Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school for 2015. We hope everyone had a restful holiday.

Over the holidays we had a lot of work done at the school. At the end of the newsletter are the photos of
- the new courtyards in the front of the school. This work was achieved by the P and C obtaining a grant and overseeing the work.
- the gabion wall completed along St Pauls Terrace.
- the completion of the new block for the year 3 – 6 classes. This block is called F block.
- the refurbishment of the old lunch shed.

Our Staff for 2015
Admin Officers: Carolina Duncan, Debbie Cameron
Grounds: Mike Leota
Cleaners: Maree Lewis and Shirley Vowles
Techs: Matt Duncan and James Price (Wednesdays)
Teacher Aides: Debbie Cameron, Janet Fletcher, Jenny Gilmour, Kim Willersdorf, Megan Hale, Maree Lewis
Speech Pathologist: Jackie Redmond
Guidance Officer: Vicky Jebsen

Class teachers
- Prep M: Jan McKean and Prep W: Darren Waugh
- 1F: Wendy Fitzgerald and 1R: Raehana Ross
- 2S: Brendan Stock and 2W: Kylie Wall
- 3Z: Gemma Zielke
- 3/4P: Alina Pugliese
- 4A: Caitlin Ashcroft
- 5M: Kayleen Morgan
- 6S: Annette Somerville

Specialist Teachers
- PE: Dave Johnson (Thursday and Friday pm)
- Music: Julie West (Wednesday, Thursday)
- French: Rosa Maroto (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)
- Head of Curriculum: Leesa-Maree Jedras (Monday to Thursday). Leesa-Maree is new to our school.
- Intervention/Extension (STLaN): Jo Gawne
- EAL/D: Shona Arneil (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) and Nicolette Paull
- Library: Narelle Hoelzl (Mondays)
- Instrumental Music: Colin McIntyre (Thursday pm)

Before School Procedure
All students need to wait around the admin block as they did last year. At 8:30 an adult will escort the students from years 3 - 6 down to F block. The students will be supervised until the teachers open the classroom doors. Students that arrive after 8:30 need to come up past the office and walk down the covered walkway to F block. The doors of F block will not be opened before school.
Class Information Nights:
Our Class Information Night will be held on Wednesday February 11, 2015. Prep M, Prep W, 1F, 1R, 2S and 2W will hold their information sessions from 6:00pm – 6:30pm. 3Z, 3/4P, 4A, 5M and 6S will hold their information nights from 6:35pm – 7:05pm. I would like to strongly encourage all our parents to attend their child’s class Information Evening. This is an excellent opportunity to find out about the following topics:
- Class procedures and routines
- Class timetable and overview of the curriculum that will be taught
- Teaching and learning within a multi-age class
- Homework
- NAPLAN tests (Years 3/5/7)
- Communication
There will also be opportunities for parents to ask questions and clarify any information.

Regards,
Graham Rickuss

Active School Travel

Our first meeting for this initiative is Monday 9 February at 3:10pm in the Community Room. Parents that are interested in learning about this initiative are welcome to attend this meeting.

Brisbane Central State School has been selected as one of 16 new schools joining Brisbane City Council’s Active School Travel program for 2015.

Active School Travel promotes clean and green, active and healthy school travel modes such as walking, cycling, scootering, carpooling and public transport. By leaving your car at home, at least one day a week on our active travel day, we can work towards reducing traffic congestion at the school gate, improving road safety, creating a cleaner environment and improving our health and fitness.

So look out for Active School Travel and start thinking how you and your family can use your car less and be active on the way to and from school this year. If you would like more information on the program you can visit Council’s website www.brisbane.qld.gov.au.

Parent English Class

It was wonderful to meet new and continuing parents at the morning tea in the Community Room on the first day of school. Our parent English class for 2015 will begin again on Tuesday 10 February at 1:00pm in the Community Room. We welcome new and continuing parents to our class. The classes will include both informal and formal day-to-day language.
We hope you will join us on Tuesday 10 February at 1.00pm.
Sandra and Allison

Uniform Shop 2015

At the moment running out of hats, size 12 dresses and some smaller sizes of polo shirts. The new stock will be coming from the supplier by mid February 2015.

I would like to give a huge thanks to Sue, Maile and Mahtab for the incredible work they did in the lead up to school and during this first week. They have been working hard in the uniform shop to get all our new students uniforms to start school.

The normal opening days and hours are
Every Tuesday 8.15 - 8.45 am
Every Friday 3.15 - 3.45 pm

Please contact Ria Wahyuni uniforms@brisbanecentralss.eq.edu.au or 0423 787 333 if you require more information.
P and C Meeting

Next Wednesday 4\textsuperscript{th} February is our first P and C Meeting for the year. The meeting starts at 5:30pm. We will hold this meeting in Mrs Somerville’s classroom in F block, the new building.

We welcome along all our parents to be part of this meeting. During the meetings we discuss what is going on at the school and ways that you can help to raise funds to buy resources that the teachers and students need to enhance their learning.

This year we are losing P and C executives after many years of service. So we would appreciate the support of new parents to come along to suggest new ways to support our school.

Instrumental Music Update

From the podium:
I’m looking forward to making music at Brisbane Central SS again this year after returning from leave, which I spent watching our little boy Clancy grow up too fast! He is healthy and happy so far and loves to play his triangle. We are as happy as could be and as tired as ever. 😊

Please follow these updates in the newsletter until I have received my new work computer. I will then be able to create email groups and use these as the first point of communication down the track.

Continuing students in year 6:
Lessons will begin in week 3 on Thursday the 12\textsuperscript{th} of February in our new music rooms underneath the hall from noon. Band, from 2:30 till 3:15 Thursdays, will not begin until we have “blown the cobwebs out”. You will be advised by email of the commencement date for band rehearsals.

We expect that all who participated in the program last year are participating in 2015. If this is not the case for you please advise Mr McIntyre immediately so appropriate organisation and planning for this year can be completed.

If you know any students from years 6 and 7 last year that played an instrument could you please help me by getting them to give their “Band Music Folders” back as they belong to the school not the ex-students!

Potential students from years 4 and 5:
Fifteen “Expressions of Interest” forms have been received so far meaning there is room for one or two more in the program. If you are new to the school or an existing student who would like to submit an “Expression of Interest” there are copies in the office that you can collect. Please return this to the office by next Wednesday if you are interested as I will not have time to chase things up after then.

We aim to intake the students with the highest chance of achieving on their instruments that will form a balanced large ensemble for quality music making.

Suitability and aptitude testing will begin next Thursday, week 2, and conclude by week 4 all going well. Families will be advised by email of the outcome for their child.

Social Media sites

Download the app
iTunes
Google Play
Windows Phone

Become a fan

Follow us on twitter
CHESS CHESS CHESS

Chess is considered to be gymnastics of the brain and is a sport which has fascinated people from all walks of life for over 2000 years. Many notable people throughout history have been captivated by the anomaly of the simplicity and complexity of the game. Catherine the Great of Russia refused to give an audience to visiting dignitaries if they did not play chess with her on a chess board made to fit her side saddle. Chess is an activity which uses both sides of the brain and studies conducted worldwide have shown that engaging in regular chess lessons results in improved mathematical, spatial and lateral-thinking skills. Studies have also shown that Chess improves reading skills by up to 25%.

Chess at Brisbane Central is open to all students from Prep to Year 7 and Term 1 lessons commence on Thursday 5 February and continue for 9 weeks.

This term lessons will commence at 7.45am and finish at 8.30am. This is due to the fact that Brodie McClymont and Lisa Morris who work with Mrs Pizzato have study commitments which begin at 9.00am. All classes will be held in The Community Room.

Mrs Connie Pizzato who has been teaching chess for over 20 years will conduct classes with Lisa Morris (who is studying to be a teacher and who teaches chess at Somerville House and several other schools in the Brisbane region) and with Brodie McClymont who is ranked No 9 in Australia. Mrs Pizzato may be contacted on 0409794745 if you have any queries about the program.

Throughout the year there are opportunities for students to participate in chess tournaments which allow them to use the skills they acquire in chess lessons.

Cost for the term is $90 and must be paid in full by Week 2 of lessons.

Please sign the permission form below and return with money to the office or Mrs Pizzato as soon as possible.

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Brisbane Central Chess Lessons Term 1, 2015

I........................................ give permission for my child.................................................................

Year........Date of Birth.....................

To participate in chess lessons. $...............enclosed

Signed......................Contact details..........................................................

Email address..........................................................
Stay and Play is an initiative designed to provide green space and playground equipment for students that live in residences with limited play spaces. This initiative takes place between 3 and 4 pm only on the designated days each week as determined by the Principal each school term.

Continued participation in Stay and Play is based on you and your child’s written agreement with the Stay and Play guidelines. Additionally, your child’s play and your supervision of them must be according to these guidelines to maintain the safety of your child and the smooth operation of the school.

1. My child will use the oval and playground equipment outside of school hours only at the designated Stay and Play times. For 2015, 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.

My child and I agree to abide by the expectations outlined above as a condition of my child’s participation in Stay and Play.

Parent Name:    Parent Signature:   Date:

Child’s Name:    Child’s Signature:   

Child’s Name:    Child’s Signature:   

Child’s Name:    Child’s Signature: