



**BRISBANE CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL**  
Cnr St Paul's Tce & Rogers St, Spring Hill Qld 4000



# newsletter

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29 November 2013

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear Parents/Carers,

Only 2 more school weeks to go! I have now managed to read every report card of every student in the school. I have been delighted to see the progress across the year of many of our students, particularly the progress of our students who are learning English as an Additional Language/ Dialect. I know that our teachers have worked very hard this year to focus on the learning of each individual student, to ensure that every day, every child is reaching their potential.

We are currently in the process of finalising classes and staffing for 2014. For this reason, it is very important to let us know if you are intending to leave the school. We understand that this is the time of year that many families move suburbs or return to their home country, and appreciate our families letting us know if their children are not returning to Brisbane Central State School, so we can make accurate decisions about our class composition and staffing. Please make sure that you contact Carolina Duncan – [admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au) to confirm if your child will not be returning to Brisbane Central State School next year.



### Staffing:

We will be very sad to see three much loved members of staff depart our school at the end of the year. Alison Thomas has been transferred to Deception Bay North State School. Alison has been a member of staff for several years at Brisbane Central State School, and will be greatly missed for her lovely assemblies that have recognised and celebrated such events as Harmony Day, NAIDOC week and Arbor Day. Aisling Drumm is moving to Townsville. We wish Aisling the best of luck in the next phase of her life. Aisling has worked tirelessly during her first two years of teaching, and will be remembered for her dedication to her students and her commitment to professional learning. David Thornton has recently accepted a fulltime position at Brisbane School of Distance Education. Dave has also spent several years at the school in a number of positions, most recently as our Intervention / Extension teacher. Dave will be missed for his insightful use of student data and ability to develop targeted programs for students.

Next year, we welcome Jonathan Gagan to Brisbane Central. Jonathan has spent several years in Far North Queensland, and most recently as the Principal of a one teacher school in the Daintree. Jonathan has a passion for ICTs and Learning, and we are looking forward to him joining our team! Kayleen Morgan will also be returning to Brisbane Central State School. Kayleen was originally transferred to Brisbane Central at the end of 2011, but has been acting as the Deputy Principal of Ithaca Creek State School for the past two years. Kayleen has a passion for the middle years of schooling, and we are also looking forward to her joining our staff in 2014.



Fit n' Active:	Finished
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
Fridays	Gardening Club: 8:30am
	Uniform Shop Open: 8:30am – 9:30am
Fridays: 25/10/2013 – 06/12/2013	Prep – Year 7 Swimming Lessons
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>



### Swimming carnival:

A HUGE thanks to Anna Paton, our staff and parents who helped to run the Swimming Carnival on Monday at Stafford State School. Please read on for Anna's report later in the newsletter. Congratulations to St Pauls house who won the carnival. A BIG congratulations also to the following students who made Age Champion:

Girls 9 Years – Sidney M.

Boys 9 Years – Sam B.

Girls 10 Years – Emily H.

Boys 10 Years – Colin K.

Girls 11 Years – Emily B.

Boys 11 Years – Emanuel P.

Girls 12 Years – Jacinta M.

Boys 12 Years – Adrian D.

Our staff were very busy on the day and were unable to take many photographs. If you came along to cheer on the students and were able to take some shots, would you mind burning them to a disc or add to a USB stick so that the school can also have a copy? Thank you!



### Philippines Fundraising:

Congratulations to our Student Council who raised over \$700 last Friday for those affected by the Philippines Typhoon. My thanks to the large number of parents who donated goods for the bake sale. What a magnificent effort!! A special thank you to Ian M. from Year 3/4 who donated \$100 of his own pocket money for the cause. All funds raised will be donated to Care Australia.



### Christmas Concert:

We are looking forward to all our families joining us at the Christmas Concert. Our program for the evening is currently being finalised, but all our musical groups and classes will be performing on the night!

Admission prices for the evening are as follows: **If you have one (1) child** at the school the **family ticket price is \$5.00**, and if you have **2 or more children** at the school the **family ticket price is \$10.00. A Sausage Sizzle, drinks (water and soft drinks) and glow stix will be on sale from 4:30pm to 5:55pm on the day of the concert.** All funds raised on the night will go towards the purchase of teaching, learning and environmental resources for students.

Students will need to arrive by 5:30pm. Each class has discussed clothing. Most students have been asked to wear either Christmas related clothing, shirts, hats etc., or clothing specific to their performance item. Parents are NOT required to purchase any new items for this concert unless they choose to do so. If students do not have Christmas-related clothing, clothes which are primarily red, green or white are appropriate.

Please see the separate flyers sent home for further information. See you there!



### School rules:

At assembly each week, we discuss the school rules. This week we discussed, "Be Safe". In particular, we discussed asking the teacher for help if a ball rolls into an out of bounds area. We also discussed why it was important to ask for a teacher's or staff member's assistance. We appreciate our families discussing our rules at home so that we can ensure that every day, every student is happy, safe and learning.



### 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 criteria 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.

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.



### Upcoming Events:

Make sure you mark these events in your diary:

- P&C Meeting: December 4 at 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.



### **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

## YEAR 1 NEWS

In SCIENCE the Year 1's have been learning about LIGHT and SOUND. Students described observations made, using their senses. Students researched sources, uses, and the production of LIGHT and SOUND. As part of their investigation of ways to change (pitch/volume) or create sound, the students designed and constructed a musical instrument. Each student demonstrated the sound their instrument made, by shaking, plucking, strumming, blowing, and banging. The Year 1 band performed with 'vibrating energy' at this week's assembly.

## YEAR 3/4 NEWS

Written by the students of Year 3/4

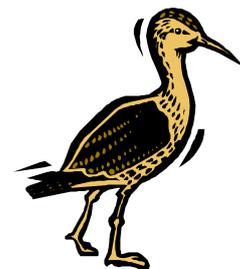
Here at Brisbane Central State School, we have had a pair of curlews in residence for as long as anyone can remember. They usually nest in the junior playground. This year, they moved to the garden outside our classroom window, which is safer at play time! We've been able to observe them there for most of the year.

We noticed that the mother was sitting on an egg, so we put witches' hats around the nest, so no one could step on them. We recall that the two adults protected the egg themselves, from threats such as crows and people, by making their wings look big and hissing.

One day, we spotted the newly hatched chick camouflaged in a bush. When the curlew was small, it was very fluffy and chubby. The parent curlews looked after it like a woman would look after a child.

The day when the storm was coming, the male was running up and down the stairs looking for shelter. The mother was sheltering her chick, by putting her wing over it, so it wouldn't get cold or wet. All we could see were the chick's feet.

Now the curlew chick has long legs, less fluff and a slimmer shape. Its favourite game is Curlew versus Insects! We hope that the chick has its own family here.



## SWIMMING CARNIVALS

On Monday 25th November the Junior and Senior swimming carnivals were held.

The Junior carnival involved 25m and 12.5m races of freestyle, backstroke and a fun noodle race. A big well done to all of the students who swam and tried their best! The aim of the junior carnival was participation and fun and I believe that was definitely achieved by all students that attended!

At the Senior carnival there were 50m, 25m and 12.5m races in all of the four swimming strokes, freestyle relays, and a very entertaining fashion parade. It was fantastic to see the students swimming well and cheering their friends along from the grandstand. Overall it was a really fun and successful day!

Congratulations to St Pauls house who won the carnival.

Well done to the following Age Champions:

Girls 9 Years – Sidney M

Boys 9 Years – Sam B

Girls 10 Years – Emily H

Boys 10 Years – Colin K

Girls 11 Years – Emily B

Boys 11 Years – Emanuel P

Girls 12 Years – Jacinta M

Boys 12 Years – Adrian D

Thank you to the staff, parents and students who helped make the day a great success! Also, thank you to the parents / friends and family who came along to cheer and support the students.

Kind regards,

Anna Paton (PE Teacher)

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – CHRISTMAS CONCERT – THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Volunteers are needed to assist the P&C Committee with the food and drink service at the Christmas Concert, next Thursday evening. Assistance is required between 4:00pm to 6:00pm. If you are able to give a little time during this two hour period to assist with the food and drink service, please call Miranda on 0402 595 577. Miranda would love to hear from you.

## PARENT ENGLISH CLASS

Our final class for 2013 will be on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

To celebrate our time together we will have a Christmas/Festive break-up lunch. We will meet as usual at 12:30pm in the school hall. If you have attended our English class at any time during the year, we would love you to join us for our lunch.

### 2014 English Class

**We are looking forward to resuming our Parent English class in 2014. The class will start on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February (Week 3).**

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

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

You would have received a letter and some tickets at the end of last 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, they are great for Christmas time. So please keep an eye out for your tickets!

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).



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## 2013 CHRISTMAS CONCERT & YEAR 7 GRADUATION



### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, December 2013 CONCERT ADMISSION TICKETS



Dear Parents/Carers

The BCSS P&C are selling Christmas concert admission tickets.

The cost of admission is a price per family. **If you have one (1) child** at the school the **family ticket price is \$5.00**, and if you have **2 or more children** at the school the **family ticket price is \$10.00**

**A Sausage Sizzle, drinks (water and soft drinks) and glow stix will be on sale from 4:30 pm to 5:55 pm on the day of the concert.**

All funds raised on the night will go towards the purchase of teaching, learning and environmental resources for the children.

**Please complete your ticket order on the form below and return with your payment to the office by Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2013.**

Sausage Sizzle Menu on sale from 4:30 pm to 5.55 pm	
Sausage** Sizzle .....	\$2.50
Sausage** Sizzle & Drink Meal Deal .....	\$4.00
Cold Drinks (water, soft drink).....	\$2.00
Onions & Sauce .....	'no charge'
Glow Stix – Small .....	\$0.50
Glow Stix – Large .....	\$2.00

*\*Award winning beef sausages supplied by Rode Meats  
#Vegetarian Sausages available*

Concert Admission Tickets (please tick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> one of the following options)			
Name of oldest child attending BCSS:		Grade:	
Parent/Carer name:		Number attending:	
Contact phone no.:		Ticket price	Total \$ Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> If 1 student attending BCSS		\$5 per family	
<input type="checkbox"/> If 2 or more students attending BCSS		\$10 per family	
<b>Please complete this form and place the admission money in an envelope with your child's name on the front. All forms to be returned to your class teacher by Tuesday, 3rd December, 2013</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque: Made payable to: Brisbane Central State School P&C			\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash:			\$



*2013 Christmas Concert  
&  
Year 7 Graduation Ceremony*

Commencing, 6 pm Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013

In the School Hall, St Paul's Terrace, Spring Hill



*Christmas Concert – 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm*

The evening includes performances by  
Brisbane Central State School's

- \* Junior Choir
- \* Senior Choir
- \* Award Winning Instrumental Band
- \* Ukulele Ensemble
- \* Individual Class presentations (Prep-Year 7)



*Year 7 Graduation Ceremony*

7:45 pm to 8:30 pm

*Everyone is invited to stay on for the Year 7 Graduation Ceremony after the  
Christmas Concert has concluded.*

*The BCSS P&C will have food and beverages on sale from 4:30 pm to 5.55 pm on the afternoon of  
the Concert.*





# 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: \_\_\_\_\_