Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Welcome to this week’s newsletter. I did post a Newsflash on the Website and Facebook last week, although no paper newsletters went home due to the flooding, so some content is repeated for the many families who may have missed last week’s newsletter.

Our school makes another sad farewell to Mrs Leanne Odorico, whose brilliant work has been recognised again and she is off to Lawnton State School as the Acting Principal. We all know that Mrs Odorico will make a great Principal and we wish her the very best. Mr Scott Bowden will return as Acting Deputy Principal to Burpengary.

It was truly fantastic to see so many parents pass through on our Parent Welcome Afternoon and Sausage Sizzle on the Thursday evening of February 19, especially considering the inclement weather. The concept of meeting with your child’s teacher and conferencing on their individual learning needs seems to be a winner - our data showed that consistently across the whole school, 40-45% of families attended, and a much better response to this new format than other ways we have approached it in the past! Thank you all for the great little community “feel” that it produced!

Our Student Leaders’ Investiture Ceremony scheduled for Friday, February 20 had to be postponed until Friday, March 6, 2015, due to the weather event stemming from Cyclone Marcia. Without closing Burpengary State School last Friday, we effectively evacuated all students and staff to the safety of their homes before flood waters made local roads impassable. It was an effective community effort and I thank everybody concerned.

Do you have any information about these Burpengary people on the WW1 Honour Board? J.D.S. Munro; Thomas Lee; J.H.Turnbull; Frank Rowe; Arthur Henley; Alfred Dobson; George Williams; Archibald Williams; Christian Munro; David Uhlmann; Wallace Brown; William Wallin; Charles Munro; Thomas Turnbull; Terence Lee; Edward Munro; W.J.Turnbull; Frederick Gall; John Turnbull; John Uhlmann; Alexander Gall; Sidney Bourke; Anthony Bourke; A.A.Lubke; or Harry Page? In the Centenary Year of the ANZAC commemoration I would like to hear of connections to Burpengary.

Our school has reviewed our before-school procedures, and details will be released in a parent letter when completed (there are too many words for a newsletter!). The procedure was finalised after a consultation process that has included Staff, the P&C, Parent-Admin Chat forum, and our Year 6 student leaders. The final product is a good procedure because of this diverse input.

Earlier this week, a letter was sent home to all students informing the community of the closure of one of our classrooms. A full clearance from Building and Asset Services has been received to say that there were no further concerns and all classes have returned to the building.

Every Minute of Every Day Counts - Learning is rarely presented in isolated episodes, with each lesson building or at least connecting to the lesson before; a constructivist approach to building knowledge and understanding. It is very difficult for students who experience regular absences to achieve the same sequence of meaning. Whilst we appreciate that some absences can’t be planned for and are unavoidable, the current legislation sets out the following events as not being reasons for student absence:

• birthdays
• shopping
• visiting friends or family
• minor appointments e.g. haircuts.

Berpengary State School is keen to work with parents if their students have barriers to attending school daily. Unfortunately, some students attend school each day but still endanger their learning success through lateness. Arriving just ten minutes late each day accumulates to a student missing over six whole days of learning, but most importantly, they miss the new concept often delivered at the start of the lesson.

I remind parents to ensure that students do not bring toys or collector cards to school at any time. The school day is sacred for learning, and must not be interrupted by disputes surrounding these items. There are plenty of other children, activities and play spaces to engage children during breaks while at school, and these items are not to be brought to school under any circumstances.

To other news...

1. Coming up:

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CRICOS Provider No.: 00608A
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 keep in mind that we do not carry change.

2. On Wednesday, 11th March the P&C are offering every child the opportunity to take part in the first Subway Meal Fundraiser for 2015. Children will be able to order a six-inch Sub and an Apple Popper for $6.00 or a Salad Bowl and an Apple Popper for $7.00. This will be able to be enjoyed at first break. Orders can be placed on the Flexischool Website only for this Subway deal and the cut of time will be Monday 2 March at 9.00pm, we cannot take orders after this time because the store owner needs to order in the ingredients for our orders. Flexischools Online Ordering – www.flexischools.com.au. There is no fee when you place your subway deal you only pay $6.00 or $7.00, quick, easy and convenient. If there are any parents willing to help with pick-up or distribution of orders on the day, please text Wayne Summersford on 0418 881 857.

3. The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, March 9, 2015, commencing at 7.00pm in the Staff Lounge. The next Parent Admin Chat will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 commencing at 9.30am in the Staff Lounge.

4. Library News: ROBOT and ZERO HERO are back again!! We look forward to handing out a record number of awards this year!! Borrowing is up and running for all classes except Prep. The Preppies are learning about the library procedures and should be borrowing in class time by Week 7.

In the Junior library we have been teaching children to find a ‘right fit book’. It’s a bit like finding a right fit pair of shoes. See if they can tell you Mrs Connolly’s shoe story. We are also busy putting up our ‘Borrowing Goals’ display boards. Please support your child by encouraging them to come and borrow in their own time. March is National Craft Month and in the Senior Library we will be celebrating it with a series of craft workshops. Students will be able to make a bead bookmark, a suncatcher or an Easter gift box over the coming weeks.

5. Student Banking - The Commonwealth Bank will be here this Monday 2 March from 8.15am at the back of the Administration Building for parents to open new bank accounts for students.

6. The AGDA Sports Program has been postponed to commence next Thursday 5th March to the 26th March in the P&C Building at 3.10 - 4.10pm. This is a great program focused on Self Defence and Zumba for this block. You can still register via the AGDA website www.agymda.com.au.

7. Dates to note down: NAPLAN falls on May 12, 13 and 14 this year for Years 3 and 5.

8. Tuckshop News:

Prep students may commence Tuckshop from this Monday! Flexischool Meal Deal: 5 chicken nuggets, vege sticks & tzatziki dip, and a big juice popper - $4.50. Only available by Flexischool online ordering. Please note Tuckshop is a cash only facility – EFTPOS is not available. Flexischools Online Ordering www.flexischools.com.au is the preferred option for ordering. Free to register, quick, easy and convenient. Please ensure you confirm your order on flexischool website and check which day order is placed for. Please also advise your child that they are receiving Tuckshop for first and/or second breaks. Parents please ensure your child only brings a minimal amount of money to school for purchase of a snack item - less than $2 (no $10 or $20 notes preferred). This lessens the issue of peer pressure to purchase snack items for friends.

Reminder to families of gluten free options available - toasted white bread sandwich, rice cakes, curried chicken and rice, fried rice, corn cob, salads.

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Until next week,

Brad Fox
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES
Redcliffe Leagues Hockey Club - Have you thought about hockey for your child? We have a fabulous program called Hook in2 Hockey which runs for 6 weeks starting late February and introduces children from the age of 4 to our great sport in a fun environment. Your sign on will include a FREE Stick, Ball, Shin Pads, Mouth Guard and Hockey Jersey - everything you need to join in the fun straight away! Apart from this program, we also have Boys and Girls teams starting from U7’s. We would love to hear from your family. Contact Lynne Somerville on 0417 758 107 for more information.

If you’re looking for some fun then you’ve come to the right place. Build paint and drive your very own Billy Kart! This fantastic program is available to all the children at Burpengary. On this extraordinary 5 week program, children will have the opportunity to engage in putting the Billy Kart together and building it! They will then paint and decorate their Billy Kart before finally racing it against their friends! The best part is, they take the Billy Kart home to keep racing away! For more information or to book into this exciting 5 week program please contact Helping Hands Burpengary on 0458 010 433 or email Burpengary@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au. Booking forms will also be available from the school office and Helping Hands Burpengary service.

S.O.S. Home Tuition: All grades, Maths, Reading, English, qualified teacher with 20 years experience, will come to you. Call Shaw on 0431 239 006.

Moreton Bay Regional Council has re-ignited the sister city relationship with Winton in Central Queensland. Council would like to select 6-8 students in Year Six from across the Moreton Bay region to represent the region as our ambassadors to visit Winton in September while the Outback festival is on. The school office has a series of letters outlining the program for any interested Year 6 families. I am happy to answer any questions or visit the school to provide more information. Nicky Young (Co-ordinator- Tourism Business Development – Phone 3283 0338) Moreton Bay Regional Council.

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