Meeting notes:

**Burpengary Girls’ School in Japan** will visit Burpengary State School on a Study Tour during the week March 21 to 26, preceding the Easter holiday. Thank you to those families who have supported this program already, and we are now looking for just a few more host families. Please let Ms McDonald know if you can help with a homestay!

**Hakarta Girls’ School in Japan** will visit Burpengary State School on a Study Tour during the week March 21 to 26, preceding the Easter holiday. Thank you to those families who have supported this program already, and we are now looking for just a few more host families. Please let Ms McDonald know if you can help with a homestay!

**Important date claimer:** September 10, 2016, is our School Fete and 140 Year Anniversary Celebration. This will be a fantastic event, worthy of such a significant anniversary celebration. We are seeking community help in finding the whereabouts of Mrs Carmel Liddlow, Mrs Pat McLoughlin, Mrs Debbie Cotterell or Mrs Kath Whitney, who teamed up to edit the 120-Year celebration book – can anyone help us?

We also have multi-generational families who have attended Burpengary State School. We are already aware of the Gresham, Owens and van der Meer families who span three generations – please let us know if there are more, and we are particularly looking for families who may have spanned 4 or more generations!

The P&C are requesting donations of empty plastic pot-plant pots for the upcoming fete. If every family contributes just a few it will help. Please ensure that pots are empty AND washed out please, as old potting mix harbours germs.

We recently discovered a parasite infestation of our school chickens and I have removed them this week for a period of time until we are sure the pen is all clear. This will require a full clean out of the pen in order to prevent reinfection. In Mr Tattersall’s absence, I will not return the chickens to the pen until he is 100% back on deck in the Kitchen/Garden to maintain these aspects of the program.

Our Year 6 Student Leaders’ undertook an Unleashing Personal Potential Leadership Conference at School on Monday. I thank the students for their commitment to the program, and their contributions during the day, which will lead to very real leadership around our school. The program director, Mr Luke McKenna, himself a former Deputy Principal, worked well with our students, and complemented our brilliant leaders he worked with, and also the rest of the school!

I would like to remind our Prep parents about the invitation sent home this week about our Prep Parent Information session to be held in your child’s classroom on Monday 29th February from 3:15pm - 3:45pm. The information session aims to address questions that you may have about your child’s day at school. We will be discussing things such as eating, toileting, literacy and general classroom routines and procedures. This information session is especially important for first time Prep parents. We look forward to seeing you there.

These opportunities for connecting with the school and the children’s teachers make a difference for your child’s learning. Last week, we had a touch over 50% of parents who attended our Parent Welcome Afternoon and Sausage Sizzle – our best result ever! …the research is very clear that better student outcomes result from parents being involved at school - so well done, parents!

**Reminder that Religious Instruction** lessons will commence for Year 1 and Year 2 students on Wednesday 9th March.

To other news…

1. **Coming up:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Payment Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen Garden Levy</td>
<td>All Year Levels</td>
<td>$ 5.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instrumental Music - Own Instrument</td>
<td>Selected students</td>
<td>$ 70.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instrumental Music - School Instrument</td>
<td>Selected students</td>
<td>$105.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>Selected students</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Leadership Conference (Invitation only)</td>
<td>Year 5 and 6</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>Friday 18 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goombuckar Bus</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>Thursday 10 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Friendlies</td>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>$ 2.00</td>
<td>Monday 7 March</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CRICOS Provider No.: 00608A
2. **Library News:**

The library routines are slowly coming together for 2016 with many children borrowing and visiting during their own time. We would like to stress that whilst we give out rewards for borrowing we expect children to be reading the books they borrow. We work together with teachers to ensure that students are reading to their ability. Your child should know the sections they can borrow from. Our motto is that you become a great reader by understanding what you read. Please help us help your children by reinforcing our message at home.

**The Australian Children’s Laureate** is an initiative developed by the Australian Children’s Literature Alliance (ACLA). This is a not-for-profit organisation founded in 2008. The Laureate promotes the importance of reading, creativity and story in the lives of young Australians. This year’s Laureate is Leigh Hobbs, creator of the ‘Old Tom’ books. Have a look at this website for more information on this Author/Illustrator: [http://www.childrenslaureate.org.au/laureates/leigh-hobbs/](http://www.childrenslaureate.org.au/laureates/leigh-hobbs/). A live event was held by ABC splash today and a recording of the event will be available soon at this address: [http://splash.abc.net.au/home#!/livestream/2178479/meet-the-laureate](http://splash.abc.net.au/home#!/livestream/2178479/meet-the-laureate) While you are here have a look at some of the other authors that have been interviewed.


**Overdues** - We have printed out our first overdue notices this week. Please check with your children to see if they have an overdue book and ensure they bring it back on Monday.

**Scholastic Book Club:** The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of good books and the joy and benefits of good reading. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school. Your child has been given the current brochures this week. Generally, twice a term during the school year we will send home brochures with a different selection of books offered. You’ll find award-winning books, as well as old and new favourites. It offers a wide range of children’s reading levels and interests. **Keep a look out for Gold Coin Books – Great books for $1 and $2.** It is easy to order. Just look over the flyer with your child, select the books they want, mark them on the order form on the back of the flyer. Scholastic has introduced online ordering, so there are now two ways you can order:

1. LOOP online ordering. A flyer was sent home with the brochure outlining the process for ordering online. Go to [www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) and follow the instructions prompted on the screen. You do not need to return your order to school once you have placed it. **If you have any problems ordering online, please call into the library and we would be only too happy to help you.** OR
2. If you wish, return your order form to school for ordering with payment. Please be advised we are unable to accept cash payments for Book Club orders. Payments need to be made by money order or cheque only. Please make cheques or money orders payable to Scholastic Australia.

Orders are due in no later than 9.00am on Friday 4 March, 2016. If you prefer to collect your books from the office, please let the office or library staff know and we will contact you once they arrive. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our school, however there is never any obligation to order.

3. The University of New South Wales are once again offering your child/ren the opportunity to pit their skills in various subject areas against students across Australia. This year the range of tests including Science, Writing, Mathematics and English will occur in Terms two and three. I encourage all families to consider these UNSW tests as a means of extending thinking and problem solving skills for your child. Notes went home last week about these tests, if you require a replacement form please contact the Office.

4. **Tuckshop News:**

Flexischool Tuesday Meal Deal for Tuesday 1st March – 5 chicken nuggets, bottle of water, packet of vege chips and small bag of apple wedges - $5.00. Only available by Flexischools online ordering. Please note Tuckshop is a cash only facility – EFTPOS in not available. Flexischools Online Ordering [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) is the preferred option for ordering. Free to register, quick, easy and convenient.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selected Year 4</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td>Wednesday 9 March</td>
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**Please Note:** Prep students are now able to order lunches from Tuckshop commencing Monday 29 February.

Until next week

Brad Fox  
Principal

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

If you love music why not learn an instrument? I am available to teach beginners through to intermediate students on piano and trumpet. Come and learn for your enjoyment or work towards undertaking AMEB exams. Very reasonable rates for half hour lessons! For further information please contact me, Courtney, on 0448 411 496.

In certain circumstances, families may be eligible for the payment of a conveyance allowance to assist with the cost of travel to school. To be eligible, primary school students must live more than 3.2km from the nearest state primary school or 4.8km for secondary school students.  

CRICOS Provider No.: 00608A