From the Principal

Parents, Students, Staff and Community Members;

“That’s why I say, ‘Duckie! Don’t grumble! Don’t stew! Some critters are much-much. Oh, ever so much-much, so muchly much-much more unlucky than you!’” — Dr Seuss.

With December quickly approaching and the busy Christmas season about to hit it is a time when individuals and families can begin reflection over the year that has been. As Dr Seuss eludes to above, whilst we have all had some challenges to overcome it is important to consider how lucky we are and think of others who may not be as fortunate as us.

Our year 5 & 6 students returned from a wonderful week away at camp last Friday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and parent helpers who helped to make these camps so successful. Camps give participants the unique opportunity to learn in a different context to school and to be rewarded for hard work throughout the year. Students, take the new learnings you discovered at camp and use them to advantage as you move forward both at school and in the community.

Semester 2 assessment and reporting is in full swing at the moment. Students will be completing assessments, teachers moderating and assessing all so that we can report to parents. As individual student report cards are completed the Admin team will help to prepare them ready for distribution in week 10 of this term.

I was recently reflecting on our progress as a school related to Writing. The Explicit Improvement Agenda at BNNS is focused on Writing. Staff and students, supported by parents, have all worked hard to develop the Writing skills of our students when constructing a range of texts across all Key Learning Areas of the curriculum.

This positive improvement by our students has also been reflected in improved English student achievement, i.e. 91% of students had a Positive Gain in Writing results from year 3 (2014) to year 5 (2016). 100% of year 3 students have achieved the National Minimum Standard for the last 2 yrs.

Our students continue to display noteworthy results in Writing - NAPLAN:

A-E results shared with parents on Semester Report Cards. Our most noteworthy results looking at improvements from Semester 1, 2015 to Semester 1, 2016 were seen in years 3, 4 & 5. Well done everyone!

Prep Enrolments for 2017 are currently being taken. If your child was born between 1st July 2011 and 30th June 2012 then your child is eligible for Prep in 2017. Consideration can also be given to students born up to 31 July 2012 via an Application for Early Entry to Prep but this needs to be done in consultation with the Principal. Please come to the school office with your child’s birth certificate and we can assist you with enrolment forms and book an enrolment interview for you. Prep Transition activities have begun and will continue throughout term 4 this year.

Please keep in mind the following activities over the last few weeks of school:

Wed 23rd Nov – Transition for our Year 6 students.
Tuesday 29th Nov – Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival.
Wednesday 30th Nov – Transition for our Year 6 students.
Thursday 1st Dec – Year 6 Graduation.
Tuesday 6th Dec – 2017 Prep students BBQ breakfast and Roll Call from 8am.
Tuesday 6th Dec – P&C Meeting from 6:30pm in the Staff Room at school – we look forward to seeing you there!
Wednesday 7th Dec – Annual BNSS Christmas Concert/Carols.

If you have agenda items that you would like tabled at the next P & C meeting, please leave the details at the office. At this meeting we will be presenting the reviewed Responsible Behaviour Plan to the P & C for approval.

All interested parents are welcome to attend.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we work together to assist our students to reach their full potential.

Cheers

Rod Wood
Principal

Building Foundations + Sustaining Gains = More Opportunities
1C NEWS

STUDENT OF THE WEEK ~ 11 NOVEMBER

Hello Everybody!

To finish off the year in 1C we have been learning about persuasion and how we can use different techniques and devices. We have been reading Mo Willems’ beautiful books about his popular pigeon character. This week Pigeon found a hot dog and a little duckling decided to trick Pigeon into sharing his hot dog.

Students in 1C have been working very hard to write statements, questions and commands persuading Pigeon to share his scrumptious hot dog. Here are some of our clever persuasive pieces.

Polite

"Excuse me, I have never had a hot dog in my life. May I please try some of your stupendous hot dog?"

Bumblebees

Knowledge

"Everybody knows that ducklings need hot dogs to help them swim."

Monkeys

Guilt

"Oh, I get it. You don’t want me to survive without the hot dog, do you?"

Flynn

Demand

"GIVE ME THAT HOT DOG, RIGHT NOW!"

Ella

We hope you enjoyed our work. Up next is how to persuade our parents for some exciting Christmas gifts.

Miss Cuttler

PREP BBQ

On Tuesday 6 December from 8am we will be holding a sausage sizzle in the Prep playground to welcome our new Prep for 2017. On this morning, students will get to meet their class teacher and see which room they will be in. They may also meet some new friends who will be in their class next year.

This is a free event and older siblings are welcome to come along with their younger brothers and sisters and enjoy a sausage for breakfast.

TRANSITIONS

Our High School transition programme for Year 6 students is in its final stages. Children have been visiting the High School each Wednesday afternoon for a number of weeks and have experienced life at High School.

Kindy to Prep transitions have finished and we welcomed nearly 50 new Prep students for 2017.

In the next two weeks, our current Prep students will visit Year 1 classrooms to experience what a Year 1 classroom is like. These classrooms are set up slightly different to Prep classrooms so it will be a great opportunity for the children to prepare for Year 1.

Swimming Carnival

The swimming carnival for Year 3-6 students will be held next Tuesday. Students are to make their way directly to the pool. If your child is not attending the carnival they are expected to be at school for the day. Blackwater North P and C are paying for the gate entry into the pool for all students. Children will need to bring their lunch, hat, water bottle and plenty of sunscreen. It is advised that students have a long sleeved shirt they can wear when not competing to protect themselves from the sun.

Admission to the pool is FREE for all students. Further information around the program and lunch menu will be made available in the coming week.

Any questions or concerns, please come see me.

Mr Smyth

2017 SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Next Wednesday, Year 5 students who are nominating for School Captain next year will be presenting speeches to students in Years 3-5.

These speeches will take place in the Hall from 1:45pm and parents are most welcome to attend. Students will vote after the speeches.

House Captains will also present speeches on Wednesday if we have time. If we run out of time then we will do House Captains on Thursday afternoon from 1:45pm in the Senior Undercover area.

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SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Swimming Carnival is 29 November and it is an all-day event for all students in years 3-6. Nominations for 50m races are now complete.

25m events are available for those students who don’t qualify for 50m events, so, everyone, regardless of ability, will be able to get in the water and race for Champion House points.

Admission to the pool is FREE for all students. Further information around the program and lunch menu will be made available in the coming week.

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DEPUTY DIRECTIONS WITH SARA

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CAMP FUN

Last Monday the Year 5s packed their bags and went on camp to Camp Fairbairn Outdoor Education Centre. Over the course of the five days the Year 5s participated in activities such as catapult building, canoeing, rock climbing, abseiling, raft building and orienteering. The Year 5s worked hard at building their communication and teamwork skills. They will put these skills into practice over the coming year as they move into their leadership positions. A big thank you to our parent helpers who kept us fed throughout the week! Overall, the students and staff had a fantastic week!

North Keppel Camp was filled with endless fun in the sun. The year six’s thoroughly enjoyed all the water activities like snorkelling, swimming, kayaking and outrigging. Jumping off the boat was a definite favourite for some. They learnt about the devastating effects of erosion when they visited Great Keppel Island for the day and were photographed in the famous shark’s (Megalodon) mouth. They had an amazing time at North Keppel and did not want to leave the beautiful island.
BLACKWATER SCOUT GROUP
Girls & Boys of all ages most welcome

JOEY SCOUTS Age 6—8 years
Monday Nights 4—5pm

CUB SCOUTS Age 8—11 years
Monday Nights 5:30—7 pm

SCOUTS Age 11—15 years
Tuesday Nights 5—7 pm
Ph: 0437239084 (Pengana) 0403137309

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