5 February 2014

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Welcome to Birkdale: Ms Jayne Barnett

To all students/parents/carers, I would like to introduce myself. I am the new Deputy for Birkdale State School, replacing Miss Marion Parr-Smith. I must commend Miss Parr-Smith on her enormous contribution to the school, and wish her all the best in the future. I would like to thank everyone for their kind words and welcoming smiles. I am very happy to have been appointed as the permanent Deputy Principal of Birkdale State School. I have recently been Deputy Principal of Kimberley Park State School and Thornlands State School.

I look forward to meeting more of you and working with so many great students. I have been very impressed with the level of commitment and dedication I’ve seen being demonstrated by the students and staff at BSS.

GETTING A CLASSROOM UP AND RUNNING

Have you ever considered what it takes to get a classroom running smoothly and efficiently? Much of it comes down to the prioritising and teaching of rules, expected behaviours, procedures and routines in the first weeks of school.

At Birkdale State School our school rules are:
• Be Respectful
• Be Responsible
• Be Safe

These 3 rules are school-wide rules therefore every classroom has the same rules.

Within each classroom teachers teach specific behaviour expected in relation to these rules e.g. if I am Being Respectful in my classroom I use manners such as please and thank you and I raise my hand to speak. To Be Responsible I need to have my books and pencils organised and ready for my lessons and I participate. I push my chair in to Be Safe and to Be Respectful. I wear a hat for outdoor activities to Be Safe.

In the first couple of weeks of each school year, teachers also intensively teach routines and classroom procedures such as group work structure, transitioning from one activity to the next and the handing out or packing away of lesson resources.

If you have the privilege to see your child’s teacher in action this week, you may notice a variety of specific strategies, language and visual cues such as posters or hand-signals being used or you may see some activities being repeated or hear expectations being restated frequently. While teachers are still addressing the curriculum, it actually takes a back-seat, at times, in this early phase of the school year as routines, procedures and expectations are taught and reinforced. Time spent now on teaching these expected behaviours and routines and procedures of a smoothly running classroom will mean more time on task and more teaching and learning time as the year progresses.

If you have any questions about the strategies being used or the routines and procedures of your child’s classroom, please contact your child’s teacher.

For more information on behaviour expectations at Birkdale State School please refer to the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan on the school website.
Music Notes...

Auditions
All auditions for Junior Choir, Senior Choir, the Choral Development Program and Performance Group are now completed. Rehearsals for these will begin next week, Week 3. Please return your paperwork and make payments promptly. Some children have been placed on a waiting list for positions into the choirs.

If you were not successful in making it into a choir, don’t be too disappointed as there are two new groups you can be a member of. They are for any interested students with a love of singing, who would like to be a part of a singing ensemble which is not competitive but for enjoyment only. No costs or commitments are required. They will be led by Mrs Leisa Henderson (Music and Prep Teacher) in the HALL. These groups will commence next week 11 and 12 February.

Both groups run in the second lunch hour as follows:
- **Super Singers (Yr 3 - Yr 7): Tuesday**
- **Mini Singers (Prep – Yr 2): Wednesday**

Bumblebee Choir Auditions
A choir for Preps – Year 1 will be formed later in the term. Auditions will be held in Week 6. This will allow our littlies a great, settled start for the year.

**INFINITY ROCK BAND**

Can you Rock? AUDITIONS ARE NEXT WEEK. If you play electric guitar, bass guitar, or drums and would like to audition, please prepare one solo piece that you can perform competently. Instrumental auditions will be on MONDAY AT BIG LUNCH. If you wish to audition to be a singer in the rock band please come on THURSDAY AT BIG LUNCH. (Singers must also prepare a solo. You may sing to an original track or a backing track (preferred). You should know the lyrics from memory.)

Recorders
If you are in Year 4 – 7 you must have a Music Book (with staff lines) and a recorder for your music lessons. I have a small number of Yamaha recorders available for sale from the music room. Please send $10 CASH ONLY, in a NAMED envelope.

Guitar and Ukulele Lessons
These group lessons have now commenced for the term. Lessons are held after school, on various days, by experienced musicians. If you are interested in having your child join a group, please see Mrs Deagon. Guitar is available for students from Yrs 3 – 7. Ukulele is available from Yr 1 upwards.

Choral Development Program Signing
65 students from Years 4 - 7 have been invited into the new program for this year. An official signing of the CDP Agreement Form will be held at the Music room this Friday 7 February. If you would like your note personally signed by Mr Logan, we would love to see you there from 3:00pm – 3:30pm.

Strings Timetable
All string students have received a copy of this term’s timetable. It has been decided to trial the rotating timetable this term so that students are not always missing the same class work. It is imperative that students are familiar with the process and remember their times each week so that the full string lesson can be completed.

**PARENT TEACHER MEETING**
Year 6/7 ABCD classes
Tuesday 11 February (next week)
3.10pm in the Library

**BOOK CLUB**
Please hand in your order forms at the Library by 12 February (next week).

**SCHOOL ABSENCES**
We would appreciate when you phone to advise of your child’s absence, that you please press Option 2 to leave your child’s name, reason for absence and the date. This can be phoned through at any time of the day, although before 9am would be preferable.

**OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE**
To make a booking for the Birkdale Outside School Hours Care operated by PCYC please call Cayla on 0407913040.

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**STUDENT PAYMENTS**

**Cash Window:** Tuesday and Thursday 8am to 9am.

**INTERNET BANKING**
School’s Bank A/c Name BIRKDALE STATE SCHOOL
BSB Number 064138
Account Number 00090369
Reference Code Name and Class, if fits
Activity Ref Code On top of excursion note
Code for Voluntary Contribution is VOL. Cost is $80

We have Credit Card/EFTPOS. You can phone on 3286 0710 and give your information for a credit card payment.

Please remember to put your child’s name and class as reference along with the Activity Reference Code.
STUDENT MEDICATION
If your student requires medication during school hours at any time, you need to complete paperwork to enable us to administer medication within the legal boundaries set for us. Students currently receiving medication on a weekly basis, and those who have a medical alert, need to contact the office to update this information for 2014. For further information please contact the Administration Office.

Allstars Netball Club
Registration for junior netball is open NOW! We are a locally based, fun and friendly junior netball club. Register online @ www.redlandsnetball.com.au and choose Allstars Netball Club. Join us online at www.allstarsnetball.com or Facebook or email: allstars.netball@hotmail.com.au or ph: 0411 048 248

SPORT NEWS
District Swimming: Fourteen swimmers have been selected to represent Birkdale at the Redland District swimming carnival which is being held at Cleveland next Monday. Students have been notified of their selection in this team and it is essential that they return forms and the levy by the end of this week.

Girls in Sport Program: After an information session last Thursday, fifty-four girls were invited into our girls in sport program. A second round of invites has been sent home this week after a number of girls chose not to participate in the program.

Class swimming lessons: Swimming lessons for students in Years 1-7 commenced this week. All students have been handed permission notes and it is essential that these notes are returned before your child’s first lesson. It is important that students are aware of their PE day and come prepared with all of the items required to swim. Sun safe shirts and swim caps are essential items and it is important that all items have the child’s name marked clearly for easy identification. Parent help is required for lessons with students in Years 1-4 and it would be greatly appreciated if you could notify the child’s class teacher if you are able to help with this important program. If you have some spare time and are able to help with other classes, please see Mr Menzies or Mrs Mill.

Cross Country Training: Permission notes were sent home last Friday and training will commence this week on Thursday morning. All runners must be on Agnes Street oval at 7:50am to begin each session. More information is given on the permission notes.

Before and After School Programs: This term, AFL Qld and the Brisbane Roar will be conducting their Auskick and soccer programs. Information about the AFL program has been sent home this week and the soccer pamphlets will be handed out next week. Registration for these programs can be completed online. Refer: Alan Menzies

NAB AFL Auskick is running at your school now
Where: Birkdale State School Oval
When: First session is on Monday 13th February 2014
Time: 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm
Length of program: 8 weeks*
Cost: $65
When you participate in Auskick you also receive your very own football, backpack with a hat, drink bottle, pump plus heaps more!
Sign up online @ aflauskick.com.au before 23rd Feb to receive 4 FREE Brisbane Lions Tickets
or call 3394 2198