Dear Parents / Caregivers

Last Monday night at our P&C Meeting, we discussed with our parents the facts and information to explore the possibility of Burpengary State School becoming an Independent Public School. The official second round of Expressions of Interest actually came out the same afternoon the newsletter went to print. The closing date for the EOI is August 30, so the consultation process will continue through to the next P&C meeting. To ensure every parent and community member has access to the same information as the P&C, the IPS Prospectus and information sheets are posted on our revamped website for perusal at your leisure. For some local knowledge, our neighbouring Narangba Valley State High School was a first round selection and has been operating as an Independent Public School since January this year. Please do not hesitate to phone me or make an appointment with me at school if you have questions that you would like answered regarding this matter.

We have our inaugural Open Day coming up on Friday, July 26 for parents who are considering enrolment for their child at Burpengary State School in 2014, from Prep to Year 7. It is an opportunity to showcase to new families the excellent learning edge that this school gives its students. We plan an information session, a showcase of our excellent class rooms, and morning tea in the Kitchen-Garden area. Please encourage your friends who may even be just thinking about enrolling children here to take the opportunity to come along and see for themselves our first class work.

Parents who attend parades and all students have heard me speaking about a new criterion for attaining a Citizenship Award starting in Term 3, Semester 2. The new criterion is attendance at school. A student who does not have a valid, authorised reason for non-attendance at school is not demonstrating our school values of Learning, Respect, Commitment and Care, nor are they being responsible, respectful and considerate learners, and they certainly will be impeded in becoming confident learners! The graph below clearly shows the steady decline in student performance on NAPLAN as the number of absence from school increases. Already, we perform above State means for attendance, and we have improved attendance rates by nearly 1% which, put a different way, means 1,000 more student learning days at school last semester than the semester before – that is significant!

![Queensland State School Attendance Rate by NAPLAN Mean Scale Score (Semester 1, 2009)](attachment)

Research shows that poor school attendance is associated with: lower academic achievement including literacy and numeracy; early school leaving; leaving school with fewer qualifications; reduced opportunities for students to learn and access educational resources, further limiting achievement; further absenteeism in higher year levels and increased alcohol, tobacco, and substance use in adolescents. This is why attendance is related to Citizenship, and this is why I am serious about improving attendance for our children at Burpengary State School. Even though it is already good – I know we can do even better, and that will mean better learning for every child!

On July 25, our visitors from West Japan arrive in the school at 3.00pm in the afternoon, after enjoying an excursion to SeaWorld for the day. Our guests will come to school each day with the children from our host families and engage with a week of learning English in Australia. This is such a great cultural exchange and experience for all involved at Burpengary State School – I look forward to it every year!

To other news …

1. We now have 104 Prep enrolments for 2014. Please assist us to have these 2014 numbers early, by parents notifying the office and arranging an enrolment interview, as if these numbers surpass 150 students I will need to commence advocating for an extra Prep teaching space as soon as possible.

CRICOS Provider No.: 00608A
2. A periodic reminder that the QSchools app is available for parents to download FREE via the Apple iTunes store and Google Play. Once you have added our school as a favourite, the app will display school location, contact information, news, calendar events and newsletters. This information will feed directly from our website, so that when content is updated and published to our website, the app will also be automatically updated. You can also add other state schools as favourites. To assist you we have added a quicklink on our school’s homepage to the DETE website. For more information, go to (http://deta.qld.gov.au/about/apps/education/qschools.html).

3. Next P&C Meeting is Monday night, August 19, at 7.00pm in the Staff Lounge. Lock it in your diary.

4. Library News:
   Term 3 is an exciting time in our libraries as we celebrate Book Week. We will have lots of activities and some competitions for your children to participate in. There will be further information in upcoming newsletters. Please remind your child(ren) to return any book that was borrowed before the holidays as it will now be overdue. Your continued help is most appreciated.
   The Junior Library keeps changing so make sure you come in and have a look at what’s new. Some children are still discovering that we have new coloured walls!
   If you ever wanted to know how the internet actually works in simple language have a look at this short video. A great way to explain it to children too!!
   http://www.wimp.com/internetworks/

5. Whole School Weekly Behaviour Focus
   Each week our school identifies a particular whole school student behaviour focus. The strategies that students need to use are shared on parades and discussed in classes. These are based on our Burpengary State School Student Behaviour Expectations. Gotchas are given to students each week when they are identified as demonstrating positive behaviours including our focus behaviour. Gotchas are then drawn each week on parade for lucky draw prizes. For Week 3 our focus will be: As a Confident Learner, I cope well with change and conflict. (I use the High Five problem solving strategies to deal with peer conflict). This will support all students in making strong choices to solve peer conflict and continue to make Burpengary State School a safe and supportive school. We ask that you remind your children of our school rules and support the school in continuing to provide a safe and supportive school environment for students to learn at their best.

6. An AFL Auskick Program commences on the Burpengary State School Oval, Friday after school starting 26th July 2013 from 3.20pm – 4.20pm. It runs for 8 weeks, and costs $60. Simply register and pay online before Sunday 28th July 2013 to receive 4 FREE TICKETS (2 adults, 2 children) for a selected match to see the Brisbane Lions play at the Gabba. For more information, visit aflauskick.com.au or call 38658700.

7. Celebrate Canteen Week – If parents are interested in a tour of the tuckshop on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th July between 9 and 9.30am please give the office a call so we can add you to our list. Please come along and say hello and join in our celebrations for next week. We will be participating in the first ever Celebrate Canteen Week” 22nd – 26th July 2013. A special meal deal will be available for lunch everyday next week with your choice of either a spaghetti bolognese, hot dog, toasted ham & cheese sandwich or hawaiian single serve pizza which comes with a 150ml juice popper, chips and a chocolate iceblock for a great price of $5.00. The meal deal is only available by ordering online through flexischools. Check out www.flexischools.com.au for more information, you just need to register and follow the prompts.

Tuckshop Roster:

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Until next week,

Brad Fox
A/Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Open Days

3rd August 2013

Kindergarten/Prep

Gymnastics

Zumba

3-5 years old 11:00am-1:00pm

2-3 years old 10:00am-11:00am

3.5-5 years old 10:00am-11:00am

2-3 years old 10:00am-11:00am

2-3 years old 11:00am-12:00pm

3-5 years old 11:00am-12:00pm

3.5-5 years old 12:00pm-1:00pm

5% Discount for all

$30.00 per family

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