Dear Parents / Caregivers

This week I need to focus our community attention to those families crossing Station Road after school finishes at 3.00pm. Some students live in the housing estate on the Northern or Western side of Station Road as it veers around the corner, and others park in Leah Street in order to find a free space to park and pick up children.

After a recent request by me to examine the safety issues around families crossing Station Road near George Street, the Department of Transport responded by saying that they have provided the safest possible way to cross a busy road by providing a traffic light controlled pedestrian crossing at the corner of Station and O’Brien’s Roads. They have undertaken a series of risk assessment studies at both George Street and Jill Street within the last 3 years. They are aware that we teach children about road safety, and that I address issues in our newsletter. As a community, and with the Department’s support, we are doing everything we can.

“The assessments indicate that the current combination of traffic control devices at and around Burpengary State School have addressed all safety concerns raised by the school and school community in accordance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.” (Department of Transport)

In essence, it is our civic responsibility to walk the 70m to the controlled traffic signal, and cross Station Road in the safest possible manner. It is our moral responsibility to guide and teach children the safe and correct way to cross roads. I urge all families who need to cross Station Road to walk to the traffic lights. Remembering last week’s newsletter, what lifelong “teaching” are you providing for your own child if you don’t make this 70m walk to the lights? How costly is the inconvenience of a 70m walk compared to your child being badly hurt (or worse) from a road accident at an uncontrolled crossing? You answer these questions by your actions and behaviours every day.

As a community, please take care as both pedestrians and drivers in and around our school at 3.00pm. Please follow all road rules. Take the time to teach those important life lessons. It should be a “no brainer” – safety is everybody’s responsibility every single day.

As Autumn begins to bite, I ask families to be preparing wardrobes and, if necessary, budgets for Winter. Already some children are wearing jumpers to school. Please ensure that your child has a plain navy blue sweater, with no hoods, emblems or words emblazoned on them for their Winter uniform. The cold will be here before too long and a little time spent now means that our “Burpengary kids” will be immaculately attired in school uniform for the Winter period. Any families having difficulty ensuring that your child is consistently in full school uniform, please do not hesitate to make contact with me and we will work together for a solution.

Speaking of uniforms, from the Quadrennial School Review undertaken in 2012, the community expressed a readiness to examine our school’s public representations such as the school emblem, uniform, and consequential items such as letterhead. From the School Strategic Plan 2013-2016, a Review and Renew Committee was formed to commence this rollout. The achievements to date include the new school emblem released during the Graduation Ceremony of 2013, and featured on letterhead, the stage backdrop and the new signage on Station Road, and the establishment of a Uniform Committee with School Council, P&C, parent, staff and community representatives. The Uniform Committee ran a rigorous process including road-testing materials during school in-class trials to prove the effectiveness of textiles. They have three options to present to the school community for ballot. We are in the process of establishing an online survey for parents to vote for their preferred option. Students in Years 4 and 5 will get to vote on paper after filing past a display that will be set up for them, and parents, to view in the Library. Staff will also vote in an online survey. The winning design will then be put up for tender, production and delivery for a January 2015 start. From 2015, all Prep students and new enrolments to the school will purchase the new uniform. All other students will have a two-year moratorium where the old uniform can still be worn and will phase out by the end of 2016. All Burpengary students will be in the new uniform by January 2017, although history in schools shows that this often happens much earlier.

I would like to flag the P&C Annual General Meeting next Monday night, March 10...it commences at 7.00pm in the Staff Lounge. See the notice below, but all are welcome as the P&C is always looking for helpers to continue the wonderful support that the organisation has always given the children in our school.

To other news...

1. **Coming up:**

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7 Graduation Shirt</td>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>Friday 21 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Shirt</td>
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<td>School instrument</td>
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CRICOS Provider No.: 00608A
2. Dates to note down: NAPLAN falls on May 13, 14 and 15 this year for children in Years 3, 5 and 7.

3. **Please Note:** School Photos – Thursday 20 March and Friday 21 March, 2014. Tuckshop is now available for students in Prep to order on a daily basis if required.

4. **Religious Instruction:** Apologies– last week’s notice SHOULD have read: As part of the weekly Religious Instruction program for students in Year 1 (only) who have selected the option, the students will require a booklet which is available from the office for $5.00. All payments are to be made through the cash window at the office. **Apologies to parents and my wonderful office staff for any inconvenience caused by my brain snap!**

5. **P & C News:** The 2014 P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2014, commencing at 7.00pm in the Staff Lounge. The AGM will be followed by the monthly March meeting. All welcome. The Parent-Admin Chat occurs on Wednesday March 12, from 2.00pm to 2.45pm in the Staff Lounge. All welcome! Subway orders have closed. If you are willing to help distribute orders on the day please phone or text Danielle on 0416 202 241.

6. **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 next week, our focus will be: **As a Respectful and Considerate Learner, I look after all property – (school property and personal property).** Please remind your children of our school focus this week. We appreciate your support for the school in continuing to provide a safe and supportive school environment for students to learn at their best.

7. **Library News:**

   - **Books I Love Best** Yearly otherwise known as the BILBY awards. The Queensland branch of the Australian Book Council is once again calling for students to nominate their favourite book they have read over the previous year. This is a chance for your child to let all of us know what they love to read. There are three readership categories:  
     - Early Readers - for books for readers under 8 years old  
     - Younger Readers – for books for readers between 8 and 12 years old  
     - Older Readers – for books for readers over 12 years old.

   Nominations are done online at this website address: [http://old.cbca.org.au/bilby.htm](http://old.cbca.org.au/bilby.htm). Please note that books that won awards in the previous two years are not eligible to win an award this year. These titles are on the link to the nomination form.

   **Know your library** - We are often asked how to find particular books in the library. The Fiction section is organised in order of the first 3 letters of the Author’s surname. The Non-Fiction (Information Books) is organised in what is called Dewey Number order. This means that once you know the number for a particular topic, you can go to just about any library and look for that topic using that same number. Melvil Dewey was the man that invented that system way back in 1872 when he was only 21 years old! He also started the first school for librarians. This 3 minute You Tube clip gives you more information: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F61DdVI_GtU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F61DdVI_GtU)

   **Junior Library Dr Seuss Photo Booth** - If you visit the library in the coming week, you will see our photo booth photos on the TV! The children enjoyed posing as The Cat in the Hat, The Lorax, Thing 1 and Thing 2 and Horton.

8. **News from the Dental Van:**

   The staff from the dental van are currently completing outstanding treatment for children who were enrolled last year. Dental forms have been handed out to all students in year 1. Dental forms have been handed out to all students in year 1. **Please remind your children of our school focus this week.**

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**Tuckshop News:**

Please note Tuckshop is open for normal trade on Subway Day on Tuesday 11 March. **Tuesday Meal Deal** next week for Flexischool orders only ($4.50) consists of 5 chicken nuggets (gluten free) and BBQ sauce sachet, small juice popper and a chocolate chip muffin. Parents please remember to update your child’s class details on the Flexischool order site at the beginning of each school year. Also note Tuckshop is a cash only facility – EFTPOS is not available.

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**Until next week**

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**WANTED:** 2 x size 8 school dresses. If anyone can help, please phone Christina on 0405 104 193.

**Lost Bird** – Abby, an Alexandrine Parrot, was lost at 5.00pm on Sunday 2 March from Burpengary. Tame, friendly, talks, very timid, reward offered. Contact Diana on 0418 444 769.

**Garage Sale** on Saturday 8 March from 8.00am to 12.00pm at 18 Fernando Street, Burpengary.

**Burbpengary Jets Netball Association** are looking for girls that are turning 6/7 this year to sign up for the Nettas division. Training is at Findlay Park this Saturday at 8.00am if you would like to come and take a look or ask any questions, otherwise phone Lexine on 5497 9854 or Burpengary Jets directly.

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