6 August 2014

**BIRKDALE STARS**
This week’s Birkdale Stars are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lilly</td>
<td>Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nahalia</td>
<td>Yr 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dylan</td>
<td>Yr 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kirandeep</td>
<td>Yr 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tianna</td>
<td>Yr 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sara</td>
<td>Yr 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophie</td>
<td>Yr 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca</td>
<td>Yr 7</td>
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Congratulations!

**Principal’s Message**

Parent Teacher Interview Evening last Thursday was a positive experience and I thank parents and staff for taking advantage of this evening to discuss students’ progress and goals and strengthening the partnership triangle that is student, parent and teacher.

**Attendance at school:** Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. In week one of term 3 we had at least 100 days of school. If your child has had more than 15 days absent on their Semester One Report Card then their absences will be negatively impacting their learning. Check out the new Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV.

[http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland](http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland)

Congratulations to our musical groups who performed at the recent Redlands Eisteddfod. Great results!

All the best of luck to our 40 athletes who are at the District Track and Field carnival this Thursday and Friday. I know you will proudly represent yourselves and Birkdale State School over these two days.

Remember Monday, 11 August is a public Show Holiday.
Planning a family trip to the Ekka? Don’t let a bug spoil the experience. If your family is planning to visit the baby animals or other animal enclosures at the Ekka this year, remember to supervise your children and ensure the whole family regularly washes their hands to prevent infections from spreading. A Queensland Health fact sheet is available at:


**School Enrolment Management Plan**

Due to continued enrolment growth our school is required to implement an Enrolment Management Plan (EMP). This is exciting news and confirms that our vibrant school is continuing to grow. A School Enrolment Management Plan (School EMP) is implemented when a school is nearing its Student Enrolment Capacity in order to maximise the use of facilities provided for enrolled in-catchment students, and to restrict the enrolment of out-of-catchment students.

Under a School EMP, it is role of the Principal to ensure sufficient capacity is reserved to accommodate in-catchment students, taking into account projected enrolment growth.

Please note that all students currently residing within the school’s catchment area and all the siblings of currently enrolled students from out of catchment are still guaranteed a place at Birkdale.
The Principal is the final decision maker for accepting any future out of catchment enrolment applications and can only to do so if there is additional remaining capacity left after meeting the school’s core enrolment obligations.

As you can imagine, this will have implications for students who are out of catchment and do not currently have a sibling enrolled at Birkdale.

**Information regarding Birkdale State School's Enrolment Management Plan (EMP) will be placed on the school website shortly.**

**Instrumental Music in 2015**
From 2015, Year 4 students will be able to study woodwind, brass and percussion instruments at primary school for the first time, a year earlier than the current Year 5 starting point.

It has become widely accepted that students need three years of woodwind, brass and percussion development in primary school to form quality bands. This is the rationale for adding Year 4 woodwind, brass and percussion to the primary school Instrumental Music Program.

**Birkdale Education Extravaganza Week**
We are celebrating a number of major events in week 7 of this term. This is the week of Monday, 25 August through to Friday, 29 August. Throughout this week Birkdale will be rolling together several national celebratory weeks / events into this one week. Birkdale will celebrate: National Science Week; National Literacy and Numeracy Week; Book Week and our prep classes will celebrate Grandparents’ Day in this week as well. So make sure you keep reading the newsletter and any notes going home to keep informed of the events in this exciting week.

**Do You Speak Maths?**
Many of us are completely comfortable talking about letters, words and sentences with our children, pointing out signs, reading with or to them at night, making greeting cards or writing messages. Yet, how much maths do you speak in your home?

Do you feel as comfortable talking to your children about numbers far less than they do with their sons.

Toddlers and pre-school age children are building their vocabulary at a very rapid rate each and every day. Helping your children become familiar with the language and sometimes specific vocabulary of maths such as number words, shapes and time concepts can promote their interest in maths later on and improve their chances of success with maths.

Though it may not come naturally at first, parents can develop the habit of talking about numbers and maths as often as they talk about letters and words.

Some simple ways to work maths into a conversation:
• point out numbers and shapes on signs, mailboxes or shop displays when you are walking or driving with children
• chant out the count of a number of items as you use them e.g. count the number of steps as you climb the stairs, count the number of seatbelt clicks as people get in the car, count the slices of bread needed to make sandwiches or the flowers in a vase
• ask children how many toys they are playing with, how many books they have piled up to read, how many jumps they can do or how many pieces of food are on their plate
• use numbers when you refer to time and temperatures e.g. how many sleeps until Nana comes to visit, the high and low predicted temperatures for the coming day, how many minutes until bed time
• with older children, math can become part of talking about sports, science, history, family events, video games or anything else they are interested in.

With practice, parents and children will find that maths talk can make for an enriching and rewarding “second language” to practice and learn.

**Always Our Best**

Jayne Barnett  Acting Principal

**Deputy’s Desk**

What a wonderful first week at Birkdale State School. My week started with Birkdale Blitz and listening to the many ways Birkdale celebrates good learning, attendance and behaviour. This was made more apparent when I visited classrooms and had time to individually meet many students. Let me say I’m impressed, this is a calm school where students learning in a supportive environment is valued above all else.

This week’s social skills focus in the classroom is student leadership and having a go. Classrooms are going to explore what it means to be an active member of a meaningful team. Students will be encouraged to identify their own strengths and how these contribute to the goal of the team. By understanding that everyone has a role to play in a team and that together we can achieve our personal and team goals. It is important to understand that leadership classrooms leave no one out and everyone contributes.

As adults we constantly use the skills of a good reader. However, children need to learn these skills and sometimes because we do it automatically we can forget the explicit skill set needed to be a proficient and good reader. Let me refresh your memory of what makes a good reader.
Good readers understand the purpose of their reading, and so are able to adjust their reading style accordingly. They know why they are reading and how they should read to accomplish their purpose. If they need a telephone number, they know how to use alphabetic and scanning skills to locate the name and number quickly; if they want to know if a book is suitable for their needs, they can skim content sections, chapter headings and a paragraph or two to make their decision; if they need to make a complicated recipe, they can follow directions carefully and sequentially, if they need to synthesise information from a range of sources, they can read critically, extract key information and interpret what it means on the basis of their existing knowledge. The use of targeted strategies in different circumstances and for different purposes identifies the skilled and hence good reader who has a range of strategies at his or her disposal.

Needless to say practicing reading is crucial to the development of these skills, reading at school and home is a must do.

Jane Leishman
Deputy Principal

Music Notes...

Eisteddfod Success
Congratulations to all our ensembles who participated in the Redlands Eisteddfod over the last two weeks. You represented Birkdale brilliantly.

I received an enormous amount of positive feedback, particularly about our choirs, not only from members of our school, but from many other people from other schools in our area. You showed that persistence in practice and rehearsal brings great results. Well done.

Senior Strings: Encouragement Award
Senior Choir: 3rd Place
Junior Choir: 1st Place
Senior Band: 1st Place

Taroona High School Tour
Taroona High school (from Tasmania) is touring with their Senior Concert and Senior Stage Bands. We are lucky enough to have secured a visit on Wednesday 13 August. The bands will perform from 10.00 am – 11.00 am in the Hall. This is a free performance for all classes and for any parents or community members who would like to come. ALL WELCOME!

Sport News

Track & Field Carnival: Our track and field team of forty students competes at the district carnival this Thursday and Friday. The team has been training for the last two months in preparation for this event and we wish them the best as they endeavour to gain selection in the Redland District team.

P-3 Sports Day: Our P-3 Sports Day will be held on Thursday, 14 August on Agnes Street oval. The students will compete in sprints, relays, ball games, tug-of-war and other rotation activities. The day begins with a march past at 9.15 am and will finish at approximately 2.30 pm. Prep students will finish their events at lunch time. This is a great day for our younger students and families are most welcome to come and support the children.

Refer: Alan Menzies

P&C

P&C Meeting: Our next P&C meeting is Tuesday, 12 August 7 pm, due to Monday, 11 August being a holiday.

Fete Meeting: At 6 pm Tuesday, 12 August we will be holding the first fete meeting so come along and share your thoughts with Mandy for a bigger and better fete in 2015.

Junior sports day will be held on Thursday, 14 August. We will have the BBQ running again with sausage sizzle and burgers. Any donations of cupcakes would be appreciated. If you can help on the day please let us know.

Coloured hairspray will again be on offer just in front of the Year 5 building (where you wait before the bell goes). Please remember all junior school children need permission to have their hair coloured for a gold coin. Please fill in the permission slip at the end of the newsletter and return with child on the day.

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 9 am would be preferable.

House T-Shirts: Sports house tees printed with house name on the back are available from Struddys Sports Capalaba. These come in house colours of red, yellow & green. $12.00 Childs & $14.00 Adults. Please order now as there is limited stock available.

MUSICA VIVA NEW SHOW – ‘Sideshow Alley’ performed by The Sousaphonics. Coming to Birkdale Tuesday, 9 September. $7.50 per child. Adults and community members free. Please order now as there is limited stock available.

Junior Sports Carnival Hair Spraying
I give permission for my child____________________ in class_______ to have their hair sprayed for Jnr Sports Carnival.

Parents/Caregivers Signature__________________