Brisbane Central State School, and Tweeters can follow us @Bris\_Cent\_SS. We have now linked our Facebook site and Twitter accounts to the front page of our website. So hop on board, and "like" and "follow" us today!



### Road Safety – travel to and from school:

A number of safety issues have recently been brought to my attention. Please ensure that you carefully read the following important reminders to ensure that all our children are safe.

Ensuring that our students are safe travelling to and from school is a shared responsibility.

### If your child walks to and from school:

Teach your child to **"Stop, Look, Listen and Think"**. Children should be introduced to the correct road crossing procedure – STOP, LOOK, LISTEN and THINK.

1. STOP one step back from the footpath or shoulder of the road if there is no footpath
2. LOOK in all directions for approaching traffic
3. LISTEN in all directions for approaching traffic
4. THINK about whether it is safe to cross the road – when the road is clear or all traffic has stopped

When crossing, teach your child to walk straight across the road. Keep LOOKING and LISTENING for traffic while crossing. Talk to your child about how to cross the road safely by identifying and choosing the safest places to cross the road.

These are:

- A pedestrian (zebra) crossing – teach them to only cross when cars have stopped for them. There is a designated crossing on Rogers Street. Please remind your child to use this crossing instead of crossing across the top of Rogers Street.



<b>Fit n' Active:</b> (Week 3 – Week 8)	<b>Mondays:</b> Year 4 – Year 7 <b>Wednesdays:</b> Prep – Year 3
Tuesdays	Junior Choir Rehearsals: 8:00am – 8:45am
Wednesdays	Band Rehearsals: 7:30am – 8:30am
	Ukulele Ensemble: 11:00am – 11:30am
Thursdays	Chess Program: 8:00am
	Senior Choir Rehearsals: 8:00am – 8:45am
Thursdays: 10/09/2013 – 28/11/2013	Write On: 7:45am
Fridays	Gardening Club: 8:30am
	Uniform Shop Open: 8:30am – 9:30am
Fridays: 25/10/2013 – 06/12/2013	Prep – Year 7 Swimming Lessons
25/11/2013	Year 1 – Year 7 Swimming Carnival
04/12/2013	P&C Meeting: 8:00am
05/12/2013	Christmas Concert and Year 7 Leaving Ceremony
09/12/2013 – 13/12/2013	Assessment Period
10/12/2013	Announcement of School Leaders
11/12/2013	Report Cards Issued Notification of Classes for 2014
12/12/2013	End of Year Break Up
<b>13/12/2013</b>	Clean Up Day <b>Last school day - Term 4, 2013</b>
14/12/2013 – 27/01/2014	End of Year School holidays
<b>28/01/2014</b>	<b>First school day – Term 1, 2014</b>

- Pedestrian traffic lights – teach them to only cross when they can see the ‘green man’ or the green WALK sign and never cross when they can see a ‘red man’ or the red DON’T WALK sign.

If there are no crossings available, they should choose a safe place where they can see traffic in all directions and where drivers can see them. Also talk to children about the dangers of wearing headphones and listening to music when crossing roads. This can make it difficult to hear oncoming traffic. If children want to listen to music when walking, encourage them to keep music at a reasonable volume and only use one headphone.

Parents and carers should always hold hands with children when they are near traffic, or the road. Young children lack the skills, knowledge, and judgement to be able to cope with traffic and therefore need to be constantly supervised.

When they are old enough to travel to and from school on their own, it is important to know the route your children take. You can learn about the hazards they may experience as pedestrians by travelling the route with them. As you walk with your children, consider the following questions:

- Does the route follow the quieter streets?
- Does it have the least number of road crossings?
- Are there footpaths or do your children have to walk along the roadside?
- Are there difficult intersections or railway lines along the route?
- Are there signed, supervised or light-controlled pedestrian crossings?
- Do your children look for a safe place to cross the road?
- Do they use the 'Stop, Look, Listen and Think' procedure before crossing roads?
- Is your younger child under the supervision of an older child or adult?

When you travel the route with your child, discuss how they can be safe on their journey. If the route seems too dangerous, look at some alternatives keeping the above questions in mind.

NOTE: If your younger child has to be in the care of an older child, please be aware that the older child may not have sufficient road sense or maturity to be able to supervise the safety of a young child. Meet your child at the bus stop after school so they learn to walk home or cross the road safely. Don’t call them across the road... walk across to meet them.

#### *If you drive to and from school:*

When children are arriving and departing from school, they are not thinking about cars. They want to have fun and their eagerness can often override their caution in traffic. The peripheral vision of a young child is a third narrower than the peripheral vision of an adult. Children are also physically smaller, so they have difficulty seeing vehicles and being seen by drivers, and are therefore more vulnerable to serious injury. Because of their size, and with the highly unpredictable nature of children, always slow down when driving around schools or risk a fine, demerit points, or worse – losing a child's life.

School zone speed limits (40 km/h) are in force on school days during specified hours.

Other tips to remember when driving around schools:

- Never double park or park in 'no stopping' zones.
- Don't park on pedestrian (zebra) crossings – it is also illegal to stop or park 20 metres before or 10 metres after a pedestrian crossing. It makes it difficult for children to cross, and for other motorists to see children.
- Don't park in no-stopping zones or use them as drop off areas. No Stopping means DO NOT STOP HERE for any reason unless obeying an official direction. Please note that the yellow lines on the road near the curb mean "No Standing." This means you cannot even STOP your vehicle and wait for your child.
- You can drop off or pick up passengers in a 'No Parking' or school drop off/ pick up zone as long as the vehicle is not left unattended and you exit the zone within two minutes. Our drop off/ pick up zone is supervised by parent volunteers and our teacher aides every morning (8:45am – 9:00am) and afternoon (3:00pm – 3:20pm).
- Park your car on the same side of the road as the school so your child doesn't have to cross the road. If you have to park on the other side of the road, escort your child across the road. Never call them to cross the road.

For more information about how you can help your child to be safe, and how you as a parent can ensure that you are engaged in safe driving behaviours, go to:

[http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/~media/Safety/safetycampaigns/School%20transport%20safety/Back%20to%20School%20road%20safety/Parents\\_book\\_school\\_road\\_safety.pdf](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/~media/Safety/safetycampaigns/School%20transport%20safety/Back%20to%20School%20road%20safety/Parents_book_school_road_safety.pdf)

I have recently requested support from the City Police in helping to address these concerns.

Please consider the safety of your child and the safety of other children, as well as other road users. Educate your children and **lead by example**.



### **Remaining in the grounds after school:**

It's great that our school grounds can be utilised for a number of after school activities. Because a number of activities are planned for after school, it is important to be considerate of the needs of a range of users:

- Monday afternoons, the use of the oval is reserved for use by students participating in Fit and Active scheduled activities
- Monday to Friday: the playgrounds are reserved for the use of students attending Outside School Care
- Tuesdays and Thursdays: the oval is reserved for the use of students attending Outside School Care
- Wednesday and Fridays: Students **who are accompanied by their parents** are welcome to remain at school for "Play and Stay"

Parents who wish to stay on a Wednesday or Friday afternoon for Play and Stay agree to the following conditions:

1. My child will use the oval and playground equipment outside of school hours only at the designated Stay and Play times. For 2013, these times are for Wednesday and Friday ONLY until further notice. These days are subject to change due to other school activities. These changes will be advised through the school newsletter.
2. My child will be directly supervised by me. I understand that direct supervision is defined as being within 25 metres of my child at all times. I will use the seating situated next to the playground equipment or make use of equipment such as a picnic blanket placed nearby to enable effective supervision.
3. The Teen Ranger Playground is not used for Stay and Play at any time.
4. My child will not play near or with students enrolled in the After School Care Program.
5. My child will not play running games on any of the playground equipment.
6. My child will keep their hands and feet to themselves.
7. My child will play with care and respect for others and with respect for school property. e.g. removal of own rubbish etc.
8. My child will not ride scooters, bikes and skateboards on school premises during Stay and Play.
9. My non-school aged children will play on the equipment with me standing beside them at all times.
10. I understand the school car park side of the cricket pitch is the designated space for Stay and Play if there are other activities taking place on the oval.
11. My child will be directly supervised by me if they need to leave the playground or oval at any time to access the toilet or drink taps.
12. I understand that my child and I will not access other school buildings or facilities whilst at Stay and Play. I am willing to pay for any damage to or loss of school property arising from the use of the venue or equipment.
13. I understand the school is not responsible for damage, loss, or injury to any person or property as a result of participation in Stay and Play. I am willing to indemnify the school, its employees and agents against all claims for damages, loss, costs, or injury arising from the use of the venue or equipment. I warrant that I have satisfied myself that the venue and the equipment are fit for my child to participate in Stay and Play, the venue and the equipment are in good condition and I have been given adequate information about the venue and the equipment to ensure its use without risk to any person.

As there are a number of parties who wish to access our great outside assets throughout the week, parents are encouraged to access other park areas, such as Bedford Park on Quarry Street, for after school activities on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday afternoon.



### **Student Leadership:**

Over the past four weeks, our Year 5 and 6 students have been participating in a range of leadership activities and getting ready for school leader elections in the coming weeks. All 2013 Year 5 and 6 students are invited to self-nominate for the following positions:

- School Captain – Year 6 and 7 students
- St Pauls House Captain – Year 6 and 7 students
- Rogers House Captain – Year 6 and 7 students
- Music Captain – Year 6 and 7 students

In their speech, students should discuss the following:

- A school project they intend to lead in 2014
- An element of the school that they wish to improve, and how they will achieve this
- The types of leadership skills and qualities that they already possess that will assist them in their role as a school leader

The criterion for School Leadership positions includes:

- High level of leadership skills
- Consistent adherence to School Rules
- High level of responsibility and willingness to commit to activities associated with the role
- Well-developed communication and people skills e.g. respect, negotiation, tolerance etc
- Willingness to commit to and participate in school activities
- Willingness to work behind the scenes to set up and clean up from special events
- Commitment to improve an aspect of the school e.g. table-tennis tournament
- Commitment to community work e.g. Daffodil day to raise funds for a charity

The timelines for the school leadership process are:

- **Monday November 18 – Monday December 2:** Students self-nominate for a position and prepare their speech
- **Tuesday December 3:** Student speeches and voting (students in Years 4 – 7 and teachers)
- **Tuesday December 10:** Announcement of school leadership positions

Next Tuesday, our Year 5 and 6 students will be interviewing educational, political, business and charity leaders about the challenges they face in their leadership role, and the attributes of successful leaders. Best wishes to all our students who choose to nominate as a 2014 school leader! My thanks to Kylie Wall and Aisling Drumm for running this leadership program over the past 5 weeks.



### **Congratulations to our Year 6/7 Kidpreneuers!**

On Tuesday, Year 6/7 hosted a completion ceremony for the Kidpreneur projects. On Thursday, we received the exciting news that Brisbane Central State School was the winning school for Queensland, and the business “ABC Frames”, won the “World Changer Award”. Congratulations to Mrs Annette Somerville and our Year 6/7 students!!



## Upcoming Events:

Make sure you mark these events in your diary:

- Swimming Carnival: November 25
- P&C Meeting: December 4, 8:00am
- Christmas Concert and Year 7 Leaving ceremony: December 5
- Announcement of school leaders : December 10
- Year 7 Graduation dinner: December 11
- Report cards issued and notifications of classes for 2014: December 11
- Break up day: December 12



## Classes for 2014:

We are currently finalising our classes for next year, and anticipate that we will be able to release classes and teachers for 2014 by the end of the 2013 school year.

When composing classes for next year, we will be taking the following factors into consideration:

- A balance of academic abilities across the classes of the year level
- A gender balance across the classes of the year level
- A balance across the classes of the year level in relation to social and behavioural factors
- The combinations/dynamics of the group of students

There will be a number of multi-age (combined year level) and straight year level classes next year, as there was this year. **The selection of students for either a multi-age class or a straight year level class will be based on the criteria stated above.** Should you have any questions or concerns about classes for next year, please discuss this with your child's teacher in the first instance.



## Christmas Concert and Year 7 Leaving Ceremony:

Our Annual Christmas Concert will be held on Thursday December 5 at 6:00pm, followed by the Year 7 Leaving Ceremony at 7:45pm. Our classes, choirs, band and Ukulele Ensemble are busily rehearsing in preparation for our big night. We look forward to all our families joining us!



## Preparing for 2014- Please let us know if you are leaving our school or returning to Brisbane Central State School after January 28, 2014

Thank you to the parents who have already let us know their intentions for 2014. Preparations for 2014 classes and staffing have already commenced. **It is crucial** that parents let either Carolina Duncan or myself know **as soon as possible** if their child/ren will not be returning to Brisbane Central State School.

We understand that many of our families use the summer holidays to visit family and friends overseas and interstate, and may return to school after the **commencement of school on January 28, 2014**. Should this be the case for your family, **it is crucial** that you return the form sent home last week, or provide an email/ letter to Carolina Duncan ([admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au)) stating your return date so that your child is still considered as being enrolled in our school. Should your child be away for more than 10 consecutive days from the commencement of Term 1, 2014 (January 28, 2014), you will need to complete an *Application for Exemption from Compulsory Schooling* form. These forms are available from Carolina Duncan in the office.

Our final staffing numbers for 2014 depend on the number of known enrolments (either students present at school, or students for whom we have a written correspondence stating their return or start date). Knowing whether you are leaving the school or taking an extended summer holiday makes a difference to our staffing and the number of classes we are able to make. **Please let us know now so we don't have to make unnecessary class changes at the beginning of the year.**

So... in summary:

**If you are leaving the school and will not be returning:**

- Please email Carolina Duncan – [admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au) stating your child/ren's name and the name of the school your child/ren will be attending in 2014, or,
- Address a letter to Carolina Duncan stating the same, or,
- Complete the form at the end of this newsletter or return the form sent home last week, and return to the office.

**If you will be returning to Brisbane Central State School, but your child will not be returning until after January 28, 2014:**

- Please email Carolina Duncan stating your child/ren's name, the reason for their absence from school, and the expected date of return to school, or,
- Address a letter to Carolina Duncan stating the same, or,
- Complete the form at the end of this newsletter or return the form sent home, and return to the office, and,
- Complete an *Application for Exemption from Compulsory Schooling* form (required if absence from school is greater than 10 days)

Please help us to make accurate predictions about our staffing for student numbers by letting us know whether you intend to leave our school, enrol a child, or return to school after January 28, 2014.

Have a great week,

Melissa

## TERM 4 IN YEAR 6/7

It has been an extremely busy term in the year 6/7 class, with an abundance of tasks and units that we have been covering.

So what did we get up to in term 4? We became familiar with many famous Australian ballads, such as 'Mulga Bill's Bicycle' and 'Bush Christening', and soon started to write our own ballads, with a diverse range of stories throughout the class; ranging from battery hens all the way to many ballads revolving around medical injuries. Songs of social comment were also studied this term which resulted in our own analysis being written about one of eight songs.

As you probably noticed at the Spring Hill Fair the year 6/7's launched their Kidpreneur businesses into action. With our entrepreneurial journey coming to a close, (for now anyways), we will be holding a small ceremony, next Tuesday, so we can all graduate as little Kidpreneurs. Not all our stock was sold on our market day, so we conducted a Stocktake Sale last week and successfully raised \$130 with all products sold for a \$1 or under.

Sadly for the year 7's the end of our primary school experience is approaching and we wanted to end the year with a splash! The year 6/7 class will be going to Splash to end this fantastic year we have had. All in all this term has been the best one yet, filled with learning, excitement and new experiences.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Junior Swimming Carnival 9:45am – 11:15am

#### Grades 1 - 3

Students in Year 1 – Year 3 will participate in their annual swimming carnival on **Monday 25th November**. Students will travel by bus to Stafford State School for the carnival. The carnival will begin at 9:45am and finish at approximately 11:15am. Events will include the following races: Freestyle and Backstroke 25m (full lap), 12.5m (half lap), kickboard and noodle races. The junior school carnival is a short fun carnival with the emphasis being FUN and PARTICIPATION!!

At the conclusion of the carnival, students will travel back to Brisbane Central SS and continue lessons from 12:00pm.

**Please note that students in Year 3 that are 9 years old or turning 9 this year (born in 2004) will compete in the senior school swimming carnival.**

## Senior Swimming Carnival 11:45am – 2:15pm

### Years 9 – 12

The fun and exciting senior school swimming carnival begins at **11:45am on Monday 25th November and will finish at approximately 2:15pm at Stafford State School**. Students will participate in normal lessons at Brisbane Central State School from 9:00am – 11:00am. At 11:15am students will travel by bus to Stafford State School for the carnival.

Students have been given the opportunity to nominate for any of the 25m and 50m finals events. Time trials have been completed during swimming lessons to find the fastest six students in each of the finals events. Age champions and district selection is decided from the finals.

If students did not make it into a final, they may still nominate to swim in any of 25m and 12.5m open events on the day. **House points are awarded for all events**. Novelty events such as a noodle race and a fashion parade will also be held on the day. The more participants swimming in each house = greater chance of winning the carnival. **So encourage your child/ren to get involved, have some fun, wear their house colours and most of all try their best for St Pauls and Rogers!!**

The fashion parade will be held after all of the swimming events. Students are encouraged to wear clothes in the colour of their house. Remember that St Pauls wears Purple and Rogers wears Red. The most interesting, creative and brightest male and female from each house will win a prize.

#### What to take to the carnivals:

- Swimmers, swim shirt, cap, towel, goggles (optional)
- Hat and sunscreen
- Drink bottle, lunch / snacks (Tuck shop is **not** available)
- Medication if required

Parents, friends and family are encouraged to attend the carnivals to support the students swimming. Please come along for a fabulous day!!

Students must bring their own lunch / snacks as there will be no food and drinks available to purchase throughout the day.

Kind regards,

Ann Paton (PE Teacher)

## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE**

We are currently preparing our annual Christmas hamper raffles, which will be drawn on the night of the concert.

You will receive a letter and some tickets by the end of this week. I know that we have been doing a lot of fundraising lately, but these hampers are purely donations, and if you happen to win one, are great for Christmas time. So please keep an eye out for your tickets! We will hold our free dress day for your hamper donation on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of November. Everything you need to know about this is in the covering letter attached to your tickets.

Thank you so much,

Maree Lewis

## **UNIFORM NEWS**

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

**ORDERING UNIFORMS** - If you would like to order uniforms you can email Amanda on [bcsspandc@hotmail.com](mailto: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:** You can put **cash** or **cheque** in an envelope for your child to give to their teacher, or

- (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](mailto:bcsspandc@hotmail.com).



## Quality Education in the Best Learning Atmosphere



### Learning Benefits

- ✓ Experienced teachers
- ✓ French lessons Prep to Year 7
- ✓ Comprehensive Music program
- ✓ Interactive whiteboards in every classroom
- ✓ Air conditioned classrooms
- ✓ Gifted and Talented programs, including dedicated Extension teacher
- ✓ Differentiated swimming programs
- ✓ Free English lessons for parents
- ✓ Oral language and Reading programs
- ✓ High student and parent satisfaction ratings on school opinion surveys
- ✓ High expectations for student behaviour
- ✓ High levels of academic achievement

**LEAVING US? PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN**

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Will not** be returning to Brisbane Central State School in 2014. Please state the school child will be attending:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Will** be returning to Brisbane Central State School after Tuesday January 28, 2014 (first day of school). Please state reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_