Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Welcome to this week’s Newsletter. What a very busy time it has been!

On Monday, we welcomed our International Study Tour Group from the Tsubame Board of Education in Japan. What a wonderful group they have been, with a cheerful demeanour and a willingness to engage with our children and get everything possible out of their experience. It is an absolute pleasure to work with them. Today, we had a formal welcome on the Senior Parade, attended by State MP, Mr Darren Grimwade. Our guests had brought a gift from the Mayor of Tsubame City to give to Mr Grimwade, and made a presentation on Parade. They will stay in the school until next Wednesday morning, and it will be a very sad farewell.

Despite the weather, Book Week celebrations went ahead using Plan B in the P&C Centre, and what a creative and colourful array of book characters did we see! Thanks to Mrs Waldron and our Librarians for organising this event, and their thoughtful planning to ensure it could go ahead no matter what. I am so impressed with the Student Council’s thoughtful selection of the Smith Family charity, who get in and support families in need with the educational requirements to help break the poverty cycle.

Our NAPLAN data for 2014 showed that of the 45 indicators on the summary sheet, Burpengary State School is the equal of all Australian schools in 38 out of the 45 – a great result!!! Our National Minimum Standards (NMS) were all equal with Australian schools, and the results of more of our students performing in the Upper Two Bands were all equal with Australian schools in 15 out 15 areas – a fantastic result that showed across the board improvement.

Incidental results to note include Writing, which has been disappointing for us in the last couple of years, was absolutely nailed by the Year 3 cohort. The Year 7 Reading result was absolutely impressive in itself, but on analysis this same group of children in Year 5 attained only 87.5% above NMS, so to get to 98% above in two years is testimony to the efforts the children made in response to great teaching through Years 5, 6 and 7.

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<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Burpengary SS</td>
<td>QLD Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>91.0%</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
<td>93.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>96.1%</td>
<td>93.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>93.6%</td>
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<td>Gram &amp; Punct</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
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<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>92.8%</td>
<td>94.7%</td>
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I thank our students for the wonderful efforts they put in our classrooms on a daily basis. I thank our parents for the support they show for their children and the school, because the research is very clear on how parental involvement and engagement with the school helps students achieve great results, including attendance (attendance is up and achievement is up!!). Finally, I thank our professional Burpengary staff team for the work they do in classrooms week in and week out, because again, the research is very clear on how great teaching gets great results for children. This includes our absolutely indispensable learning support team and teacher aides, who are always looking to learn new ways of supporting children to succeed.

On Monday night’s August meeting, the P&C Association unanimously endorsed Burpengary State School’s intention to apply to be an Independent Public School for 2015. Our staff will be voting in ballots over the next two weeks to finalise the community consultation processes.

Arts Festival is looming!! What an exciting event this is going to be.

To other news...

1. Coming up:

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sports Friendlies</td>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td>Friday 8 August</td>
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<td>Camp</td>
<td>Years 6-7</td>
<td>$290.00</td>
<td>Friday 22 August</td>
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<td>Brisbane Writers’ Festival</td>
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<td>Thursday 28 August</td>
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<td>Life Education Van</td>
<td>Yrs 3, 5-7</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
<td>Friday 10 October</td>
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<td>$25 Voluntary contribution</td>
<td>Prep to Year 7</td>
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<td>Friday 4 April - overdue</td>
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Eftpos is available at the Cashier window on the carpark side of the Admin Office each morning from 8.00 to 11.00am. We encourage families to make use of the electronic payment systems we have operational here at Burpengary (Direct banking, Bpay) so that we minimise the risk of children carrying large sums of money, and you can perform the payment task from the convenience of home. Please note that due to Education Queensland Policy, credit card payments cannot be made over the phone. Please keep in mind that we do not carry change.

2. Spell-a-thon cards and money: Reminder that both these items need to be returned to the Office. Both items are now overdue. Cards must be returned, please, even if you did not collect money as it is an accountable document.

3. The next public meeting for the new high school at Burpengary, (opening in January 2015) is on Tuesday, August 26, at Burpengary Meadows State School hall, commencing at 4.00pm.

4. The Annual Chaplaincy Fun Run is being held on the 31st August this year at Centenary Lakes, Caboolture. This event is always fun and raises much needed funds for Chaplaincy in the Caboolture/Morayfield/Burpengary region. We would like to field a Burpengary State School Team and hopefully win "The Biggest School Team", which would win extra funds for our school Chaplaincy in the process. To be a part of the school team students need to let me know that they will be joining our team. The Fun Run is free. However, if students would like to compete and win prizes against other individual students their own age, they will need to also register as individuals or you will not be in the running for a prize if you win in one of the categories. Please come along and support Chaplaincy. If you would like more information or a flyer, please see our Chappy, Marie Wright, or visit the school office.

5. Library News:
   Book Week - We all had a terrific time this week with lots of fun in both libraries! The cameras were clicking and the library staff enjoyed dressing up each day. Thank you to all the children who participated in the festivities and remember, that the competitions still continue!

   Congratulations to 2E and 1E who finished their Jigsaw puzzle this week. They will receive a $10 Scholastic Bookclub voucher on parade next week. Other winners this week were Prep A and Prep E who’s ticket was pulled out of the draw. They also will receive a $10 Scholastic Bookclub voucher on parade next week. The daily lucky borrowers from the Senior Library will be announced on Monday. They too will receive a $10 Scholastic Bookclub voucher.

   We have lots of little hands up on our Library Stars board and some are making their way up to the stars very quickly.

6. Reminder: Signature Bear and Canvas orders and payment are due in to the School Office by Friday 31 October.

7. Sandcastles – Strengthening Young Parents (Australian Red Cross)
   If you are struggling generally with the demands of your child’s behaviour or difficult family circumstances then this support service could be of great help. Sandcastles is a new support service offered to parents between the ages of 15 to 24 years of age. This service aims to:
   • Build healthy and supportive family relationships
   • Build community connections
   • Provide ways to manage financial and emotional stress
   • Improve knowledge in child development and parenting.
   Referrals to Sandcastles can be made through the Guidance Officer at school (Sarah Guest) or by phoning Red Cross directly on 3863 0448. Parents of any age who would like a confidential discussion with the Guidance Officer to seek support or guidance can phone the school office on 3491 0333 and Sarah Guest will phone you to make an appointment time.

Tuckshop News: Tuesday Meal Deal next week for Flexischool orders only ($4.50) consists of Fried Rice (gluten free), apple slinky, and a carton of plain milk. Next Friday, junior sports day, tuckshop is open to all students and parents on site who, if requiring lunch, will need to place an order prior to 9.00am. Please note Tuckshop is a cash only facility – EFTPOS is not available. Floxischools Online Ordering – www.flexischools.com.au is the preferred option for ordering. Free to register, quick, easy and convenient.

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Until next week

Brad Fox
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Moreton Markets Twilight Market in conjunction with Burpengary State School Arts Festival, cnr Station Road and Jill Street, Burpengary (Oval located on Jill Street) on Friday 5 September from 5.00pm to 8.30pm, great variety of stalls. For further details contact Siobhan on 0428 167 930 or email moretonmarkets@gmail.com.

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