

BRAY PARK STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

Newsletter 9 at 7 June 2007

Principal's Column

Last Friday night I laughed, sang and foot tapped. I was at our school musical "Back to the 80's". I sat with Mrs Linda Lavarch, Member for Kurwongbah, Mr Graeme Ashworth, our local Councillor, Mr Fox and Mr Evans and members of the P&C Executive as well as my family. It was a great night and the energy of the cast, musicians, backstage crew and teachers made the evening what it was – simply marvellous. Congratulations to all involved. The weeks of tireless effort created a musical that will be long remembered.

Congratulations to Mathew Tanovic for his excellent result at the Cross Country 3 kilometre run for Metropolitan North Regional Championship.

Absence Letters : Parents of students attending Bray Park High School are full partners with the school and we like the way teachers and parents feel there are many avenues of communication when there are concerns. One concern that affects the student's ability to succeed at school is attendance. If students aren't coming to school or are late or missing classes, they simply can't do their best.

The 2006 Education Act has recognised this and created a process for all state schools to notify parents. All state school must now send out government formatted letters to parents of students who appear to have missed several school days without notification to the school. I use the term " appear" because the records do not take into account the letters carefully written by parents but left in school bags, the times the student has been late and simply gone to class instead of going through the office and the occasions when the school/student/ parent has made an honest mistake. Usually, truancy has not occurred but it is only by going through the process that we get to the real situation.

Unfortunately, the letter format that schools have to use has a formal, systemic language/tone that can be quite off-putting to parents who work closely with the school and who are familiar with an informal and trusting relationship.

I hope that parents do not find these letters terse. Please understand that all schools have to send the letters as part of our formal responsibilities. I appreciate the time and effort that parents are putting into their responses and thank you for your patience, tolerance and good will.

The Education [General Provisions] Act 2006 has made many changes to schooling and greater emphasis has been placed on compulsory attendance, behaviour, anti bullying, and student participation and engagement. Record keeping and documentation have been given greater legal emphasis. Consequently paperwork has increased and schools are creating systems to cope with this.

As a measure to streamline the process, I ask that parents phone the Student Absence Centre directly on 38816654 rather than phone the General Administrative Office. A phone call to this number results in the information being immediately processed on the data base.

Our strong school/home partnership will carry us through. Remember, most concerns can be put to right with a phone call so while the letters have to be posted, the usual friendly short chat with a member of Admin is always on offer.

Regards

Kate Abernethy - Acting Principal

Senior Schooling News

QCS Test Preparation

All Year 12 students who are sitting the QCS Test for 2007 will be participating in a full QCS Test practice on Wednesday 20 June and Thursday 21 June. Students not sitting the QCS Test are not expected to be at school on these days unless.

Year 12 students have been preparing for the QCS Test during their Lifeskills lessons and this will continue into Term 3 until the QCS Test on September 4 and 5 2007.

Year 11 Work Placement

Approximately 75 year 11 students will be completing Work Placement during the last week of Term 2, from Monday 18 June to Friday 22 June. Students who complete a Vocational Education subject are required to participate in Work Placement to assist them in obtaining their Certificate level.

Year 10 and 11 Lifeskills

Currently all Year 10 and 11 students are completing their Certificate 1 in Work Education during Lifeskills. A worthwhile Certificate to have as it encompasses job seeking skills, career planning and Resume writing.

Karenne Haygarth - Senior Schooling Head of Department.

Thank you Northpoint TAFE

Thank you to Mr Gordon Elledge from TAFE and the Northpoint TAFE Campus for the donation of three milling machines and three metal lathes.

This process was initiated by our Deputy Principal, Mr Fox. The machinery will be set up in MA01 for use mainly by our Senior Engineering students.

Electricians will disconnect existing machines in MA01 so they may be relocated to make room for these six larger machines...the process has begun!

Roger Ball- Technology Studies

Australian Geography Competition

Bray Park State High School students challenged their geographical skills and knowledge in the annual Australian Geography Competition. This year, 86000 students from across Australia entered the competition and nearly 100 of these students were from Bray Park High School.

The Social Science teachers have a real passion for Geography and this is evident both in the amount of students who went in the competition and the outstanding results achieved. "Each year we achieve better and better results in this competition and 2007 has marked our strongest results ever," said Ms Makings HOD Social Science.

"Students really excelled with 12 students receiving credits, 8 students receiving Distinctions and an outstanding 10 students receiving the highest award: High Distinction." The students who received a High Distinction were: Russell Burgess, Joshua Franklin, Thomas Iolamo, Dalton Griffin, Chris Wilson, Brenton Holmes, Catherine Pollinger, Evan Wong, Alec Darby and Josh Worthington.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the competition and we look forward to continued great success in 2008.

Katrina Makings - HOD Social Science

DATE CLAIMERS – 2007

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Wednesday 6 June | School Social |
| Thursday 7 June | Regional Cross Country |
| Thursday 7 June | Music Extension Concert 5-7pm |
| Monday 11 June | Queen's Birthday Holiday |
| Tuesday 12 June | Year 11-12 Block Exams |
| Tuesday 12 June | Tickets for BPSHS 20 th Anniversary Dinner on sale from office |
| Monday 18 June | P&C Meeting |
| Mon-Fri 18-22 June | Year 11 Work Placement |
| Tuesday 19 June | International English Comp |
| Wednesday 20 June | Year 7 into 8 Night |
| Friday 22 June | Reports mailed out |
| Friday 22 June | Last day of Term 2 |
| 25 June - 6 July | School Holidays |
| 7-13 July | Instrumental Music Tour |
| Monday 9 July | Student Free Day |
| Tuesday 10 July | Tuesday - Start Term 3 |
| Friday 10 August | Leaders' Photos |
| Saturday 18 August | BPSHS 20th Anniversary Dinner |

Bray Park State High School

20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

Venue: **North's Leagues and Services Club** - Anzac Avenue, Kallangur

When: **Saturday 18 August 2007** * Cost: **\$40** (*Drinks not included*) * Time: **6pm start for a 7pm dinner**

Tickets on sale from the school office from 12 June. Finalised by 10 August for numbers
Seating for 10 people per table is available

More information next newsletter!

Dream of becoming a dancer? The Australian Ballet School

Opportunity to audition for The Australian Ballet School

The Australian Ballet School will be holding auditions in Cairns on June 19 & 20, and in Brisbane on June 21 & 22 2007 for talented boys and girls with a dream to pursue vocational dance training.

The Australian Ballet School is the primary national institution for vocational training in classical dance, offering a carefully graded eight level program to prepare students for a professional dance career.

Students aged 9-14 audition for the Junior School

- Levels 1-4 consist of part-time after school classes and Interstate Junior Program.
- Level 5 comprises full-time dance and academic Year 10 studies, toward the accredited Certificate III in Dance.

Students aged from 15 years audition for the Senior School

- Senior School (Levels 6-8) is a three year course, combining full-time dance studies with academic VCE (Year 11 & 12 classes). Graduates receive the accredited Advanced Diploma of Dance.

Entry into The Australian Ballet School is by audition only.

To register your interest, please contact The Australian Ballet School on **03 9669 2807** or download an application pack at www.australianballetschool.com.au

(Auditions by DVD/video are available in certain circumstances – please contact the Ballet School for details).

Bray Park State High School

EXPO

Parent Representative Required

BPSHS SCHOOL EXPO will be on Monday 27 August 2007 – We are looking for a Parent Representative to join our Expo Committee. If you are interested please contact Marie Sharp on 3881 6666

Parenting Asthmatic Children

CHALLENGED BY YOUR CHILD'S ASTHMA?

The University of Queensland is conducting research into Parenting Asthmatic Children.

Parenting an asthmatic child presents many challenges (everything from providing medication and avoiding triggers to day-to-day parenting tasks). The aim of this study is to understand the factors that make management of childhood asthma more difficult, with the results used in developing strategies to assist parents in managing their child's asthma.

If you are a parent of a 2 to 10-year-old asthmatic child, we would love to hear from you!

Sharing your experiences (confidentially) is valuable in helping to develop strategies to assist parents in the areas that are needed. Results of this study will also be available to participants.

To complete the survey and for more information, log on to: <http://experiment.psy.uq.edu.au/asthmaticchildren>

Thank you for your time and participation.

Alina Morawska and Jenny Stelzer - Parenting and Family Support Centre

For more information about the project or to request a survey to be posted to you, please contact:

Alina Morawska - Parenting and Family Support Centre

School of Psychology - University of Queensland

St Lucia QLD 4072

Phone: +61 7 3365 7304 / Fax: +61 7 3365 6724 / Email: asthmaticchildren@psy.uq.edu.au

FIELD TRIP CONFIRMS: TAFE IS TOPS!

Three students from the Bray Park SHS LEO project team travelled to the Brisbane North Institute of TAFE at Caboolture with their facilitator Dee Marshman yesterday. To find out just what TAFE is all about, Michael, Gloria and Sarah worked together as a film crew to interview careers counsellor Karen Standen. Read more... Karen provided some insightful answers to their carefully crafted questions about the range of courses offered and how TAFE meets its' students needs. Following the interview, they had the opportunity to explore the grounds and check out the campus restaurant and hair salon. Michael thought the best thing about the excursion was "being able to use the camera equipment to film the interview." Gloria was interested to find out about the flexibility offered in the courses and timetables. Gloria also commented that she learned "when you're a TAFE student the responsibility for learning is on you." Sarah was impressed by the campus and said that "at first TAFE might seem intimidating because it's bigger than high school but once you have a look around it's easy to tell you could get used to coming here to study." You can see the students' interview in Narangba Valley SHS's documentary about access to careers through TAFE. To go to a screening of this film you will have to attend 'Blast Off!', an exciting careers expo to be held at the beginning of term four this year. Stay tuned!

STS HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION Australian Students from Italy, Sweden and Germany are among a number of students attending a high school in your area. The students aged 16 to 17 years have a variety of interests including dancing, music, sports and photography. They have come to experience our country, culture and education system. If you can help or would like further information please phone Margaret on 3204 2156.

UNEMPLOYED AND OVER 40?

A program to assist unemployed mature aged people is now available at Mitchelton and Caboolture commencing after June/July holidays and at no cost to the participant. For more information please phone Worklinks on (Mitchelton) 3354 3946 or 5498 9601 (Caboolture).

LOOK OUT LIBRARY!!

Our school is supporting the MS Readathon 1 – 30 June 2007

Children at our school are encouraged to 'Read for a Reason' for the MS Readathon. Students in every grade will be challenged to read as much as they can during June.

It's easy and fun!

Registrations for MS Readathon are now open. Children pick up a registration booklet from school, or simply register with their parents online at www.msreadathon.org.au

For the month of June, students record all the books they read at school and at home, or simply record the time they spend reading. Then friends and family sponsor them for all their reading to help the MS Society.

MS Readathon is Rewarding!

1. Raises essential funds to help Australians living with Multiple Sclerosis
2. Gives children fun incentives to improve their reading skills
3. Every participant receives a Certificate and super cool Reading Rewards
4. School Rewards include a digital camera

What is MS?

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is the most common disease of the central nervous system among young Australians, the average age of diagnosis is 32, and three times more women than men have MS. There is no known cause or cure.

For further information:

Phone 1300 67 7323 (1300 MS READ)
or visit the website www.msreadathon.org.au

Multiple Sclerosis Society Of Queensland

Because we changed the Registration Booklets this year, children may be unaware that they need to return the registration form in the back of the booklet so they can receive a receipt book for donations and further details of the program during the reading period.

**Please return the Registration Form
as soon as possible!**

MS Readathon National Processing Centre, GPO Box 4654, Melbourne, Vic 3001.
msreadathon@mssociety.com.au

Reading Assistance Program

The Bray Park State High School Reading Assistance Program is seeking volunteers to be tutors again this year.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

- Do you have time to spare?
- Do you want to help students to read / learn?
- Do you want to develop your interests?
- Do you want to share skills and hobbies?
- Do you want to be appreciated and welcomed?
- Do you want to meet other volunteers?

The program involves volunteers working with selected students on a one-to-one basis.

The purpose of the program is to assist and support students who want to improve their reading. The program runs on Tuesdays during school hours. Morning tea and training will be provided.

The volunteer tutor, a parent or a member of the local community, makes a regular commitment to work with students on a Tuesday. **As a RAP volunteer you will be a vital part of our school community.**

If you are interested in giving some of your time, please contact Mrs Jo Turner at the High School on 3881 6666.

SUNSKILLS EXPO 2007

Find your career path. Parent and student forum Tuesday 24 July 5.00-8.00pm. Sunshine Coast TAFE Mooloolaba campus 34 Lady Musgrave Dve Mountain Creek . Come and try trades etc on Tuesday 24, Wednesday 24 and Thursday 26 July from 9.30am – 1.30pm each day.

Register your interest now by booking through your school. Parents are welcome.

Contact kim.abrahamson@deta.qld.gov.au. Ph: 5459 3229 Fax: 5459 3239

BRIDES OF THE AGES

Fundraiser for Bray Park Cadets and Gems 2007. On Monday 16 June 2007 from 6pm. Entry will be by ticket only at \$25 per couple. Held at the Bray Park Community Church, Young's Crossing Road, Bray Park. "Go all out – Formal Attire". A magical night of Glamour and Entertainment. RSVP by purchasing a ticket at BPCC Office .

Please contact Jewel 0408 150 623, Trescia 0437 550 172.

Bray Park State High School

Chaplain -Tim Sweetman

Phone 0403 192 847 * Email: tim@bridgeman.org.au

At school on

Monday and Friday 9am-11am / Wednesday and Thursday 8am-3pm

FORMAL DRESSES FOR SALE

Dresses only worn once for graduation. Excellent condition like new!

1/ Very elegant, Maroon full length dress size 8. Designed Mr K.'A' line skirt, decorative bodice with matching chiffon scarf and matching shoes size 7 (if required). Material is polyester, lined with acetate \$175

2/ Very elegant Red Dress full length size 10. Designed by Purple patch . Slip up back, spiders web back design with matching evening bag, material is polyester lined with acetate. \$80. Please contact 0412 666 332 (Morayfield)

PRIMA

www.prima.org.au

GREASE IS COMING TO TOWN!!!!

Where

Albany Hills Primary School Hall, Keong Road, Albany Creek

When

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Friday | 29 June 2007 | 8:00pm |
| Saturday | 30 June 2007 | 8:00pm |
| Sunday | 1 July 2007 | 6:00pm |

Thursday 5 July 2007 8:00pm
Friday 6 July 2007 8:00pm
Saturday 7 July 2007 8:00pm

Ticket Prices

Adult \$25 * Children \$15 * Concession (aged & student) \$15 * Family (2A & 2K) \$70
10+ Group \$22.50 each

To BOOK TICKETS: Contact Kym Whittington 3882 2102 * www.prima.org.au

NEXT P&C MEETING - Monday 18 June 2007
at 7.00pm

BPSHS UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Monday – Wednesday – Friday
8.15am to 10.15am (During School Term)

NOTICE to STUDENTS and PARENTS/CARERS - PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Students who wish to leave the school grounds throughout the day are required to bring a signed permission note from their parent / carer to the office in the morning. Once this note is verified a slip is to be collected by the student at morning tea.

If a student is sick during the day they must come to the office and an office staff member will contact parent / carer.

Pine Gardens Florist

Annette & Roger Hall

Ph: 3881 0323

Fax: 3205 3928

Mob: 0421 805 994

Email: pinegardens@optusnet.com.au

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