Dear Parents / Caregivers

I am very pleased to announce this week that Burpengary State School has submitted an application for becoming an Independent Public School in round two for 2014. This followed a wide consultation process with the school, parents and broader community. All applications submitted (and hundreds are expected) will be assessed by the Minister’s Office and the 30 successful schools will be announced late in 2013, to commence in 2014. I was very happy with the quality of the case we were able to present, and we have given the school every chance of success for this proposal.

Thank you for the brilliant response to requests for Fete items and volunteers. Cake mixes and sugar are all good now.

**VOLUNTEERS** are still the number 1 in priority to ensure a brilliant day for our children. Volunteer sign-up forms are available in all classrooms, at the front office, and from the website. If many people give us just one hour of their time, our kids will have an event to remember.

Secondly, the P&C needs your support to donate specific items. This week, it is LONG LIFE MILK, EGGS, and BUTTER, please! Pop one of these items in the shopping trolley this weekend for next to nothing!!

SOFT DRINK CANS, POPPERS or WATER is helpful (but not Coke as we have enough of every type! No Homebrand drinks, please). Finally, any empty 2L or 4L ice-cream containers from home, preferably with lids please, will come in very handy for the Fete stalls.

For parents, if we sell 500 wristbands by Tuesday, the Amusements and Rides company will install one extra ride for our Fete and the benefit of the students!! I personally go by the motto that the-money-is-better-off-in-my-pocket-until-the-last-minute, but there is an extra incentive for our children if we pay by Tuesday at the latest, rather than Friday. There is also one more draw opportunity for the highly prized GOLDEN WRISTBAND from an online Flexischools purchase.

As there will be large crowds on Fete Day, I ask that we are very careful and considerate community-minded citizens.

- **Take a walk to the Fete** if you live close enough, and reserve the limited parking spaces for those travelling far.
- **Take care where we park**, as our neighbours should not have to tolerate cars parked up on their footpaths or in driveways. In fact, in planning conversations with Police during this last week, they highlighted the fact that it is an offence carrying a $44 fine if people park on the footpath grass, and they will be actively patrolling the site on Fete day.
- Both the Prep Oval and the Junior 3&4 Oval will be parking lots, so please fill these first and make a gold coin donation to the SES for the privilege. The Jill Street car park will be closed for stall holders and emergency services vehicles use only.
- **As the school is State Government property, I remind parents there is definitely NO SMOKING.**
- **Be safe, patient and smile away the day** to ensure everybody has a great time!

Thanks in anticipation of our usual Burpengary commitment to the school and our students to make it a truly wonderful community event!

To other news …

1. **Curriculum Resource Room – Book repairs:** If your child brings a reader home that is or becomes damaged would you please return it to your class teacher with a notation. Please do not attempt to repair at home as some tapes are unsuitable and cause further damage. Your assistance is appreciated.

2. **Payments**

   Parents are reminded all payments are to be made directly to the Office via the payment window at the front of the school where payments can be receipted immediately. This process avoids children being responsible for large sums of money or payments being lost. Payment envelopes are not to be given to the class teacher.

   **Coming up:**

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Payment Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instrumental Music Program</td>
<td>Own instrument School instrument</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td>Thursday 28 March</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$105.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brisbane Writers Festival</td>
<td>5A &amp; 6/7A</td>
<td>$25.40</td>
<td>Monday 2nd September</td>
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3. **To support families in the busy part of the day,** and to support the busy office staff to manage their time during peak periods, I encourage families to take note of our **Absence Line**, which is a defined mailbox where families may leave a message about their child’s absence at any time of the morning. The Absence Line number to stick on your fridge is: 3491 0366.

CRICOS Provider No.: 00608A
4. **Chappy Chat** - The September school holidays are coming up fast and if you are still looking for activities for your child, SU QLD will be running a camp for Grade 5 - 7 students from the 30th Sept - 4th October. These camps are a safe, fun environment for children. If you would like further information, please see Marie Wright (Chaplain).

5. **Whole School Weekly Behaviour / Learning 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 this week, our focus will be: As a Respectful and Considerate Learner. I work well in a team and help others.

As the school prepares for the fete next weekend, we all need to work together as a team to ensure we are prepared and the school is tidy and looking its' best. We also need to ensure that we are working well as a team to support everyone in the Burpengary SS team to help us to be the best we can be. Students are encouraged to be supportive of their peers and show great teamwork. 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. **Library News**

Congratulations to Prep B and 3E who won the Junior Library Class competition last week. They received a book prize on assembly this week.

The lucky ‘Library Star’ winners from last week were Tia Beatson from 1E and Bradley Clark from Prep E. They have both chosen their prizes and are now up on our Constellations noticeboard.

**Finding the ‘right fit’ book!**

As students move towards becoming independent readers, it’s important to help them learn to choose a book that they will enjoy whilst ensuring that it matches their maturity level and reading ability. The class teacher takes the responsibility of ensuring that children are borrowing suitable books during class borrowing time but we do have a couple of simple systems that we use to help children narrow down their choice. The first one is to follow BLIPA: Bblur. Llength. Interest. Ppictures. A sk for help.

Once they find a book that they think they will enjoy, we ask them perform the ‘Five Finger Test’. This is a quick and easy way to get a general idea of whether the book is within their reading level.

A random page full of writing is chosen and read. Each time they come to a word they cannot pronounce or a word they don’t know the meaning of they put up a finger. At the end of the reading they look at how many fingers they have up. The more fingers up the harder the book will be for them. We suggest that to read the book independently they should only end up with a maximum of 2 fingers up. If they are able to read the book with an older sibling or parent, then 3 fingers would be OK.

However, if we feel that a book contains concepts that may not be age appropriate, we will offer alternative suggestions. Please feel free to come in and see us and we can demonstrate the procedures for you.

Until next week,

Brad Fox
A/Principal

**Tuckshop Roster:** I have planned out the tuckshop roster a little bit differently from now on to highlight just how many volunteers are needed to make our wonderful tuckshop work at its best for children. Sometimes just seeing a name there means we might think everything is OK and we have volunteers every day. The reality is, Wednesday, Thursday and particularly Friday are bigger days – we need more helpers, please !!!

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<tr>
<th>Monday 02/09</th>
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<th>Wednesday 04/09</th>
<th>Thursday 05/09</th>
<th>Friday 06/09</th>
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<td>2. Sarah Gillies</td>
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**COMMUNITY NOTICES**