Key School Planning Priorities for 2014

All Queensland state schools are required to implement processes to support continuous improvement and enhanced accountability through annual planning and reporting cycles. The annual planning process comprises the school self-assessment and the development of the annual implementation plan, including the financial statement. During 2014, our main focus as a professional learning community is improving student outcomes through effective and inclusive pedagogy which reflects Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE) and Brassall’s Vision and Philosophy through the following Core and School Priorities:

Core Priority: Reading and Writing

Strategy: Conduct professional development for staff relevant to key ‘Literacy’ component of the school’s Pedagogical Framework.

Actions: Literacy Coach to work with class teachers to strengthen a deep pedagogical knowledge of the teaching of Reading and Reading Comprehension.

Strategy: Conduct professional development for staff relevant to key ‘Literacy’ component of the school’s Pedagogical Framework.

Actions: Embed whole school practices in the teaching of Writing to improve student achievement rates through ‘Language for Learning’ (L4L) teaching process. Literacy Coach to work closely with the Language Perspectives Team through the Indigenous Schooling Support Unit.

Strategy: Implement targeted intervention programs that focus on students reaching National Minimum Standards for Writing and moving into the Upper Two Bands for Reading (NAPLAN 2014).

Actions: Enact Brassall’s 2014 NAPLAN Strategy. Intervention and extension program’s delivered by STLah, HOC and NAPLAN Teacher Aides exclusively working with Years 3, 5 and 7. Data to be reviewed every 5 weeks with teachers focussed on Reading and Writing.

Core Priority: Numeracy

Strategy: Conduct professional development for staff relevant to key ‘Numeracy’ component of the school’s Pedagogical Framework.

Actions: Introduce and implement ‘Rolem’ numeracy program for Prep to Year 2 teachers and students.

Strategy: Implement targeted extension programs that focus on students moving into the Upper Two Bands for Numeracy (NAPLAN 2014), specifically focussing on Year 5 students.

Actions: Engage with Regional programs including Metropolitan U2B online project and Solid Pathways (ASTI) students project.

Core Priority: Australian Curriculum

Strategy: Ensure all National Curriculum requirements are implemented.

Actions: Embed ‘Incursion’ day as part of National Curriculum requirements across Prep to Year 7.

Core Priority: Teaching Practice

Strategy: Conduct professional development for staff relevant to key ‘Teaching’ component of the school’s Pedagogical Framework.

Actions: Literacy Coach to engage with ‘Explicit Instruction’ (Archer & Hughes) teaching model. Deliver a professional development program that will enhance teacher knowledge and expertise through workshops, lesson observations, and feedback.

Core Priority: Closing the Gap between attendance and outcomes for Indigenous students

Strategy: Sustain ‘Next Step Focus Schools’ program strategies.

Actions: Support Teachers and Indigenous Education Worker (IEW) to complete Personalised Learning Plan Process for all Indigenous students at Brassall SS.

School Priority: Community Confidence

Strategy: Create a school climate hospitable to effective teaching and learning.

Actions: Implement School-wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) processes to ensure consistent whole school practices.

Strategy: Manage people, data and processes to foster school improvement.

Actions: Enact and progress all actions and strategies of the school’s 2014 Great Results Guarantee, Reporting to parent community through multiple forums of school’s progress to be a priority.

School Priority: Governance & Accountability

Strategy: Ensure Financial and Operational compliance against EQ policy and requirements.

Actions: Enact all recommendations of ‘School Audit Report’ from 2013. These key priorities allow us to ensure we are providing the best possible learning environment, the main thing at Brassall State School, ensuring every day, every student is learning and achieving within a safe, supportive, inclusive and disciplined learning environment.

New Staff Welcome

Our full complement of staffing for 2014 is now finalised. I would like to welcome Mrs Wendy Jorgensen to our Brassall State School Community, who will supporting students with disabilities across our school in a full time capacity.

Internal Car Parks - Parent Notice!

Our school precinct is a very busy area before and after school. Access within the two Internal Car Parks is for staff, parents of students with disabilities and private suppliers and contractors only - it is not a general ‘pick-up’ and ‘drop-off’ area! Please only park in the disabled car parks if you have the authority to do so by displaying a Blue or Red parking disability permit. Please help us keep your children safe!

February Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following students who were presented with a Student of the Month certificates on assembly last Friday -

Prep
Rory O’Sullivan, Santiago Blanco, Melia Golles, Gisela Auvaia, Sophie Probert

Year 1
Kenneth Wallace, Annabelle Cleeandal, Nydean Carr, Jazlyn Al-Kong, Blanca Myles, Sophie Goodwin

Year 2
David Blanco, Alerah Honeysett, Jedd Anderson, Jayde Wakefield, Summer Makalima

Year 3
Lauren Greensill, Mio Golles, Alyssa Powell, Alyssa Wallace, Samantha Beeston-Walishe (3/4/5W)

Year 4
Jaida Tratt, Jenna Morgan, Bryonee Thompson, Edwina Saunders

Year 5
Kate Morgan, Alex Blassingame, Hayley Robinson, Jordan Lake, Ben Williams (5/6/7Y)

Year 6
Tyson Atuau, Alexah Johnson, Ethan Lennox

Year 7
Lachlan Williamson, Janey Niemeyer, Tijana Burgh-Brigg

Greg Brand, Principal
From the Deputies’ Desks

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)
Focus for Week 7: Be Responsible - Wear the school uniform and a sunsafe hat.
Focus for Week 8: Be Responsible - Hand personal electronic devices to the office and Be Respectful in the playground and win or lose fairly.

Brassall State School’s Anti Bullying Policy
It is very important that all members of the Brassall State School Community have the same understanding of our definition of what Bullying is.

“Bullying is when someone (or a group of people) with more power than you repeatedly and intentionally uses negative words and/or actions against you, which causes you distress and risks your wellbeing.”

At Brassall State School our community values require us to hold those who might bully others to be accountable for their actions so that they might learn more appropriate ways of relating to others, and to provide real support for those who have been affected.

Types of Bullying:
• Physical – eg – kicking, punching, pushing, shoving, spitting, fighting, damaging or destroying other people’s property, jostling, pinching, touching, physical intimidation.
• Verbal – eg – offensive or abusive comments, sarcasm, crude jokes and comments, ridiculing appearance, actions or beliefs, teasing and putting others down, verbal intimidation.
• Electronic – eg – obscene and threatening phone calls, texting and emails, or internet posting about people.
• Social – eg – exclusion, spreading rumours, gossip, racial or sexual comments, graffiti, notes about others.
• Emotional – eg – victimisation, instilling fear in others, extortion, forcing other students to do their work.

Bullying Is Not:
• Mutual arguments and disagreements
• Single episodes of social rejection or dislike
• Single episode acts of nastiness or spite
• Random acts of aggression or intimidation.

Pollen Points
I hope your children have been coming home and talking about the pollen points. It is really great to see the amount of our students receiving these positive points. Congratulations!

Rayne Penny, Deputy Principal

Interschool Sport
This season for Interschool Sport, we will be offering Soccer and Rugby League, and Netball. Children who have been accepted onto a Soccer or Rugby League team, have received notification home in the form of a letter, Medical Form, and Code of Conduct. Please complete the relevant forms and return them to school with payment by 13 March 2014. Due to work being done to the Netball Courts, there is a shortened season for Netball. There is also a possibility that in Term 2, one Friday of Netball could be compromised due to Netball State Championships. Children who have been accepted onto a Netball team will receive notification in the coming weeks due to the shortened season.

Interschool Sporting Dates:
Soccer, Rugby League: 14, 21, 28 March; 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 May; 6, 13, 20 June.
Netball: 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 May; 6, 13, 20 June.

Interschool Sport Costs are $65 for Soccer and Rugby League, and $45 for the shortened Netball season.

Conditions of Participation:
As stated in the Brassall State School Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students, your child’s participation in Interschool Sport is dependent on their efforts at following the Brassall B’s. Children who have repeated minor or major incidents may not be permitted to attend. Children working on an Individual Behaviour Support Plan may not be permitted to attend (eg: those returning from suspension or requiring regular monitoring). Children who do make a team may be withdrawn from that team by a member of Admin or a team coach, if their behaviour does not reflect the Brassall B’s.

Cross Country
This year, we will be holding a combined Prep to Year 7 Cross Country on Friday 28 March. The day will commence for children at 8:40am with the first races commencing at approximately 9:00am. Children are permitted to wear house colours (closed in shoes, shorts, sunsafe shirt - no singlets), and must bring water and a sunsafe hat.

The following times are a guideline only - please allow plenty of time if you wish to see your child race because times will be flexible on the day:
9:00am: Prep, Age 12 years, Age 13 years
9:30am: Years 1, 2 & 3
10:40-11:10: First Break
11:15am: Age 9 years
11:40am: Age 10 years
12:00pm: Age 11 years
12:40-1:25pm: Second Break
1:25pm: Clean up and Presentations

The PASG Group will be holding a Sausage Sizzle during the day, and the Buzz on in Café will be open for business.

All welcome to come along and watch your child run! Bring along chairs, water and hats - shade is limited!

Keep in mind that parking around the school is limited, and the listed times are a guideline only.

Sarah Comino, Deputy Principal

Performing Arts News
The school choirs are up and running for 2014. If your child has signed up for the Singing or Choral Speaking choir please ensure they have an A4 display book to take to their weekly lessons. Auditions for the school musical “Seussical Jr” took place recently with students receiving their roles. School musical rehearsals are held every Monday in the music room. The production will be a matinee and night performance in the school hall on Thursday October 23. Please discuss these commitments with your child. We are looking forward to a great year with Performing Arts at Brassall!!

Natasha Raddile & Paula Rohl

Amart
If you shop at Amart All-Sports, please mention our school name when you buy a product. This gives us free credits to buy sports equipment for our school. The rewards amount for September to December quarter was $548.04....the largest amount yet. Thank you for your support.

Congratulations to Brodie and Casey Kemp who have qualified for the Ipswich Representative U12 Netball team to play a number of carnivals leading up to the State Age Championships. We wish these girls luck and know they will do their best.

Ashleigh Woods, PE Teacher

ADF Lunchtime activities at the Library
There are various activities for ADF Children and their friends at second break in the library. Craft Club operates every Wednesday. Colouring in, games and puzzles are offered on all other days. Computer Lab time is offered up to 3 times per week per student. Please see Mrs Downes regarding sign on for computers.

Mrs Dawes & Mrs Downes

Community Billboard

FREE AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
Basketball and Softball for children in Years 1 - 7
THURSDAYS - 3 to 4PM - TERM 1

Finishing time is 4:00pm and supervision ends PROMPTLY at that time. PLACES ARE LIMITED TO 25 PER SESSION, allocated on a first in basis, running until Thursday 27 March. Children are provided with afternoon tea. Please fill in the form below and return to Mrs Pickwell ASAP.

My child/ren

Signed
Parent / Caregiver

Come and Try Midgy Vigoro. All welcome. Friday 14th March @ 5:30pm - Ipswich Vigoro Grounds, Joyce Street, East Ipswich. For further information, phone Carol Goessler 0417071307.

Our Vision: An Excellent School Where Students Achieve Their Potential