Brassall P&C School Fete - Saturday, 16 August
Wow only 16 days to go until the Brassall P&C School Fete and I can certainly feel the excitement across the school as we countdown to a great day of fun, food, fabulous entertainment and fantastic displays. Over the last fortnight we have been overwhelmed with donations from our school community - but don’t stop there, keep them coming in! Each Year Level is still looking for parent volunteers to help them on the day - so if you can spare the time, please contact the following staff members from each Year Level:

- Miss Amelia Johnson - Prep.
- Miss Cinca Estrada - Year 1.
- Mrs Catherine Braun - Year 2.
- Miss Kerry Hudson - Year 3.
- Mrs Paula Roh - Year 4.
- Ms Wendy Scott - Year 5.
- Mrs Tamara Boan - Year 6.
- Ms Amanda Graham - Year 7.
- Ms Leesa Williams - SEP.
- Mr Johnny Lilley - Chaplain.

Funds raised from the Fete will go towards making Brassall a much cooler school. The P&C has been working closely with the school to plan towards air conditioning all of our classrooms over the next few years. The great news is that recently the Brassall P&C Association was successful in gaining $31,340 from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund to commence this much needed work in the very near future. Currently plans are being finalised to install air conditioning into the following teaching areas: H, I and K Blocks (Years 4 & 5) and Prep Buildings 1, 2 & 3. The difference this will make for our students and for teaching and learning will be enormous!

Parent Opinion Surveys - get ‘online’ now, only three days left to have your say
The annual Parent Opinion Survey is a great opportunity to have your say about what this school does well and how this school can improve. All parents/caregivers were invited to take part. Responses to the survey questions provide useful information to us about how our school is progressing against a range of items. This information is used to help us reflect on our programs and practice. If not already completed, the online surveys will remain open until midnight on 3 August 2014.

Survey responses are anonymous and are reported back to the school later this year in a way that cannot identify any individual response. These surveys are an important part of our monitoring and reporting processes. I encourage all parents/caregivers to fully participate in the survey. If you have already completed your Parent/Caregiver Survey, thank you and please disregard this notice.

If you have any questions or concerns about the survey, please contact myself (Greg Brand) on 3813 4333 or make a free call to 1800 067 971.

NAIDOC
On Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th July 2014, we held our NAIDOC School celebrations which were two (2) awe-some days of teaching kids dance, art, artefacts, Indigenous games, Boomerang throwing and healthy eating talks. Nunukul Yunggara Aboriginal dancers and Ipswich State High School dancers, came together for an outstanding performance of Aboriginal dancing to open our celebrations. This was followed by Welcome to Country by Aunty Lilly Davidson, an Elder from Lworeraji.

During our ceremony we presented our Community partnerships Agreement. I’d like to thank parents, staff and the community who participated in the creation of this.

All students enjoyed participating in all of the events. I have had great positive feedback from both staff and students on the activities. I would like to thank the Indigenous leaders, along with Lester Maher, Coleen Tustain, Summa Todd, Greg Brand and the staff of our school for their support and cooperation in our NAIDOC school celebrations. A special thank you also to the Ipswich State High School students, John Parsons, and Kambu for their part in making these 2 days such a great success.

Year 5 Camp Stories
Last week (21st - 25th July), 71 students in Year 5 joined Miss Hyett, Miss Haskins, Mrs Osborne and Ms Scott at Tallegubega Beach School on the Gold Coast. They were lucky enough to participate in lots of amazing activities including body boarding, hiking, canoeing, swimming, team challenges, tobogganing, tandem biking and circus arts. The students enjoyed the activities and learnt new skills during the week too.

Congratulations to Imarini D for submitting the best camp diary out of all the students in Years 5-7 who were at Tallegubega Beach School last week - she won two tickets to Sea World!

Special thanks must go to Ms Scott for coordinating the camp and to Mrs Todd and Mr Brand for coming to stay a night and spend time with the kids while they were away from home.

We know the Brassall Year 5 students had an enjoyable week away, but they were able to do this while also demonstrating the 4 Brassall B’s. We received many positive reports about our students’ efforts and behaviour during the week and we were very proud of them.

(Tara Haskins, Year 5 Teacher)
Here are some comments from the children about the camp:
Brooklin B - SH wrote
“What I liked most about camp was the tobogganing and the Burleigh Mountain hike. I was so busy with all the activities that I didn’t get time to miss my mum! The food was yummy and the beds were comfortable, it was like a big sleepover with my friends.”

Renee B - SO told us
“At camp we had many awesome activities. Every single one of them was extremely fun and I would go there again anytime.”

Isaak M - SO recounted
“I personally had the best time of my life at Tallebudgera Beach School. It included: tobogganing and canoeing. The thing that I found most amazing was the staff. They gave every child an experience of what fun really is.”

And India van G - SH said
“I enjoyed going to camp…especially the tandem bikes. If I was to rate camp out of 10, it would be a 9 because I missed my family.”

Younger primary students to learn woodwind, brass and percussion instruments
From 2015, Year 4 students will be able to study woodwind, brass and percussion instruments at primary school, a year earlier than the current Year 5 starting point. The starting age for primary students studying strings will remain at Year 3. It has become widely accepted that students need three years of woodwind, brass and percussion development in primary school to form quality bands.

With the move of Year 7 to secondary school in 2015, future primary school bands would consist entirely of Year 5 and 6 students with a maximum of two years’ school music tuition in woodwind, brass and percussion. With only two year levels comprising primary schools bands there may be some loss of quality for which Queensland primary schools bands are currently renowned. This is the rationale for adding Year 4 woodwind, brass and percussion to the primary school Instrumental Music Program.

For quality string orchestras, four years of tuition is sufficient, so the current starting age for strings will remain at Year 3. The instrumental music changes reaffirm the value of the primary school instrumental music program as a cornerstone program, producing quality bands.

Greg Brand, Principal

Congratulations to all those children who have been following the 4 Brassall B’s and will be having their reward on these days. These children’s names will be published in the next Brassall Buzz. Keep encouraging your children to follow our 4 Brassall B’s - Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, Be A learner - and reeling in those pollen points.

A big thank you to all our parents who are waiting for their children in the afternoon in Buzz’s Designated Parent Waiting Areas. This also sends a great message to our children about following our School’s expectations.

Rayne Penny, Deputy Principal

District Athletics 2014
District Athletics is currently being held over four days from Monday 28th through to Thursday 31st July, 2014 at Bill Patterson Oval, Ipswich. Students who have qualified have been training with Miss Woods and will be trialling for a position in the Mater West side. We have wished the following students luck in their events and know that they represent Brassall State School with pride.


Interschool Sport Jerseyst
Please return all Jerseys used last term for interschool sport to Miss Woods no later than Friday 1st August, 2014. Students who do not return their shirts will not be able to play in future school sports and tournaments.

Brassall Fete
SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST
We are just over 2 weeks away now from our School Fete © Have you purchased your Ride Pass yet??
Raffle tickets have gone home with the eldest child from each family…more tickets are available if you’ve already sold yours. The ladies are in the P & C Room, under B Block, every day until the Fete.
Ride Passes, Raffle tickets and Colour Competition forms can be returned or collected from the P & C Room.
We still need volunteers for Fete day!
If you can help your Year level to run their stall, even if just for an hour, please let us know.
Enquiries – Jo Baker – 0418 115 265

Outlaws Softball Club Sign On – 9th August, 2014, 10am-1pm
At the PCYC Ipswich - Pulse building, Griffith Rd, Eastern Heights All ages needed - 4+ years.
Ipswich Little Athletics 2014/15 Sign On – 29 August, 5 to 7pm and 30 August, 2 to 5pm at Bill Patterson Oval, Lion Street, Ipswich. For info ph 3201 8431 or 0427 112 864. To register, http://www.ipswichla.org.au/
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