From the Principal ...

Dear parents and carers

We have a number of events in the next couple of weeks that all parents need to be aware of. On Friday it is Ride to School Day – we would like to encourage everyone to come to school using active travel. It is also Clean Up School Day and all classes have a map and a garbage bag and will be cleaning up an area of our school. Next Friday 11 March is our Fancy Dress Ball. Children (and parents) dress up in “Hollywood Hits” theme, food will be served from 5.00pm.

A small but very productive working bee was held on Saturday 20th February. Thank you to everyone who attended. The Garden of Promise and Prep garden areas were weeded, more soil added in the raised beds and are now ready for planting.

On Friday our leaders were inducted at a special parade. Already our 2016 leaders have commenced their duties and have been doing a fantastic job. It was great to see so many parents attending to support the leaders on this special occasion.

Annual School Improvement Plan

Every year we look at our school data which is compiled from results from many sources including NAPLAN, reading level data, our A to E report card data and other diagnostic assessment data to determine a small number of focus areas for our improvement plan. For 2016 we will be focusing on Reading, Writing, Implementation of the Australian Curriculum and PBL (positive behavior and learning). Our budget will be focused on these areas including implementing coaching, professional development for teaching including engaging with national and international experts in their field to assist us with implementing best practice. Our goal is to improve our results every year. Parent support with reading, homework and attendance will also greatly assist us with our targets.
Principal News cont...

Absences
I often write about reporting absences to the school whenever your child is away. At every enrolment meeting we discuss the importance of informing the school of every absence, however many parents don’t let us know. We do not have the resources to phone the home of every missing child every day. There have been some cases in the wider community that have been in the media lately regarding missing children. These recent issues have highlighted this important child safety message. It is very important that you phone us every day that your child is sick, to confirm that they are at home safe with you.

P&C AGM
The P&C AGM is coming up on the 21 March 2016. The P&C has an important role in our school and we are in need of some new committee members this year. Please consider becoming involved and attending the next P&C meeting.

Regards,
Tracey

PE News ...

Fancy Dress
All of the students have been working hard learning their special display dances in preparation for the upcoming Fancy Dress dance. They have also been learning the general dances that everyone may join in with on the night so get your dancing shoes on for Friday night 11 March in the school hall!

Cross Country
Our annual whole school Cross Country will take place on Thursday 24 March. Some Cross Country training will take place before school on Tuesday & Thursday mornings at 8:15am. It would also be great if students were able to have more fitness training with their parents in your local area in the cool of the early mornings or evenings leading up to the event. The sponsor cards will be distributed to students soon.
Supporting your child with reading

Thank you to the parents who attended our reading seminar last week. It was great to have you along and share information about strategies to engage, support and promote reading success for your children. As a school we love having opportunities to work with parents with the aim of building mutually supportive networks for learning between home and school. Most of this work is done each day by our wonderful teachers through the processes of informal conversations and parent teacher interviews. However, creating opportunities to meet and work with you all is something that we intend to increase this year.

Next term Anita, our Master Teacher and Learning Support teacher and myself will provide the same seminar in an early evening timeslot so that parents with different availability might be able to attend. We will plan this event closely with the P&C to ensure that we can support as many parents as possible in our school in the great journey of reading!

I hope that you are all enjoying the daily home reading with your child this year! If you have time and would like to volunteer to support children who may not always have the opportunity for parents to listen to them read, please contact Anita or myself. We are always extremely grateful to volunteers for providing this assistance and welcome regular support from our parent community.

NAPLAN

The NAPLAN tests scheduled for 2016 are as follows:

- Tuesday 12 May – Language Conventions – Writing, spelling and Grammar & Punctuation Tests in 2x40 minute separate assessments (Years 3 and 5)
- Wednesday 13 May – Reading (Years 3 and 5)
- Thursday 14 May – Numeracy (Years 3 and 5)

Please be assured that all teachers at Nashville are involved in the delivery of quality content in learning and assessment every day for your child – beyond the NAPLAN assessment.
Year 5 class news ...

This year has certainly been busy as our days are filled actively engaging in new learning experiences and thinking challenges. Year five class members are very busily preparing for NAPLAN, looking forward to camp and enjoying the additional responsibilities as Library Monitors and Prep Shed Assistants.

In English, we have appreciated the fabulous story telling from Emily Rodda as we have explored the first book in the Deltora Quest series, “The Forests of Silence.” We have enthusiastically constructed our own stories based on the fantasy genre and have also eagerly taken up the home reading challenge with many students reading other Deltora Quest books to meet exciting, new characters and discover new places through the beauty of words.

The speed and accuracy of our number facts has increased significantly with our mental facts morning challenges and we are now learning how to apply these number facts in more complex problem solving scenarios.

Students in 5B have been learning about the challenges faced by the first settlement in the local area in history and animal and plant characteristics in science activities.

We are looking forward to more exciting learning adventures throughout 2016.

Year 5/6 and 6 class news ...

The year 5/6 and 6 classes are well into their studies and are enjoying a productive beginning to 2016. We are studying topics including, short stories, number, fractions, data, changes in matter, Federation and electric circuits. Remember homework day is Thursday every week.

Many of the children received leadership badges at last weeks’ assembly and are wearing them with obvious pride. We have discussed what it means to earn a badge and then what it means to retain a badge. The children have embraced the challenge.

The Senior shirt is awaiting the school order and all families of year six children are asked to try on a shirt for correct sizing and to fulfil the ordering with full payment by Thursday March 11th.

The first camp information note has been sent home and while it is not until May 17 to 20th we will be preparing for it in due course. Further camp equipment, medical and permission notes and a full cost will follow as soon as they are available.

If you have any questions feel free to speak with us or email.
It is full steam ahead with our Kitchen Garden program for 2016. Our Year Four classes have both been busy in the kitchen and garden. We would like to introduce our two budding journalist Alex and Amber who will write fortnightly article for the newsletter, please see their very first piece below- Kitchen Garden Times.

Donations needed:
- Large unwanted pots
- Fruit and veg scraps to compost
- Tins- clean
- Glass jars- all sizes, clean
- Unwanted food and or garden magazines

If you have any of the above items we would LOVE to put them to good use. Please leave donations at the office or pop into the Year Four classrooms.

Thank you

The Kitchen/Garden Times

Hello and welcome to The Kitchen/Garden Times! We are your local school writers, Alex Mergler from 4Y and Amber Barfield from 4B.

Every Friday the year 4 classes go down to the “Stephanie Alexander Kitchen/Garden” to Kitchen/Garden! The Kitchen/Garden program is a program where the year 4 kids go to the school garden, we plant, care for and harvest what we have in the garden, and we then get to cook it in the kitchen. I know we all like to have fun in the outside world playing tag and all that, but we all like to try something new. So come down to the Garden of Promise and check out what we have done.

Last week Yr 4Y went to the kitchen. We made fruit platters with the fruit we bought from home, we also had carrot and cucumber sticks with hummus. It was super tasty! We would love to see more people come on down and have some dirty fun with us in the kitchen/garden.

Working bee

On Saturday we had a great working bee in The Garden of Promise. We dug up a huge pile of sweet potatoes, weeded, filled compost bins, cleared space to the greenhouse and we filled up all of the garden beds with manure and soil. Huge thanks to the Harrison family, Barfield family, Redgen family, Topp family, Infield family for their assistance and time. The garden now looks fabulous and we have started planting.
ECO NEWS

Hello and welcome to 2016. We are very excited to announce the Eco Council Team for 2016
Captains- Oscar Weber and Stacey Edmunds
Councillors-
Ali Jobling-Janson
Ella Stone
Dave Forrest
Ryan Infield
Harvey Hamilton
Kynan Thompson
Eddie Forrest
We are looking forward to a great year. Our first Eco Council event is Clean Up Schools Day which will be held on Friday 4th March.
Remember- Stay keen to be Green!!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Welcome everyone to 2016. Imarlie Martin and myself, Jennifer Power-Lake are your Student Council Captains for 2016. For those who may not know a Student Council raises money for charities and our school. We do this through fun activities throughout the year.

Our first event for 2016 will be Harmony Day on March 21. This is a day we celebrate cultural diversity, inclusivity, respect and sense of belonging for everyone. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.

This year the classes nominated the following people to be their councillors. The following people are part of this year’s wonderful team- Riley De rooy, Lian McNella, Mika Molloy, Chelsea Russell-White, Rommy MacDonald, Ali McCarthy and Lizzie Christian
P & C News...

Annual General Meeting + Second meeting back for the year: March 21, 2016

Please join us for the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. It will be held at 7pm in the teacher's staff room on Monday March 21, so please do come along. ALL current P&C officers will be standing down from their roles.

The following roles will be open for voting and new Volunteers:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer – experience with MYOB or XERO accounting packages is helpful
- Secretary
- Fundraising Coordinator (new)
- Mothers’ Day and Fathers’ Day Stall Coordinator (s)
- Grants Coordinator – we will be assisting through membership of www.fundingcentre.com.au
- Uniform Shop Assistant (to help Chenani)

We will be adding a Communications Coordinator role as well, which Janine Brush has kindly volunteered to do.

Are you our new Mothers’ Day and Fathers’ Day stall Coordinator? These two stalls are very important in our fundraising calendar, and the kids (and parents) love being able to buy a range of lovely gifts before the day, and help support the school. There’s lots of experience now that you can draw from to get you started, and it’s something you can really make your own!

Are you our new Fundraising Coordinator? We need someone who can take a guiding hand over the activities we participate in during the year. The ability to think creatively and laterally helps, and good connections in the wider community is also a bonus! If you’re not afraid of asking for things, then this role is perfect for you!!

Please think about whether you have some time to give to help support the school community. We’re all busy, but if we spread the ‘love’ and the ‘work’ then it makes it easier for everyone and Volunteer Work is a hugely positive entry to put on your Resume or CV!! Believe me – I know!

Home bake champions required for Tuckshop:

Did you know that our Tuckshop can sell anything up 100 pieces of home bake a day? That’s 200 pieces of something YUMMY for our kids every week. Where does that come from? Our AMAZING Home bake volunteers – about 3 people are currently contributing, and we need to spread the load. PLEASE see Mandy in Tuckshop if you can help – even occasionally! She’ll give you some ideas and recipes for favourites. THANK YOU in advance!
“Be safe.

Be a Learner.

Be Respectful.”

P & C News Cont...

Footsteps Disco – Friday March 11 – HOLLYWOOD HITS theme.

Please come along to the school dance on Friday March 11 (Food from 5.00pm – TBC). Learn some steps from the Silver Screen, and partake of the P&C’s gorgeous catering. $5 per child, and adults FREE.

Donations of home bake are needed for the night. Please bake Caramel Slice, Cup Cakes, Brownies, Jam Drops, and anything else that your ‘A-listers’ are demanding to eat!

You CAN help in any of the following ways:

- Taking money at the door on entry - $5 per child – 2 people
- Selling raffle tickets – 2 people
- Donating raffle prizes (about $50 value per prize) – as many as we can get!!!
- Selling glow sticks and other merchandise – at least 2 people
- Helping in the kitchen – preparing food (from about 4.30pm) – at least 3 people
- Helping in the kitchen during the night – serving customers – at least 3 people
- Helping in the kitchen – cleaning up – at least 3 people
- Cleaning up the hall after the event – as many as we can get!!
- Bringing Home Bake YUMMY donations to sell

Please contact Lynda Bundock (0498 652 917) or Abby Harvey (styleline_roofing@yahoo.com.au) if you can help out.

Election Stall and Sausage Sizzle – Saturday March 19 – from 8am

We will be holding an election stall and sausage sizzle to capitalise on the amount of visitors to our school for the Election Day. We need the following:

- Cooks for the Sausage Sizzle
- Home bake donations – your yummiest stuff to sell
- People to help man the stall and serve Sausages – we need at least 5 people

Kirrilly Goodall has kindly volunteered to coordinate this event, so please get in touch with her if you can assist in any way.

Chappy News ...

**FREE SUPPORT GROUPS FOR CHILDREN & TEENS!**

**SEASONS**

A 6 week course for children & teens who have experienced change through family separation

First Group: Children from 6 to 9 years old.
When: 13th April to 18th May 2016
Time: 3:15 pm to 4:30 pm

Second Group: Open for expression of interest
Age group will be determined according to interest.
When: 4th August to 8th September 2016
Time: 3:15 pm to 4:30 pm

For further information or to register your interest, please contact
Family Relationship Centre on
3423 6962
36 Meikleman Street
Strathpine
Ask for Susan or Martha
A partnership between

**‘PARENTING ADOLESCENTS’**

*with Dr Bob Jacobs*

Dr. Bob has focused his career on children’s advocacy. He has over 30 years experience working with children, youth and parents as a teacher, coach, psychologist, mediator and lawyer. Currently he runs The Parenting Centre in Maleny.

On this night Dr Bob will discuss how parents can keep the lines of communication open and continue to ‘parent’ right through the most difficult issues of adolescence, such as peer pressure, drugs and sex. The presentation will be followed by a time of Q&A.

**WHEN:**
6:30 - 8pm, Wed 9th March

**WHERE:**
Bracken Ridge High School MPSC
68 Barfoot Street, Bracken Ridge

**WHO:**
All are welcome! Feel free to invite family and friends

**COST:**
Free! Refreshments will also be provided

For more information please contact Trudi Becher (chaplain at Bracken Ridge SHS) by email to trudib@chappy.org.au or Becie Ball (chaplain at Bray Park State High School) by email to becieb@braypark.edu.au or by phone through the school admin on 3881 5666.

A combined initiative of Bracken Ridge SHS, Sandgate DHS, Pine Rivers SHS and Bray Park SHS chaplaincy services
Community News...

Leadership Parade photos cont ...