

# BRAY PARK STATE HIGH SCHOOL

# Newsletter

Newsletter No 4 at 22 March 2007

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## Principal's Column

On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March I had the pleasure of attending the Instrumental Music Presentation Evening. Five ensembles performed in front of families, students and staff. Many people judge a school on its academic results alone and I know we all take interest whenever The Courier Mail offers comparisons between Queensland schools. Bray Park High School always compares well and, while that is a matter of pride for us, it does not tell the whole story. Bray Park is a community school which fosters the growth of the whole student. We want young people to leave school with more than just a great education. We want our graduates to enter the adult world with confidence and self esteem. Such characteristics are developed only through self extension. Bray Park offers many avenues for such extension. Sport, public speaking, musicals, competitions, charity fundraising and music are just some of the ways our students extend their school experiences. Tuesday night gave me an insight into just how great our students are.

### TRIENNIAL SCHOOL REVIEW

Every three years all state schools review what they are doing. While we do this each year in our Annual Operation Plan, the Triennial School Review is a major process that seeks detailed information from all school partners to check:

- What we are doing well
- What we could do better
- How we are going to do this

Over the next months we will be asking students, staff, parents and others such as our primary school partners to help us find the answers to these questions. Once we collate this information we will determine the three year process to reach our objectives. We know Bray Park High School is a good school. We have the data to demonstrate this but we know we can do better. Please be part of the process to make this happen.

I would like to set up an email parent advisory group. The idea is that I would ask this group of about 20 parents for information on how they saw things, what they believe could be changed, what they believe is good or even great. I would email once a week and never ask for more than a short reply. If you are interested please email me at [the.principal@brayparkshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@brayparkshs.eq.edu.au). I promise you I won't overload you and that this will provide you with an avenue of excellent communication.

### SAFETY

Bray Park SHS is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all students, parents and staff. One of our key strategies is to have clear processes to ensure that the school is as safe as we can make it. I ask for parents' support in the following ways:

1. They not contact the school during a critical incident (if they are aware that a lockdown, for example, is in place).
2. They not make contact with the Media or be prepared to be interviewed in relation to a critical incident.
3. Leave all driveways clear should they see an ambulance or police vehicle in the grounds.
4. Encourage their children to follow the directions of their teacher in times of critical response.

I also ask that students understand that:

1. They are to listen to instructions and follow them without question and in a timely way.
2. Treat critical incidents and drills seriously.
3. They are not to talk with Media.
4. They should keep driveways clear.
5. They should stay away from areas that are unsafe or where critical support is being given.

*Kate Abernethy - Acting Principal*

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# P&C President's Report for 19 March 2007

On Monday night our Annual General Meeting was held, and only seven parents out of approximately 560 families attended the meeting.

It is very disappointing that the committee, who put in many hours of volunteer work to help improve the school for our children, is not receiving greater support.

Below are the executive members who were elected for 2007:

President:	Peter Mullins
Vice President:	Robert Franklin
Secretary:	Sharon Rabbitt
Treasurer:	Alison Hagaman
QCPCA Reps:	Brian and Robyn Ward

Positions remaining vacant on the P&C are an additional Vice-President and Fund Raising Co-ordinator.

In 2005 the Fund Raising Co-Ordinator raised over \$10,000, and if nobody offers to take on this position, we will miss out on the opportunity to raise additional monies for the school. If you would like to just co-ordinate one Fund Raising event, please contact any of the above P&C members, phone 3881 6666. It would be very much appreciated.

I would like to thank the Executive for taking on the above positions and giving up their valuable time to help. The P&C have a lot to achieve this year.

## 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The P&C has decided to hold a dinner at North Leagues and Services Club, Kallangur in August this year to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bray Park State High. If any parents would like to assist with the organisation of this function, please contact Mr Peter Mullins or Mrs Sharon Rabbitt, phone 3881 6666. Further information regarding this celebration will be informed in future newsletters.

## TUCKSHOP

The P&C has agreed to install a gas oven at a cost of \$1500 in our school tuckshop to assist with changing requirements due to the Healthy Schools Programme implemented in January this year.

## RELAY FOR LIFE

This weekend the school has three student/parent/teacher teams running for this very worthwhile Cancer cause. It is great to see so many of our senior students willing to participate.

Thank you to Sharon Rabbitt, Patricia Godillon and Di Booth for their efforts in co-ordinating the weekend.

*Peter Mullins - P&C President*

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**Bray Park State High School** is a consortium member of **Youth Works Association Inc.** Other consortium members include: Pine Rivers State High School, Dakabin State High School, Albany Creek State High School, Pine Rivers Special School, Mt Maria College and North Lakes State College. The Youth Works Association Inc is a Local Community Partnership funded by the Federal Government, Department of Employment, Science and Training (DEST). The funding assists each school provide maximum opportunities for all young people aged 13 – 19 years to explore and access support for career development, transition through school and with the identification of educational pathways.

Students who complete a Vocation Education subject at Bray Park State High School are provided with the opportunity to complete Work Placement, this is one of the programs operating in the school through the Youth Works Association Inc. Work Placement is an essential part of completing a Certificate level course. Within the subject students learn the theory side to a Certificate course but learn the practical components at the work place.

Certificate courses at Bray Park High include: Hospitality – Certificate 1 in Hospitality (Operations), Recreational Studies - Certificate 1 in Community Recreation, Automotive - Certificate 1 in Automotive, Furnishing - Certificate 1 in Furnishing, Engineering - Certificate 1 in Engineering, Business Studies & BCT - Certificate 1 and 2 in Business and Information Technology - Certificate 1 and 2 in Information Technology.

Through the other two programs students are provided with current, relevant and accurate career and transition advice. The school is also networking with local industries to engage in partnership activities between schools and industries. The Mathematics Department worked in partnership with Northside Trusses in 2006.

*Karenne Haygarth- Senior Schooling Head of Department*

## ***QLD Arts Council Performance "Be the Beat"***

On 5 March, the QLD Arts Council entertained our Music, Instrumental Music and Drama students with a percussion workshop "Be the Beat". Over one hundred of our Arts students participated in this exciting workshop, experiencing many different rhythms from Latin America. This workshop was very energetic and our students gained valuable knowledge and performance experience.

## ***Year 11 Drama Excursion "The Narcissist"***

On 13 March, Year 11 Drama students travelled to La Boite Theatre to watch a performance of Stephen Carleton's play, "The Narcissist". This contemporary performance set in Brisbane, was both powerful and comical. The performance gave our students an appreciation for professional theatre. Students were lucky enough to have the opportunity to meet with the director and actors after the performance, to ask questions. This was truly a valuable experience

## ***Instrumental Music Performance and Information Evening***

Bray Park State High, Annual Instrumental Music Performance and Information Evening was held on Tuesday 13 March at 7.00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Theatre. This evening recognised the achievements of students in the program in 2006 and featured live performances by the instrumental music ensembles. Staff and instrumental music leaders presented information for parents and students, particularly those new to the school, and our award winning instrumental music program.

During 2006, students in the Instrumental Music Program were required to complete specific tasks and performances according to their level of ability. On 13 March, students who completed the requirements for their level in 2006 were presented with their certificate. On this night, parents, friends and supporters were also entertained by the first public performances for the year of our five large instrumental groups, Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Stage Band, and String Ensemble.

Congratulations to the Leaders of 2007 who hosted and presented on the evening and also to the students and conductors of the ensembles who performed. The quality of the performances was excellent for early in the year and we look forward to some excellent playing experiences in the future.

Thank you to staff, parents, and families who supported our first public concert for the year. We look forward to your attendance at our next performance.

## ***Year 12 Music Student to Perform in the Valley Jazz Festival***

One of our Year 12 Music students **David Cox**, has been selected to perform in the 2007 Valley Jazz Festival. This vibrant event is held over six days from 24 – 29 April. It includes over 60 live acts across 15 different venues in Fortitude Valley. The festival features many different styles of jazz and will include both national and international performers.

It is truly a huge accomplishment to be apart of this Festival. Congratulations David and I am sure you will amaze audiences with your performance at The Press Club on Sunday 29 April from 4:00pm to 5:40pm.

*Scott Bowden - Head of Department - The Arts*

## ***Year 11 and 12 Music Extension Excursion***

On 7 March, Year 11 and 12 Music Extension students travelled to The Queensland State Library. They viewed an introductory presentation on the State Library and were then taken on a tour, outlining specific subject areas and facilities. Students were also taught how to use the State Library's database system in order to find particular resources. They were then taken to the third level (music level) to research their individual topics for assessment using the library's vast range of resources.

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## **Science Report**

Over a two week period at the end of February, three Grade 6 classes, from Strathpine West State School, visited our school to observe and carry out experiments on an Energy Unit of work. The students and their teachers appeared to have a very interesting, scientifically engaged time. This was a repeat of last year's visits and strengthens our links with the Primary feeder schools in the area.

These links are becoming more frequent with the formation of a Primary/Secondary Science Cluster Group, who met for the second time, this term, at Petrie State School.

Wendy Shearer, our Scientific Operations Officer, has been instrumental in organising a Northside Cluster Group for school's Laboratory Assistants. They met for the first time at our school in February. We hope that all these initiatives will produce better outcomes in science for the students in the area.

We have recently bought equipment to commence Wine Making for a unit of work in the senior Chemistry work program. We hope this will be a success and engage more students in senior science.

A Year 10 student, Mickeala Harris, was chosen as one of 120 students to attend the Siemens Science Experience at QUT in the summer break. She reported back that she had an extremely interesting time and we hope more Year 9 students will enter next year. Thanks also to the PINE RIVERS ROTARY CLUB who kindly sponsored Mickeala and paid her fees.

*Tony Parry - TIC Science*

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## Change of Address Details 2007

Please ensure your mailing address and phone numbers are current with the school's records

Any enquiries please call

**BPSHS Student Services on 3881 6654**

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## Camp Warrawee 27-28<sup>th</sup> March

Camp Warrawee will be held next week on Tuesday and Wednesday 27-28<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

It is a normal school day on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> for all students.

Teamwork will be the key feature of the Year 8 Camp. Activities will include Indoor Rock Wall Climbing, Flying Fox, Hanging Vine and Giant Swing through to the Low Ropes, and Swimming.

The main aim of the camp is to build strong relationships between students, teachers and support staff, in addition to learning other skills required by students.

Camp Warrawee is situated on Byrnes Rd, Joyner. Telephone number is 38821436. Please have students at Camp around 8.30 am. We will return students back to school at 2.30 on Wednesday.

Students will be brought back to school by bus for a normal 2.30pm departure.

### **Alternate Activities**

Students not going to Camp will be placed into an alternate program with a timetable for those days. They will require pen and paper and lunch as normal. Normal school uniform applies.

*Yolanda Cavey - HOD Middle School*

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## TAE KWON DO

STUDENTS - If you are interested in learning Tae Kwon Do, classes are held at the school on Monday and Wednesdays from 7pm until 8.30pm in MS4 and 5. Cost is \$3.00. Wear shorts and T-shirt and bring a water bottle.

TO JOIN, just turn up on the night at MS4 and 5.

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## New Zealand Social Science Trip

In just three weeks time, 19 students and 3 staff members are jetting away to New Zealand for a cultural and geographical experience of a lifetime!

Students have their passports ready for their nine day trip to the South Island of New Zealand. They will experience the unique geography of New Zealand and will even get the opportunity to take a helicopter flight to the top of Fox Glacier!

Of course, there will still be plenty of time for adventure activities like jet boat riding and the occasional course of shopping. We wish these Social Science students the very best for a safe and rewarding tour.

*Katrina Makings - HOD - Social Science*

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## Social Science Excursions

**10 Geography** students went on an exciting field study to the beaches in the Caloundra area. The purpose of the field trip was to study coastal processes and coastal landforms as well as analyse the human impact in the area. Students are now busily preparing their field trip reports.

**12 Geography** students travelled to the inner-city of Brisbane to study Urban Renewal. They were able to visit Kelvin Grove Urban Village, Teneriffe and also analyse the Northbank development proposal for the north bank of the Brisbane River. This proposal, which has recently been in the news, is quite controversial as the development extends over 40 metres into the river.

*Katrina Makings - HOD - Social Science*

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# Basic Safety Principles for Child Safety

- Students should move to and from school in at least pairs
  - Students should not talk to strangers
  - Students should not accept lifts from strangers. If approached, answer "No thank you" and move smartly away
  - Students should wait within school grounds if they are being picked up by a parent or guardian
  - Students should notify school staff or parents if they see anyone behaving suspiciously near schools or on the way to/from school
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## From the Community Education Counsellor

I would like to introduce myself for those who do not know me, in particular the new students and parents to Bray Park State High School.

My name is **FAYE GUNDY**. I have worked in Education for the past 23 years. I started in 1984 as a Teacher Aide at Zillmere, Sandgate, Taigum and Bracken Ridge primary schools.

I have studied externally from James Cook University at Townsville to gain an Associate Diploma and Bachelor Degree in Welfare whilst working as a Teacher Aide. After graduating I applied and gained a position as Community Education Counsellor at Redcliffe, Clontarf and Deception Bay State High Schools. I spent a year at Wavell High before coming to Bray Park and Pine Rivers High Schools.

My role in the school is to –

- Liaise with students, parents, Teachers, Principals, support staff and the wider community
- Mediate
- Assist with cultural activities or studies in class and cultural awareness to teachers
- Counselling
- Liaise with the Police Liaison Officer
- Other organisation dealing with young people
- Promote cultural awareness programmes

My main focus is to encourage our students to continue onto Year 12 and further education. It is important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to aim high for a positive future.

I am available at Bray Park State High School on **Thursday** and **Friday** - Please phone - 3881 6656 or 0439 744946

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## International Women's Day Breakfast

Last Wednesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> March, six Year 11 students and two teachers from Bray Park State High School attended the International Women's Day breakfast, held at the Convention Centre to commemorate International Women's Day on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> March. Needing to be seated by 6:45am, many of the students, from Dayboro, found themselves getting up before 5am to attend the event, which was definitely worth it for these young ladies.

The breakfast was supported by UNIFEM, the women's fund in the United Nations that provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programmes and strategies to foster women's empowerment and gender equality. Present at the event were upwards of 1300 people who were privileged to hear Ms Malalai Joya, MP for Afghanistan, speak about not only the plight of women in her country but that of the entire population. Having survived four assassination attempts, Ms Joya will always continue to champion the rights of the women in her country. She spoke of one instance where an 11 year old girl was raped and then murdered, only to have her body exchanged for a dog.

The students gained a great insight into the plight of these people, as did many of the audience members, and also an idea of politics and the corruption of parliament. "20% of the parliament consists of people accused of war crimes," recounted student, Alex James, "and now with the introduced bill that no-one can try anyone for war crimes over the past 25 years, many have gained an unfair immunity."

Having courageous women, like Ms Malalai Joya, speak about these atrocities against women, opens our eyes to the needs of others in the world, and the immense personal risk that people are taking in doing so. "I tell them, 'One day you may kill me but you'll never silence the voice,'" she says.

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## Health News - SEXUALITY

Sexuality is more than just contraception and pregnancy. It has social, emotional, physical and ethical impacts (FPQ 2006). As people move through their teenage years, it is normal for them to explore their sexuality in various ways. The library has a display on various aspects of sexuality. Please feel free to look at it and see me to ask questions or request further information.

Sometimes life may be difficult when you live with a young person going through this part of their lives. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via the school. I am normally in the school Monday morning, all day Wednesday and all day Thursday. If I am not in, you can leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible.

Frank Morris - School-based Youth Health Nurse

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## ROAD CLOSED – BRISBANE ROAD, WARNER

Roadworks will take place on Brisbane Road, off Old North Road at Warner, over the next eight weeks. During this time Brisbane Road will be closed to all traffic and pedestrians at the western corner near Hillary Drive.

THERE WILL BE NO ACCESS TO THIS SECTION OF THE ROAD DURING THIS PERIOD.

For further information contact Jan Clem at Katala Constructions on 3862 3300

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## Vaccination Dates

YEAR LEVEL	VACCINE	DATE
Year 8	Hepatitis B 1 and Chicken Pox	12 March 2007
Year 8	Hepatitis B 2	17 September 2007
Year 10 males & females	Boostrix (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)	31 May 2007
Years 10, 11 & 12 females	Gardisal 1	1 May 2007
Years 10, 11 & 12 females	Gardisal 2	31 May 2007
Years 10, 11 & 12 females	Gardisal 3	12 October 2007

## BPSHS - DATES TO REMEMBER

*This information is correct at time of printing*

*Please check future Newsletters for any alterations or additions to these Dates*

### TERM 1 – 2007

21 March	School Social
24-25 March	Relay for Life
26-28 March	Year 8 Camp Warrawee / Activities at School
26-30 March	EXAM WEEK
2-5 April	Year 11 and 12 Work Placement
4 April	Year 8 Parent Afternoon – Music, Open Block and Afternoon Tea
5 April	LAST DAY OF TERM 1
<b>6-13 April</b>	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
9-18 April	New Zealand Trip – Social Science Group

### TERM 2 – 2007

16 April	STUDENT FREE DAY – MONDAY
<b>16 April</b>	<b>P &amp; C MEETING</b>
<b>17 April</b>	<b>School Resumes – TUESDAY</b>
18 April	Year 12 Drama Night Excursion
24 April	Anzac Day Ceremony
25 April	ANZAC DAY Holiday
26 April	Year 9 SOSE B,D,F,G Excursions
1 May	Parent-Teacher Interview Night

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## Year 8 1988 to Year 12 1992 - 15 Year School Reunion

7pm - Saturday 3rd November 2007 at the Normanby Hotel

Tickets \$20 including finger food and entertainment

Please call 3267 8056 or email [thetracefamily@optusnet.com.au](mailto:thetracefamily@optusnet.com.au) for details

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# NEXT P&C MEETING - Monday 16 April 2007 at 7.00pm

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## **BPSHS UNIFORM SHOP HOURS**

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

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## 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](mailto:pinegardens@optusnet.com.au)

*CREDIT CARDS WELCOME*

43 Francis Road Bray Park QLD 4500