Communication with the school
To achieve an optimum schooling experience for your child, communication with teachers and the school generally is very important. Please do not hesitate to contact the relevant person with questions and information. The process for this is to make an appointment, particularly with teachers. In the mornings and afternoons, teachers are generally busy preparing for the school day and catching them for a quick chat at these times is not as effective as an appointment. Making an appointment ensures you have the teacher’s (or staff member’s) complete attention and whatever information you are divulging or requesting is managed appropriately. Please follow this process.

New Shed & Prep extension
Over the holidays a new shed was erected between the music room and oval. This is part of the Junior Play area upgrade. P & C will utilise one bay of the shed and Kev (our trusty groundsman) will no doubt find it easy to fill the next 2 bays. This will release other areas within the school for teacher and student use. Mrs McAuley’s room will have the addition of an extra classroom attached to the kitchen & storeroom. This is currently being constructed and will be installed over the Easter holiday ready for classes to move into in term 2. Because it is a designated prep building, Mrs Clarke’s class with join with the other prep students & Ms Zagiereos’s class will move to Mrs Clarke’s old classroom. I have really appreciated the flexibility of all involved with this and this is just another aspect of a growing state school!

.../2
Traffic Around the School

Police will be patrolling the school surrounds over the next few weeks before and after school to ensure the smooth flow of traffic and most importantly, safety for school students. Please ensure parking is in designated areas and road rules are adhered to. (It has been noted by students in particular, that many drivers are doing illegal U turns in front of the Stop, Drop & Go Zone). In 2014 I initiated the process for a 'Lollipop Lady' at the school. The gentleman I spoke with had a pearl of wisdom that really resonated with me. It was: Slow traffic around a school is not a problem – the slower the cars travel, the less likelihood of an accident. This makes a huge amount of sense to me and so I urge everyone to be patient – Stop, Drop & Go is usually empty by around 3:10 – and follow the rules, there won’t be an accident and that’s what we all want to avoid.

At Bucasia State School we take our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our students and staff very seriously. This responsibility includes considering issues related to behaviours online. Behaviours in the online environment can cover a broad range of issues including online privacy and information protection, good and bad manners, digital citizenship and knowing how to get help to deal with online issues.

Cyber Safety

As you may be aware, comments posted online about people and organisations may impact permanently on their digital reputation. This includes teachers, other staff and students and the school. There can be very real negative consequences from online posts – relationships between school staff, students and parents can be permanently changed for the worse. Facebook and other social networking sites are generally not private communities and, depending on an individual’s security settings, comments can be read by many people and remain online indefinitely. If you or your child are posting information online about the school, staff or students, I ask that you consider the ramifications of these comments on the school and any individuals in the school community concerned. As a rule of thumb:

- Public discussion is most effective when it is conducted in a polite and respectful manner;
- Before posting, consider whether those people you are posting about want information, including photos and comments regarding them and their children, posted on Facebook or on other sites. Perhaps ask them before you do it;
- Rather than airing complaints or grievances in a public forum like Facebook, come and talk to the school first about how to resolve your concerns;
- Remember that as a parent you have a responsibility to supervise and regulate your own children’s online activities at home and their impact on the reputation and privacy of others.

For further information on managing cybersafety, please go to http://education.qld.gov.au/studentservices/behaviour/gssai v/info-parents.html

If you have any concerns and would like to discuss further I invite you to make an appointment with me.

Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support

At Bucasia State School, staff and children are held to a high standard of behaviour. To assist students to achieve the beautiful behaviour they do have at this school, teachers actively teach the behaviours that should occur for a safe and enjoyable environment. Our school wide positive behaviour is based on STAR – safety, teamwork, attitude and respect. Each week the focus lesson/behaviour for the week will be published in the newsletter and introduced on parade. Teachers will then work with children on this concept. The focus for this week is Stop & Drop! When children are running on cement (parents, I’m sure you remember this one from when you are at school), it is very dangerous, particularly in wet weather.

Children are to walk on the concrete and run their heads out on the grass if they wish. Teachers will be working with children on this idea and the consequence for running on the concrete is Stop, Drop! When a teacher says this instruction, children will immediately sit down on the concrete until the teacher allows them to leave. It is a very effective means of reminding children not to run on the concrete. This rule also applies when jumping over chairs, particularly in the undercover area.

QSchools app

Congratulations to those who have added the school app to their phone – it makes communication so much easier. I have added below our current users; and encourage anyone who has not yet downloaded the app to do so. The QSchools app provides an easy way to access vital school information, including latest news, events and newsletters. In addition, the QSchools app now allows for push notifications to deliver essential information directly to a device, including emergency alerts and important updates. Find out more on the DETE website, or download the app for your device:

- iPhone/iPad
- Android
- Windows phone
- Windows PC

QSchools dashboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QSchools favourites</th>
<th>Notification subscriptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As of today</td>
<td>Critical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>users have added your school to their QSchools favourites</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>users have subscribed to receive push notifications from your school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have a great week,
Belinda Eckford
Tuckshop News

**Tuckshop Volunteers**
Do you have three hours to spare — whether once a week, once a month or once a term, we want to hear from you! Our Tuckshop is now calling for volunteers to help out, so if you are available please see Marika in the tuckshop. And yes the tuckshop is air-conditioned for your comfort.

**P&C Notices**

**P & C News**
Welcome back to all our returning students and teachers, and to the new students, teachers and parents joining our community, a very special welcome to you too. You have all helped our school grow and 2015 is shaping up to be a great year.

**AGM and general meeting**
Our first meeting and AGM will be on Wednesday 25th February at 6.30pm in school library.

General meeting will follow at 7pm. All parents, carers and teachers are invited to attend. If you have a special interest in our school and would like to be part of our committee, whether in a formal capacity as President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or as a committee member, please come along.

All positions will be vacant at the meeting and we are always looking for new members.

**Meet and Greet**
A meet and greet will be held at school for all parents and carers, new and returning, on Thursday 19th February at 9am, in the undercover area. Please bring a plate of food to share. This is a great place to meet other parents of the school and learn more of the roles of the P & C. Small children also welcome with accompanying parents.

**Library volunteers**
If you have a few hours a week or term available to help out in the library, please let Sue Drew our librarian know. Sue is always happy to have volunteers for covering books and putting books back on shelves.

**School Uniforms Needed**
Our stocks of second hand uniforms are just about depleted, if you have any that you wish to donate could you please send them to the tuckshop.

**School Banking Coordinator**
We are looking for someone to help out with our school banking. Hands on training will be provided. You only have to be able to count and give up half an hour a week.

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. 2014 P & C President Sarah-Jane Thompson 0429613249.

From the Office

**Updated Details**
Along with this newsletter you will find a contact details update form. If any of your contact details have changed over the holidays please fill this in and return it to the office. It is very important that we at school have your correct contact details.

**Resource Scheme**
Also included are the resource scheme forms. This year the resource fee is $55. Please return the forms with your payment to the office.

**Instrumental Music Fees**
Instrumental music fees are now due please pay these to the office by the end of February.

**Helping Hands Before and After School Care**

Helping Hands Bucasia Outside School Hours Care – Your child’s “home away from home”

Helping Hands Bucasia provides quality childcare for school aged children. Located on school site guarantees safety and convenience for children and their families. We offer a pick-up and delivery service to Prep and Year One classrooms so you have peace of mind that your little ones are safe at all times. Our qualified staff ensure your children are fully supervised at all times.

Service opening hours: Before School: 6:30am – 8:50am, After School: 3:00pm – 6:00pm, Vacation Care 6:30am – 6:00pm

We currently have vacancies for Before & After School Care and Vacation Care. For more information, enrolments and bookings contact Amy on 0427 007 113.

Existing and New enrolments are welcome. To attend the Helping Hands Vacation Care program your child must be enrolled (free).

For all bookings, enrolments & enquiries phone Amy Heath on 0427 007 113.

**Tennis Lessons at your school**
Mr Harris will be conducting tennis lessons starting the third and sixth of February. Tennis money is to be handed to Mr Harris at the start of the first tennis lesson.

Prep, 1 & 2: Tuesday Morning 7:45am – 8:45am
3, 4, 5 & 6: Friday Morning 7:45am – 8:45am

Contact Alan Harris on 04 0329 0444

**Northern Suburbs Junior Rugby League Club SIGN ON**
There will be representatives at the Mackay Regional Sports Expo Sign On day at the MECC on 8/2/15 (9am-1pm) as well as a 'Come and Try Day' on the field at Mackay Norths Leagues Club on 28/2/14 (10am-2pm).

Trish Tait