Final Newsletter for 2013
Thank you to everyone for your kind support over the past year, it has once again been a big one with some wonderful happenings, centering on your children. Thank you to the children for what has been a fantastic year, I have appreciated the challenges and joys you have brought to the school each day, it is the reason I come to work! And finally, to the teachers and staff of Bucasia State School – you have been terrific. Our school would not be the same without you.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year in 2014 with approximately 331 students already enrolled. At this stage in the year I am planning for 14 classrooms at this school. We will have at least 2 ½ prep classes and will have at least 2 drafts of each year level finishing with 2 5/6 classes. The school layout will be somewhat similar to this year with almost all classrooms full. Because we are taking additional enrolments every day, class lists will not be finalised and published until the first pupil free day of 2014. As usual, class lists and maps will be located at several public sites throughout the school for your information. I have considered parent requests and have endeavoured to fulfill these if possible. I have been unable to fulfill multiple requests regarding any one child, so I have attempted to meet at least one.

Ms McAuley, Mrs Becker & Mrs Clarke will be working in the prep area next year. Working from lower school, to upper school, the teachers of classes will be the prep teachers, Ms Swettenham, Ms Kirkpatrick, Mrs Smith, TBA (To be advised), Mrs Peltonen, Ms Weiden, Ms Armstrong, Mr Brandon, Mr O’Hara, Ms Brooks, Mr Stafford.

School commences on Tuesday 28th January 2014.

Finally, Merry Christmas, have a wonderful, enjoyable and restful holiday.

When you return, we will be ready for you with another year planned full of learning and growing! Have a great holiday and if you are around the area please keep an eye on our school.

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Swimming Carnival / Fun Day
Students who attended swimming lessons this year are invited to attend our Swimming Carnival/ Fun Day on Monday 10th December. Students can opt to swim in 50m freestyle races and will also be participating in a barrage of fun activities such as noodle races, kickboard races, choc races, ball games etc. Students will be transported to the Pioneur Pool by buses departing at 9.00am sharp.
On return to school the P & C will provide a BBQ and watermelon for all students on this day, however students will need to bring water bottles and a snack for morning tea.

Students are also asked to come to school already dressed in their swimmers. Students are to bring a towel, hat, sunscreen and morning tea in a bag that will be taken to the pool with them. Students normal bag will be left at school with their clothes to change into on return to school.

Parents are most welcome to attend. Those parents with smaller children will need to be responsible for them while at the pool and also understand that they will not be permitted to join in activities as they are only for those children who have participated in the learn to swim program.

The program for the morning is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Depart School on bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30 to 10:00</td>
<td>50m freestyle races (grades 3 – 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 to</td>
<td>Fun Rotational Fun Activities – (all grades) 15 mins. each activity. Morning Tea/ Snack time has been scheduled into a station on each rotation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Free Swim</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:50</td>
<td>2 Pack up getting ready to leave the pool. Students drying themselves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>Depart pool – return to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.20</td>
<td>BBQ at school by P &amp; C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Celebration Night & Presentation Parade
Each year the Celebration Night undergoes changes as we attempt to improve. This year, our enrolment is currently 305. After much discussion regarding how to structure the Celebration Night to cater for the amount of people attending, we have discussed the possibility of having a ‘picnic’ style audience as we did a few years ago. Families are welcome to bring a blanket to sit on and chairs will be available at the back of the hall and outside for older folk who find the floor just too much! In this way everyone will be able to see, sit as a family group and hopefully fit more in. The addition of the "Big A*** Fan" will make the night a little more comfortable. A reminder about no high heel shoes on the night too!

Wednesday 11 December @ 9:30 a.m. in the hall: Dress Rehearsal in the hall to which parents who have very young children or who are unable to attend the evening Celebration are invited. These parents will need to let their child’s teacher know if they are attending so we can cater for the amount of observers. All children at the school will form part of the audience for the full dress rehearsal so the hall will still be quite full.

Wednesday 11 December @ 8:30 p.m. in the hall: Celebration night — All children are expected to attend, even if their parents attended the morning production. Children should be in the classrooms with the teachers by 6:15 dressed for the production. Children will not form part of the audience, leaving more room for family; they will spend the evening with their teacher in one of the classrooms. Parents are able to see their child’s teacher after they have performed and take them home. Teachers will have a roll to account for the students. Children may not return to the hall after being collected by parents and this is simply because of the space available.

Children will not be allowed to leave for food. Parents must bring food to children.

We expect the night to finish at 8:30 p.m. so please ensure all children are picked up by then. Parents, please ensure you have arranged for your child to travel home.

Thursday 12 December @ 9.15am in the hall: Presentation Parade. Because there are so many children and because of a full night of performances the night before, we will have a special parade where behaviour awards are presented to each year level, academic and special awards are presented to graduating students, and school captains for 2014 are announced.

Belinda Eckford, Principal

P & C News
Our final meeting will be on tonight Wednesday 4th December at Northern Beaches Bowls Club at 6:30pm.
All parents who have helped out with the P & C this year are invited to attend, to celebrate a successful year. Meal prices range from $10 to $30 each. Please contact Kylie West on 0408569728 if you are attending.

Bunnings Barbeque
Thank you so much to our tremendous helpers who assisted at the Bunnings Barbeque on Saturday, especially to Kerry Happgood-Strickland who was there from 7.30am until 3:30pm. Our other helpers were Bettina and James Schmidl, Marika Kerr, Sala Ripley, Deanne Mills, Dan Cunliffe, Kylie West, Kylie and Mick Houston, Maria Potouru, Gienda Ware and Mrs Eckford also came down and assisted which was great. I also know that a number of our students also attended and helped out and were magnificent.
Total taken on the day was $1715 and after the expenses of sausages, bread, drinks etc we raised $1322 to assist in paying for modifications to tuckshop and the air conditioning. What a tremendous result.

Celebration Night
Please ensure you pre-order your meals for your whole family for Celebration Night so no one misses out. Food is to be collected from the stall — you are responsible for collecting your own pre-orders. Orders need to be in by this Friday 6th December. Seaview Lions have kindly agreed to do the catering for our school celebration night this year, from the undercover area on the night 5pm to 7 pm, to reduce the number of parents in the tuckshop selling food items and missing out on seeing their children perform. Parents are welcome to eat with their children before delivering them to their classrooms.

Drinks and snacks will also be available from the hall. Please support this initiative as the proceeds will go back to our school to purchase more refrigerators for classrooms for next year.

End of Year stall
This year students have the opportunity to decorate a photo frame, for $5 each, which the P & C will insert a photograph taken of the student into and gift wrap for the student to give to the person of their choosing (after discussion with parents first). Please complete the order form in last week’s newsletter and return to school no later than Friday 6th December. The $5 is for payment of the cost of the frame — all other expenses the P & C are absorbing, so this is not a fundraiser. We are taking a photo of every single student with a message, so even if you do not wish to purchase a frame please discuss with your child the message you want on the photo, as the photo is a gift from the P&C.
Uniform free day – Last day of School for Uniform Donations
On the last day of school (Friday 13th December) we are having a free dress day at school, no payment is necessary, instead if you have any uniforms that your child has grown out of which are still in good condition and you would like to donate them to our Second Hand Uniform shop please bring them along on last day of school. We ask that they be in clean resellable condition – i.e. No torn shirts beyond repair.

We wish all our students, parents and teaching faculty a wonderful Christmas and a safe holiday and we look forward to seeing most of you again in 2014. Thank-you to all our P&C volunteers this year – all of you have been outstanding.

As always please do not hesitate to contact me or any P & C member with any enquiries or concerns you may have. Have a great week. Sarah-Jane Thompson 0429613249.

Student of the Week – 28th November

Congratulations to the following students for achieving Student of the Week last week:

| Prep B | Mrs Becker | Prep C | Mrs Clarke | Year 1/2S | Ms Smith | Year 1S | Ms Swettenham | Year 2L | Miss Lorenz | Year 2/3B | Mrs Pettonen | Year 3O | Mr O’Hara | Year 3S | Ms Swift | Year 4M | Mrs Morgan | Year 4/5B | Mr Brandon | Year 5/6B | Miss Brooks | Year 5/6 | Mr Stafford | Music | Ms Elliott | PE | Ms Lloyd |
|--------|------------|--------|------------|-----------|----------|---------|--------------|---------|-------------|-----------|-------------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-------------|-------|-----------|------|----------|------|---------|-------|
|        | Lilee      |        | Keelan     | Vate      |          | -Lachelle | -Uani       | -Nathanie |            |           |            |          |           |        |          |        |           |        |           |       |            |      |          |      |         |      |
| Prop B | Mrs Becker |        |            |           |          |         |             |          |             |           |            |          |           |        |          |        |           |        |           |       |            |      |          |      |         |      |
|        | For the tremendous effect you put into writing your letter to Mrs Drew. |        | For great listening on the carpet and always joining in when we do our BRAIN exercises. | For being an all round SUPER STAR. You have had a successful Prep year Vate. | For achieving your end of year reading goal. | For being an awesome team player when playing soccer at lunch time. | For a fantastic effort during English. You are a punctuation whiz. | For surprising me with your knowledge. Well done!! | For an improved attitude towards school. You have been so helpful. | For the great effort made with work. | For working well in class. | For being an all round nice guy! You will be missed next year! | For always being ready for work. | For fantastic behaviour and excellent achievement in Music all semester. | For being a fantastic handball mentor. |