FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Student Engagement
At Berrinba East State School we are firm in our belief that student engagement is the key to schooling success. An engaged student behaves better in class, interacts better with other students, achieves higher levels of academic success and is generally much happier than disengaged students. Research from all over the world indicates that more students are disengaging from school and at a much earlier age. One of the predominate theories behind this is that there has been a significant cultural shift in what students perceive as fun. In the past, when children were bored, they would read a book, engage in imaginative play, play outdoors (which required social and problem solving skills) and talk to others. Key skills to access these activities were literacy skills and social skills. With the advent of technology these activities are seen as ‘hard work’ instead of something to enjoy.

Schools are places were students are required to interact with others and to develop their literacy and numeracy skills. In order to avoid students from seeing school as ‘hard work’ I would encourage families to reflect upon the following points –

- How many technology devices do you have in your household compared to books?
- How many theme parks has your child visited compared to museums and art galleries?
- What amount of time per day does your child spend engaging with technology compared to the time they spend engaging with other people?
- How many ‘active’ hours does your child achieve in a day? Active hours are hours where students spend the majority of their time with an elevated heart rate through exercise.

Logan is blessed with a wide range of world class parks, libraries, cultural and sporting facilities, many of them being within walking distance of our school. I would encourage all families to take advantage of the resources available.

Prep Orientation
Despite it being July, we are already commencing our Prep Orientation activities. This involves pre-

FROM THE DEPUTY

Attendance
Our school attendance rate is currently sitting at 89%. This means on average each student in our school is on track to miss four and a half weeks of school. An attendance rate this low has the potential to prevent us from achieving our goal as being recognised as an academic school of excellence. I am expecting to see an improved attendance in Term 3.

School Sport
Today we had a large number of students participating in Inter-School Sport. This is the first time in many years that the school has participated in Inter-School Sport on this scale. I would like to thank Ms Holt, Mrs Bradford and the Year 5 and 6 Teachers for their commitment to make this happen. I would also like to make mention of the contribution the P&C has made to keep the cost to
students to a minimum. Without the P&C’s contribution, the student cost would be close to being triple what it currently is.

Kathryn Marshall
Deputy

UPCOMING EVENTS

8th August       Ekka Show Holiday
9th August       Junior Athletics Carnival
22nd – 26th August Bookweek
2nd September    Multicultural Festival

P&C NEWS

GENERAL MEETING
The next P&C General Meeting will be Wednesday 17th August 2016 at 6:30pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

P&C SHOP
Opening hours: Thursday and Friday 8.00am to 9.00am. Please remember CASH ONLY!

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club operates 5 mornings a week from 8.00am – 8.25am, and is open to all students. We are always on the lookout for volunteers, so if you are able to assist one morning a week, please leave your details at the office.

Recently we cooked up a special treat – wholemeal pikelets. These were extremely popular with the students. Maybe you could make some of these healthy snacks this weekend – they are also great in the school lunchbox!!!

Wholemeal Pikelets
1 cup wholemeal self-raising flour
1 tablespoon sugar
1 egg
¾ cup of milk

Mix all ingredients together to make a smooth batter. Cook large spoonful’s of this mixture in a non-stick pan, turning when bubbles appear. Serve with fresh berries or mashed banana.

SPORT NEWS

Interschool Sport
I am pleased to announce that our Year Five and Six students are participating in Interschool Sport this semester. Throughout the season students will travel to various venues, each Friday afternoon, to represent the school in either Touch, AFL or Basketball. Students who remain at school will participate in an alternative sport program on Friday afternoons.

As a representative of the school, students are expected to wear full school uniform and behave appropriately at all times. I wish all students who are representing the school good luck and I look forward to updating the school community on their progress each week.

A friendly reminder that school fees, and Interschool Sport fees must be paid by Wednesday 3rd August for students to be assured their spot in their chosen sport. As numbers are limited, students were accepted into teams on a first in first served basis and as such if payments are not made by the due date the positions will be reoffered to other students.

Junior Sports Day
The ‘Berrinba Olympics’ for Prep through to Year 3 is on Tuesday 9th August. The aim of the carnival is for full participation and to experience a variety of fun tabloid activities that develop skill, resilience and fitness. There will be no points allocated for any events – it is about the students having FUN.

The students would love you to come along and support them, so save the date. Don’t forget your hat, sunscreen and water bottle!

Event times
8:30 -10:30    Prep and Year Three
11:10 -1:10    Year One and Year Two

Michelle Bradford
HPE Specialist Teacher
PREP 2017 ENROLMENTS

Berrinba East State School offers:

- Vibrant & Inclusive Learning Environment
- Innovative English & Mathematics Instruction
- Dynamic & Challenging Curriculum
- Individualised Learning Goals
- Devoted & Energetic Staff

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 1st, 15th, 22nd, 29th & September 5th

Preparation 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.

HEALTHY LUNCH IDEAS

The following snack ideas are suggestions to pack for school or to prepare at home between main meals. 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 & a slice of low fat cheese
- Rice cakes with thin scrape reduced-fat cream cheese (eg. Philadelphia Lite) and Vegemite
- Celery sticks with a thin spread of peanut butter topped with sultanas
- 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
- 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

Don’t forget all students have access to a fridge in their classroom. Please ensure your child's lunch is clearly named.

STUDENT ONLINE BOOKING SYSTEM

At Berrinba East State School we run an Attendance program called Student Online Booking System (SOBS). SOBS sends out a text message to a nominated parent notifying them of an unexplained absence for their child.

To ensure the accuracy of this system, it is important that parents/caregivers ring the school before 9:00am to advise if their child(ren) will be absent on that day.

GARDEN DONATIONS NEEDED

Our groundsman is keen to start up a greenhouse at the school to allow him the opportunity to grow a variety of local seedlings and shrubs to plant around the school. He is seeking donations of the following items:

- Garden Equipment (trowels, shovels, spades, digging forks, shadecloth, etc…)
- Seedlings
- Packet seeds (any sort)
- Empty plastic pot plants – all sizes
- Empty seedling trays
- Polystyrene boxes

We would also greatly appreciate any donations of mature plants.

Please bring items to the office.