

Brassall Newsletter

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ISSUE 1

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Rule of the Term:

Be a Learner

Thought for the Week:

*Learning gives us wings,
But wisdom shows us how to use them.*

Term 1 Planner

7 Feb	School Leaders Ceremony - 11:10am
10 Feb	Perf Arts Vocal Groups commence rehearsal
13 Feb	District Swimming Carnival
17 Feb	Parent Information Sessions (Prep to Year 3)
17 Feb	P & C Meeting
18 Feb	Parent Information Sessions (Years 4 to 7)
20 Feb	Defence Families - Welcome Afternoon Tea
24 Feb	Year 1 Ocean Life presentation
28 Feb	Student of the Month Assembly
7 Mar	Winter Sport commences
18, 19 Mar	CSIRO - Biological World Year 5
21 Mar	CSIRO Prep - Early Learners
28 Mar	Student of the Month Assembly
1, 2 Apr	School Photos
TBA	Easter Pageant
4 Apr	Term 1 ends

Term 2 Planner

22 Apr	Term 2 commences
23 Apr - 8 May	Brassall's Got Talent Heats
24 Apr	ANZAC Ceremony - 9am
25 Apr	ANZAC DAY - Public Holiday
28 Apr	Ipswich District Cross Country
1 May	Living History Aust Presentation - Yrs 5, 6 & 5/6/7Y
2 May	Living History Aust Presentation - Yr 2 - The Ancient World
2 May	Student of the Month Assembly
6 - 9 May	Mothers' Day Stall
13 - 15 May	NAPLAN Testing
16 May	Ipswich Show Holiday
22, 23 May	CSIRO - Materials Arounds Us - Yr 1
22 May	Brassall's Got Talent Finals
27, 28 May	Ipswich Beginner Instrumental Camp
30 May	Student of the Month Assembly
4 Jun	CSIRO - Apprentice Scientist Year 3
9 Jun	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
26 Jun	Performing Arts Tour
27 Jun	Student of the Month Assembly
27 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

12 Feb	BOOKCLUB ISSUE 1
20 Feb	Year 1 Ocean Life
28 Feb	RESOURCE CONTRIBUTION - CLOSING DATE FOR EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT

Finance Hours

8 am to 10am Daily

Buzz-on-in-Café

Come celebrate *Fabulous February* at the Buzz-on-in-Café with our famous Fisherman's Catch.....a crumbed piece of fish with a serve of crunchy wedges and a sparkling juice.....only \$6.00

Across the Principal's Desk ...



Welcome Back to Brassall in 2014!

Can you hear something 'Buzzing' around Brassall to start 2014? Have you heard about 'Pollen Points' and 'Buzz Cards' and 'Honey Pots'? The year has commenced with much anticipation and it is pleasing to report our students, staff and families have made a great start to the school year. 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 Gabbinbar 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 2013. As of today (Day 8) our total student enrolment reflects the following:

Year Level	Student Count
Prep	124
1	134
2	110
3	97
4	103
5	104
6	99
7	78
Total	849

As such, enrolments have increased to a point that we should be entitled to form two new classes in the very near future. Upon confirmation from Ipswich District Office, it will be necessary to form one new Prep class and most likely a new class across Years 1 and 2, to assist in reducing current overall large class sizes. All parents of Prep will receive a letter home today and tomorrow with further details in relation to necessary new class arrangements. Next week all parents of Year 1 and 2 students will receive communication in relation to a new class forming across Years 1 and 2.

With the impending formation of two new classes, it will also be necessary to relocate some current classes to new locations in the school, over the next few weeks. At this stage we are waiting for the establishment of two new Temporary Buildings to accommodate our increase in enrolments. 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 8:40am and at this time teachers are marking rolls, sharing important announcements and settling students ready for instruction.
- By 8:45am 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.
- All students arriving at school after 8:40am or leaving prior to 2:45pm MUST be signed in/out at the Office.
- Please ensure that all hats, jumpers, lunch boxes 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 WITH WRITTEN PARENTAL PERMISSION AND LETTER FROM DOCTOR.
- All student mobile phones 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 Responsible.*
- *Be Safe.*
- *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 2014 and beyond!

New and Returning Staff Welcome

A very big welcome goes to new and returning staff members to our Brassall community.

- Mrs Melissa Parker - Class Teacher (1EP)
- Mrs Jodi-Lea Woodford - Class Teacher (1W).
- Mrs Dannielle McFarlane - Class Teacher (10M).
- Mr Peter Elmer - Class Teacher (2E).
- Mrs Catherine Braun - Class Teacher (2B formerly 2T)
- Miss Tara Haskins - Class Teacher (5/6T).
- Mrs Tamara Boan - Class Teacher (6B).
- Ms Amanda Graham - Class Teacher (7G).
- Mrs Danielle Basso - Music Specialist (Thursday).

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.

Parent Information Sessions - 17 and 18 February

Across our entire school, Parent/Teacher Information sessions are being held in **Week 4**:

Date	Starting Time	Year Level Group	Location/s
Monday 17 Feb	3:00pm	Prep	Prep Room 2 (Prep M Classroom)
	3:00pm	Year 1	E Block (Activities Room)
	3:00pm	Year 2	D Block (2G Classroom)
	3:00pm	Year 3	C Block (3T Classroom)
Tuesday 18 Feb	3:00pm	Year 4	I Block (4L Classroom)
	3:00pm	Year 5 & 5/6T	H Block (5O Classroom)
	3:00pm	Year 6 & 5/6T	M Block (6S & 6B Classrooms)
	3:00pm	Year 7	M Block (7M Classroom)
	3:00pm	3/4/5W & 5/6/7Y	A Block (5/6/7Y Classroom)

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!

School Leaders Ceremony - Friday 7 February

This Friday, all Brassall parents and friends are welcome to attend our School Leaders' Ceremony commencing at 11:10am in the Hall. School Leaders, Indigenous Leaders, Cultural Leaders and Sports Leaders from Years 6 and 7, will be presented formally with their 'badges'. Special guests will be 2009 Brassall State School Captains Joshua Doyle (Ipswich State High School) and Taylor Norford (West Moreton Anglican College), Captain of the Brisbane Lions AFL Team Jed Adcock and Ipswich City Councillor and former Brassall State School student Ms Cheryl Bromage.

Great Results Guarantee

In 2014, our school will receive additional funding from the Great Results Guarantee and we need to decide how we can use this money to better support our students and improve their outcomes. We are now working to develop our own Great Results Guarantee with evidence-based strategies and actions to improve literacy and numeracy. On average our school will receive an additional \$508 per student in P-2. For this investment the school will be required to consult with Staff and P&C members and develop a strategy that will either:

- Achieve the National Minimum Standard for literacy and numeracy for their year level; or
- Have an evidence-based plan, developed by the school in place to address their specific learning needs.

Read more about the guarantee at www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee.

Warm Regards and Best Wishes,



Mr Greg Brand
Principal

From the Deputies' Desks

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)

Buzz has begun very strongly at Brassall State School in 2014. All staff have been handing out lots of Pollen Points to the children for being **Respectful, Responsible, Safe and A Learner**.

We are now starting all our assemblies with our Brassall Bee Chant. The children sound great and it's a positive way to start each of our assemblies.

All classes are working towards class parties. Your child may have already brought home or be bringing home soon a certificate to say they have already filled up their Buzz Card. This means they have already earned 20 Pollen Points and a piece of Honeycomb towards their class party. This is fantastic news and your child will earn a certificate each time.

Miss Comino, Mrs Bracker and I have been around to all classes and have drawn out 4 *Be A Learner* Pollen Points from class boxes. These children have won prizes for this draw. We will be drawing 4 per class each week, so the children are very excited.

The *Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe* Pollen Points are clipped on to each child's Buzz card (towards their individual prize) and then 3 per P-3 and 4 - 7 are drawn out on assembly for their ice block prize at the Buzz On In Café.

You will see the new 4 *B's* charts in all the classrooms. The children are involved in weekly lessons around our *Brassall Be Matrix* and our expectations.

All in all it looks like a great year and it is going to be very exciting. Please talk with your children around our 4 *Brassall B's* and encourage and praise them about earning the Pollen Points.

Rayne Penny, Deputy Principal

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 6/7 Eating Area (under A Block). Toast and cereal is available between 8 to 8:30am. Thank you to all parents, teachers and support staff who assist with this excellent program, and to the YMCA for arranging food donations.

If you have any spare time to help prepare and serve breakfast between 7:40 and 8:30am each Wednesday and Friday, it would be much appreciated. ALL WELCOME to volunteer, prepare and serve or enjoy breakfast with the children.

Sarah Comino, Deputy Principal

School News

Scholastic Book Club News

Order 1 closes 12 February.

When ordering Bookclub, please put the **correct amount** of money or cheque, and the order form in an envelope to hand in at the office.

Due to a change in procedure, receipts will be issued later. If paying by credit card on line or phone, please fill in the Payment Receipt Number form attached to the order form and hand in with the order. Please contact Nikki Browning in the library with any queries.

From the P and C

Special Projects Club

We are a group of parents who fundraise for special things we would like to see our school and our children have access to. We are part of the P&C but some of us can't always attend the meetings so we choose to be involved in this way, as most of what we do can happen whilst the children are at school.

We meet fortnightly at McDonalds at Brassall on a Monday morning for coffee at 9am for about an hour. Our next get together will be Monday 17th February and we would love to see some of you there. We will be deciding on what we should purchase for the Mothers' Day stall this day, so come and get an early look in on what's available.

Call us crazy, but we've committed to running a school fete this year on Saturday 16th August. The school hasn't had a school fete for many years and we are committed to making this one to remember. We would love everyone's input and if you can give us a hand in any way, large or small, we would certainly appreciate it.

For those of you with children in Years 6 & 7, we are in the process of working with the Year Level Co-ordinators to design a Seniors Shirt. More information will be with you in the coming week on this but if you need a new school shirt for your child and they are in these grades - please hold off and check out the Seniors Shirts.

If you need more details on any of our projects please contact Jo on 0418 115 265

Community Billboard

Ipswich Knights Sign-On - 9 February (12noon to 4pm) and 17 February (5:30pm to 8pm) - Clubhouse, Brisbane Road, Bundamba. www.ipswichknights.org.au

North Ipswich Scout Group Sign-On - 8 February (10am to 2pm) - Smith Street, North Ipswich. www.scoutsqld.com.au

Karalee Tornadoes JRLFC Sign-On - 8 & 9 February (10am to 2pm) - Blue Gum Reserve, Sth Queensborough Pde, Karalee. Enquiries Peter McKewen 0432 360 998 or Amy Huckel 0421 398 511 or info@karaleetornadoes.com.au

Blackstone United Welsh Dragons Sign-On - 8 February (9am to 12noon) - Soccer ground at 6 Thomas Street, Blackstone. Jeremy Bruce 0412 292 740; Email - jeremyb@mcna.com.au www.blackstonesc.org