NEWSLETTER NO.26 – 8th October 2014

Welcome back to a busy and bustling term 4 at Bucasia!
It is particularly wonderful to see the children all ready and eager to commence work for another term – teachers reported back to me yesterday that the kids were focused and working really hard. It’s amazing what a holiday will do to refresh everyone. It’s a busy term with swimming for the first 5 weeks, a swimming carnival that is always hugely enjoyed, graduation, celebration night and of course the end of year festivities. In among all of that, students’ literacy and numeracy is our prime concern so there will be a lot of learning happening.

Great Results Guarantee
In 2015 the Queensland Government is investing $183 million in Great Results Guarantee funding for state schools. Here at Bucasia State School our estimated 2015 allocation is $110 000 to continue the great work we started this year to improve our student’s performance.
www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee

The great results guarantee has provided a huge boost to the resources of our school. In particular we have employed teacher aides to support particular children in classes, teachers have focused on particular children (this has encompassed all students over the year) with a view to ensuring they have achieved at a higher level. And, teachers have been successful which in turn has led to student success.

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From the Principal cont.../

Years 3 & 5 sat the test in our school and achieved some outstanding results. All areas in NAPLAN showed improvement with reading, punctuation and grammar and numeracy results being comparable to the nation in both year levels tested. This means that students in our school are receiving an excellent education in the areas tested, they are working hard and performing really well. This is a credit to themselves, their teachers & of course, parents as I know you support us from home.

The mean (average) was comparable to the nation in all areas tested except year 3 writing and spelling where students measured below the mean. In reaching the national minimum standard – this school performed comparatively to the nation in 5 areas and outperformed the nation in 5 areas. In having children achieve in the upper 2 bands (children achieved well above the tested level), this school performed comparatively with the nation in 7 areas, above the nation in 2 areas and below the nation in 1 area. This is an excellent result for our school and using the resources at our disposal in the coming year, this school is aiming to perform comparatively to the nation in all areas as a minimum.

Twilight Concert
It was a fantastic night – thanks to all the parents who supported it and thank you particularly to the teachers who organised it. It was a great opportunity for our students to showcase their abilities and they certainly do have some skills.

Magpies & SWPBS
It is the dreaded magpie season again. Please be aware of these birds as children travel to and from school. We had our first victim of an attack last week. All children should wear hats at all times so the tops of their heads are protected and they should refrain from teasing the birds. The nasty magpie that was in residence in the school grounds last year has been relocated, however I do note that his territory has been overtaken so there is still a bird in residence. There have been no attacks in the school grounds yet.

The focus of our safety rule this week is wearing hats! This is about both sun safety and providing protection from marauding dive bombing magpies. Students are encouraged to wear hats to and from school, during the breaks and even when travelling between classrooms. Although it is unlikely to prevent attacks, it will provide a small modicum of protection for the children and that is really important.

Qs schools app
Having this very handy app on your iphone or android, ensures you are able to check the latest dates, newsletters and information from the school wherever, whenever. Please search the app store for it and download!

Principal Word of the Week
A great predictor of success in literacy, particularly reading is a wide vocabulary. Most classes have instituted a 'word of the week' and to support this, I thought I also could have a word of the week.

Many of these words will come from http://www.wordthink.com/ which focuses on words that can be used every day. My word of the week this week is:

Vacuous

Vacuous adj. Having or showing a lack of thought or intelligence; mindless: "a vacuous smile."

CobuildDictionarywebsite: http://dictionary.reverse.net/english-cobuild/

Star Parade
Next Wednesday the grade six students will travel to the Northern Beaches High School to view the school’s “Star Parade”. The students would like to thank Northern Beaches Bowls Club who are generously transporting our grade sixes to and from the high school free of charge. THANKYOU Northern Beaches Bowls Club.

Mr. Stafford
Yr 5/6S Teacher

Mackay Eisteddfod
The school Concert Band will compete in the Mackay Eisteddfod at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre on Tuesday 14th October at around 9.30am. Good luck to the students from years 5 and 6 who are playing in the band.

Ms Elliott
Music Teacher

School Swimming Lessons
Please remember that swimming lessons commence this Friday. The teachers will be supervising the students to and from the pool. Whilst at the pool the children will be under the direction of the swimming instructors. Please ensure your child brings bathers, towel, goggles (if required), sun-safe swimming shirt, sunblock, swimming bag, thongs. Everything must be named.

The times are as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Classes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30 – 10.15</td>
<td>1/2K, 2B</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.15 – 11.00</td>
<td>Prep/1C, 1S</td>
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<td>11.00 – 11.45</td>
<td>Prep B, Prep M</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.15 – 1.00</td>
<td>2/3BR, 3P, 3/4W</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.00 – 1.45</td>
<td>5O, 4A, 4B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.45 – 2.30</td>
<td>5/6B, 5/6S</td>
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- Buses depart school 30 minutes prior to commencement of swimming class.
- Students do not use pool change facilities.

P&C Notices

Our next meeting will be next Wednesday, 19th October at 6.00pm in the school library. This meeting will be starting early as we have an important discussion before the normal meeting, which all members are strongly encouraged to attend and new members always welcome.

Twilight Concert
This event was held on Tuesday 15th September in the hall. This was a fantastically attended evening which showcased our talented students, with performances across all the grades. The proceeds of $550 raised on the night goes towards our music department and we would like to thank the following businesses for their support with raffle prize donations:- Numbers and Words tuition, Marlins Swim School, Meng Tyres Northern Beaches, Northern Beaches Veterinary Hospital, Ma' Pizzas, Annie's Nursery and Northern Beaches Bowls Club.

Upcoming events date savers-

School Disco
Will be held on Thursday 23rd October in our school hall. Junior Disco (Prep - Grade 2) will be held from 5pm – 6.30pm, and Senior Disco (Grade 3 - 6) will be held straight after from 6.30 – 8pm. Parents required to stay as chaperones. Meal & entry deals will be available. A flyer will come home shortly.
World Teachers Day
World Teachers Day is on 31st October (internationally it falls on the 5th October but that is during the holidays so we celebrate it at the end of October). Please write this date on your calendar, as more details about this day will come in future newsletters.

Tuckshop Volunteers Appreciation Day
Tuckshop Volunteers Appreciation Day on Friday 7th November. More details about this day will also come in future newsletters. If you would like to become a volunteer in the Tuckshop, Marika is always happy to have tuckshop volunteers assisting with the day’s work, so if you have spare childfree time between 9am and 11am any school day, please pop into the tuckshop and give Marika a hand. The weather is hotting up and the tuckshop does have air-conditioning.

Helping Hands
Helping Hands Bucasia School Community Survey - $100 grocery voucher to be won.
To assist us in providing an OSHC program that meets both your and your child’s individual requirements, we would appreciate if you could please take a couple of minutes to complete this survey. Please include your name and contact details to be eligible to go into the draw to win a $100 grocery voucher (one survey per family). Follow this link to complete the survey online; https://www.surveymonkey.com/jv/SVSNVWG or email accounts@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au to get a copy emailed to you. The survey will close on Monday 27 October 2014.

QLD State School Athletics Carnival
We would like to wish last year’s school Captain, Lukas Ripley, all the best next week as he represents Capricornia District in Brisbane for the Queensland State School Carnival in discus.
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. P & C President Sarah-Jane Thompson 0429613249.

Community Notices
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 – 8:00pm
We currently have vacancies for Before & After School Care and Vacation Care. For more information, enrolments and bookings contact Amy on 0427 007 113.

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICER
High School Transition – Parent Evening
Headspace will be holding an information evening for parents of both Eimeo Road and Bucasia Schools on helping your child with resilience and anxiety as they transition to high school. At this stage the venue is yet to be confirmed – it will either be at Bucasia or Eimeo school, depending on numbers.

Date: Monday October 27th
Time: 6:00pm - 6:45pm (30 minutes presentation with question time at the end)
Venue: TBC
RSVP: At this stage we are just wanting people to contact the schools with an expression of interest in attending so we can gauge attendance numbers. Please reply to the office staff or guidance officer Alexia Watherspoon on awoth3@eq.edu.au

WOTHERSPOON, Alexia
Guidance Officer
Eimeo Road State School

WEP STUDENT EXCHANGE

Child and Adolescent Oral Health Services Mackay
(School Dental Service)

Dear Parents,
The School Dental Service is now offering services to students enrolled at Bucasia State Primary School.
A Medical History/Consent form will be issued to your child and must be fully completed and signed by a parent/legal guardian and returned to the school Administration Office before 24th October, 2014.

School Dental Van 33 mobile 0417077256 will contact parent to arrange an appointment. Please note: a parent will need to attend the appointment with their student.

If the phone is unattended please leave details including your student’s name, D.O.B and contact number.
For further information on this service, please visit our website: http://www.health.qld.gov.au/oralhealth/services/school.asp