FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Junior Sports Day
Congratulations to all the students that participated in the Junior Sports Day on Tuesday. Our Sports Days are wonderful community events and I would like to thank the community members who joined us for the day. I would also like to thank Ms Holt, Mrs Bradford and all the staff members for their extra work and dedication in making this event possible. Sports Days are an ‘added extra’ on top of the teaching duties expected of a teacher so it is impressive that such a high quality event is organised in the teacher’s own time.

The ‘Firm Five’
At the moment we are ‘cracking down’ on what we see as the most disruptive behaviour in our school and that is leaving the classroom without permission. A large majority of students have received this message loud and clear; however, we have a few students still ‘pushing the boundaries’. Students engaging in this behaviour will at the very least be required to make up the lost learning time either in their lunch hour or after school. I would encourage all families to support us with this action by making alternative arrangements if their child is required to make up lost learning time after school.

Attendance
I have recently been reviewing the attendance, behaviour and academic performance of all students who received an E for English on their current report card. It was no surprise to see that the one thing these students had in common was that a majority of them had very poor attendance. On average attendance rate of students receiving an E for English on their report card was 85%. This means these students on average have missed 3 weeks of school so far and are on track to miss 6 weeks for the year.

Currently our school attendance rate is 88.63% which is one of the poorest attendance rates in the South East Region. This situation is unacceptable and is the major barrier preventing our students and school from achieving the aspiration of academic excellence. If every student committed to having no more than 3 days of absence for the rest of the year, our school attendance rate would rise to more than 90%. I am pleading with families to meet this challenge so that we can ensure your children reach their potential.

NAPLAN
Individual student NAPLAN reports have gone home this week and while we have not reached the lofty heights of our 2015 performance, we have continued to improve our percentage of students achieving at the higher end of these tests. NAPLAN is an important piece of information that assists us in tracking and measuring the performance of students and the school; however, it is not the only measure of success and should be considered with the range of other assessment we collect on student performance. If you have any concerns regarding the information in the NAPLAN student report, please make a time to discuss this with your child’s teacher.

Steve Kanowski
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY

Attendance
BESS Attendance Target: 95%
BESS Current Attendance: 88.63%

Our attendance has reached a critical low as a whole school. Students are expected to be at school each day, unless there is a significant illness. Our teachers are talking about attendance with students every day, but we require the support and diligence from parents to ensure children attend each and every day.

Each day of missed learning, contributes to social and academic difficulties for your child. Our teachers plan student learning to flow on from day to day. When a child misses a day of learning, this interrupts the sequence of learning and they develop ‘gaps’ in their learning.

We have a number of support staff available to assist you, if there are issues preventing your child attending school. Please contact the office to make an appointment with me if you wish to discuss your child’s attendance.

Also, help us spread the message that Every Day Counts. Talk to your friends, families and
neighbours if you notice their child/ren aren’t attending school!

Volunteering
In the last newsletter, I appealed for help with some Volunteer time for Year 1. We have a number of students who would benefit from extra practice with letters, sounds and Magic Words. If you have some time to spare at all during the school day, please drop in to the office and leave your name and I will be in contact. Even if you can spare 30mins of your time during the week at drop off or pick up time, our teachers and students would greatly appreciate it!

Enrolments for 2017
Prep
If you have a child ready for Prep in 2017, we welcome you to join us for a Prep Enrolment Info Session on Aug 17, 5:30-6:30pm. Children born between 1st July 2011 and 30th June 2012 are due to start Prep in January 2017. In Queensland, children DO NOT have to wait until they are 5 before starting school. If you are unsure or confused, please come along to Info session or contact our school office. Please make sure you share any information in our newsletters and on our Facebook page with family members, friends or neighbours who have Prep age students for 2017.

High School – Year 7
Our local high schools are beginning to share information with us about Year 7 2017 enrolments. Parents of Year 6 students, we encourage you to enrol your students for Year 7 over the next term, rather than waiting for January. We are working closely with some of our closest high schools to ensure the best possible transition for your children, so please contact us if you have any questions about enrolling your child in high school for 2017.

Kathryn Marshall
Deputy

Berrinba Olympics
What a perfect day for our Junior Sports Day on Tuesday. The sun was shining and our athletes were in peak physical condition! Congratulations to all students who participated in the events. The main aim of the day was maximum participation and all students showed persistence when competing in all events.

I would also like to congratulate the Year 6 students who ran the events on the day, for the responsible and professional way they performed their roles. Well done!

Field Files
Round 2 saw more successes for Berrinba in Interschool Sport. The students are proving themselves to be great ambassadors as they represent our school each week.

Results
Touch
Senior: BESS 1 defeated Springwood Road State School.
BESS 2 were defeated by Crestmead State School.
Junior: BESS were defeated by Springwood Road State School.
AFL
BESS were defeated by Chatswood Hills.
Basketball
Senior Girls: were defeated by Groves Christian College.
Senior Boys: were defeated by Groves Christian College.

Round 3 sees the Basketball teams travelling to Rochedale South State School to compete. Please note, due to traffic, students may arrive back slightly late to school this Friday. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

P&C News

General Meeting
The next P&C General Meeting will be Wednesday 17th August 2016 at 6:30pm in the hall. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.
P&C Shop
Opening hours: Thursday and Friday 8:00am to 9:00am. Please remember CASH ONLY!

Father’s Day Stall
Will be held on Monday 29th, Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st August 2016. Great gifts from 50c to $10 for dad, pop, pa, grandad, uncle and more. The stall will be near the tuckshop from 8:00am to 9:00am and 2:00pm to 3:00pm each day. If you are interested in helping at the father’s day stall please see Sarah.

Cadbury Chocolate Fundraiser
A number of money and unsold chocolates have not yet been returned. If you are one of these families please ensure you return them to the P&C shop immediately.

Tuckshop
Tuckshop is open every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8:00am onwards. Orders for 1st and 2nd break are due by 8:30am. Counter Sales are available at 2nd break from 1:10 - 1:30pm only.

School Banking
Every Friday is Banking Day. Please mail your bank books into the P&C Mail Box by 8:45am every Friday. Books will then be returned to your class. Allow up to 3 business days for the deposits to be credited to you accounts.

B.E.S.S. Multicultural Festival
Friday 2nd September 3:00pm - 8:00pm. Join our event on Facebook to keep up to date with all the latest information.

Help Needed
P&C are looking for someone to help get some banners made up to advertise the festival in the local area. If you or someone you know can help, please contact P&C. We invite everyone to help promote our festival online & in the community. Volunteers are also needed to visit local businesses and organisations to secure sponsorship funds and donations!

Sponsorship and Donations
A value packed Sponsorship Package is available. Please visit the website for details. Appropriate donations for raffle prizes are greatly appreciated and can be brought to the P&C Shop.

Get involved
Ethnic and community organisations are invited to share their culture by providing entertainment, or by being a stallholder at the event. Please visit the website for details.

Contact P&C on 0432 478 257 or email pandc@berreastss.eq.edu.au Festival Website: www.berrinbaeastssmulticulturalfestival.com.au

WOOL NEEDED
If you have any balls of wool you no longer need, (even partly used ones), we would love to have them at our school for our craft boxes. All colours and types are welcome! Please bring donations to the office.

PREP 2017 ENROLMENTS
ENROLMENT OPEN EVENINGS for 2017
Wednesday, 17th August 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Wednesday, 7th September 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Pre-Prep Transition Classes – REGISTER NOW!!!!!
Monday August 22nd, 29th & September 5th.

Transition classes support a seamless transition to school and will begin in week 4 on Monday August 1st from 1:00 -2:30 p.m. Parents and children will engage in a variety of pre-prep activities to support early literacy and numeracy. These weekly sessions allow pre-prep children (Prep 2017) to familiarise themselves with our school community and staff. Registration is required by expressing your interest at the school office 3489 6777.

GRANDPARENTS DAY
Grandparent's Day is a wonderful way to spend time with your grandchildren and to get to see what they do at school. We know that a lot of the students have Grandparents that don't live close enough or have to work and can't attend. So if there is someone who is LIKE A GRANDPARENT to your kids they would be most welcome to attend as surrogate Grandparents for the day. We are all looking forward to seeing you there. For more details about the day contact Wendy Hilton at the school on 34896777 or drop in to the Chaplains room in E block.