Wednesday 4th March 2015

Don’t eat the chicken curry! This is the 4th message that I took home from the State Wide Principal Conference last Thursday and Friday.
Although I did eat the curry, my cast iron stomach staved off any issues. Unfortunately some of my colleagues did not fare so well and ended up in hospital.

The other three messages were:

- All state schools are working at “putting faces on the data” across the state. This is work that has come from Lyn Sharratt and Michael Fullan and Ontario Education system. This supports the work that Bluewater has been doing over the last 8 years around goal setting, data analysis and differentiation of the curriculum.

- Collaboration is the key – working with other schools to ensure that every state school has a great school down the road. This solidifies the partnerships that we have been working on with Currajong, Hermit Park, and Northern Beaches High, Rasmussen locally and Wilston and Jinaburra external to our region.

- Distributed Leadership: a Principal should not be micro managing the school, building capacity within the school to enable people to lead the direction of the school is paramount to the success. A great point and something that I have continued to learn in my time at Bluewater working from a sole administrator to having a Deputy, Head of Curriculum, Learning support and a fantastic teaching staff.

It was a very reassuring conference in regard to the work that we are doing and great to see so many Principals from around the state talking passionately and positively about their schools and students.
Swimming Carnival

Congratulations Falcons! Our first swimming carnival on our own for many years and what a success. Thank you to Mrs Jackson and Mrs Searle for their organisation of the carnival and to all of the students who competed. We will be heading into the Inter-school carnival with a very strong team.

Parent Information Day

We will be holding an information morning for Sight Words and Reading for parents this Thursday 5 March at 9:15am in the library. This will inform parents on strategies and information that can help with Reading and Sight Words at home and how we teach it here at School.

Cross Country

Our school cross country will be held on April 1. More information will come out as we draw closer to the event. This will happen in the morning and will involve the whole school P-6.

Gold Coast Suns

We had a visit from the Gold Coast Suns to our school on March 3. Jarrod Harbrow and Tom Lynch came to play with the students at lunch time and then speak to our school leaders about leadership and setting goals. I was very impressed with Jarrod and Tom as speakers and how they gave insight into their world.

Chappy Drew

Chappy Drew in term 2 will be dropping back to 2 days per week. We have been fortunate in that an anonymous donor in the community has donated to the chaplaincy for the last three years to enable us to have Chappy Drew for three days per week. Due to the donor retiring from work we will need to cut back on the days. This will start in term 2.

Parent conduct

I would like to remind parents that admonishing other students at this school is not on. Please ensure that you see the office, make the complaint and allow the school to deal with any issues. This is the policy as stated in the Responsible Behaviour Plan at the school and it is also common sense. Set the standard of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience by modelling to all children.

Palm Trees

There are a number of palm trees that have been removed from the front of the school due to their being declared as unsafe. We will be planting new ones in the future and hopefully the white ants will not eat them out.

Regards

Chris

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Every School Day Counts

Attend today; achieve for a lifetime!

Attendance

Our Whole School Attendance Rate is currently 94%. Our aim is to be above 95%.

A huge thank you to parents for calling in when your child/ren are away. We have noticed a considerable improvement and currently have no unexplained absences and the number of follow up phone calls is reducing.

If you are looking for a lost letter, newsletter, bus form, notice or booklist, please remember to look on our website: www.bluewaterss.qld.edu.au, all new information is updated on the website as is sent home with the children. Find us on Facebook and keep up to date!

How to install Office 365 Student Advantage package on a students home computer

All state school students from Prep to Year 12 can now download multiple free copies of the Microsoft Office 2013 Suite to their personal home and mobile computer equipment. For more information go to:

**PBL (Positive Behaviour of Learning) Week 6, Term 1**

There was a joyous sound at last week’s assembly! Some fun-loving staff members (led by Miss Cook) came up on stage to sing us a song about “Acts of Random Kindness”. What a great way to learn about this PBL strategy! Kids that are spotted showing Acts of Random Kindness at BWSS are entered into a draw to win a $25 voucher from Red Rooster. What a great incentive!

Here are the lyrics to the song:

**The Ark Song (Acts of Random Kindness)**
*(sung to “RESPECT” by Aretha Franklin)*

What we want, we know you got it
So get on the ARK, and let’s all show it’
Cause all I’m asking

Is for just one little act of random kindness
Be kind to me – Just a little bit – yeah eh
And I’ll be kind to you
Oh we all want you, to pay attention
Cause we need a little help, for a very good reason

It’s the little things, we say and do
C’mom Bluewater, to show we care for you
Ark Ark Ark Ark
Be kind to me – Just a little bit – yeah eh
And I’ll be kind to you
So if I fall down, help me get back up
And if I’m all alone – Ask me if I’m okay
And if you need friends, ask me if I wanna play
Those acts of kindness, they will make my day
Ark Ark Ark Ark
Be kind to me – Just a little bit – yeah eh
And I’ll be kind to...
R.E.S.P.E.C.T
Find out what it means to me
One little act of random kindness
Yeah eh is good for me
Cause I feel, so happy
And it makes me glad, Just to see
That my little act of random kindness
Has made your day, and now the bonus
Is your smiling at me (Just a little bit, yeah eh)
Cause your also happy (Just a little bit)
So get on the ARK.....

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**Band Program**

Flute, Clarinet, saxophone, trumpet,
French horn, trombone and
percussion (snare, bass drum and
glockenspiel) program

Hi my name is Malcolm Cook and I am your new Band Instrumental teacher. I am teaching mostly in the Northern Beaches cluster, Bluewater, Bohleveale and Northern Beaches State High School. My aim over the next few years is to further develop the Band instruments in Northern Beach High School by having the best program possible at Bluewater State School. To do this it takes a great deal of commitment from the students, the school, the parents and from me.

Over the last two weeks I have been assessing the suitability of all the students that have applied. There is a lot of talent out there and we have almost enough well serviced instruments to hand out. Northern Beaches High will again assist us by loaning us the instruments that are not being currently used. By now most of the students will have received their 1) instrumental booklet 2) music contract and 3) the loan agreement form. Last Monday Indiana S and Mikayla K played a beautiful flute and clarinet piece to the school. With this fine example of playing we are hoping to have a great musical year. To really make the most of this musical opportunity, I am available to meet with the parents of these wonderful students either rom 2:45-3:15pm on a Thursday afternoon or from 8:30-9:00am on a Friday morning. You can also phone me on 0416204887 or email me on mcook66@eq.edu.au

Yours sincerely
Malcolm Cook

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**Patches of Bluewater Craft Group**

Meet every Thursday at the Bluewater Community Centre
9am to 1pm
New people are welcome

For more information, please ring Shannon Stanford on 4788 6465

*Patches of Bluewater are proud sponsors of 3 x $100 Encouragement Vouchers to be presented at the 2015 Bluewater State School Christmas Concert*

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**Thank you**

to the Kelso Family for kindly donating a flute for the instrumental music program
2015
Swimming Carnival
Age Champions
2007
Girls Brydie H
Boys Trent R
2006
Girls Heidi B
Boys Mitchell K
2005
Girls Melanie A
Boys Angus H
2004
Girls Lacey D
Boys Caleb G
2003
Girls Brooke S
Boys Zachary P

BOOK CLUBS

Book orders
due Friday 20th March

School Cross Country

Wednesday morning 1st April
Parents welcomed to attend
Students are training
before school and lunch breaks

Parent Information Session:
Sight Words and Reading
Date: Thursday 5th March 2015
Time: 9:15am to 9:45am
Location: Library

Please come along and join us to find out more about the importance of sight words and how you can help your child to be a successful reader in less than 15 minutes a day. One of the best gifts you could ever give your child is to help them to be confident and successful readers. This session will be full of practical ideas and you will be given a booklet you can take away to help you along this journey.

Be on the lookout for the Prep photo lift out in the Townsville Bulletin on Friday 20th March

HARMONY DAY
Living in Townsville: Embracing Difference
SATURDAY 21 MARCH 10AM - 4PM
YOU’RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE WITH US!
2015 THEME: “THANK YOU!”

Dental Van Update
The dental van will not be visiting until Term 2 as the concrete slab where the van is usually located is where our new classroom building is going. A new slab is to be constructed ready for the dental van's visit.

CHEERLEADING CLASSES
Competition and Recreational
For details phone Fiona Brown at TOWNsville DANCE AND CHEERLEADING On 4778 2564 or 0413 745 016

Brothers Tsu Football Club (soccer) are looking for players born in 2003 for their Under 12 mixed team, training Mon and Wed. Just come down to training at High Vista Park, Mt Louisa, or ring Christen 0448 993 685 outside school hours for more information. Limited vacancies available in most other age groups.
Fundraising News

Please support the various fundraising activities arranged by the P&C as all proceeds are used to further improve the resources and facilities at the school.

Voluntary Family Contribution:
You should have received family contribution letters a couple of weeks ago (if not please hop online or drop into the office to pick up a copy of this letter that went home) – we have raised over $1,550 so far and we still need a further $950 to reach our goal and see a bucket of ice water go over Miss Somerville and Mr Anderson with a bit less hair just before Easter – please help us reach our fundraising goals and make a contribution if you haven’t already!!

Hamilton Island (Major) Raffle:
This year’s major raffle is a family holiday to the Whitsundays and $1,000 cash spending money – tickets are $2 each and every family should have received a book of 20 tickets to get the ticket selling process underway. Please bring sold ticket stubs and money raised back to the office – there are plenty more books of tickets for collection from the office for those that sell out of the tickets they have been given. Remember there are Samsung galaxy tablets as ticket seller prizes for the two top ticket selling families.

Tuckshop Meal Deal:
Thank-you to all the families that supported the tuckshop meal deal this week. Great work Sherree and the wonderful volunteers at the tuckshop for making this happen.

**Easter Bonnet parade raffle:**
A raffle will also be held at this year’s Easter Bonnet parade (held on last day of term 1) – there will be some fantastic prizes (chocolate - mmm...) with tickets for this raffle being $1 ea.

Upcoming calendar of fundraising events:

- Thurs 26/03 – Disco Term 1 (evening)
- Thurs 02/04 (last day term 1) – Easter Bonnet Parade & Easter Raffle Drawn
- Week 1 term 2 – Major Raffle ticket sales close.
- Week 3 term 2 (07/05) – Mother’s Day stall

How can you get involved?

The P&C are always looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming a member or just want to see what happens at a P&C meeting please come along to the next meeting at 6:30pm on Tues 10/03 (in the library). If you are unable to get to P&C meetings, we are always looking for volunteers in the tuckshop and for people wanting to help out with fundraising events and the Country Fair....

Additional resources for the school

At the January P&C meeting a funding commitment of $3,500 was made toward purchasing more musical instrument resources for the school – this will complement spending that is also being made by the school on purchasing more musical instruments.

Next P&C Meeting

Tuesday 10th March
6:30pm
In the library

**Playgroup** meets at Bluewater State School,

The 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month (during school term times)

9.00am - 11.00am

Come along and have some fun with your child and meet new people in the area.

All Welcome. Cost $3.00 per session

Bring along a healthy plate of food to share.