From the Principal’s desk...

Dear Parents/Caregivers

I trust you took the opportunity to have some quality family time over the recent long weekends as we move into week 4 of an 11 week term.

Naplan
Nationwide testing for grades 3, 5, 7 & 9 occurs next week. If your child is absent on a test day, a catch up day is scheduled for Friday. Please help our teachers to send the message that this assessment shouldn’t be something your child is anxious about. Naplan is a point in time test to help identify student strengths and areas needing development and to inform teaching direction. Results should be looked at with school based assessment to obtain a more accurate picture of where a student is with his/her learning. Testing will be done on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week. A box of apples will be outside the tuckshop for brain food breakfast.

Student Attendance
We are monitoring student attendance closely at our school because student learning achievement directly correlates to student attendance at school. We have a busy curriculum that is, at times, difficult to catch up on. Everyday does count, and I thank you for ensuring that your child regularly attends school if fit to do so. Classroom teachers will make contact with you if they notice that valuable teaching time has been lost. Administration will be in contact if repeated absences are noted or absences are unexplained. I thank you for your continued support in this area.

School Responsible Behaviour Plan
A draft of our School Responsible Behaviour Plan is currently on our school website for your perusal. The plan reflects our recent positive approach to behaviour management in line with Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) theory and initiatives. The draft will be tabled at our next P&C meeting. At our school, behavioural expectations are deliberately high, as a safe and secure environment facilitates higher levels of learning for our students.

Communication gets a boost at Birkdale South
I am pleased to let you know that this term, an electronic communication board will be erected at the front of the school. This will share information not only with our school members, but the wider community. We have one of the most supportive P&Cs I have had the pleasure working with and I thank them once again for supporting this initiative.

Teachers Supporting School Chaplaincy
On the weekend, a group of teachers with a wide range of overall physical fitness, supported school chaplaincy by participating in a touch football carnival in two inches of rain, at Murumba Downs. The extensive training schedule we were involved in prior to the carnival, had no effect on our overall results, which unfortunately, was a 3 out of 3 game loss! Set moves were executed with textbook accuracy, with one in particular, eventuating in what might have been the try of the competition. Our Chappy John, who clearly comes from a bloodline of athletes with fast twitch muscle fibre, stepped through the line with pace and scored five minutes into the first game. Unfortunately, his post try celebrations resulted in a dislocated shoulder, a torn ACL and all of Sunday in hospital. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to our school chaplain who put his body on the line for the benefit of our great school and to those teachers who are walking around our school a little stiff over the next few days.

Keeping Parents Informed
3 May 2016
Edition 6

Be Green! Read from the screen and think before you print…
Deputy Chat...
Loreye Agnew-Green

Under 8’s Day 2016 - “Early Learning, Everyone Benefits – Celebrating 60 years of Under 8’s Week”

IMAGINING: MONSTERs & ME
At the end of last week a letter was sent to all parents outlining the theme and requesting arrangements be made for adult supervision on Friday 27 May. There will be 2 further communications: 1) A schedule of activities with map and 2) An order form for Tuckshop morning tea.

We would be most grateful if parents/carers could collect boxes for box collage and egg cartons to use as paint containers. Please deliver these to the office over the next couple of weeks. Looking forward to a great Under 8’s thanks

BYO Device
In term 1 surveys were undertaken and recently completed with parents and carers to indicate interest in participation in a Bring Your Own Device program at Birkdale South in 2017. The results of parent and teacher surveys are in and the following possible class plans are under consideration for 2017. We have more teachers willing to take class groups. Ideally we would run an iPad class in each year level, with other classes still accessing our xPads, at a reduced ratio.

The device specifications, an iPad, will be released as part of the dissemination of information about the program being implemented. The process of visioning for the program is being undertaken with parent representation on the group and will then be distributed to parents as part of the consultation and implementation process. There will be a parent information session held toward the end of this term and then a commitment to the program in semester 2 this year.

This is a very exciting initiative, we will keep you informed via newsletter of updates as they come.

Curriculum...
Fiona Lane HOC

Hi everyone
This week students who participated in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge will be presented with their certificates by their classroom teachers. Over the two weeks of the challenge we had over 100 students from years 3 to 6 participate. This is a fantastic effort and one which I hope to exceed in semester two when it is offered again.

The image is an example of one of the questions the students had to answer.

Congratulations to all students that had a go and tried their best.

Next week is NAPLAN week for those students in years 3 and 5. This will impact on our normal school timetable and teachers will be making students aware of what those changes will be. It is important to send our students to school each day having had a good breakfast, this will assist them to be able to concentrate for the length of time required to complete the tests each day. An extra piece of fruit in the lunch box never goes astray either, thinking is hard hungry work. While timetables will be modified the rest of the school will work as normal.

As a staff we have had a focus on reading and what it looks like in each of our rooms. I am pleased to hear that all classes have been working hard on building reading and writing stamina. Reading and writing stamina helps us by creating an environment where teachers are able to work in uninterrupted blocks of approx. 15 minutes. These blocks can be used for explicit strategy groups where teachers explicitly teach students how to use various strategies to help them reach the reading or writing goals. How long can your child sit and be engaged in a book of their choice for? We are all working towards a minimum of 15 minutes. Talk to your child and ask them about their stamina – what it means and how they work on it. Enjoy your week.
The PBL expectation of the week has been “Be Safe”. We have seen all students displaying safe behaviour around our school. This has included classes walking around the school quietly while staying in line, entering and exiting classrooms in an orderly manner and using equipment appropriately. Students have still been busy collecting their beestings and a big congratulations to the 3B class who have recently just completed 4 beehives. Well done to Mrs Crank and 3B. Keep up the good work.

Be Safe! Be Responsible! Be Respectful! Be a Learner!

Deadly News...

Kim Paulson

Yura everyone
Some of the Indigenous students from the BSSS Jajams dance group having been teaching new members to the dance group the ‘Welcome’ dance. It’s so deadly to see the preppies get right into the dancing. I don’t know if I should have introduced branches and boomerangs so early into the practice but everyone eventually understood the respectful way to dance.

Deadly dancing Preps!!! We will be preparing for a performance at this year’s school fete. Yuwayi, Kim

Workplace Health and Safety...

Narelle Davy

Medication—Asthma

Birkdale South now has the option to record a student’s asthma in two ways:

- Asthma—students who require staff assistance to medicate and an asthma action plan in required.
- Asthma—student self-administers medication. (Student asthma action plan is not required)

Over term one we contacted all parents to confirm the if their student with Asthma would like to move to the new option of student self-administered.

We are still waiting to hear back from a number of parents who are yet to make the decision. We are also waiting for parent to collect and or return action plans that need to be completed for students who need assistance. For some of these students we are also waiting of Ventolin to be brought into the office.

If your child suffers from Asthma and we are waiting on documentation or medication please arrange to provide the relevant items.

Please be note that in an emergency action taken in regards to asthma would follow the standard Asthma First Aid response for all students.
Classroom Spotlight

This week we are featuring 6B who are learning complex rhythm and body percussion patterns using the Cup Song. Students are also studying Reggae music and learning to play riffs on xylophones and other tuned percussion.

Upcoming Events
Birkdale South’s Got Talent
The Birkdale South’s Talent Show is on Tuesdays at break 2. Check the list in the music room window for which week students are performing - teachers also have a list in their classroom.

No Strings this week
There will be no strings lessons or ensemble rehearsals today or Wednesday (3rd and 4th of May), as Miss Schmidt will be away at a music camp with Wellington Point SHS. All lessons and rehearsals will commence the following week.

Fanfare
The Senior Strings Ensemble will be competing in Fanfare on Monday 23rd May. Permission notes are on their way home, so keep an eye out!

Beginner Music Week (Strings)
Permission forms for the Beginners music week have now been sent home. This one day workshop is a fantastic opportunity for beginner strings students to build their skills on their instruments! Please ensure that you return all forms as soon as possible.

Music News
We are well underway with lessons for Term 2. Thank you to parents and students for such a warm welcome!
As part of language learning various aspects of Japanese culture, both modern and traditional are investigated and celebrated. So far this year, students have learnt about the Doll Festival – Hinamatsuri which is held in March and the Spring Festival – ohanami in April.

The 5th May is another significant date on the cultural calendar. Originally known as Boy’s Festival, the name was changed in 1954 to Children’s Day or kodomo no hi, as the festival now honours both boys and girls. This is a national holiday to celebrate the healthy growth of all children. Families fly fish shaped windsocks on long poles. These are called koi no bori.

Kodomo no hi is part of Golden Week, a time when many families travel, visit amusement parks or simply relax together. There are special traditional foods which are also associated with this festival and some families with sons also display samurai dolls.

**Sport and Physical Education**

Dean Johnson and Yvette Butterworth

**District Cross Country Team**

Well done to our district cross country team who went away to compete last Thursday. They should be extremely proud of the effort they have put into their training leading up to the event and we are proud of how well they represented Birkdale South on the day. Special recognition goes to Kydan T who has made it into the regional competition to be held later this month. A special thank you goes to Mr Bill Lester for again giving up his time and expertise to help with training.

**Interschool Sport**

Our interschool sport competition gets underway on Friday of Week 5. We have junior and senior teams representing Birkdale South in netball and soccer. It has been great to see teams have been out training in preparation for their first games.

**Year 1 in PE**

Year 1 students have been gearing up for sports day coming up at the end of the term. During their lessons they will practise running, relays, high jump, long jump, throwing and ball games. Everyone is excited to once again be able to represent their sporting house and earn points towards the end of year house trophy.

**Reminder**

- Athletics training on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings at 8:15am sharp.
- Please return Project Consent forms for students selected for district sport trials ASAP.
- Interschool sport starts on Friday of Week 5.
April was National Autism awareness month. Autism Associations and people around the world have raised their voices together for Autism awareness. Autism Spectrum disorder is often referred to as ASD. The symptoms associated with ASD can appear early in a child’s development and this is why it is considered to be a ‘developmental disorder’. The term ‘spectrum’ is used because it describes the wide variety and differing levels of severity of symptoms found in children with ASD. For example, two children could be diagnosed with ASD, yet one may have an intellectual disability, no spoken language and be considered low functioning; whereas the other may have average or even above average intelligence, appear to have normal speech and be considered high functioning.

We support many children at Birkdale South State School with Autism. If you have any concerns about your child’s development, we encourage you to investigate further. Consult with your GP and/or paediatrician and seek an assessment or come and have a chat with the SEP staff first as we can discuss your concerns and advise you on what you should take to these consultations.

Finance and Admin
Megan Murphy

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<th>Cost</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Incursion - Wildcall</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Thursday 12 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 4 Adventure Day</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Thursday 9 June</td>
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<td>$60</td>
<td>Thursday 6 May</td>
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<td>$110 &amp; $40</td>
<td>Thursday 6 May</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$20</td>
<td>OVERDUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Participation Agreement forms must be filled out</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>$60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Choir</td>
<td>Various</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Strings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Uniform</td>
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<td>Instrument Hire – includes deposit of $50 which will be returned at end of the year when instrument returned in good working order</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>$150</td>
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School Fees
All school Fees for 2016 are due this **Thursday 6 May**.

Report Cards emailed
Report cards will be emailed this semester. It is very important that you update your email address at the office.

Invoices for incursions/excursions
We are still continuing to send invoices home with incursion/excursion letters to allow parents the extra option of paying via Bpoint. In some instances, you may receive an invoice by email before you receive the letter home. This is out of our control as it is generated and emailed automatically. When you receive an invoice by email, you should receive the information letter that day or the next day.

Prep 2017 Enrolments
If you haven’t already done so, please put your child’s name down for Prep next year. We communicate upcoming events via email, so come along to the office to put your details on our list.
School Banking

Caroline Bastow

WOW! Term 1 School Banking was Awesome!!
Thanks to the fantastic efforts of our students in Term 1 we raised a total of $355.64 for our school through School Banking commissions. Our school receives $5 for each student who makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school.

We would like to congratulate the two classes that made the highest number of student deposits for Term 1. They are PA with 41 students and 5B with 29 students. Congratulations to those classes, you will received your certificate this week.

We would also like to announce the first Bronze Certificates for this year. These students have done 10 deposits so far. They are Zack V, Kaleb C, Xavier C, Ryan T, Liam F-E, Jessica H and Thomas P. Keep up the great work and remember to bring in your School Banking deposit every WEDNESDAY.

Chappy’s chat

John Rutter

The power of family time
Whatever your family looks like, there is so much research and evidence that links positive mental and emotional health for young people around a family simply making time to sit and eat meals together. This is something I have great belief in personally and I have been so encouraged through recent Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) facilitator training and also Anxiety Management training that one of the major strategies for creating or maintaining stability in a family is to simply sit and eat together at a family table of an evening.

Now I know we are all busy and that kids would much rather be playing on a game console or watching tele, however, this is worth persevering at because nothing can replace it. This is the place where we can share our experiences, build relationships, take interest in each other, learn to communicate and express ourselves, be connected and kids can feel affirmed in their place and valued in the family.

And once dinner is done then finish up with some games to make it a fun and memorable experience. Whether it’s a board game, Uno cards or Yahtzee, do something together that not only brings you closer through a shared experience but builds memories for your kids.

For more ideas simply google ‘family dinner games’ or I found a great web page www.thefamilydinnerproject.org which has a stack of ideas and things to help you make your dinner table the most powerful piece of furniture in your home.

Bon appetite…

School Banking Day Every Wednesday

Congratulations to BSSS students who represented the school at District Cross Country this year.

Shoulder receiving well!!
Fete News
Birkdale South SS Fete - Saturday July 30, 2016 - 9am - 3pm
Our Fete theme is Friendship, this year it is International Friendship Day and it just happens to fall on Saturday 30th July. So our wonderful Fete Convenors are busy organising performances and food stall to go with this theme. It will be a great atmosphere on the day and we hope that our wonderful parents of BSSS will get behind our Fete and volunteer an hour to help raise funds for our school. If you can help or would like more information please contact Belinda 0434 078 445 or Amy 0422 444 660 or email: birkdalesouthssfete@gmail.com Fete Newsletter out this week.

Easter Raffle
Letter two is out today. We still have about 80 books that we need to account for. If you have returned them, or never received them etc. could you please just write a note on the letter and return it to the Tuckshop by placing in the P&C wooden box.

Smart Choices – Healthy Food and Drink Supply strategy for Queensland Schools – Information for parents – PART 2
Smart Choices categorises foods and drinks into three groups based on how nutritious they are:
- **Green**: These foods and drinks are excellent sources of important nutrients. They should be encouraged and promoted in the school as the best choice.
- **Amber**: These foods and drinks have some sugar, fat or salt added during processing. They should be selected carefully.
- **Red**: These foods and drinks have very little nutritional value. They should be supplied by schools no more than two occasions per term.

Why a healthy tuckshop?
The school tuckshop plays an important role in promoting good nutrition because it can:
- Give students a taste for healthy foods
- Support nutrition messages taught in class
- Show students better choices for lunches and snacks

How you can support your school in promoting Smart Choices and healthy eating:
- Talk about the importance of healthy food and drink choices with your children
- Model healthy eating
- Send healthy food in lunch boxes
- Volunteer to help in your school tuckshop if you can
- Be a part of your school’s parent organisation

Mother’s Day Stall
Mother’s Day stall is here again. Presents are still $5 each class with come day on their day, please see the class teacher as to when your child class is coming. Wednesday and Thursday are the days for the class visits, Friday the Mother’s Stall will only be opened until 10am for the last minute presents buying. Thank you to the parents who helped wrapping the present and of course to our wonderful students who also helped – hope you all got a BEE STING!!!!!!

National Volunteers Week
We take this opportunity to that the many volunteers that we are lucky to have helping us in our school community. These volunteers help in classrooms, in tuckshop, as P&C members at special events, as wider community members coming into our school and giving their time – we thank them all very much because their time is so important to supporting the children at school. A morning tea is being hosted by the P&C on Friday 13 May at 9am in the Hall Foyer – all volunteers welcome!!! Loreyse Agnew-Green

Uniform Shop
Opening Hours
Tuesday and Thursday
8 to 10am

NO CASH is accepted by the office for orders. Orders online ONLY.
Join us for a Morning Tea

An Invitation to attend a Volunteers Morning Tea

When: 13th May 2016

Where: Hall Foyer

Why: Because you’re awesome

Time: 9am

RSVP: 10th May Please tear off the slip below and place it in the P&C box located at the tuckshop

Name: ___________________

Number Attending: ____________

How do you Volunteer ___________________________