

BRAY PARK STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

Newsletter No 1 at 5 February 2008

Principal's Column

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the 2008 School Year and to the first newsletter of the year. I want to particularly welcome our new families and new students in all year levels. The year 8s have settled in very easily and look marvellous in the new uniform. We have very high standards of dress at Bray Park High and the new 8s have made an excellent start. On Wednesday 13th February we will enjoy a Year 8 welcome BBQ in the early evening and a note will come home shortly. I look forward to meeting the families of our year 8 at this time. Mr Ed Gordon is HOD of Middle School and Year 8 Co-ordinator. Please contact him through the office on 38816666 if you have any concerns. Bray Park State High School is a small, caring school and we are there for you to discuss concerns before they become problems.

GOOD NEWS STORIES FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS OF 2007:

Our graduating Year12 students achieved excellent results and detail of their success is given below. We are very proud of these young people and wish them well in their next stage of life.

The OP results for the year 12 students of 2007 are impressive with 2 students obtaining an OP 2 and 63% of our OP students gaining a 1 to 15 OP score. We congratulate these students on their hard work.

The QCS Test results for our students were very good also, with 50% of students being awarded an A or B result. **This is up 25% from 2006!**

The Year 12 students of 2007 also performed well in their Vocational Education outcomes. 106 out of 133 students (80%) received either a Certificate 1, 2 or 3, through their school subjects, School Based Traineeships/ Apprenticeships or school based courses at TAFE. Many students received 2 to 4 Certificates, which will provide them with a comprehensive resume. 42% of students completed a Certificate 1, 52% completed a Certificate 2 and 6% completed a Certificate 3. The school based subjects included: Hospitality, Furnishing, Automotive, Engineering, Community Recreation, Business and Information Technology. 8 students also completed School Based Traineeships/ Apprenticeships.

Again we congratulate all our seniors of 2007, well done.

2007 Successes

Bray Park High had a very successful year in 2007 and The School Opinion Survey conducted in every state school in Queensland gave us interesting data. The survey asked year 9 and 11 students in every school a series of questions. **Bray Park SHS students scored the highest in the district on the question about getting a good education at their school.** It is rewarding that while we know we have the best students at Bray Park High, the students also know they are going to the best school.

The same survey showed staff morale has never been higher in over 6 years. Very few of our busy parents completed the survey but The Triennial School Review and Parent Nights held in 2007 gave us opportunity to ask hundreds of parents and carers about their satisfaction with our school and results again gave overwhelming support for what we do. Bray Park State High School is a great school.



Lavarack Road, Bray Park Q 4500 Phone: 3881 6666 Fax: 3881 6600 e-mail: the.principal@brayparkshs.eq.edu.au

Students, Parents and Staff, this newsletter is for your information, supplied free by the help of the Parents' and Citizens' Association. Meetings of our Parents' and Citizens Association are held every 3rd Monday of the month in the Common Room in our Administration Building at 7.00pm. All parents are invited to attend.

Staff

We have had quite a few changes over the holidays and we congratulate Mr Brad Fox on his position as Acting Principal at Minimbah State School. For Semester 1, while Brad is at Minimbah, Mr Scott Bowden will be Acting Deputy Principal and Ms Annette Fanning will be Acting HOD of The Arts. Mr Peter Heazlewood will be Year 11 Coordinator for 2008.

Our new staff for the start of the year are: Ms Louise Arthy [Instrumental Music], Mr Robert Adamson [The Arts], Ms Deb Bere [SEU], Mr Mathew Bluhdorn [Manual Arts], Ms Alana Edwards [Office], Ms Belinda Fraser [Science], Ms Caroline Geraeds [SEU], Ms Michelle Johnson [SEU], Ms Katrina Meehan [Science/Maths], Ms Emalea Moore [The Arts], Ms Trish Robson, [Maths], Ms Suzanne Steele [Business], Ms Sarah Washington [LOTE], Constable Hope Dury [School Based Police Person].

Mobile Phones

There has been a lot of media attention about bullying by mobile phones, especially via text messages or photographs and last year many parents expressed their desire for a firmer policy on electronic devices.

Bray Park State High School acknowledges the reality of mobile phones as a 21st century technological tool and recognizes that technological skills are important to students' future life choices. However it has becoming increasingly evident that mobile phones and other electronic devices are impinging upon the students' learning environment and their learning outcomes.

Below is the Draft Bray Park SHS Mobile Phone and Electronics Policy. I ask all parents and carers to read it and offer their comments. Please share your thoughts by either dropping a note in at the office or by email to the.principal@brayparkshs.eq.edu.au

It is critical that all students have the best learning environment in which to learn without interruptions created by mobile phone use in lesson and study time. Every student has a right to privacy, integrity, to feel safe and to learn. Mobile phones with cameras and screens create a new set of privacy issues for schools. The small size of phones means that images or video footage of people can be taken without their knowledge and can then be saved and sent to other people or over the Internet. This creates the potential for gross invasion of privacy in areas around the school, particularly change rooms and toilets. Text messages can be used as a bullying tactic.

In order to maximize the learning opportunities for every student, the following guidelines are to be followed by all students at Bray Park State High School

- Mobile phones must be turned off and are out of sight during school hours inclusive of lunchtimes. This means students are required to have their phones off and out of sight from 8:30 – 3:00pm.
- Students are not permitted to receive or make phone calls, send or receive text messages or to take video or photographs during this time or during any other school-related activity on or off campus.
- All contact with or from parents/guardians/carers (emergency or other) must be made through the school office. It is absolutely essential that the school is aware of any changes to a student's routine during the day so that it can carry out its duty of care. This includes having information about whether a student uses the bus to go home at the end of the day. Students are not permitted to use their mobile phones to contact parents/guardians/carers on occasions when they are ill. All phone calls of this nature must be through the school office to ensure the student's health and safety.

Storage of Mobile Phones

- Phones are to be switched off between the hours of 8:30am – 3:00pm. Phones should be stored either on the person or in their bags. (please note that bags may or may not be in a secure position)
- Students who bring mobile phones to the school are solely responsible for this property at all times. Bray Park State High School does not accept responsibility for the theft or damage of the mobile phone.

Electronic Devices

It is also recognised that electronic devices play a large role in students' education however it has become apparent that electronic devices such as ipods, mp3s and digital cameras are impacting negatively on students' learning environment and their right to privacy.

Students are not permitted to use the above listed electronic devices between 8:30am-3:00pm or during any other school-related activity on or off campus.

Consequences

- Students who misuse mobile phones or electronic devices at school will be sent to the office to have them confiscated. Students can be sent to the office by any staff member of Bray Park State High School. (This includes teacher aides, pre-service teachers, supply teachers, office staff etc)
- These consequences apply to any sighting of mobile phones or electronic devices between 8:30am – 3.00pm.
- Should a student repeatedly use a mobile phone or electronic device in school hours, the matter will be treated as wilful disobedience or harassment and school consequences will apply.

1st Time referred with mobile phone or electronic device in class or in playground (no warnings)

- Teacher gives student a referral form for students to complete.
- Student takes item along with paper work to the office.
- At office student places item in envelope. Referral form is attached to envelope.
- Student returns to teacher with signed paperwork from office.
- After school, item is picked up and form signed by student on collection.
- Student takes form home to parents regarding initial confiscation of item.
- Form is filed with student notes by the LEC.

2nd Time referred with mobile phone in class or in playground

- Teacher gives student a referral form for students to complete.
- Student takes item along with paper work to the office.
- At office student places item in envelope. Referral form is attached to envelope.
- Student returns to teacher with signed paperwork from office.
- Parents or carers will have to contact the school and negotiate an arrangement for collection of the item with Admin or Year Co-ordinators and form is signed on collection.
- Form is filed with student notes by the LEC.

Subsequent referrals will be dealt with by Administration as student is refusing to comply with school policy. Please do take time to give your thoughts.

BRAY PARK HIGH'S CULTURE

At Bray Park we have very high expectations. Staff, parents and students work together to create a culture of respect, tolerance and commitment. Our policies, rules and structures exist to provide a framework for our culture to thrive. In our Student Diary we explain who we are as a community and what we seek to achieve. I ask all parents to read this diary. It explains our policies and expectations and also gives a school calendar of school events and information on what to do in most circumstances.

New Uniforms and all that goes with the start of a School Year

Thank you for your patience as we introduce the new uniform. We have been taken by surprise that so many people wanted to buy the uniform even though there is a 2 year introduction period. It is a tribute to you, the parent body, that the school is looking so good.

The start of a school year can be an expensive time for families with uniforms, texts and resources, sport, instrumental music and extra-curricula activities. I wish to thank parents for their continued support in settling outstanding fees in these areas. As a school we try to offer many extras that make our students' lives rich and fulfilling. Naturally there are costs associated with these and we cannot enter new contracts before settling previous accounts. Our Business Manager, Mrs Lesley Blake, is available to help families in this with respect and privacy. Please contact Lesley on 38816666 to make an appointment.

Kate Abernethy
Principal

P&C President's Newsletter February 2008

On behalf of the parent body I would like to welcome all of the new parents and carers to our school. To all the parents returning: I hope you had a great break and are looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead.

To the new and existing teachers: we wish you a successful year in 2008.

To all the students: we hope you achieve the goals that you are aiming for in the future.

I would like to wish all our 2008 leaders all the best for the year. I know you will learn from your year in Leadership positions as at some stage later in life you will be calling on this experience.

I would like to comment on a couple of issues that need to be addressed from the parent body:

UNIFORMS

It was a great sight on the first day of School to see so many students wearing the new uniform. They look really great and I must pass on my thanks to Robert Franklin, P&C Vice President for his leadership in bringing this all together.

Yes, we have a problem with short supply at the moment but we are chasing up to bring this matter to a positive conclusion within the next two weeks.

We have been amazed at the uptake of the new uniform across the whole school which has been so exciting.

COMMITTEE POSITIONS

We will have two positions vacant as of the 17th March when we have elections. Both the Secretary and Treasurer are standing down because they have no children at the School. If we do not get people to take on these positions from the 17th March, the P&C will not be able to function which means no Tuckshop. I ask that at least two people step forward and take on these positions; if you leave it to someone else it will never happen. It is also good to have new people on the committee as it brings fresh ideas and ways of doing things.

Our next P&C Meeting will be held on the 18th February at 7pm in the Common Room near the Administration block.

I am looking forward to a great year with the new uniform and the new opportunities that will come from our Tuckshop upgrade late last year.

We will see a change in the menu which we believe will bring variety to the students eating choices (yes we are a healthy school).

Have a great year, speak to you next month.

Peter Mullins

President

SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2008

The School Swimming Carnival will be held on Thursday 7th February. **This is a school day and it is compulsory to attend.** It is a great day and students are encouraged to come in their house colours. While there is some shade all students must wear hats, sunscreen and sun safe shirts. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle. A note has been sent home detailing all information. **The cost is \$7 and this, with the permission slip, must be returned to the payment office window by Wednesday 6th February. There is no alternative school program as all students are expected to attend this whole school event.**

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Friday 8th February

Please note that the day after the swimming carnival is school photo day. All year 11 and 12 students must be in formal uniform. These photographs are used for school IDs so it is essential that all students attend.

YEAR 8 WELCOME BBQ

Year 8 students and their families are warmly invited to our annual 'Welcome to Bray Park High BBQ', to be held on Wednesday February 13 outside the assembly hall starting at 5.00pm. This is a fantastic afternoon filled with music, games, great food and good company. Most importantly it gives our parents/carers the opportunity to meet up with your child's teachers.

A note was given to all the Year 8 students at their assembly on Thursday. Could you please return the note to your child's English teacher indicating the number attending from your family. This needs to be returned by Friday 8th February for catering purposes.

If you have any queries regarding our Welcome BBQ please contact me on 38816666. I look forward to meeting you all on the 13th of February.

Kind Regards

Mr. Ed Gordon
A/HOD Middle School

Year 8 Welcome BBQ

WHEN – Wednesday 13th February

TIME – 5pm – 6.30pm

WHERE – In front of the assembly hall

Insurance cover for students undertaking physical activities

Physical activity and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury.

Parents are advised that the Department of Education Training and the Arts does not have Personal Accident Insurance cover for students.

Education Queensland has public liability cover for all approved school activities and provides compensation for students injured at school only when the Department is negligent. If this is not the case, then all costs associated with the injury are the responsibility of the parent or caregiver.

It is a personal decision for parents as to the type and level of private insurance they arrange to cover students for any accidental injury that may occur.

Reading Assistance Program

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?

Bray Park State High School is getting ready to launch its Reading Assistance Program. 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 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.

For more information, please phone Di Hodge (Tuesday only) or Pat Hersey on 3881 6666.

Pine Central Holy Spirit Rugby League Club Season 2008

Welcome to Pine Central Holy Spirit for the 2008 season.

Sign on Day as follows:

Saturday 9th February 2008 11am to 3pm

Come and meet the Broncos on sign on day between 11am and 12pm. Date to be confirmed.

There will be a free sausage sizzle between 12pm and 1pm.

Hope to see you at sign on.

Renee Hyde
Registrar

Les Hughes Sporting Complex
Francis Road
Bray Park Qld 4500

PH: (07) 3881 1422 (football office)

GOOD NEIGHBOURS

All students are asked to remember that Bray Park State High School has neighbours. All students coming and going to school must respect the properties they pass on the way to school. Do not litter or break branches off trees. Show the Bray Park Spirit by saying hello and by being a good neighbour.

ADVENTURE WOMEN

For women aged 16 and over

"Active for Life"

Pine Rivers Shire Council

www.pinerivers.qld.gov.au

Phone 3480 6666

Leonie's Hair Care

Shop 4, 2 Ebert Road, Lawnton Q 4501

Phone 3285 5400

Supporting BPSHS

Arties Music Max Supporting BPSHS

All Musical Instruments and Accessories

PH/Fax 3889 7499 Email: markg@primus.com.au

Shop 1-486 Gympie Road, Strathpine Q 4500

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 – 2008

7 February Swimming Carnival
8 February School Photos
13 February Year 8 Family BBQ

18 February P&C Meeting

NEXT P&C MEETING
Monday 18 February 2008
at 7.00pm

Chaplain - Tim Sweetman
Phone 0403 192 847
tim@bridgeman.org.au
At school on
Monday and Friday
9am-11am
Wednesday and Thursday
8am-3pm

BPSHS Student Services
If your student is going to be
ABSENT, please phone:
3881 6654

BPSHS Web Site
www.brayparkshs.eq.edu.au
Newsletter produced fortnightly and is on
the school Website

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS
During School Term from Monday 4 Feb 2008
Monday and Friday 8.15am - 10.15am
Thursday 2pm - 4pm

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS
From 8.00am to 4.00pm – Monday to Friday – During School Term
From 7.30am to 3.30pm – Last day of School Term

Change of Address Details
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

northside
MUSIC SCHOOL

personalised music tuition for all ages

piano guitar voice strings woodwind brass drums theory fun classes for 3-5 year olds

Preparation for practical and theory exams
or just for enjoyment with friendly, qualified teachers

486 GYMPIE RD, STRATHPINE Ph: 3881 1036

mb morris brothers
MUSICAL STORE
Making Music Easy

2/17 Billabong Street
STAFFORD 4053
Phone: 61 7 3356 3299
Fax: 61 7 3356 3149

Maroochydore 5479 5666
Caloundra 5492 5612

Pine Gardens Florist

Annette & Roger Hall
Ph: 3881 0323
Fax: 3205 3928
Mob: 0421 805 994
Email: pinegardens@optusnet.com.au
CREDIT CARDS WELCOME
43 Francis Road Bray Park QLD 4500



An invitation to bank different™
One-to-one advice from your own personal bank manager

These days, it's almost impossible to speak to anyone about anything. Unless you're with Bank of Queensland. Open an account with us, and we'll give you your own personal bank manager - and their direct line. It's certainly a different approach for a bank; but then so is opening new branches, rather than closing them.

To bank different™, call Greg Ellis on 38825100, or visit us at 355 Samsonvale Road, Warner Qld 4500.
Bank of Queensland Limited ABN 32 009 656 740.

