Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Welcome to our final 2015 newsletter. It has been an absolute pleasure celebrating the vast range of student achievement during the last 5 days of Awards Parades and Graduation Ceremony at Burpengary State School.

Reports accompany this newsletter, along with next year’s class allocation letter.

Staffing News: Mrs Leanne Odorico has been appointed permanently as Principal, Clontarf Beach SS. Well deserved!! Mrs Katy Burnett is retiring from teaching, and Burpengary SS. Best wishes on a happy and healthy retirement!! (Katy was adamant that she did not want a fuss made of her retirement, but thank you for a long and distinguished teaching career, Mrs Burnett!!). Mrs Helen Alexander has a transfer to Banksia Beach SS – thanks for the concert memories, and best wishes for 2016 and beyond!! Ms Kara Maguire (contract) is off on an overseas adventure, and Ms Renae Brown (contract) we are hoping to keep pending Day 8 enrolments in 2016.

Staff on leave for 2016: Mrs Amy Adam, and Mrs Louise Newlands.

Mrs Michelle Fraser is the acting Principal at Bowen SS for Semester 1, 2016. Ms Samantha McGhie will continue in the Deputy Principal role for Semester 1, and Ms Sarah Omar will continue as HOSES for Semester 1. Ms Kerri Carnall has been permanently appointed as a teacher into the Special Education Program.

Continuing contract teachers for 2016 are: Mrs Dennice Weaver (Prep); Ms Trudy Stockman (Year 2); Ms Lauren Herbert (Year 2); Ms Kate Nielsen (Year 2 to Year 1); Mrs Helen Drew (Year 3 to Prep); Mr Sam Ladiay (Year 4); Mrs Sharon Morrison (Year 4); Ms Candice Riley (Year 5); Mr Ben Turner (HOC, Learning Engagement); and Mr Chris Cann (Teacher, Learning Engagement).

New contract teachers for 2016 are: Miss Samantha Fitzgerald (Year 4); Mrs Kelli John (Year 5); and Miss Carmen Bugeja (Year 3).

BEPpengary enthusiastically welcomes our new permanent teachers for 2016 – Ms Natalie Cooper (Prep); Ms Bliss Filippini (Year 2); Mrs Michelle Owen (Year 5); Mrs Natalie McDonald (LOTE/Technology) [All contract teachers being made permanent]; and Ms Liz Gundry (Year 4 – from Narangba Valley SS and on loan for one year only from the new primary school at Griffin); Ms Chelsea Henderson (Year 1 - transfer from Ambrose SS); Mrs Jessica Hay (Year 2 - transfer from Moranbah SS); Mrs Robyn Stegman (Prep – transfer from Morayfield SS) and Mrs Julie Horkings (year 5 – transfer from North Lakes State College).

Staff returning from leave: Mr Ross Tattersall (Kitchen/Garden), Mrs Anike Hope (Part time NCT), and Mrs Tracy Hoffmann (Part time with Mrs Deb O’Brien).

Predicted class configuration for 2016:
6 x Prep; 5 x Year 1; 5 x Year 2; 6 x Year 3; 6 x Year 4; 6 x Year 5; 1 x Composite Year 5-6; 4 x Year 6;

Please note: It is very hard to accurately predict class configurations for 2016 at Burpengary, as even small numbers of enrolments in certain places will affect class sizes up to day 8. I point out that the notification that parents and carers received in this mail out about next year’s class allocation could be subject to change in January or by Day 8 next year depending on where new enrolments fall.

Chaplaincy funding 2016-2018: DET has approved Burpengary SS’s submission for $20,000 annually for the next 3 years to continue funding our Chaplaincy program with Scripture Union. This is a great asset and resource for our students, and enables Chappy Marie Wright to continue the great work she does around the school.

I take this opportunity, on behalf of the staff and students of Burpengary State School, to wish our community the very best of wishes for the Christmas season, and a healthy, happy and productive New Year. Have a safe and happy holiday.

School resumes for students next year on Wednesday, January 27, 2016

CRICOS Provider No.: 00608A
To other news...

The Christmas Disco attracted 536 students from Prep to Year 6 – thanks to students, staff and P&C members who volunteered their time and made this event such a memorable night in our calendar. It is these types of fund raising events that enable our P&C to contribute to the school budget. **I take this opportunity to thank our P&C for their generous support of school projects that benefit all students.** I cannot thank the P&C enough for this stunning support for learning, and ask you to get behind their Hall renovation and enclosure project in 2016.

As families do the back to school shopping in January, 2016, I stress the absolute importance of appropriate footwear for school. The school policy is **plain black, lace-up shoes** with no coloured trim or accessories. (leather or vinyl preferred). Growing feet need a sturdy sole, good heel counter, arch support, and protection from hot spills, drops and garden tools in the kitchen/garden program extensively done throughout all year groups in the school. **Please see the photo in the school prospectus on the website and stick rigidly to it when purchasing.**

**Keep a watch on our school these holidays:** We need you to look out for after-hours crime at our school. If you do see something suspicious, please don’t attempt to intervene. **Call the School Watch number –13 17 88 – and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.**

**Future Date Claimer:** The **2016 NAPLAN Tests** will be conducted in all Queensland schools on Tuesday 10 May (Language Conventions and Writing tests); Wednesday 11 May (Reading); and Thursday 12 May (Numeracy), 2016. Please avoid making commitments on those dates like appointments or holidays, and keep them clear. NAPLAN provides our school with valuable information to support and personalise your child’s learning development. **We value NAPLAN as a learning community.**

**Uniform Shop Extended Hours:**

This week: **Mon 7th- Thur 10th Dec – 8.30am - 9.30am**

**Before school starts in January, 2016:** Monday 18 Jan – 8.30 am–12.00noon; Tue 19– Fri 22 Jan – 12.00noon–2.00pm **Week 1 of school in January, 2016:** Wednesday 27th – Fri 29th Jan – 8.30am–9.30am

**Year 4 families** please note that your child **will require a formal uniform** from Term 2 onwards in 2016 for each Friday’s Senior Parade (which is compulsory), but the uniform can be worn on any other day during the week if desired.

Until next year,

Brad Fox
Principal

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**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Helping Hands Burpengary**, providing Before, After and Vacation care.

**Hours of Operation:** Before School 6.30 to 8.45am; After School 2.30 to 6.00pm; Vacation Care 6.30am to 6.00pm. The service provides breakfast and afternoon Tea.

Service Contact Details - Phone: 0458 010 433 or email: burpengary@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au