

Brassall Newsletter

Published by Brassall State School

ISSUE 1

5 February 2015

Rule of the Term:

Be Respectful

Thought for the Week:

You may not know what is going to happen when you try, but if you don't try, nothing will happen. Keep trying.

Term 1 Planner

6 Feb	Defence Families - Welcome Afternoon Tea
16 Feb	Ipswich District Swimming Carnival
16 Feb	P & C Meeting 7pm Admin Bld
23 Feb	Parent Teacher Info Prep - 4
24 Feb	Parent Teacher Info 5 & 6
27 Feb	Student of the Month Assembly
27 Feb	Prep Reef Experience
3 Mar	Year 1 Ocean Life Habitats
13 Mar	Interschool Sport Commences
17 Mar	10 Buzz Card Sausage Sizzle
24 Mar	15 Buzz Card Ice Cream
25 Mar	Year 3 Fun With Math
26 Mar	Year 4 Fun With Math
27 Mar	Student of the Month Assembly
30 Mar	Year 5 Ocean Life Adaptations
31 Mar	School Photos
1 Apr	School Photos
2 Apr	10 Buzz Card Sausage Sizzle
TBA	Prep to 3 Easter Bonnet Parade
2 Apr	TERM 1 ENDS

Term 2 Planner

20 Apr	TERM 2 COMMENCES
Apr	ANZAC Ceremony - 9am
25 Apr	ANZAC DAY (No Public Holiday)
28 Apr	Ipswich District Cross Country
1 May	Student of the Month Assembly
4 - 8 May	Mother's Day P & C Stall
4 May	Science Factory Prep & Yr 1
5 May	Science Factory Yrs 1, 2, & 3
6 May	Science Factory Yrs 3, 4, 5 & 6
7 May	Science Factory Yrs 5 & 6
12 - 14 May	NAPLAN Testing
15 May	Ipswich Show Holiday
22 May	Beginner Strings Workshop
29 May	Student of the Month Assembly
8 Jun	QUEENS B'DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
16 & 17 Jun	Advanced Strings Workshop
26 Jun	Behaviour Level A & B Party
26 Jun	Prep to Yr 2
26 Jun	Student of the Month Assembly
26 Jun	Behaviour Level A & B Party
26 Jun	Yrs 3 to 6
26 Jun	TERM 2 ENDS

N.B. Dates are correct at time of printing, and may change if deemed necessary.

Payment - Closing Dates

No money will be accepted after these dates

11 Feb	Book club Issue 1
25 Feb	Prep Reef Experience
27 Feb	Year 1 Ocean Life
27 Feb	RESOURCE CONTRIBUTION - CLOSING DATE FOR EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT

Finance Hours

8 am to 10am Daily

Buzz-on-in-Café

Fisherman's Catch Special

A bucket filled with crunchy potato wedges, a Fillet of Fish, a Focus Flavoured water, PLUS a Fruit tub \$6.00

Across the Principal's Desk ...



Welcome Back to Brassall in 2015!

What a smooth start to the school year it's been so far! Brassall has definitely been a 'Hive' of activity since Day 1, and I've been extremely impressed by the way in which our students have settled into their new classes and surrounds. On behalf of our entire staff, I offer a warm welcome to our new families, especially our Prep students and their parents. I think the tears are starting to dry up - and that's just the Mums and Dads!

For new Brassall families I'd like to take this opportunity to properly introduce myself. I am happily married, and my wife, Sharon, and I are the proud parents of three beautiful girls - Emily, Alex, and Coralee. I have been part of Education Queensland since 1993 and have enjoyed the 'Principalship' since 1997 working at various locations including Talwood SS, Dulacca SS, Monkland SS, Gympie Special School, Wilsonton SS, Highfields SS and Gabbinar SS. I have been the proud Principal of Brassall State School since 2012 and consider it a privilege to be part of this wonderful school community.

In terms of enrolments, we have experienced a constant stream of new enrolments which has far exceeded any predictions made to conclude 2014. As of today (Day 8) our total student enrolment reflects the following:

Year Level	Student Count
Prep	106
1	120
2	127
3	109
4	101
5	104
6	119
Total	786

As such, enrolments have increased to a point that we should be entitled to form one new class in the very near future. Upon confirmation from Ipswich District Office, it will be necessary to form one new class across our Prep, Years 1 and 2, to assist in reducing current overall large class sizes. All parents of Prep, Year 1 and 2 received a letter home this week and tomorrow further details in relation to necessary new class arrangements will be shared. Whilst any change is a difficult process, we will always make sure any student transition is as smooth as possible.

As we start the term I offer parents a few simple, yet vital reminders to ensure a smooth start to the school year.

- The first bell to start our day rings at 8.35am. Students may enter classrooms and ready their desks for the start of the day.
- Second bell rings at 8.40 am and at this time teachers are marking rolls, sharing important announcements and settling students ready for instruction.
- By 8.40am instruction in the first lesson of the day has commenced so it is **vital that every student is in class and ready to work at this time.**
- All students (not accompanied by their parent/carer) arriving at school prior to 8.20am must gather on the paved areas at and around Winston Court.

- Students are NOT to play on playground equipment before 8.20am as there is no staff supervision rostered on at this time.
- LATE ARRIVALS All students arriving after 8.40am must present to the office for a "Late Slip". Students departing before 2.45pm MUST be signed out at the Office by parent/guardian or listed emergency contact.
- Please ensure that all hats, jumpers, lunch boxed and drink containers are clearly marked with your child's name. This year we want to ensure a reduction in lost property that ends up in a charity bin or worse.
- ALL MEDICATION TO BE ADMINISTERED AT SCHOOL must be registered at the office, accompanied by a letter from the doctor AND a completed medication form available from the office.
- All student mobile phones and electronic devices MUST be handed in at the office upon arrival at school and collected at 2.45pm.

We have commenced our new school year with renewed vigour and much enthusiasm in every classroom. Each teacher has started the Term by clearly establishing their classroom procedures and expectations surrounding all behaviours, both inside and outside the classroom. Teachers have consciously renewed the physical structure of each classroom and established clear behavioural expectations which have been aligned to our agreed Brassall B's:

- Be Respectful.
- Be Safe.
- Be Responsible.
- Be a Learner.

These four values are critical to developing a very positive whole school learning environment and will be at the heart of much of our work and relationships with students and families for 2015 and beyond!

2015 School Leaders of Brassall SS!

Monday, 2 February saw Brassall's 'School Leaders Ceremony' take place to recognise the achievements of these 16 students and to formally present them with their 'badges' for 2015. We had the honour of 2010 School Captains of Brassall State School, Sophie Stenner and Renae Todd; Ipswich City Counsellor Cheryl Bromage; Local Indigenous Elder Mr Ross Anderson; Development Officer from Ipswich Jest Rugby League Brendan Lindsay and former Brassall teacher and Performing Arts mentor Mrs Paula Rohl to assist in the presentation and to congratulate our students on their success. It is my great pleasure to announce our School Leaders of Brassall State School for 2015.

School Leaders	Imarni Danielson (School Captain) Sam Lovey (School Captain) Shaielsha Towler (School Vice-Captain) Khan Towler (School Vice-Captain)
Indigenous Leaders	Talaylin Brown (Indigenous Captain) Mickael Srpak (Indigenous Captain)
Cultural Leaders	Katie George (Cultural Captain) McKenzie Taylor (Cultural Captain)
Cook House	Tahlia Marshall (Captain) Caleb Doyle (Captain)
Oxley House	Theresa Scicluna-Appleby (Captain) Luke Stenner (Captain)
Leichhardt House	Chloe Dodds (Captain) Kane Moulder-Shard (Captain)
Flinders House	Adelaide Griffiths (Captain) Ryley Barnwell (Captain)



All of our School Leaders recognise that their respective positions are very responsible ones, and they pledge to carry out their duties to the highest standards of our school Brassall B's.

On behalf of our entire school community we congratulate you all on this very special achievement and we wish you a very successful school year ahead. We know you will make both your families and school community very proud!

New and Returning Staff Welcome

A very big welcome goes to new staff members in 2015!

- Mr Tom Richards - Class Teacher (5S)
- Miss Kellsey Dodd - Class Teacher (4D).
- Miss Sherrie Sullivan - Class Teacher (4S).
- Mrs Angela Broadhead - Class Teacher (5B - Wednesday only).
- Ms Tamasine Collins - LOTE Teacher.
- Miss Astra Chatwood - Speech Language Pathologist.
- Mr Tony Smith - Guidance Officer.

We trust your association with Brassall is both personally and professionally rewarding and we know that you will only add value to the education of our students.

Warm Regards and Best Wishes,

Mr Greg Brand
Principal

From the Deputies' Desks

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)

Welcome to all our new families to Brassall State School for 2015 and welcome back to all our families who were with us last year.

For new families in particular, you may have noticed 'Buzz', Our Brassall Bee, on the concrete and on many signs around the school. This is because when you enter the gates of this great school, you are entering our 'Buzz' Zone. Everyone who enters our 'Buzz' Zone is expected to **Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe and Be A Learner**.

These are our 4 Brassall B expectations and last week these, as part of our SWPBS explicit teaching matrix, were taught to the students.

Each week our students will be taught focus lessons. The lessons for the next 2 weeks are:

Week 2: Be Respectful when eating - Wait to be Dismissed to Play and Put your rubbish in the Bin; and **Be Responsible** in the playground and stop play at the 1st bell.

Week 3: Be Respectful - Knock to enter a room. Wait to be invited in. Use your manners; **Be Responsible and Safe** when entering the Office; **Be Responsible** in the playground and use the 'chill' chairs.

Your child may also be talking about **Pollen Points**. These are part of our reward system and your child can receive these for following the 4 Brassall Bs. Students receive **Be A Learner** pollen points in the classroom and **Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe** pollen points for actions in the playground. I will talk more about pollen points and Buzz Postcards in the next Buzz newsletter.

Rayne Penny, Deputy Principal

Buzz Needs You Here EVERYDAY

Did you know? Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

Why is regular attendance at school important?

Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day.

- they learn better
- they make friends
- they are happier
- they have a brighter future.

Why must I send my child to school?

Under Queensland law, you must make sure your child of school age is enrolled and attends school all day, every school day unless they have an acceptable reason.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for:

Birthdays, shopping, visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, minor check-ups or care such as haircuts. Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

Check out this YouTube clip on the importance of attending school EVERYDAY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkm9ae2xKT4&list=PLejv5epyrnQDLNMTmhLA6z-cssQylcsvN&index=4>

Summa Todd, Deputy Principal

YMCA Breakfast Club

My Name is Jonathan Lilley and I am the Chaplain at Brassall State School and you'll find me in L Block or around the school from Tuesday to Friday during school hours.

As a Chaplain I have been trained in youth work and pastoral care, which means I am here to be a listening ear to students, parents/guardians and all staff members. During school hours I work primarily with students that have been referred to me by both parent/guardians and staff. This may be due to any situation where someone needs to debrief.

I also run a large vegetable garden which will be revamped this year; this is a vehicle which enables me to build the students' self-esteem and social skills. My role also includes reinforcing the 4 Brassall B's by running various activities such as sports or challenges to encourage personal growth, leadership skills and building resilience.

We all need help and a listening ear from time to time, so please feel free to contact me via the school office.

I would like to say thanks to those people who have been supportive of the work that I do, recognising that there is an army of volunteers and professionals behind me.

Thank you all so much. Blessings, Jonny

School News

Scholastic Book Club News

Order 1 closes 11 February - When ordering Book club, please place the correct money or cheque and your order form in a clearly marked envelope and hand into the office. Receipts are issued by the P and C not the school and will be returned to your child.

If paying by credit card online or by phone, please fill in the Payment Receipt Number form attached to the order form. Please contact Nikki Browning in the library with any queries.

From the P and C

Fundraising Committee

We are a group of parents who fundraise for additional items/services we would like to see our children/school have access to. We are part of the P&C however can't always attend meetings. Most of what we do happens whilst the children are at school. Our biggest project right now is to continue with our goal of having the school air-conditioned. Many of our rooms were air-conditioned over the Christmas holidays as a direct result of our fundraising efforts last year.

We are kicking off with our first "meeting" of the year at McDonalds at Brassall on Monday 9th February for coffee at 9am. Some of us will be in our maroon Brassall SS Fundraising T-shirts so we will be easy to spot.

A couple of our long term fundraising ladies had their youngest go off to high school at the end of last year and whilst they are willing to continue to give us a hand we don't want to leave it up to them and are looking for more helpers.

There is no big commitment required, simply give us a hand where and when you can. We run a Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas stall each year. So please come along, have a coffee and meet some other Brassall parents - we'd love to see you! For more details, please contact Jo on 0418 115 265.