Volume 4 12 March 2013
Principal’s Report
This week sees the P&C AGM. We have nominations for some positions but we are seeking nominations for both Executive positions as well as Sub-Committees. It was great to see some new faces at last month’s meeting and I would love to see lots more on Wednesday evening. The meeting commences at 6.30pm in the Staffroom.

This week we will also have our first School Council meeting of 2013 to ratify our Annual Improvement Plan. Our focus continues to be on improving reading and numeracy outcomes for the students here at Bray Park State School. Our School Opinion Survey data did show an improvement from 2011 to 2012 and I am sure that we can continue this upward trend into 2013 as this is our third area of the Annual Improvement Plan. The final area of the Annual Improvement Plan is around Indigenous Education and the improvement of literacy and numeracy outcomes for our Indigenous students.

Parking
There are a number of parents without Parking Permits using the Sparkes Road car park. This car park is for staff parking and for parents/caregivers of students with a disability, holding a 2013 Parking Permit. Please exercise consideration and refrain from parking in this area. Our local Police Beat Officers will be in and around the school enforcing the parking rules in a school zone, including on-site parking.

Uniforms
My conversation with a number of students over the past fortnight has been around school uniform – the not wearing of, to be precise. I understand that the weather has not been conducive to washing throughout the week, but it is the repeat offenders who are playing on the weather to not wear their school uniform. Denim jeans, bike pants, leggings or ‘short’ shorts are not acceptable items of clothing to be worn as part of the school uniform. I encourage students to wear their uniform with pride and acknowledge that they are part of the Bray Park State School community.

Principals’ Conference
Last week I attended the Education Queensland Principals’ Conference. The Minister, Director General and Assistant Director Generals addressed Queensland Principals. The messages were very clear: *improved student outcomes through improved pedagogical practices and involvement of the community.*

The Assistant Director General stated that, post code should not be a determinant of success. We must enact the vision “expect the extraordinary” through having high expectations for all students and hold true the fundamental belief that every child will learn. Education Queensland has released its publication, “Parent and Community Engagement Framework: Working together to maximise student learning” which.
contains a range of practical tips, tools, guides and checks for both schools and parents. The publication is available on the Education Queensland website.

**Student Leaders’ Conference**

Running concurrently with the Principals’ Conference, was the Student Leaders’ Conference. Our newly elected Student Leaders attended with Mrs Whittle and Chappy Kirsty. Councillor Drew Cogzell had the following to say about the Conference:

“On Thursday 28 February, the new school leaders went to a School Leadership Conference at the Brisbane Convention Centre. At the conference, all of the leaders learnt different things about being a good leader. “Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes” was something I thought would be good to take back to school –

- **Heads** – thinking of others
- **Shoulders** – carrying the load for others
- **Knees** – moving forward
- **Toes** – balancing responsibilities

Overall, everyone had a great day and I would like to thank Mrs Whittle and Chappy Kirsty for planning such an amazing day out.” Drew Cogzell, Student Councillor.

All Student Leaders reported that the Conference had been very worthwhile and that they had each returned to school with different ideas about leadership.

Have a great week!
Maree Mortlock
Principal

**P&C NEWS**

Donations for the Easter Raffle are coming in thick and fast. Thanks to all the families who have already donated items. Keep bringing in your donations to the Office, as they are all very much appreciated. If you haven’t already please make sure your raffle tickets and money are back to the office prior to **Thursday, 28th March 2013**.

Do not forget all Homestyle Bake Easter Drive order forms and money are to be handed into the Office by **Friday, 15th March 2013**. Delivery will be Friday, 22nd March 2013. Can’t wait to taste the Strawberry and Cream Hot Cross Buns!

Our 2nd Pizza Friday for the year will be this Friday (15th March). Come along to the Hall from 3pm to enjoy a slice of Eagle Boys delicious Ham & Pineapple, Cheese or Meatlovers pizza for $1. Cups of cordial will also be for sale for $0.50 each.

The next P&C meeting will be held tomorrow night, Wednesday, 13th March at 6:30pm in the Staff Room located in the Administration building. This meeting will be our AGM. We are hoping to fill all Executive positions. We love seeing new faces so come along and see what is happening and coming up at our school.

**WET SCHOOL GROUNDS**

Dear Parents and Carers,

With the very wet weather this year, grounds are saturated in almost every environment (backyards, parks, sports grounds and school ovals and grounds etc). Until drier weather returns, school families should be aware that there may be heightened insect activity outdoors. Every effort will be made (when the weather permits) to ensure that the grounds are mowed to enable them to dry out faster. The P&C expended funds last year to improve drainage from the main oval. As a precaution against possible insect activity at the moment, parents might like to consider applying insect repellent to their children before sending them to school. As children may react to various insect repellents, this is a matter for individual families. Thank you, Mr Orphanides (Deputy Principal)

**SPORTS NEWS**

Please see the newsletter insert for important information regarding this week’s School Cross Country on **Friday, 15/3/13** and also payments for Inter School Sports.
CHAPPY’S CHAT
The chaplaincy program has had a great start to 2013! I’ve spent the first five weeks of school meeting all the new faces around the school and catching up with all the familiar faces too. Last week’s highlight was attending the GRIP Student Leadership Conference with Mrs Whittle and the Yr 7 student leaders. The student leaders learnt lots of practical tips about leadership and I’m sure they will do an exceptional job as leaders in our school.

This Friday, 15\textsuperscript{th} March, is our first Chappy Pancakes for 2013. We will be serving from 8am onwards outside the tuckshop and it will cost $2 for 2 pancakes, some syrup and a popper. Hope to see you there!

Chappy

BOOK/UNIFORM SHOP
Opening hours for this week are: TUESDAY 7.30am – 10.30am, WEDNESDAY 2.30pm – 5.30pm. If you have any queries please contact Mandy on Ph: 07 3480 7345.

TUCKSHOP
Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Tuckshop so far. We are still in need of items including Jelly Crystals / Dishwashing Liquid / Ritz Biscuits / Tinned pineapple, beetroot, two fruits and tuna / SAO crackers and Rice Cakes. Thank you, Sharon and Vanessa.

SCHOOL BANKING
Well done to all of our school bankers, last week we had 32 super savers! Our school’s banking day is THURSDAY. Please bring your deposit books to the school office in the morning each Thursday. Prep A&B (Viscount St) students can leave their bank books in the class room and these will be brought over to the office for them. You can commence student banking any time, just visit your local Commonwealth Bank branch (Warner, Strathpine) with your child’s birth certificate.

PAYMENT DATES TO REMEMBER
- “Class of 2013” Senior Polo Shirts – Order form and payment due to the Office or Bookshop by 21/3/2013
- Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) excursion for Year 6 & 7 – Permission slip and payment due by 22/3/2013
- Cross Country Fun Run – Sponsorship forms and money due to the Office by 26/3/2013
- Easter Raffle Tickets – ticket stubs and money due to the office by 27/3/2013
- ICAS Competition (Maths, Science, English, Writing, Computer) - Entry form and money due by 28/3/2013
- Inter School Sports – Permission slip and payment due by 17/4/2013

COMMUNITY NEWS
Does your child suffer asthma or eczema?
Every day thousands of Australian children suffer the effects of asthma and eczema, and families struggle with illness management and children’s behavioural and emotional adjustment.

Positive Parenting for Healthy Living is an adaptation of the successful Triple P - Positive Parenting Program, offering practical ideas and support for parents of children suffering asthma or eczema. This innovative group program is designed to help parents manage their child’s illness, assist children in coping with their illness and emotions, and prevent and manage difficult child behaviour.

Over the next few months and for a limited time only, parents of 3-10 year old children suffering asthma or eczema are able to access Positive Parenting for Healthy Living Triple P free of charge as part of a University of Queensland research project. Contact Amy Mitchell on (07) 3365 7305 or email healthyliving@uq.edu.au, or visit www.exp.psy.uq.edu.au/healthyliving for more information.