



BRISBANE CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

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



newsletter

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25 October 2013

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear Parents/Carers,

While students were enjoying a long weekend, our staff attended the City Cluster Conference at Windsor State School. The keynote speaker (and definite highlight of the day) was Michael Carr-Gregg, who spoke at length about Student Wellbeing and Mental Health, and Cybersafety. When discussing wellbeing and mental health, Dr Carr-Gregg noted that the following key factors can predict a child's wellbeing:

- having a rich repertoire of friends, including the ability to make and maintain friendships ,
- looking after other people e.g. volunteering, helping out a neighbour
- understanding that if you can't change something, you can change the way you think about it
- the ability to savour the moment - basking in your accomplishments, remembering the good times, marvelling at life's wonders, luxuriating in the moment, anticipating future joys, seeing life as is but focusing on the good bits
- counting their "blessings" one by one – e.g. writing down three good things that went well and why
- being active but being able to relax

When discussing cybersafety, Dr Carr-Gregg was able to share a plethora of sites for teacher and parent reference. I recommend you view a few of these sites, so you are empowered to educate your own children about cybersafety:

- <http://www.thinkuknow.org.au/>
- <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/>
- <http://www.ceop.police.uk/>
- http://www.communications.gov.au/online_safety_and_security/cyber_safety

Dr Carr-Gregg's key messages about cybersafety are worth discussing in detail with your children:

- anyone online is at risk
- treat others the way you would like to be treated,
- don't post anything that you wouldn't want your parents, grandparents, principal, teacher to see.



Fit n' Active: (Week 3 – Week 10)	Mondays: Year 4 – Year 7 <i>(commences 28/10/2013)</i> Wednesdays: 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
30/11/2013	French Café Theatre
04/11/2013 – 08/11/2013	Assessment Period
06/11/2013	P&C Meeting: 8:00am
25/11/2013	Year 1 – Year 7 Swimming Carnival
04/12/2013	P&C Meeting: 8:00am
05/12/2013	Christmas Concert
09/12/2013 – 13/12/2013	Assessment Period
12/12/2013	End of Year Break Up
13/12/2013	Clean Up Day Last school day - Term 4, 2013
14/12/2013 – 27/01/2014	End of Year School holidays
28/01/2014	First school day – Term 1, 2014



Prep Information Evening:

It was lovely to welcome our new parents to the school on Wednesday night as part of our Prep Information Evening. My thanks to Mr Darren Waugh, Mrs Jan McKean, Mrs Jenny Gilmour, Ms Miranda Crisci (P&C Vice President) and Ms Theresa Totman (PCYC) for making themselves available to inform our new parents about our school, Prep and Outside School Hours Care programs. We look forward to welcoming our new Prep students to our Prep Open Morning on Thursday November 14, 2013 between 9:30am and 10:30am. Myself and our EAL/D teacher, Mrs Meredith Waghorn, will also be conducting Prep Interviews between 8:30am and 3:30pm from Monday November 4 to Friday November 8. Parents of 2014 Prep students may call Carolina Duncan on 3230 4333 to reserve a time. Our Prep Interviews are an opportunity for parents to share important information about their child, as well as to provide new parents with additional information about our school. We have prepared a brief questionnaire for parents to fill out and return to the school prior to the interview.



Our school rules:

Each week at assembly, I discuss our school rules: "Be safe, Be respectful and Be responsible". This week, I again discussed "Be safe" in relation to being in the right place at the right time. Before school, students should only be under the jacaranda tree, or playing handball. Students are not permitted to congregate on verandas, outside classrooms or around school buildings. Parents can support us in enforcing this rule by dropping their child off at school as late as possible. There is no supervision provided for students before 8:55 am. If you do drop your child off before 8:55am, remind them of the expectation that they must wait under the jacaranda tree or be playing handball. Better still, enquire about before school care - Brisbane Central SAC (briscentralsac@pcyc.org.au). We appreciate the support of our parents to ensure that every day, every child is safe, happy and learning.



MusicFest:

The Prestige Music Festival is a school competition featuring concert bands, jazz ensembles, string ensembles, orchestras, percussion ensembles and choirs, and aims to provide an environment where excellence in performance and education can be celebrated. It is held across four venues, Iona College, Calamvale Community College, Ferny Grove State High School and Mansfield State High School.

Brisbane Central State School's band will be competing this year for the first time! All Instrumental Music students should have already received a letter with the following details:

<u>Where:</u>	Iona College Performing Arts Centre, 85 North Road, Wynnum
<u>When:</u>	Wednesday October 30, 2013 at 10:50am
<u>Uniform:</u>	Music Polo Shirt with School / skirt / skort, black shoes (Music Polo Shirt is now available from the Uniform Shop)
<u>Meeting Place:</u>	School Hall at 9:15am
<u>Transport:</u>	Students will be transported by the PCYC Bus
<u>Cost:</u>	\$10 (payable to the office now)

Parents are welcome to also attend on the day to watch their child perform. The costs are as follows:

\$10.00	Adults (single day entry only)
\$5.00	Concession (single day entry only)
\$20.00	Family single day entry (2 Adults 2 Children)
\$35.00	Family Pass Unlimited Entry (2 Adults 2 Children)
\$20.00	Adult Unlimited Entry Pass

Thank you for your continued support of the music program at Brisbane Central State School. We are very proud of the wonderful results our young players continue to achieve!



French Theatre Evening:

This week, students in Year 3/ 4 - 6/7 would have received a letter providing details about the upcoming French Theatre Evening on **Wednesday, October 30**. The doors will open at 5:45pm, and the performances will be from 6:00pm to

7:00pm. Our students in classes 3/4, 4/5, 5/6 and 6/7 have been working very hard preparing for the evening, and will be presenting 4 plays and songs, all in French. Year 3/4 will be presenting "Le Chat et la Lune" (The Cat and the Moon). Year 4/5 will present "Comment y aller?" (How will I get there?). Year 5/6 will present "Les animaux du bayou" (The Swamp Animals), and Year 6/7 will present "Le bistro des animaux" (The Animals' Bistro).

There will be a \$5 cover charge per family to help cover the cost of the home made orangina, which will be available before the plays and during the short intermission. Please indicate whether you plan to attend the evening and whether you are able to assist with serving the orangina on the night on the form provided. We look forward to seeing you there!



Preparing for 2014:

Are you leaving us? Will you be enrolling a student for the Preparatory Year? Are you taking holidays?

Last week, we sent home a form for you to complete to let us know whether you were leaving the school, or whether you were returning 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, or similarly, if they intend to enrol their child/ren for Prep in 2014.

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 (cdunc69@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).

So... in summary:

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

- Please email Carolina Duncan – 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 February 6, 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 last week, and return to the office, and,
- Complete an Exemption from Compulsory School 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.



Parent-Teacher Interviews:

Thank you to the parents who took the time last term to meet with their child's teacher to discuss their child's progress and identify areas for improvement and further development. Parents who did not attend a parent-teacher interview last term, will receive a letter from me, encouraging them to make contact with their child's teacher to make a time to meet this term. Research and experience tell us that students are more likely to be successful at school when their parents are involved in their education. We are aiming for 100% attendance at parent-teacher interviews!



Thank you:

A MASSIVE thanks to Trevor Dixon for the donation of additional turf for the oval. Have you noticed lately how great the oval is looking?

Have a great week!

Melissa

PARENT ENGLISH CLASS

The Parent English Class will be revisiting the City Hall for a free concert which will be culturally interesting to a number of our class members and any newcomers.

The concert is scheduled for **Tuesday, 12 November**, and is titled ***Scintillation: Brazil to Persia***. This concert features South American music (bossa nova and samba) and Persian poetry and jazz. Please keep this date free so you can join us.

We will meet in the BCSS Hall at **10:45am on Tuesday 12 November**, and walk to the City Hall. Following the concert, we will walk to the Roma Street Parkland to enjoy lunch (BYO - bring your own). We will then walk back to BCSS in time to meet your children at 3:00pm.

QSCHOOLS APP TO KEEP SCHOOL PARENTS INFORMED THIS STORM SEASON

With the Queensland storm season upon us, parents of school children are being encouraged to download the Qschools app as part of their preparations for severe weather. The Qschools app provides real-time notifications regarding school closures and re-openings direct to a phone or tablet, helping parents to stay up-to-date with critical information about schools affected by significant weather events. It is also free and simple to use.

Find out more about disaster preparedness at www.disaster.qld.gov.au/getready.

Follow the Department of Education, Training and Employment on our Facebook page or Twitter feed.

Download the QSchools app from the iTunes store for Apple devices, or the Google Play store for Android-compatible devices.

MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATIONS EVENING – KELVIN GROVE STATE SCHOOL

Tuesday 29 October 2013 6:30pm – 7:30pm in the College Hall

Come along and find out more about the Middle School at KGSC, it is hoped that all parents of students who have enrolled for 2014 and 2015 will attend. However, we encourage all parents who are considering enrolling their children into the Middle School at KGSC to also attend and learn all about our Middle School and what the future holds.

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 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.



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Web: www.brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au

**Quality Education
in the Best
Learning
Atmosphere**

**ENROL NOW
FOR 2014**



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