Wacky Wednesday!!  5th September  Be part of it!!

Your School council has arranged for you to take part in a fun day, whilst raising funds for Montrose Access, an independent charity that assists children and young adults with special needs. This is a day of wild hair, wild socks or both.

It is not a free dress day. School uniform must be worn.
All hair products such as spray, gel or colour must be applied at home and not bought to school. The wackier your socks are the better! There will be a prize for the wackiest hair/socks combination.
Dear Parents and Care Givers,

Congratulations LOTE Students and Mrs Lee

On the weekend representative students from our school competed in the Regional LOTE speaking competitions. Bribie Island State School was the only state school in the region competing and our school students achieved considerable success: One first place, one second place and two highly commended awards. This is great recognition for the program and investment of effort both staff and students make.

It is no secret some students do not like LOTE. However with the sound teaching provided by Mrs Lee and an improved attitude and application to the subject students can achieve. In fact research shows that students who do well at subjects like LOTE and Instrumental Music develop improved thinking skills and higher achievement in other curriculum areas.

Bus Safety and Student Behaviour

Last week students from our school were injured while travelling on a bus home. The driver of the bus had to brake suddenly to avoid an accident. Several children suffered minor injuries. At the time our school worked tirelessly with parents to support and inform them. We have also worked tirelessly with the bus company on the matter. It is timely to encourage parents to make it very clear to their children that being safe on the bus is very important. Each and every day we have students who do not demonstrate safe behaviour on the buses. Drivers spend inordinate amounts of time speaking to children about: sitting safely, following instructions and talking quietly. We do not want our drivers distracted. Students need to follow the rules for bus travel which are very clear.

Oral Reporting

Before the end of this term teachers will provide invitations to parents to attend school and complete interim meetings around students’ progress. I encourage all parents to make time to meet teachers to discuss their children’s progress. Teachers who are absent in the last week of term will arrange alternate times to meet.

Student Leaders 2013

Applications for Students to nominate for Student Leaders positions for 2013 are now out. All students interested in a position must complete the relevant nomination form and have it seconded by a fellow student, as well as signed by the Students Class Teacher and Parent. Before the end of the year students will provide a public speech to the combined year 4 to 7 cohort and a school wide election process will occur to fill vacant positions.

Language on school grounds - Parents

It is very important that parents and influential adults model accepted behaviour to all students at Bribie Island State School. In this way we can ensure we send a clear and consistent message to our children and position them for success in the future. Recently it has come to my attention that some parents are using inappropriate language on school grounds. While mostly this is in personal conversations with other adults, children do overhear what is said. I am requesting that all visitors to Bribie Island State School consider the model they are presenting, reframe from inappropriate language in their conversations and comply with our school Responsible Behaviour Plan.

Acting Principal and Acting Deputy Principal

Over the course of this term I will have several days out of school at meetings, conferences and on personal matters. Thank you to Mrs Hutchinson for stepping into the Acting Principal’s role. Also thank you to Mr Lawton for stepping into the Acting Deputy Principal’s role.

Staff Training

Staff at Bribie Island State School take their responsibilities very seriously and frequently undertake a range of professional development and training opportunities. On Tuesday night from 3:30pm to 8:30pm 30 staff completed their annual first aid training.

Bullying

Schools are social institutions where young people gather every day. Whatever social malady adults encounter in their lives children also encounter in the daily life of a school. Schools are in fact a reflection of society. Staff at Bribie Island State School are fully aware of their responsibility and skill, support and guide children through a range of social learning events so they become more capable of dealing with issues, problems and incidents effectively.

On occasions I have to speak to children and parents around bullying. Unfortunately the term ‘bullying’ is very misused. In recent years a deal of media hype and ill-informed people unfortunately use the term ‘bullying’ to describe non-bullying social issues. To help our school develop shared understanding and language around bullying I offer the following definition.

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Bullying can happen:

- face-to-face (e.g. pushing, tripping, name-calling)
- at a distance (e.g. spreading rumours, excluding someone)
- through information and communications technologies (e.g. use of SMS, email, chat rooms).

Important to the definition of bullying is the following:

Some conflicts between children are a normal part of growing up and are to be expected (not accepted). These conflicts or fights between equals and single incidents are not considered bullying, even though they may be upsetting and need to be resolved.

Why does it happen?

Some reasons why children might bully someone include:

- they think it's fun, or that it makes them popular or cool
- they feel more powerful or important, or they want to get their own way all the time
- they feel insecure or lack confidence or are trying to fit in with a group
- they are fearful of other children's differences
- they are jealous of another child
- they are unhappy
- they are copying what they have seen others do before, or what has been done to them.

Bullying is not in fact a behaviour unto itself. Rather it is a description of a range of possible behaviours. When speaking to a person around bullying allegations one must first drill down into the detail of the behaviours and find out exactly what has occurred. See the definition above to consider if the behaviours exhibited are therefore bullying or a normal conflict occurring between individuals in their social engagement. For more information on bullying please consider the following website: http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/

Paul Pickering
Principal
Dear Parents and Carers,

It was amazing to see so many students, staff and family members join in our celebrations for Literacy and Numeracy Week and Book Week. We held a Prep to Yr 3 “Book Character Parade” last Monday. The event was held in our Hall and students, staff and some younger brothers and sisters dressed up as their favourite character. A highlight for me was seeing so many students parade their costumes and their characters. Many thanks to the mums, dads, grandparents and staff who helped create such a wonderful array of characters. The staff also looked fantastic. It was great to see the students’ faces as they were both on stage themselves and watching their friends when they were on stage. Thank you again for all of your support. Our Book Character Parade is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy reading can bring to all of us. We cannot emphasise enough just how important it is to encourage and model reading for our students in every year level.

This week, we will also be holding our annual Spelling Bee competition and determine who will be our champion spellers from across the school. I wish all of our students the very best in the spelling competition. We will also be learning who our Maths Champions are for each year level. It will be wonderful to celebrate our learning by sharing in the excitement of hearing who these students will be. Good luck to all!

In the last week of term we will be having parent teacher interviews for most classes. I would encourage you to take the opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss the distance travelled for your child and ways that you may support the learning tasks planned for the coming term. Letters have been sent home inviting you to nominate a time to meet with your child’s teacher. Please contact your child’s teacher if you have any questions about these meetings.

Our swimming program also commences week one of next term for all classes from Year 1 to 7. Permission letters outlining the cost for the 8 week program will be sent home before the end of this term. Remember that students are required to wear a sun safe shirt if they are swimming in the outside pools. Teachers walk their classes to the pool and stay to watch the lessons run by the qualified pool staff. If you have any questions or concerns about the program please do not hesitate to contact either Mr Anthony Waugh our PE teacher or myself.

Also, thank you to all parents for your support in helping our students remember our school rules. We are consistently reminding students of our Bees and Keys. We are aware that there are times when students may feel that someone is saying or doing something that they believe is inappropriate. We encourage our students to say “Stop that I don’t like it” and if the problem continues to then report the issue to their teacher or to Admin. Please remind your children that it is very important to tell a teacher as close as possible to the event as it gives us the best chance of addressing the issue and trying to make things better. There are other times when students may see their classmates acting in an unsafe manner. We would like these students to know that it is important for them to also say “Stop that.” Bystanders play an important role in helping others know that their behaviour is not acceptable.

Please also remember that at our school our personal technology devices policy is that all phones and IT devices are handed into the office at the beginning of each school day and collected at the end of the day. This is to prevent theft and inappropriate use of technology at school. As this is a serious matter, school consequences will be applied for students that do not follow this policy. Please support us to help maintain high standards at our school by reminding your child of our expectations on this.

Next week we will be listening to the finalists from Year 7 present their speeches to contest selection in our school’s Toastmaster Public Speaking competition that is held each year at the RSL. We wish all of successful candidates the very best for their presentation of their speech on Monday.

The selection process for our 2013 student leaders will begin this term. For all Year 6 students wishing to nominate for a school leadership position, they should begin to prepare their folio and nomination speech ready for presentation in classes in the near future. Students were given an outline of the expectations and if they were interested were able to take a nomination form.

Have a great two weeks.

Warm regards

Jayn Hutchinson
Deputy Principal

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**BUSY FINGERS**

Donations are needed at Busy Fingers. Please donate any household furniture or second hand clothes to Busy Fingers. All furniture can be picked up for free from your home.

Please contact Busy fingers on 3408 1014 to arrange your pick up.

Busy fingers are located at: 38 Cotterill Ave Bongaree

Open from 8.30am—3pm Mon– Fri and Saturday’s 8am—12pm
Pre-Prep Playgroup

Every Tuesday morning throughout the term, a group of excited parents run a Pre Prep Playgroup from 9.00am to 10.30am in our school hall. Children enjoy an array of activities including painting, imaginary play, playdough, home corner, puzzles and fine motor activities. We would like to kindly thank the Caboolture Early Years Centre for their ongoing support and for providing the group with a number of fantastic new resources. If you would like any more information regarding our playgroup please contact Allison Lutton on 3400 2333. New members are always welcome.

Student Banking

Student Banking Day – every Wednesday 11am – 12pm
Any queries please contact our School Banking Coordinator, Kylie McDonnell, between 11am – 12noon Wednesdays at the P&C room 3400 2308.

Donations for Mr P. Black school shoes
Do you have any pre loved black school shoes still in good condition?
Mr P, our school Chaplain is asking for donations of all sizes of black school shoes to help keep his supply of pre loved shoes going. If you can help Mr P in donating black school shoes he would be very grateful.

Follow us on TWITTER @BribieiIslandSS

Student Absence Line: 3400 2366 (24 hours a day)
Our blitz for the next fortnight will be

**Walk quietly through our school**

- Students need to walk when moving around our school.
- When the bell rings, students QUIETLY WALK to their destination.
- Students are NOT to run, yell or scream when moving around our school.
- Students move to bus lines quickly and quietly and sit in their area.

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**Be Respectful  Be Safe  Be an Active Learner**

**Zoo Keeper For a Day!**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work as a Zoo Keeper? Well, wonder no more because the school holidays are back, and so is Australia Zoo's holiday program, Zoo Keeper For A Day!

If you are aged between **seven and twelve** you can join the zoo crew to help feed the animals and clean enclosures, with exclusive behind the scenes access and plenty of hands-on action with some of our gorgeous animals. It's a day you won't forget! Places are limited so call **07 5436 2025** to make a booking.

**Ages:** 7 - 12 years  **Price:** $85  **Includes:** Zoo entry, Zoo Keeper for a Day cap and water bottle, lunch, photo with one of our animals  **Duration:** 5 hours

**Location:** Australia Zoo  
**Dates:** 22 September 2012 – 7 October 2012  
Further details are available at www.australiazoo.com.au/education/zoo-keeper-for-a-

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**BRIBIE’S GOT TALENT!!!**

The BGT cast have been working very hard at rehearsals each Thursday from 2 – 3pm and Monday’s from 3 – 4:30pm and soon will share the fruits of their labours at our BRIBIE’S GOT TALENT SHOW on 20th September.

**TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE AT THE FRONT OFFICE!**

$3.00 per ticket

All ticket monies will be used to support the continuation of this very important Young Musical Talent Development Program. We would love to see you there!

**Doors will open at 5:30 on 20th September, with the show commencing at 6pm.**

**SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCE by ELVIS PARSLEY**

A sausage sizzle will follow the event with entertainment from vocal duo FUZE!

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**School Attendance Awards**

Regular attendance at school is essential to students achieving their full potential. Bribie Island State School is committed to promoting the attendance of all students. **Attendance awards** have been introduced this term to celebrate the classes with the highest attendance and the most improved attendance each fortnight. Classes will be presented with attendance trophies at each parade. Individual students who achieve a 95% attendance rate during the term will go in the draw for a $100 toy voucher.

The winning class for week 5&6 for best attendance goes to 7A Congratulations!!

The winning class for week 3&4 for the Most Improved attendance goes to Prep 1. Well done!!

**Tidy Turtle Award**

The first impression made by our school is the grounds. We are working together as a school to cut down on the amount of litter we see lying around. Each class is responsible for looking after a small area in the school and ensuring it is rubbish free. The **Tidy Turtle** will be awarded on parade for classes that score highly for their area. We are currently running a colouring in competition for Prep to Year 2 and a poster competition for Years 2-7 to promote awareness of the new award and to encourage the cleanliness of our school grounds.

The winning class for the Tidy Turtle Award for weeks 5&6 is 5B

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**Apps for Education**


Apps for mobile devices are listed here that relate to the Education sector of the department. While currently this selection is small, it is expected to grow to include a range of Apps that are compatible with a range of mobile devices. These Apps are selectively developed to align to current strategic objectives and to enhance existing services provided to the wide range of clients of the department.

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**Student Absence Line:** 3400 2366 (24 hours a day)
Headlice

Complaints about headlice continue to be received at the school. Please be advised

- headlice do not live at school.
- headlice are bought to school by students.
- headlice do not transmit disease.
- having headlice is not a sign of poor hygiene. In fact most headlice prefer very clean hair.
- the only way to effectively reduce headlice is for everyone to investigate and treat at the same time.

We are sending this information in the hope all will treat this weekend as an action period for headlice. Please help our school community by checking and treating headlice this weekend.

The Facts (The following is from various research studies on headlice.)

- Nits (the eggs of the head louse) are small yellowish-white, oval-shaped eggs that are attached at an angle to the side of a hair shaft by glue.
- Nits must be laid by live lice. You cannot "catch nits."
- Once laid it takes 7-10 days for a nit to hatch and another 7-10 days for the female to mature and begin laying her own eggs.
- Head lice are clear in colour when hatched, they develop a reddish-brown colour after feeding.
- Head lice are small, wingless insects which feed on human blood and do not thrive on pets.
- Head lice are about the size of sesame seeds and have six legs with claws to grasp the hair.
- Head lice are crawling insects. They cannot hop, jump, or fly.
- Head lice off their human hosts will starve and die in 24 hours.

What product should I use to treat my child?

There are no ‘safe’ pesticides, "natural" or otherwise, scientifically proven to be 100% effective against head lice, nits or nit glue. Reliance on head lice treatment products alone promotes repeated use of potentially harmful chemicals and contributes to ongoing infestations, outbreaks, and resistant strains of head lice. Parents should be discouraged from spending unnecessary time and money on "concoctions" for which there is no scientific basis for claims of efficacy and human safety. A wide variety of such “lice remedies” are vigorously marketed to consumers especially via the Internet. The result is more confusion for families already deluged with conflicting and unfounded treatment recommendations.

Manual removal is the safe alternative and necessary component to any head lice treatment regimen. Combing tools enable families to screen often, detect head lice early and thoroughly remove lice and nits.

How do you treat for headlice?

Schools and homes don’t get head lice -- people do. Head lice are human parasites and require human blood to survive. Vacuuming is the safest and best way to remove lice or fallen hairs with attached nits from upholstered furniture, rugs, stuffed animals and cars. Save your time and energy for that which benefits you the most -- thorough nit removal.

Do I have to treat everyone in the house?

Use a nit-removal comb to check everyone first! Lice treatment products have potential health hazards and should not be used ‘just in case’ a child has lice or in an effort to prevent them. Even if lice are confirmed on an individual careful consideration should be given before deciding to use a pesticide shampoo or other treatment because each person has unique health needs.

Where do headlice come from?

Head lice do not come "out of the air" or from the ground. They are human parasites and come from people. Desiccated (dried up) head lice and their eggs have been found on the hair and scalps of Egyptian mummies.

While headlice are around all year they often are more prominent in the dry winter months.

Do headlice jump?

Head lice do not have hind legs to hop or jump, nor wings with which to fly – they crawl.

What is the school doing?

- Discouraging the sharing of hats and other hair items by students.
- Discouraging students from playing too closely and making head to head contact.
- Monitoring students who complain of itchy hair and referring such to parents. Schools cannot ‘check hair’ by touching a child’s head. Observation without touching will sometimes note headlice.
- Encouraging all parents to check a child’s head frequently.
- Meeting rules on management of headlice. Basically this states that once a child has been treated they can return to class.
- Encouraging parents to have their children wear their long hair tied back.
Planning for the Future

Through the course of this year I have been gathering information from all members of the school to inform long-term planning at Bribie Island State School. As you would be aware our school runs a tight budget and not all projects can be completed as early as we would like. Long-term planning ensures we do address areas where we can strategically. Following many discussions I offer the following as proposed projects that our school is considering for the future. I welcome your feedback so that I can take detailed action to ensure these projects are evident in our future. Some projects will occur soon and others are long-term projects. Each project is provided a title to identify it.

**Dressed to Impress**
Provide dress uniforms and resources for the Bribie Island State School student representative groups to improve community image of the school. (eg. student leaders, staff, band and choir groups).

**Equipment Jungles**
Construct new playground equipment at various sites around the school for all ages of students to engage in lunchtime and planned play activities, promoting Education Queensland’s Smart Moves Initiatives.

**Safe and Shady**
Ensure all outdoor play equipment is provided adequate sun shades to overcome UV issues.

**Learning by Digital Games**
Invest in digital game equipment which runs educational software to enhance student learning in the basics. eg spelling and maths games software.

**Blue and Teal – Pride and Zeal**
Ensure all the schools representative teams are presented in sport appropriate uniforms that demonstrate the colours and pride of the school.

**Cool Outdoor Learning**
Construction of a roofed outdoor learning space, where classes and community groups can meet and learn. Space may double as assembly area for events, end of school student dismissal, parent collection and bus departures supervision.

**Grounded in Excellence**
Complete, maintain or improve various grounds projects which seek to improve the condition, useability and/or relevance of school resources to the curriculum and learning needs of the students. Projects include: an environmental learning area, a native fruit tree garden, paths, adventure trail and drainage work.

**Welcome to Bribie**
Construct adequate shade facilities and install seating at front entrance to school to improve appearance and useability of bitumen area.

**Everyday Counts and Ready for School**
Continue to support student attendance and provide resource support for students whose personal circumstances hinder their engagement in school programs. Particularly ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student needs are considered.

**Enriched Learning @ Bribie**
Support a range of projects which provide students Enrichment of their skills and capacities. Including: Talent Identification, Robotics, Working with Universities, Sport, Performance, Dance, Leadership Programs, Cluster Projects, Adventure Based Learning and Hands-on Learning.

**Digital Learning**
Ensure adequate technology resources to meet curriculum demands. Including ensuring computer resources incorporate up to date hardware. Move to ensure computer laboratories are air-conditioned.

**Techno Parents**
Providing regular training for parents in the use of technology resources provided at school

**21st Century Facilities**
Upgrade and/or replace existing teaching facilities by constructing modern first class teaching buildings. Including ensuring new spaces have community abilities.

**Path to the Hall**
Install covered walkway to connect multipurpose hall with rest of school facilities.

**Art and Science of Teaching**
Develop and implement a school-wide Pedagogical framework to support a common language and framework around which to scaffold curriculum and teaching. Seek opportunities to work with neighbouring schools and within the Regional Educational context.

**Flying Start**
Develop and implement a range of strategies to support the philosophy behind the seamless delivery of curriculum from prep to year 12. Discuss alignment of Bribie Island State School and Bribie Island State High School. Include elements such as: school day (8:30 to 2:30?), early transition activities for year 6 and 7 classes in preparation for 2015 move of Year 7 into high school, facilities use and benefits in accessing high school staff and resources, alignment in Pedagogical Framework and seamless schooling (A College approach?).

**Bribie College**
Investigate alignment of Educational Services with Bribie Island State High School. Vision to have seamless Prep to Year 12 Education. Possible structure of College Environment. Investigate associated actions eg. Change school day to match BISHS, Alignment to IPS (Independent Public Schools).

Your feedback is very much appreciated.