Welcome back

I would like to welcome all new and returning families back to Berrinba after the holiday break. As I pointed out numerous times last year, 2015 was by far the best year the school had seen in recent memory with students on average reading at higher levels, performing better on school assessment and NAPLAN while also experiencing a significant reduction in behaviour incidences. If our first few days is any indicator, I anticipate that we will have an even better year in 2016.

New Staff

We have had a number of new staff commence at Berrinba this year. Many of these staff were involved in our bump up week last year as well as participating in staff professional development last week. I would encourage you to join me in welcoming the following new staff to our school –

- Ms Kathryn Marshall – Deputy Principal
- Mrs Michelle Hambly – Head of Special Education Services
- Mr Kevin Bell – Year 6 Teacher
- Ms Melissa Hitchcock – Year 1 Teacher
- Mrs Casie-Marie Mitchell – Year 1 Teacher

As is the case every year, staffing for the year is determined by the student enrolment on the 8th day of school (Friday of week 2). At this stage it is anticipated that we will see some minor changes to our staff and class structure after this point.

Parents in the school grounds

While we encourage parental involvement in student learning, already this week we have seen a number of parents staying on the school grounds for extended periods of time. I would like to ask parents not to arrive at school prior to 8.00am in the morning and 2.00pm in the afternoon. Parents in the school grounds prior to 2.00pm have the potential to distract students from the learning occurring in the classroom.

Parade

There will be a change to Parade this year with Parade being held every second Friday afternoon (even weeks) starting at 2.00pm. This decision was made to increase the learning time students have in class. Again I would like extend a warm welcome to all parents to attend our parade. Our first parade for the year will be on Friday 5th February. Our student leader induction and badge ceremony will be held at the following parade on Friday 19th February.

Student Resource Scheme

By now you should have received paperwork regarding the school resource scheme. By having this $30.00 fee per student we are able to create significant savings for families by not having to have expensive textbooks on the school book list. This was evident with the book list packages sold by the P&C averaging approximately $50.00 while the booklist order at other schools are costing up to $150. I would encourage you to pay this levy as soon as possible so that we can get much needed resources to our students.

Steve Kanowski
Principal
UPCOMING EVENTS

19 February - Student Leader Inductions
19 March - Queensland Election Day
24 March - Last day of term
11 April - First day back Term Two

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

P&C SHOP

Welcome to all new and existing families. We look forward to a productive and rewarding year in 2016.

Our next general meeting will be Wednesday, 17th February 2016 at 6 pm in the staff room.

2016 AGM

At the start of each year, P&C holds an Annual General Meeting (AGM) to decide on the year ahead and vote in an executive committee, officers and coordinators, who work together in 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 and their contribution to the school, 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 hall. All members of our school community are encouraged to attend. We are always looking for fresh faces with new ideas to join our P&C. Membership is FREE!!

TEACHING STAFF 2016

Prep SH – Stephanie Hansen
Prep TH – Tamsyn Henry
Prep MR – Miranda Rallings
1MH – Melissa Hitchcock
1CM – Casey-Marie Mitchell
1MF – Michelle Fritz
2AH – Amy Hayes
2TF – Tanya Farrar
2/3KF – Kylie Foord
3KF – Kerrie Frohlich
3AC – Alison Coverdale
3/4/5 KW – Kyla Willcocks
4AS – Ashlee Sundblom
4MC – Matt Cooper
5NC – Natalie Clarke
5EM – Liz Mura
6CF – Chris Frohlich
6KB – Kevin Bell

Kathryn Marshall
Deputy Principal
P&C SHOP
Opening hours: Monday 1st - Friday 5th February 2016, 8.15 – 8.45am. Regular opening hours will then be Tuesday & Thursday only 8.15 - 8.30am. Please remember: NO EFTPOS - CASH ONLY!

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

TUCKSHOP
Congratulations to our new Convenor, Rechelle, who has already hit the ground running and is very excited to be offering students a range of healthy and tasty lunches, many are made on premises. Volunteers are ALWAYS needed and ALWAYS welcome!

Menus are available from the Tuckshop. Prepaid bags are also available – 20 for $2.

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

SCHOOL BANKING
Welcome back everyone. Now is a great time to set your savings goals for 2016! Banking day is Friday. ‘Mail’ your deposit book into ‘Woof Woof’ by 8.45am Friday. Books will be returned to your class. Please allow up to 3 business days for deposits to be credited into your account. Happy saving!

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.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
WOW what a busy year 2015 was! For those who have moved on, a big thank you for all your help. For returning members, thank you for your help during the year. Mark your calendars now for our first general meeting so we can hit the ground running in 2016. Welcome to all our new families. Look forward to meeting as many new faces as possible!

Our first big fundraiser for the year will be our famous BBQ and cake stall during the upcoming council election on March 19! It will be all hands on deck to make the most of the opportunity! Stay tuned for more information to come.

BREAKY CLUB
Breaky Club will recommence on Monday, 1st February from 8am to 8.25am. STUDENTS MUST ARRIVE BEFORE 8.20am TO ENSURE THEY HAVE TIME TO EAT! All students are invited to come and enjoy a free, nutritious breakfast. Breakfast Club operates every day in the Admin courtyard. We look forward to seeing you there!

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.

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. 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.