

Brassall Newsletter

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ISSUE 2

19 February 2015

Rule of the Term:

Be Respectful

Thought for the Week:

The world always looks brighter from behind a smile ☺

Term 1 Planner

23 Feb	Class Captain Presentation - 8:40am
23 Feb	Parent Info Session - Prep to Yr 4
24 Feb	Parent Info - Yrs 5 & 6 & SEP
27 Feb	Student of the Month Assembly
27 Feb	Prep Reef Experience
3 Mar	Year 1 Ocean Life Habitats
6 Mar	QT Making the Grade Prep Photos
13 Mar	Crazy Hair Day
13 Mar	Interscholar Sport Commencements
17 Mar	10 Buzz Card Sausage Sizzle
24 Mar	15 Buzz Card Ice Cream
25 Mar	Year 3 Fun With Maths
26 Mar	Year 4 Fun With Maths
27 Mar	School Photos
30 Mar	Year 5 Ocean Life Adaptations
31 Mar	School Photos
1 Apr	School Photos
2 Apr	10 Buzz Card Sausage Sizzle
2 Apr	Prep to 3 Cross Country Carnival
TBA	Prep to 3 Easter Bonnet Parade
2 Apr	TERM 1 ENDS

Term 2 Planner

20 Apr	Parent / Teacher Interviews
21, 22 Apr	Parent / Teacher Interviews
24 Apr	ANZAC Ceremony - 9am
25 Apr	ANZAC Show 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 & SEU
7 May	Science Factory Yrs 5 & 6
12 - 14 May	NAPLAN Testing
15 May	Beginner Strings Workshop
22 May	Student of the Month Assembly
29 May	Student of the Month Assembly
8 Jun	QUEENS B'DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
15-17 Jun	Year 6 Camp - Emu Gully
16, 17 Jun	Advanced Strings Workshop
24, 25 Jun	P-2 Athletics Carnival & SEU
26 Jun	P-2 Behaviour Level A & B Party
26 Jun	Student of the Month Assembly
26 Jun	Yrs 3-6 Behaviour Level A & B Party
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

23 Feb	Yr 4 & 6 Swimming - \$35
25 Feb	Prep Reef Experience - \$6
27 Feb	Year 1 Ocean Life - \$8.50
27 Feb	RESOURCE CONTRIBUTION - CLOSING DATE FOR EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT
20 Mar	Yr 3 Fun with Maths - \$5.50
20 Mar	Yr 4 Fun with Maths - \$5.50
20 Mar	Yr 5 Ocean Life Habitats Program \$8.50

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 ...



Parent Information Sessions -23 and 24 February

Want to know what's happening at school in 2015? Wondering how to help in the classroom? Not sure when Year 6 Camp is?? Well then come along to our annual Parent Information session being held across our entire school next week. For each Year Level please note the details below:

Date	Time	Year Level	Location
Monday 23 Feb	3.00pm	Prep	Prep M Classroom
Monday 23 Feb	3.00pm	Year 1	1G Classroom D Block
Monday 23 Feb	3.00pm	Year 2	2U Classroom D Block
Monday 23 Feb	3.00pm	Year 3	3PW Classroom C Block
Monday 23 Feb	3.00pm	Year 4 (incl. 3/4M)	3/4M Classroom I Block
Tuesday 24 Feb	3.00pm	Year 5	5S Classroom K Block
Tuesday 24 Feb	3.00pm	Year 6	6W Classroom M Block
Tuesday 24 Feb	3.00pm	Special Education Classes	2/3/4/5M Classroom A Block

I encourage all parents to attend these helpful sessions about the year ahead for your child/ren at Brassall State School. Please note that all Year Levels are holding joint sessions in a designated classroom as per the details above. Parents are reminded there will be no provision made for the supervision of your child/ren during these sessions. I look forward to seeing you there!

Attendance - Buzz Needs You Here Every day at Brassall!

Would it shock you to know that in 2014, an average of **90 students** were absent from our school every day? In real terms this would currently reflect close to our entire Year 4 cohort being away every single day! Whilst our diligence in improving our students' achievement standards remain paramount to our efforts, the reality is, it's a difficult task when students are away on a regular basis.

The education for your child is important to us at Brassall, and regular attendance is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their long term career and life options. We endeavour to work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of our students. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier, information is retained and your child will have a greater chance of building and maintaining meaningful relationships with other children.

Parents and caregivers must send children to school every school day unless there is an acceptable reason such as an illness. However routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays where possible. If your child is going to be absent from school, you must let the school know why the absence has occurred within two school days of their return. If possible, it is best to advise the school beforehand. It continues to trouble me when I hear that students are away from school for reasons such as; birthdays, shopping or visiting family or friends...I'm sorry to say but this is not considered a reasonable or acceptable reason, not just at Brassall, but all State Schools.

If you are experiencing difficulty in sending your child to school, contact myself or the following school administrators:

- Mr Rayne Penny (DP) - Years 2, 3 and 4.
- Mrs Summa Todd (DP) - Years 1, 5 and 6.
- Mrs Donna Bracker - Head of Spec Ed.
- Mr Greg Brand (Princ.) - All Prep students.

School Road Safety Reminder

Being on the corner of two very busy streets means that our school can be a very busy place at drop off and pick up times and it is important that students are reminded of some basic road safety rules. Here are some basic tips for parents to share with your child to ensure they have a safe trip to and from school each day:

- Children under the age of 10 should always be accompanied by an adult.
- When crossing a road, always **STOP, LOOK, LISTEN** and **THINK** and keep looking and listening while you cross.
- Where possible, young children should always hold a grown-up's hand when crossing the road.
- Always cross the road at a marked pedestrian crossing with designated Crossing Supervisors in the morning and afternoon.
- When children are old enough to walk or ride to school on their own, it's important to show the child the safest route.
- Make sure your child gets in and out of the car on the footpath side, away from traffic.
- If travelling by bus, always wait until the bus has stopped before getting off and wait for the bus to move away before finding a safe place to cross.
- Ensure your child is aware that they should never play on or around roads and encourage them to play in parks, backyards or other safe places instead.

As parents and carers, the best way you can teach your child road safety is to set a good example yourself.

Warm Regards and Best Wishes,

Mr Greg Brand
Principal

From the Deputies

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)

Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, Be A Learner

Pollen Points:

Pollen points are part of our SWPBS reward system and students receive them for following the **4 Brassall B's**. **Be A Learner** pollen points are given out in the classroom and 4 from each class are drawn out each week by a member of the Administration Team. **Be Respectful, Be Responsible** and **Be Safe** pollen points are placed in a Prep-3 or Yrs 4-6 **Buzz Barrel** and 4 from each are drawn out on Friday's assembly for an extra reward at the **Buzz On In Café**.

All the pollen points that the children receive, then tally towards a **Buzz Postcard** which is sent home, plus goes towards extra rewards at school. The students reach milestones of 5 Buzz Cards, 10 Buzz Cards equalling a sausage sizzle,

15 Buzz Cards equalling an ice cream, 20 Buzz Cards equalling games and music in the hall, 25 Buzz Cards equalling an extreme games session, and 30 Buzz Cards equalling some time on a jumping castle. The children are all very excited about working towards receiving these awards.

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

Week 4: Be Responsible - Wear the school uniform and hand personal electronic devices to the office; **Be Safe** in the playground and wear a sunsafe hat.

Week 5: Be Respectful - Listen and follow adult directions the first time; **Be Responsible and Safe** at the **Buzz On In Café** - Wait for your turn, talk quietly and line up appropriately.

Introducing Mrs Nicole Lovey: Head of Curriculum - Student Services:

This year Mrs Lovey is stepping into a new role as **Head of Curriculum - Student Services**. Her role is to work with all matters of student welfare at Brassall State School. These include case managing and supporting students in care, mentoring staff and identifying students requiring behaviour support through our SWPBS program, running the Solid Pathways Program for Indigenous students and monitoring student attendance. If you have any issues or concerns in relation to your child in these areas, please contact Mrs Lovey at the school by phone or email: nlove6@eq.edu.au

We welcome Mrs Lovey into her new leadership role for 2015.

Rayne Penny, Deputy Principal

100% Attendance

Congratulations to Prep E for being our first class for the year to achieve a full week with 100% attendance from all students. They were rewarded in Week 2 with a class Pizza Party. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with many more classes throughout the year. To achieve this EVERY student must be here EVERY day. Please help support our students in reaching this goal.



School Attendance

This year we have strong focus on student attendance and promoting the messages:

EVERY DAY COUNTS

Buzz Needs You Here Every Day at Brassall

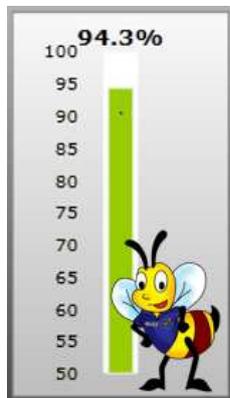
On Monday night at the P&C Meeting our attendance goals were presented for 2015. Our goal for 2015 is for an overall attendance rate of: **91.2%**.

To achieve this, all staff will be working with families to not only meet this target but move towards ensuring that EVERY student is here EVERY day.

In each newsletter we will keep families up to date using our current school data. This week **Buzz** seems to be happy as our overall school attendance rate is sitting at **94.3%**. This is a huge improvement from our overall 2014 rate of **89.6%**.

Please support our students to 'bee' the best they can 'bee'!

Summa Todd, Deputy Principal



From the Curriculum & Pedagogy Team

Numeracy

This year, **RoleM** will continue to be *The Brassall Way* of teaching Mathematics in P-2 with Year 3 coming on board for the first time. **RoleM** stands for: Representations, Oral Language and Engagement in Mathematics. The **RoleM** educational program provides support for Early Years educators of Mathematics. **RoleM** uses a hands-on approach using group rotational activities that are engaging for students. If you are available to assist in the classroom with these activities, please speak to your child's teacher.

How much are you hearing about The Daily 5 at home?

What a fantastic start to 2015! Reading, reading and more reading! By now you would have heard some things about the Daily 5 from your child. Just to recap, the Daily 5 is Brassall's approach to Reading Instruction. The Daily 5 are:

- Read to Self
- Work on Writing

- Read to Someone
- Listen to Reading
- Word Work

We will share more information about the Daily 5 in future newsletters, so stay tuned. Remember, if you would like to chat with someone about your child's Reading at Home, please feel free to contact the people below:

Prep, Year 1, Year 5 - Mel McDonald mmcdo211@eq.edu.au

Year 2, Year 6 - Colleen Brown ctust1@eq.edu.au

Year 3, Year 4, 2/3/4/5M, 5/6Y - Kandice Hutson khuts4@eq.edu.au

Student Welfare News

YMCA Breakfast Club

The YMCA Breakfast Club is up and running at Brassall State School every Wednesday and Friday morning. The Breakfast Club runs from the Year 5/6 Eating Area (under A Block). Toast and cereal is available between 8 to 8:30am. Thank you to Ipswich Baptist Church, all parents, teachers and support staff who assist with this excellent program, and to the YMCA for arranging food donations.



Spread the word! Help raise money for people with cancer.

Come to school on the 13th March with 'Crazy Hair' to support the cause. All you have to do is make a **gold coin donation** to join in the fun. You can colour your hair, wear a wig or style it however you wish, but **NO** mohawks please! There will also be a 'Shave/Colour Off' on the Friday parade depending on how much money we raise. Our goal as a school community is to raise \$1200. If we raise \$300, our school captains will shave/colour their hair, \$600 will see our Deputy Principals colour their hair, \$900 will see our Chaplain's curly locks shaved off and if we are able to reach our \$1200 target, Mr Brand (our Principal) will dare to shave.

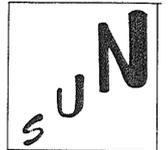
As we won't be able to reach our target in just gold coin donations, we will gratefully accept any other donations from our staff and parent community. Any donations over \$2 are eligible to receive a tax deductible receipt. Please see Mr Lilley (School Chaplain) or Mrs Lovey (HOC Student Services) to make these donations.

Jonathan Lilley, Chaplain

School News

LOTE - Japanese Quiz

First correct answer to Miss Collins wins a prize.



Sport News

Swimming

Congratulations to the following students - Megan W, Grace H, Lilian G, Alanah M and Ethan S - who went away to the Ipswich District 12 Yrs and Under Swimming Carnival on Monday. All students swam well.

Rugby

Congratulations to all the students who went away to trial for the Ipswich District Rugby Team. A special mention to Jayden W who made it through to round two of the possible/probable trial and to Duran B and Zane D who have made it through to possible/probable selections for the 10years development squad. We wish you luck!

Cross Country Training

If you are keen to train for the upcoming Cross Country Carnival on the last day of term, come to Running Club on Wednesday lunch time, second break, at Skinner Oval with Miss Woods. Great work to the students who are already practising.

**This is for students of all abilities especially for those who wish to race at the District Schools Cross Country Carnival in Term 2, 2015.*

Qld Cricket

This week our Year 4 & 6 students were able to participate in a cricket session with John from Qld Cricket. If you are interested in signing up to play in the upcoming cricket season, please see admin for a flyer. Thanks again John for coming and teaching us all about cricket.

Ashleigh Woods, PE Specialist