27 January 2017

Dear Parents

It has been a truly wonderful start to the school year at Bald Hills State School and welcome to our new students, parents and staff! It has been great chatting with the children and listening to many of the stories of what they got up to over the holidays.

One of my highlights for the break was our visit to Innisfail to catch up with my son. We had the chance to christen our new tinny that we went halves in. Joe and his new wife are very keen fisherman (suits me), so we ventured out to Mourilyan Harbour for a day. We even caught a few and the honours for the best fish went to my wife.

During the past two weeks I spent time with staff reviewing school priorities to reaffirm our key focus areas for instruction that have been identified in the School Plan.

This has provided valuable information to support the continued development of our Annual Improvement Plan within the Curiosity and Powerful Learning framework. This is aligned to our regionally identified priorities for every school in 2017.

These priorities are as follows:
- Reading
- Number
- Writing
- Implementation of Australian Curriculum
- School Culture - Shared Practice

To support these priorities we will again receive additional funding through “Investing in Our Schools.”

P&C Association
Thank you to members of the P&C Association, Tuckshop and Chaplaincy who coordinated the Tears and Tissues morning on Monday. I am very pleased in the way the school has settled.

Current Enrolment
We currently have 617 students enrolled at Bald Hills State School across Prep—Year 6. This includes 95 Prep students.

Facilities
Over Christmas we had our SEP (Rainbow Room) and Learning Support Rooms refurbished. These included a new kitchen, painting, new fittings, new furniture, new flooring and new windows. What a difference!!

Staffing
A warm welcome to all new and returning staff to Bald Hills State School this year. These include:
- Libby Bond (Deputy Principal)
- Lyndal Murray (Head of Special Education)
- Justine Wellman (Teacher - Prep)
- Brittney Van Leeuwen (Teacher 1/2)
- Janice Eccles (Teacher 3/4)
- Kerrie Fraser (Teacher – SEP)
Reminders

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of a few school procedures that ensure the safety of our students.

1. If you are visiting the school outside of drop-off or pickup times please ensure you sign in at the office and wear the visitor’s badge.

2. If you have a concern regarding a student that is not yours, do not engage with this student, but either talk to the class teacher or make an appointment with the office.

3. At pick up time, please remain in a waiting area that is sufficiently away from the classroom so not to cause distraction.

4. Organise meetings with teachers out of class time.

5. School Starting Time: School starts at 8.45am for all students. Ensure that students are at school by 8.45am, as this allows them to settle and be organised by the teacher for the day ahead. Students are welcome at Bald Hills State School at or after 8.15am. We are delighted that our young people are keen to be at school early, however students on the school premises prior to 8.15am who are not enrolled in the Outside Hours School Care (OHSC) program, present a safety risk. Students are to remain seated under A Block until the 8.25 bell sounds at which time students may move into the quad. The 8.40 bell signals that classrooms are open and students can move to their class. No students are permitted on any playground equipment prior to school beginning. Such students may also interrupt teaching staff preparing for the day ahead. I seek the full co-operation of our parent body in ensuring the welfare of our students.

6. Pickup Zone: At Bald Hills State School, all parents, students and teachers have a common goal—to make sure that students can travel to and from school in the safest possible way. To ensure that drop off and pick up times at Bald Hills State School are as orderly and stress free as possible please ensure the correct use of the 2 minute zone on Ana Street is observed. Parents, for the safety of our young people and the smooth operation of our Pick Up Zone, please remember this is a no parking area. Please do not park in the no standing zones outside the school gates or areas indicated by the yellow lines and please observe the 40km speed limit in the school zone.

7. Disabled Parking: Please be aware that we currently have parents who require the use of the Disabled Parking Bays in the parent carpark. It would be appreciated if these bays are not used by any parents unless they have a disabled parking identification label.

Again, thank you to everyone for the warm welcoming given to new staff. Also, just letting you know how very impressed I was Monday with how smart the students looked in their uniforms. Thanks for your support. Many teachers also asked me to pass on their thanks for efforts made by parents to get all the school booklist requirements. Again welcome back.

Cheers
Glen Robertson, Principal

From the Deputy

Welcome to Term 1
Thank you to everyone for the wonderful warm welcome. It is great to be back and it is lovely to see how much students have grown and matured while I have been away from the Bald Hills Community.

While a few things have changed (the painted buildings, SEP upgrade and the amazing ANZAC Memorial garden), the learning focus of the school is still focused on the things that we know make a difference to student learning outcomes—areas such as reading, writing and numeracy.

Reading - Giving children a head start in life
I can’t emphasise enough the importance of reading in particular, in giving a child a head start in life. One of my roles here at Bald Hills is to support our reading programs across the school and as you would have read in Mr Robertson’s messages, reading remains in 2017 the school’s first priority. As always, teachers will focus on explicitly teaching the skills of reading and on giving students a range of opportunities to practise these skills.

Parents also have a big role to play in supporting their child to read. However, when both the school and parents work together on developing a child’s reading skills the outcomes for the child increase further.

A recent study by Melbourne University explored the connections between parents reading to their young children and their child later reading and other cognitive skills. Amongst the results the study found that:
- reading to a child 3 – 5 days per week has the same effect on the child’s reading skills at age 4 – 5 as being 6 months older
- reading to a child 6 – 7 days per week has the same effect as being almost 12 months older

The study also found that these effects were not related to a child’s background or home environment. Overall the study found that parental reading to children increases a child’s reading and other cognitive skills at least up to the age of 10 - 11 years and that the benefits of this continue for life.

Over the next few weeks I will put some tips about how parents can support reading at home in the newsletter. Your child’s teacher can also help you with ideas and suggestions if you are needing further support with reading at home with your child.

Remember, it is important to read with your child regularly at home, and when school and parents work in partnership together the rewards for our children are even greater.

Regards
Libby Bond – Deputy Principal

Classroom News

Music Notes

Music Camp 2017
Reminder: Please ensure that you have completed the Medical Forms. Final payment is due Monday 30 January. Rehearsals will not start until Week 4, after the Music Camp.

Marion Wood—Music Teacher
Chappy News

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE and a very warm welcome to our new students and families joining us this year! This is my fourth year as Chaplain at BHSS and you can find me in the Chappy Space on the bottom level of B Block. The Chaplaincy Service is available to all students, staff and families and is open each week ....

MON – WED & every 2ND THURS.
BHSS has been a significant place for me over many years - having been here as a teacher, parent and also a past student so I am really excited to be back again for 2017!

SU QLD employs over 800 Chaplains in State High and Primary Schools in QLD. We are here to provide spiritual, social and emotional support to school communities.

In my role as chaplain this year I am honoured and looking forward to supporting students, families and staff members whenever needs arise.

While the government does assist with some funding towards our Chaplaincy Program many volunteers and generous donors greatly contribute towards continuing this vital service to our school community.

There are many wonderful opportunities for involvement from baking cookies to supporting a student within a mentoring program. If you are able to offer some assistance or would like to find out more we would love to hear from you!

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS - Donations of second hand uniforms are greatly appreciated to assist us when uniform needs arise. A Purple uniform bin is located outside chappy room.

BREAKFAST CLUB – will begin Tuesday 14 February and is held each Tuesday morning at 8.00 am outside the tuckshop. This is available for all students free of charge. Any donations of vegemite or honey would be great.

CRAFT ITEMS/BOARD GAMES – Donations of craft items, board games or play kits that can be used with small groups are always welcome too! Please don’t hesitate to come and have a chat or you can email me on kcon0@eq.edu.au

Looking forward to a great year!

Chappy Kylie 🌱

P & C News

Welcome back to new and existing parents. With the beginning of a new school year also comes with a new executive team. Nomination forms and renewal of memberships will be available in the tuckshop as of Mon 30 January.

All Executive positions are now vacant:
- President
- Vice president
- Treasurer
- Vice treasurer
- Secretary
- Vice secretary

If you have ever thought about becoming part of the P&C, please nominate yourself or someone that you feel would be great on the team of executives. I will be able to answer any of your questions.

The P&C are a great asset to the Bald Hills School. We do alot of fundraising for extra resources for the school eg: air conditioning all classrooms and our goal for last year, $15000 towards new computer labs.

With our wonderful community spirit and volunteers, being on the P&C is a rewarding experience for parents, teachers and students.

We look forward to seeing and welcoming new and existing parents at our AGM meeting on the Wednesday 15 February at 7.00pm in the school library.

Sharon Cox - P&C president

Tuckshop News

TUCKSHOP IS OPEN EVERYDAY
8.15am-1.30pm.

If there are any parents able to volunteer some of their time, then please come and see us. 1st lunch is at 10.50am 2nd lunch 12.50pm.

The full menu is available for both breaks including iceblocks. Preps must order all of their lunch on a bag.

Monday 30 January - Mel M
Tuesday 31 January - Treena F
Wednesday 1 February - Tanya Mc.
Sharon C
Thursday 2 February - Peta B. Donna V.
Joy-Bells
Friday 3 February - Leanne H. Mel B.
Clare E

Uniform Shop

Hours of Operation
Wednesday - 8.00 am - 10.00 am
Friday—2.30 pm - 3.30 pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 February</td>
<td>School Banking Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Kickstart – Band Beginners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 February - Wednesday 8 February</td>
<td>Geebung SS Music String Kickstart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 February</td>
<td>Parent Information Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7 February</td>
<td>BHSS Music Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10 February</td>
<td>Bramble Bay District Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 10 February</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15 February</td>
<td>7.00pm - Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22 February</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 28 February</td>
<td>Aspley SHS Arts Day – Year 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important Dates

Community News

Kedron Wavell Services Hockey Club
2017 KW Learn Hockey Program
For primary school students who have never played hockey.
Cost: $50 / player
When: Saturdays (11, 18, 25 February 2017)
Time: 8.30 am - 10.00 am
Where: Grass Field, Burringbar Park, Kittyhawk Drive, Chermside (Behind Westfield Chermside
What to bring: Drink bottle, Hat, Sunscreen.
What you get:
- Equipment pack - Hockey Stick, Hockey bag, Shin pads & hockey ball
- Coaching from experienced coaches
- Learn how to play hockey, have fun and make friends
- Fee relief on 2017 season fees if you sign on with Kedron Wavell team

For more information please email learnhockey@gmail.com

ALL DOCUMENTS/FORMS REFERRED TO IN THIS NEWSLETTER CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM http://www.bgddhhs.eq.edu.au.

You will need to follow this path: SUPPORT AND RESOURCES/FORMS AND DOCUMENTS/DOCUMENTS.