FROM THE PRINCIPAL

School Staffing
As some of you would be aware, schools are staffed by the enrolment on the 8th day of the school year. In previous years, this process has seen new classes formed, classes disbanded and students moved. While our enrolment numbers are not what we had anticipated, at this stage, changes will be minor. Any student movement will be communicated with parents and done so with the objective of keeping class sizes to a minimum. We have also started the year with some teaching positions not filled. These positions include the PE, LOTE and Special Needs positions. It is anticipated this positions will be finalised and filled for the start of Week 3.

Parent movement within the school
To minimise distractions for our students and to ensure the good order of our school, I ask parents to comply with the following requests:

- Parents and students should not arrive at school prior to 8.00am in the morning. The only exception to this is if there is an arranged meeting with a staff member.
- Parents should not arrive to collect their children before 2.00pm. Parents arriving at school before this time are required to sign in at the office.
- When moving through the school, parents should not address students other than their own. If there is an issue with a student, please inform a staff member to address.

We appreciate this increased parent interest in our school and the learning of our students. There will be multiple opportunities throughout the year where parents will have the opportunity to visit classrooms and see the wonderful work of our students. In the meantime, I would encourage parents to be mindful of the distraction they could possibly cause when moving through our school, especially during learning time.

Parent and Citizen Association
The next general meeting of the P&C will be on Wednesday 17th February starting at 6.00pm in the staffroom. The following week on Wednesday 24th February, again at 6.00pm in the staffroom, will be the P&C Annual General Meeting.

Despite being small in number, the P&C was responsible for the following initiatives in 2015 –

- Shade cover of the 3/4 playground
- Covered walkway to the hall
- Hosting the inaugural Multi-Cultural Festival.

Parent volunteers, regardless of the time they are able to commit, are crucial to operation of a successful P&C. I would encourage all interested parents to attend one or both of these meetings.

Smooth Start
While we have had one or two minor hiccups, our students have started the year off with the right foot with 98% of students remaining in the learning zone for the first few days of school. This has enabled for learning to start straight away with many classes deep into the planning set for Term 1. I would like to commend the staff and students for their commitment to our school vision of academic excellence.

Steve Kanowski
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

TALKING ABOUT SCHOOL

How was school today?

Fine

What did you learn?

Nothing

Is this how the conversation usually goes after school? It is very important for parents/carers to talk with their children about school to both show an interest in their learning and to show them that they care about how they are going. It can be difficult to get children to talk about the details of
the day, what they learned and how they felt. Try some of the following questions to get the conversation started:

Sun Safety – Hat Reminder

We are a Sun Safe school and students are required to wear a brimmed hat to play. At the moment we have many students having to remain undercover at playtime because they don’t have, or have forgotten, their hat. Please check that your child is packing their hat in their school bag and that it is clearly named. If you need to purchase a new hat, reversible bucket hats (Sports House colour on one side) are available from the Uniform Shop for $15.

Kathryn Marshall
Deputy Principal

At BESS, Explicit Instruction is used as the primary mode of instruction when introducing students to new knowledge and/or skills. The teacher actively directs the students in learning and focuses on ensuring all students achieve and consolidate the learning intentions.

Consistent language of WALT, WILF and TIB is used across all classrooms, every day in every lesson. What do they stand for???
WALT – We are Learning to…. WILF –What I’m Looking for…
TIB – This is because….

A learning intention is a statement that describes what students will learn and is the focus of instruction. It provides clarity for students and teachers by focusing attention on the teaching of concepts and skills. It provides academic, personal and/or real-life relevance and purpose.

Have you asked your child what they were learning today?

Assessment Update:
During the next fortnight, teachers will be collecting reading assessments for all their students. Reading behaviours, fluency, retell and comprehension will be recorded in order to set appropriate and timely goals for individual students. During small group reading, students will work towards achieving these goals and articulate:
• where they are
• where they need to be
• how will they know when they get there

Your support with daily home reading will encourage practice and review of skills needed to meet these goals.

Terra-Lee Peters

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 19th
Student Leader Inductions
March 19th
Queensland Election Day
March 24th
Last day of Term 1
April 11th
First day of Term 2
CLASSROOM FRIDGES

With the hot days upon us, we would like to remind parents of the availability of fridges in classrooms for students use. This allows them to bring healthy food choices for lunch that would normally spoil without refrigeration – salads, sushi, yoghurt, fruit salad, watermelon slices, milk, etc... Please ensure your child’s name is clearly marked on the items.

HEALTHY SNACK IDEAS

The following snack ideas are suggestions to pack for school - they are nutritious, tasty, quick and easy to prepare.

- Pancake or pikelet (add mashed bananas to mixture for a change)
- Fruit/date/pumpkin/ or plain scone
- Wholemeal crackers and a slice of low fat cheese
- Rice cakes with a thin scrape reduced-fat cream cheese (eg. Philadelphia Lite) and Vegemite
- Celery sticks with a thin spread of peanut butter topped with sultanas
- Slice of low fat cheese with a bundle of carrot and celery sticks
- Small handful of dried fruit
- Small container of assorted salads (eg. tabouli, pasta, rice)
- Salad box with a hard-boiled egg, cherry tomatoes and a bread roll
- Vegetarian quiche or frittata
- Noodles with chicken and snow peas
- Steamed dim sims - still delicious cold
- Sushi rice roll with avocado, carrot and tuna
- Chicken drumstick
- Frozen banana (spear peeled banana with icy-pole stick and freeze) or other frozen fruit such as grapes, peeled orange or mandarin segments
- Fruit kebabs (use icy-pole sticks).

RECEIPTING DAYS

School payments can be made on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the payment window. Thank you to the parents who have made payments for their students. These receipts are now available to be picked up from the office.

P&C NEWS

President's Message

Already we have seen some things we haven't seen for a long time... book packs were a hit and will definitely be organised again for 2017, our new convenor opened tuckshop and was busy with orders from the first day of school, and our senior shirts arrived day 3, and are already being proudly worn by Year 6 students! What a start!

Our first big fundraiser for the year will be our famous BBQ and cake stall during the upcoming council election! It will be all hands on deck to make the most of the opportunity!

Our next general meeting is on Wednesday 17th February at 6 pm in the staffroom. All welcome!!

WOOF WOOF guards our bright red P&C mail box. All P&C money and notes can be mailed there. Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. It is cleared daily. NO MONEY LEFT THERE OVER NIGHT.

2016 AGM

At the start of each year, the P&C holds an Annual General Meeting (AGM) to decide on the year ahead and vote in an executive committee, officers and coordinators. These work with the school towards the P&C’s goal of supporting students and improving school facilities and programs.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming more involved in the P&C or finding out about what P&C does, please, come along to the next meeting, visit www.pandcsqld.com.au or contact us on 0432 478 257 or email pandc@berreastss.eq.edu.au

Our Annual General Meeting will be held Wednesday 24th February 2016 at 6pm in the staffroom. We are always looking for fresh faces with new ideas to join our P&C.
Uniform Shop
New Opening hours are Tuesday & Thursday from 8.15 - 8.30am. Please remember NO EFTPOS - CASH ONLY!

We still have a few laybys to be collected. Remember full payment must be received and all laybys collected by Thursday 11th February.

Have you seen our new polos proudly displaying our school emblem? They look great! Now available at just $28 each! We also have a new range of shorts and skorts $20 each, and chair bags for just $6!

NEW & EXCLUSIVE: Berrinba East Library Bags!
Great for books, music, or even get one for shopping! Just $2.50 each! PLUS: Hair Accessories, elastics, and house coloured curly ribbons are just $2.50 each!

TUCKSHOP
A range of healthy and tasty lunches are available. Burger patties, lasagne, pizza, and sushi are all made on the premises. Menus are available from the Tuckshop. Prepaid bags are also available – 20 for $2. Volunteers are ALWAYS needed and ALWAYS welcome!

Tuckshop is open Wednesday to Friday. 1st break: orders only. Orders must be received by 8.45am or risk your lunch being late. 2nd break: orders and counter sales. Counter sales close strictly at 8.15am before school, and 1.30pm at 2nd break. CASH ONLY! Advanced ordering and prepaid options available.

SCHOOL BANKING
Now is a great time to set your savings goals for 2016! Our student banking program has some great new prizes. Every deposit earns a token, even 5c! 10 tokens can be redeemed for a prize! Your tokens can be rolled over to next year.

Banking day is Friday. ‘Mail’ your deposit book into ‘Woof Woof’ by 8.45am Friday. Books will be returned to your class.

A new account opening day will be held soon. All children, including non-students, can participate in our school banking program. Watch this space for further information.

SCHOOL CAR PARK

Schools are busy areas where there are often lots of children who do not always understand the danger of roads and vehicles. Be sure to take extra care when parking on school grounds and on the streets around the school.

Parking
Signs and markings found near schools are:

- parking signs (for example, 15 minute parking limits during school hours)
- no stopping signs
- yellow edge lines (stopping and parking is prohibited)
- no parking signs
- loading zone signs (used in pick-up or drop-off areas).

Parking safety tips
Although our school offers the safety of parking in the parent carpark, these parks can fill up quickly. If you choose to park on the roads or streets:

- Say goodbye to your children on the school side of the road - never get them to cross the road to the school's entrance alone
- Walk across the road and meet your children after school (never call out to them from the other side)
- Leave home early to avoid arriving at the busiest times
- Follow the directions of all signs
- Park a safe distance from all crossings
- Always single park (double parking causes accidents and traffic jams)

It has also been brought to our attention that some parents are leaving their cars running unattended in the carpark when picking up their children. Anyone could hop into the driver's seat, including children, and cause all kinds of mayhem, either intentionally or accidentally. You must secure/lock your vehicle before leaving it parked on a road or in a school car park. Your vehicle is considered unattended when you are more than 3 metres away from it. This rule applies to all road-related areas, including car parks.
Before you leave the vehicle you must:
- Switch off the engine
- Apply the parking brake
- Remove the ignition key if there is no one 16 years of age or older in the vehicle
- Wind up the windows if possible, a gap of 5cm or less is acceptable
- Lock the doors if possible.

ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

There has been a slight change this year to the procedures if students arrive late to school (after 8.30am).

If students arrive BEFORE 9.00am, they can go straight to their class where they will be marked late on the roll by the teacher. If they arrive AFTER 9.00am, students need to come directly to the office and collect a late pass.

LOST PROPERTY

We have a lost and found box outside the Breakfast Club which contains the lost property of students. Please ensure you have all your students clothing and hats CLEARLY MARKED WITH THEIR NAME AND CLASSROOM for easy identification. As you are passing through, please check to see if any of the items belong to your children.

BREAKFAST CLUB

What a fantastic first week back we had in Breakfast Club!!! Everyone was so excited, and there were lots of happy faces.

The Breakfast Club at our school operates 5 mornings a week and all students are welcome to attend. It is held in the Admin courtyard from 8.00am – 8.25am and provides students with a free, nutritious breakfast of fresh fruit (when available), toast and cereal.

To ensure students don’t become bored with the food choices on offer, we occasionally provide additional healthy items throughout the term. This includes items such as juice (low sugar), yoghurt, sultanas, tinned fruit, banana smoothies and wholemeal pikelets.

Students are expected to behave appropriately whilst at Breakfast Club. There are posters around the courtyard detailing the 10 rules that students need to follow. Please encourage your child to be aware of these rules.

If you are interested in volunteering one morning a week or have any general inquiries about this program, please see one of the helpful volunteers in the courtyard each morning.

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL

Do you want to keep up to date with what’s going on around our school? A great way to ensure you don’t miss out on important events is through the school newsletter. Alternately, if you have a smartphone, download the QSchools App, search for your school, and then add to your favourites. Issued weekly on a Friday, you can also access the newsletter through the school website www.berreastss.eq.edu.au. There is an option to subscribe to our electronic newsletter, click on this and fill in your details and the newsletter will be emailed to you.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud”