1 August 2013

School Opinion Survey
Each year Education Queensland undertakes a survey in all State Schools. The information gathered from students, staff and a sample of parents/caregivers is used to help schools further understand how to better meet the needs of their community. This year the survey will be administered to students in Year 5 & 6, and a small number in Year 4 online. Parents/caregivers have the option of completing the survey in paper form or online. If you are included in the randomly generated sample you will receive a blue survey form and a blue envelope this week. Your completion of the survey by Friday 9 August would be greatly appreciated.

Spell-a-thon
Congratulations to the many students who participated in the spell-a-thon last term. This special activity has raised over $5600 for reading materials that will be used by students across all classes. We had four students who individually raised over $100 each, and Prep T was the class that raised the most - $495.50. The students in Prep T will enjoy a pizza party to celebrate this achievement. Thanks to the parents, friends and family who supported our great spellers and this important fundraiser. Thanks also to Mrs Blakey who coordinated the spell-a-thon.

Sports Carnival
I big thanks to all involved in Tuesday’s Athletics Carnival. As with last year we managed to complete competition before the rain. The support of the many parents and friends who attended is greatly appreciated. Thanks also to a dedicated staff, lead by Mrs Emma Hughes, and the many volunteers who assisted on the day. Age champions will be awarded on assembly in the coming weeks.

Chaplaincy Fundraiser
The Local Chaplaincy Committee is selling tickets to a special chaplaincy dinner on the evening of Monday 26th August. This has the potential to be a significant fundraiser for our program. Tickets are $45 and further information can be obtained from our chaplain or the school.

Year 5&6 Mapleton Camp
Our Year 5 and 6 students are currently on camp at Mapleton participating in activities including abseiling, canoeing and archery. This joint camp is the first of a range of school activities that will treat the students as our 2014 “seniors”. Next year, both the Year 6 and 7 students will complete their primary school education at Bald Hills State School and move to secondary schools together.

David Turner,
Principal
From the DP

Congratulations to all of our students who participated in the Year 4–7 Sports Day this week. It was great to see the active engagement of our students. Whether competing in an event or cheering on the competitors, all students showed great enthusiasm, house spirit and support for their peers.

Last week the Bramble Bay Music Camp also saw our students actively involved in intensive concert band, string ensemble or choral activities. Again our students showed great enthusiasm and support for their peers.

Involvement in these types of extra-curricular activities is important for the development of our students. A growing number of studies continue to document both the academic and social benefits of students engaging in a well-rounded education. For example, studies in the arts document the habits of mind, social competencies and personal dispositions inherent to arts learning that assist students to master other areas, such as maths, reading and history. Equally, students who participate in sporting teams not only learn teamwork, self-discipline, leadership skills, but research shows that students who play organised sports have a higher sense of self-worth and better social skills.

So what is the link and why do students benefit from participating in extra-curricular activities? The key concept at work here is “transfer”. Students transfer the skills, competencies and dispositions to assist their learning in another area. That is, learning in one context assists and supports learning in a different context.

So encourage your child to join a sporting team, to play an instrument, or perhaps sing in the choir. This provides an opportunity for them to develop new skills and dispositions which will benefit them not only with their classroom learning but also later in life. In short, a well-rounded education is good for our kids.

Libby Bond

Positive Behaviour Support Program

This week students have been learning about how to be Safe—walk when moving around the school.

Safety Sam says:

BE SAFE:

1) Walk on all hard surfaces - concrete and paved areas.
2) Walk in a sensible and considerate way.
3) Running allowed on playing surfaces only - tennis court, basketball court, junior oval and senior oval.
4) Play safely in the playground. No running or chasing around the playground equipment.

Forestry News

Schools Tree Day was celebrated last Wednesday. Students planted trees during Lunchtime Forestry Club. All the plants planted are local native species. These included Macaranga, Plectranthus, Black Beans and Qld Tulipwood. These plants were planted in a sloping area so as to stabilise the bank. The students did well keeping their balance!! Twelve students including some wonderful helpers attended.

Louise Brennan, Prep TA

Music News

Bramble Bay Music Festival

What a HUGE week. Thank you to everyone for your support with getting children to different venues on Monday & of course allowing them to participate. Thanks also must go to those people working on the door, raffle & food counters. Your help is appreciated.

I’m sure those of you who attended the concert Thursday evening must admit it was extremely good! I’m sure the children got a buzz from performing en masse - 90 Strings, 104 Concert Band & approximately 200 Choir - they sounded great!

The money raised on the door & the raffle goes to fund this event next year, whilst the money from the food goes to P&C & the tea/coffee money goes to Music.

Now we start looking at 2014! Thank you once again.

String Ensemble

There will be NO String Ensemble before school on Friday - August 2 - as the Yrs 5 & 6 children are on camp. Lessons will be as usual.

Einbumpin Festival

Last Sunday a number of students from Bald Hills, Brighton, Bracken Ridge & St Benedict’s combined to perform some of the choral pieces from BBSMF at the Einbumpin Festival (Sandgate). Considering they were performing with a a CD & not a live piano, they did very well.

Thank you to everyone who gave up their Sunday afternoon. Hope you enjoyed your time at Einbumpin.

Congratulations

Congratulations go to Lily J who has been cast as the Artful Dodger in Performance Power’s up-coming production of Oliver.

Marion Wood, Music Teacher
**Memorial Hall**
A phone call has been received from the Memorial Hall Management Committee and parents are reminded that parking in this area is not permitted.

**Camp Australia**
This week I would like to introduce the first week of Camp Australia Stars of the Week. Each week the staff will endeavour to identify children who have notably contributed to the centre. This week’s stars are: Sophie D, Amelia S, Sienna C and Christopher B. The staff are grateful for your help and keep up the great work!!!

**Community News**
Enrolment For 2014
Bracken Ridge State High School
Barfoot Street, Bracken Ridge
Parents wishing to enrol their son/daughter at Bracken Ridge SHS are encouraged to return their enrolment form as soon as possible if you have not already done so. The principal is conducting enrolment interviews for our 2014 Year 8 students and classes are filling quickly. An Enrolment interview will be arranged with you by our office staff once an Enrolment Application Form has been submitted.

Enrolment Application Packs have been made available to all year 7 students in our local primary schools and can also be obtained directly from our school office. Drop in or call us on 3869 7222 for more information.

We look forward to working with your son or daughter next year.

Mr Jeff Hennessy, Principal