15 October 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>Indya</td>
<td>Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mason</td>
<td>Yr 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callum</td>
<td>Yr 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>Yr 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Felicia</td>
<td>Yr 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leila</td>
<td>Yr 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Yr 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lynette</td>
<td>Yr 7</td>
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Congratulations!

2015 FETE

A meeting will be held next Thursday 23 October at 2 pm in the library to discuss the 2015 FETE, which will be held in May. We are seeking many volunteers for different roles. All are welcome - new, old & current families. If you are unable to attend this meeting but would still like to help in some way, please contact Tracy Munro on 0422 830 388 or email parentsofbss@hotmail.com. Without volunteers there will be NO FETE.

Principal’s Message

Great Results Guarantee (GRG)

As part of the government’s Great Results Initiative each school in Queensland has been able to design its own response. In the case of our school it is close to two hundred thousand dollars. At the end of each term we take time to assess our progress. Our main priority for the year has been around literacy. This entails improving student outcomes in the short and long term, as well as on-going teacher professional development in reading. What this has encompassed has been the following GRG funded support:

- All students receiving home and school access for Reading Eggs / ReadingEggspress for the year.
- Each prep class receiving: extra 10 hours (5 days x 2 hours) Teacher Aide time each week to support Literacy time. (In addition to regular classroom Prep Teacher Aide time)
- Extra Teacher: 3 days per week in Years 3 and 5 to support literacy and maths groups.
- Extra teacher: half day each week in Year 4 to support maths groups.
- Extra teacher: 3 days a week to release designated classroom teachers for tailored Reading Coaching Program with STLaN (this program involved identified students receiving one-on-one intensive reading support)
- Extra literacy resources: to supplement literacy lessons, guided reading and home reading.

These specific responses were in addition to our ongoing school funded programs, such as:

- Great Success Reading in Prep and Year 1; Birkdale Brainiacs; Project 600; Reading Muster; Literacy intervention and extension; extra teacher support in targeted year levels for reading and maths; and continued staff professional development in curriculum, reading, differentiation and student data analysis.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all our dedicated staff who have enabled us to deliver these successful programs to our students.

G20 Summit Holiday—not for Birkdale SS

Just for clarification, the G20 Summit holiday is ONLY for Brisbane City schools. This date does appear on the school calendar (Qschools app) but this is because the department generates the dates for these calendars.
Maintenance
Over Term 3 and the vacation a great deal of work has been completed: painting of the exterior of the SEP building and window replaced; painting of the exterior and interior of the pool dressing rooms; doors replaced and new sealed flooring in the pool dressing sheds; new external doors on a number of the classrooms; area of veranda flooring repaired in demountable; gardens being mulched; water pipes being repaired; staff carpark ground being repaired and benches painted.

Special thanks to our Business Manager Cheryl Rafferty with support from our Schools Officer John Chapman for their significant contribution to this achievement. We value these improvements to the environment of our students – they deserve to come to such a well-maintained school. It was with dismay that on the first day of the new term we found that vandals had targeted so many surfaces of our school buildings. Mr Chapman worked tirelessly that day to eradicate as much as possible, especially before our students went to first play. There are some areas that still require painting and this will be done as soon as practicable.

Complaints Procedure
During the course of your children’s school years, you may have cause to make a complaint about an issue with your child’s education. Please see our school Parent Handbook pages 11 and 12, or go to our school website, for full particulars about the 5-step procedure which may assist parents/carer, and school staff to reach an outcome that is in the best interests of the student. However the first step is detailed below and is a very important step in the process.

1. Discuss your complaint with the class teacher
If your complaint is with your child’s teacher or relates to an issue concerning your child’s experience at school, make an appointment with that teacher as soon as possible through the school administration. Share the information you have about the problem with the teacher. Give the teacher an opportunity to tell you all he/she knows about the incident or problem. Together, both parent/carer and teacher, should then take steps to resolve the problem at this level.

The teacher will make a record of the complaint and report your meeting and any outcomes to the school principal.

If, of course, you wish to speak to the Leadership team then please check in with the office staff. We are always happy to discuss your concerns as soon as they arise. However sometimes we can have prior commitments and may have to arrange a mutually suitable time. Thank you for your understanding if this should occur.

Class placement requests for 2015 are now open
There are many factors taken into consideration when a class is formed for the following year. Teachers, Support personnel and the Leadership team consider many facets when making professional and balanced decisions as to the composition of each class. This task is very complex and takes many, many hours of informed discussion amongst a team of professional educators. When a class is composed it is without any reference to the next year’s teacher, as staffing will not be determined when classes are composed. Staffing can in fact change, up until Day 8 of 2015, in any school.

If, as a parent, you would like to make a request for your child concerning class location or based on their social or academic needs, then you are invited to collect the form from the office or download it from the school website. This form is a request for consideration of placement and, as such, is not a guarantee of placement but rather will be considered thoughtfully during the 2015 class placement process, which includes consultation with teachers, support staff and the Leadership team.

Requests for specific teachers cannot be made.

Should you wish to submit a placement request
PLEASE RETURN THE FORM TO THE OFFICE BY THE TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2014, noting that electronic versions, including email attachments and facsimiles, will not be accepted. Correspondence after this date cannot be accepted.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

Future Road Works in Agnes Street-Fore warner
Road works, conducted by the Redland City Council, are commencing in Agnes Street, from Thorne Road to Queens Esplanade. This will occur from Tuesday 21 October and continue for approximately 3 weeks.

Congratulations to Luke
Luke created a video in response to Queensland Education Accord Summit student video competition. The panel members were particularly impressed with Luke’s insightful and perceptive responses. Luke’s video was selected to be played at the Queensland Education Accord Summit. Education stakeholders and community members attended the Summit to map out the future of education and create Queensland’s first education accord. This is indeed a wonderful accomplishment. Luke also received a $50 iTunes voucher.

Always Our Best
Jayne Barnett Acting Principal

Deputy Desk
At our first Parade for Term 4, once again I was inspired by the genuine praise and acknowledgment that the staff award to the students of Birkdale.

There are 5 different opportunities for our students to receive praise and be recognised. These include the class social skills certificate, classroom learning award, the Star Awards, Sport house points and the famous Blitz Award. In all cases the praise and acknowledgement is sincere and specific.

At home, try using praise that is specific and sincere. For example instead of saying ‘good work, homework is done’, try saying ‘I like the way you concentrated on your homework until you were finished’. Have a go and reap the benefits of meaningful praise.

Birkdale Social Skills
Congratulations to the following classes for receiving a
Respectful Class Social Skills Certificate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep D</th>
<th>1A</th>
<th>1B</th>
<th>1C</th>
<th>1D</th>
<th>2B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Sen B</td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Sen A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The Social Skill focus for Week 2

A Peaceful Class
Children use the Conflict Wheel or High 5
Children use self-control
Students help to make others feel positive
Calm, quiet, peaceful classroom
Children show respect for each other

Before School
Students arriving before 8.35 am are requested to be seated under the Year 5 building (near the Admin building). These students are supervised from 8 am and released at 8.35 am. When the students are released at 8.35 am they can;

1. Use the Toilets
2. Return books to the library
3. Place a tuckshop order

All students should be seated and ready to be collected by their class teacher at 8.45 am. Parents who arrive earlier then 8.35 am and would like to sit with their children can do so in the Tuckshop area however we please ask that your child is seated, not playing or running around.
Birkdale State School P&C

P & C's Pop Up Party Plan Night
Friday 17 October 6.30 – 9 pm
25+ Party Plan Stalls
$2 Entry includes a lucky door Ticket
Raffles $1 per ticket.
Don’t forget to invite friends, family and neighbours. See you there. Refer: Michelle Muir

$15 Photo Fundraiser: Saturday 1 Nov
Only $15 for your 10” x 13” Portrait with frame.
We need lots of bookings so Share the link with friends, neighbours and family – anyone can book in!
REFER 5 friends or family & receive $50 to spend in your session!
Book & pay online at: www.trybooking.com/FTYU
BOOKINGS CLOSE FRIDAY 24 October!
For enquiries call Vision Portraits (03) 9596 9400

SPORT NEWS

State Athletics: Two of our students are competing in the Queensland Primary Schools’ Track and Field Championships this week. Charlie and Dominic will compete against athletes from the all over the state at the Queensland Sport and Athletics Centre in Nathan. We wish both boys the best of luck at these championships.

Swimming Lessons: Class swimming lessons, which are held in the PE timeslot, will recommence in Week Four of this term. We will be requiring parent helpers to support this program so if you are able to help please see your class teacher or notify Mr Menzies or Mrs Mill. The students will be focussing on technique and fitness in preparation for our carnivals which are being held in Week Nine.

Before School Training: There is no before school training until Week Four as I have other commitments over the next two weeks. We will incorporate swimming into our fitness program when training resumes.

Walkathon: This year the walkathon will be held on Friday 31 October. The money raised will be used to purchase equipment for our Music and PE lessons and replenish uniforms for our music and sports students. Information has been sent home this week and we are looking forward to the wonderful support of our community with this activity.

Interschool Sport: Our sports teams will compete in the interschool sports competition over a four week period commencing in Week Five. Teams have been selected and permission forms will be sent home in the near future. Students will be competing in cricket, softball and tee ball.
Refer: Alan Menzies

Music Notes...

‘Night of Music’ Celebrating Excellence in Music

DATE: FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER
WHERE: BIRKDALE STATE SCHOOL HALL
TIME: 6.00PM – 8.00PM

What is the ‘Night of Music’? This is a night where student achievement in Music is celebrated. It’s a terrific occasion where all students who participate in a Music Ensemble perform in front of a packed audience of family and friends. As well as performing with their ensemble, students will also be involved in an Opening number and a Finale. Trophies are awarded to selected students in each group who have demonstrated particular qualities including: attaining a high skill level, showing improvement, displaying potential, demonstrating a great work ethic and making a fantastic effort. Every year this is a hugely popular event. There are over 200 students in the Music Program.

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