2 December 2014

Promotions
Congratulations to three of our staff members who have excelled in the latest round of promotions. Ms Jackie Somerville has been appointed permanent Deputy Principal at Bluewater. Mrs Kaylene Preston has been appointed Master Teacher/Head of Curriculum, and Reinhard Gmeinder has been appointed as a Principal Education Officer for Indigenous Studies at District Office. Although Reinhard is moving on from Bluewater, he will be advising many of the North Qld schools on indigenous studies. I wish all three good luck in their new positions for 2015.

Not Returning
Please let us know if you are NOT returning next year. We are trying to plan for classes, resources and facilities and require accurate numbers so there is little change after Day 8 in 2015.

Report Cards
Report Cards will come out on Wednesday 10 December, these will look a little different to previous years. As we have been implementing the Australian Curriculum you will receive comments and grades that are letting you know whether your child has reached the standard, above the standard or below the standard. This will make it very easy to see if your child is at the Standard of their year level for the Australian Curriculum. There will be less education speak and clear and concise comments. I hope you find it a more concise report.

P&C Association
Thank you to the P & C Association for the purchasing of $8000 worth of books. We have purchased “Springboard” books Level 24 to 30 which completes our set of Guided Reading Books for Prep to Year 6. The teachers, teacher aides and students will enjoy and utilise this valuable resource on a daily basis. The money will also go towards upgrading and modernising our Home Reading books in 2015. I want to thank Warren, our president and his team for all of their help this year in 2015. It is very much appreciated by the staff and students.
School Leaders 2015
School leader nominations for our leaders in 2015 are currently being handed in to me. I am looking forward to Monday 8 December when the leadership speeches will be made and listened to by the students and staff. The positions this year will be school leaders, house leaders and environmental leaders. The successful applicants will be announced on Wednesday 10 December at the Christmas concert.

Christmas Concert — Wednesday 10th December
The Christmas Concert will start at 5:00pm with food and drinks available. Food is being catered for by Act for Kids. There will be no need for pre-ordering you purchase on the night. The concert will start at 6:00pm with the classes performing an item. We will be announcing the student awards, presenting the graduates of 2014 and announcing the school leadership positions. We will be holding the concert on the soccer field at the school.

Class Lists
Day 8 of the school term is the day that all state schools are funded on. Enrolment numbers on day 8 gives the school years funding and teacher resourcing. Therefore if we receive more students or less students then classes will change. There may be a need to shuffle classes, add teachers or lose teachers. The classes students will start with will be listed on the front office on Friday 23 January. I ask that you do not post the lists on social media in regards to student identification. Come and see the lists on that day after 12:00 noon.

Office Hours & UniformShop Hours 2015
The front office will be open from Monday 19 January if you require anything prior to school commencing on Tuesday 27th January.

The Tuckshop will be open for uniform sales on Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd January from 9am to 1pm.

School Parking 2015
The Townsville City Council have informed us that there will be changes to local traffic around the school in 2015. This has been achieved by the great work of the SafeST committee (subcommittee of P & C). At this stage the committee did not gain the changes that we prefer. The City Council have made decisions about the local area that will change the way that we pick students up and drop them off.

The SafeST committee are pushing for further changes and when this is finalised we will let all parents know. My advice is to be vigilant of the changed conditions in 2015.

Christmas Holidays
Thank you for an exceptional year, I am amazed to think back on the achievements of this year. I hope that everyone has a safe and happy Christmas break. My family and I are having a holiday at home, enjoying the summer break, playing in the pool and watching sport on TV. Thank you to all the parents, staff and students who have supported the school in 2014. 2015 will be bigger and better!

Regards
Chris

Bluewater School Christmas Concert
at Bluewater School Soccer Field

Wednesday 10 December

Food will be available from 5:00 pm

Concert is starting at 6:00 pm

Please bring chairs or rugs
No Alcohol or Smoking on School Grounds
Bluewater School Rugby.
On Friday the 28th of November The Bluewater School Sports Houses competed in a round robin series of Rugby Union games at the school. The field was in excellent condition from the work Col Leslie had put in. The teams had roughly equal numbers. Each game was keenly fought and the Rattlesnake team in particular, played very well with the resources they had at their disposal. Falcons took out the overall honours on the day.

The Townsville and District Rugby development team came out to train, referee and encourage the kids to enjoy rugby. It was great and a highlight of the day. We had record numbers of parents watching, classes came down to watch, the canteen workers even brought down cordial which was very much appreciated on such a hot day. See the photos on the Facebook page. A lot of future rugby players were on show.

Next year’s competition will be held earlier in the year in readiness for our defence of the Rugby Development Cup, (on May 28th) that Bluewater School won this year. Thank you to all those who contributed for an enjoyable time.

Grant Whiteford
Coach

NQ Dry Tropics
Thank you so much to the Year 5/6 class of Mrs De Jong for helping Jaymie Rains of Healthy Habitats and Christine Dalliston of Coastal Dry Tropics Landcare to collect local seed from Bluewater Creek bank. The seeds collected will be propagated by the students, grown up in the greenhouse and later, planted along the creek to protect the creek bank and improve the biodiversity of the area.

The children learnt from Christine where seeds come from, how to collect them and how to plant them in seedling trays. Mrs De Jong will help the children to plant more over the next couple of weeks.

The Healthy Habitats project is currently working on Bluewater Creek to protect and restore the vegetation of your waterway. If you want to learn more about the Healthy Habitats project please contact Jaymie Rains.

Thanks for being part of the Healthy Habitats family.
Jaymie Rains
jaymie.rains@nqdrytropics.com.au
Project Officer Healthy Habitats

Keep a watch on our school these holidays
With the holidays fast approaching, we need you to look out for after-hours crime at our school. If you do see something suspicious, please don’t attempt to intervene. Call the School Watch number 13 17 88 – and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

Keep the number handy – 13 17 88 – and let’s work together to help create a safer school community.

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We’re Going Back To School

Students return to school Tuesday 27 January
School Office will be open from Monday 19 January
Tuckshop Uniform Shop Open
Thursday 22 January & Friday 23 January from 9am - 1pm
P & C News

TUCKSHOP NEWS

The P & C Association have run an extensive trial to determine the viability of opening for 5 days per week. It has now come to an end and a decision has been made that in 2015 the Bluewater State School Tuckshop will return to three day trade (original days/hours) being on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Tuckshop will be open for both breaks on these days, as well as breakfast.

In 2015 we will also have a new, greener menu! Our convenor, Sherree, is currently working on a new and improved menu with healthier options. This will be implemented as of 2015, the menu will be distributed as soon as it is finalised.

For those looking to purchase uniforms... we have recently changed our supplier, so we have the current stock of shorts selling out at $5/pair – limited stock so get in quick!! As of 2015 we will have (embroidered) uniform shorts and shorts as well as the shirts and hats. Tuckshop will be open for the purchase of uniforms, library/homework folders and also the reusable tuckshop bags! Hours of trade will be from 9am-1pm on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd January 2015.

New Playground

Construction on the new playground is well under way! We hope it will be completed before the end of term however we know it will be ready for 2015 and there will be plenty of students keen to have a go!

Traffic/Parking/Bus Zones

Throughout the year members of the P & C have been working with the Townsville City Council as well as Main Roads, pushing for better transport infrastructure at and around the school/kindy. At this stage, the Council have committed to moving the bus stop to Ditton Steet, changing the signage and remarking Buckby and Ditton Street parking areas. Details are currently being finalised regarding the changes that will be implemented, with works to be done over the Christmas holiday period.

Resource Funding

A massive pat on the back for the Bluewater State School P & C Association and thank you to the families and community for supporting our fundraisers throughout the year. Not only has the P & C Association organised the purchase of a new playground (with a successful grant application), purchased new instruments for the music curriculum, donated almost $1000 to the Chaplaincy Program from the Happy Chappy Day Meal Day, but also provided another $8000 worth of reading materials for the students of BWSS!!!

EZ Covers and That’s Mine Labels

A reminder that we have set up fundraisers with EZ Covers (book covers) as well as That’s Mine Labels. Both of these companies allow you to order your goods online (personalised) and have it shipped directly to you. By entering our school name, Bluewater State School, or Code ZFA186 for EZ Covers, a donation will be made to the BWSS P & C Association. We encourage you to use these companies!

AGM next year

Next year, our Annual General Meeting will be held in the school library on Tuesday 10th February at 6:30pm. We look forward to meeting lots of new families!!

Until then, have a wonderful break over the Christmas holidays and see you next year!!

Rachel Borresen
BWSS P&C Secretary.

Bluewater State School is on Facebook
Like our page
A note from Chappy Drew:
Believe it or not, Christmas is just around the corner, and it is time to get the Christmas decorations out from under the stairs, or from where ever they have been lying in wait from last year. We are already hearing Christmas carols being played in the shopping centres as we do our Christmas shopping. On that note I would like to draw your attention to the following two events coming up...

Local Christmas Carols: The Combined Churches of Northern Beaches would like to invite you to ‘Christmas Carols in the Northern Beaches’ taking place on Saturday 13th December at North Shore Central Park, Main Street, North Shore. Food stalls and kids activities will commence from 5:30pm with the Carols commencing at 6:30pm. (BYO chair or picnic rug)

Stable-on-the-Strand: Between Thursday 18th to Monday 22nd Dec. from 5:30pm to 9:30pm each night, the Strand Park will be transformed into the historic town of Bethlehem; complete with Roman soldiers, traditional craftspeople, livestock, shepherds and sheep, wise men & camels - and of course Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. It is a Free event for all the family.

God Bless and have a very merry Christmas!

Chappy Drew

Upcoming Events

Week 9
Swimming Lessons for Year 1-3 beginning Monday 1 December – 10 December

Week 10
‘Christmas at Bluewater’ Class presentations & Awards Night - Wednesday 10 December,
Report Cards out - Wednesday, 10 December
Class parties - Thursday 11 December
Year 6 and Year 7 - Graduation Day Thursday 11 December

Last day of school 2014 - Friday 12 December

School Resumes - Tuesday 27 January 2015

Explore and Learn
Family Day Care
Taking enrolments NOW!

- Long Day Care
- Before and After School Care
- Weekend Care
- Occasional Care
- CCB Approved
Call Kim 0404 231 411

Bus Passes
Parents can pick up their children’s bus passes from the
19 January 2015
From the Townsville SunBus Office,
451-459 Woolcock Street, Garbutt
Opening Hours 8 am to 4:30 pm

Patches of Bluewater Craft Group
Meet every Thursday
Bluewater Community Centre
9am - 1pm
New people are welcome
For more information please ring Shannon Stanford 47886465

Patches of Bluewater are proud sponsors of 3x$100 encouragement vouchers to be presented at the 2014 Bluewater State School Christmas Concert.

PLAYGROUP AT BLUEWATER STATE SCHOOL
Playgroup is coming to Bluewater State School. Meets once a month on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month, from 9-11 am
Lots of activities for your child, just bring a plate of food to share.

COLD CUPS FOR SALE FRIDAY AFTERNOONS
Outside Prep Rooms
50c small $1 large
Bluewater State School P&C Association
Significant Achievements 2014

P&C Subcommittees:
- Country Fair Subcommittee;
- Fundraising Subcommittee (formed late in the year);
- Playground Subcommittee;
- SafeST Subcommittee;
- Tuckshop Subcommittee.

Fundraising Events*:
- Voluntary Family Contribution;
- State of Origin Raffle;
- Easter Bonnet Parade Raffle;
- Pie Drive;
- Pool Party;
- Discos (multiple);
- Mother’s Day Stall;
- Father’s Day Stall;
- Northern Beaches Directory Sponsorship.

School Improvements*:
- Purchased reading materials ($2,881 June & $8,000 Nov);
- Purchased 2 sets of individual whiteboards for Preps;
- Easter Eggs for all students;
- Gotcha Prizes (slushies);
- Biggest Morning Tea Cake competition prizes;
- School Swimming Shield;
- 16x glockenspiels & a purpose built music trolley;
- Cash donation toward chaplaincy program;
- Greenhouse Shelving

P&C Improvements*:
- Purchased & installed our own safe;
- Gas BBQ received a facelift;
- Repaint of Tuckshop line up area & improve signage;
- Improved formal staff employment agreements;
- MYOB software license purchased;
- Converted old manual arts shed into a P&C storage area (incl concreting & netting as well as constructing shelving)

* Listed Fundraising Events, School Improvements and P&C Improvements noted in this presentation are not specific to a particular subcommittee – refer also to various subcommittee presentations for particular achievements of the respective subcommittees.
5:00PM  Food and soft drinks may be purchased from the P&C and Act for Kids.

6:00PM  Item by Belinda Fairbanks and Reinhard Gmeinder

Choir          Aussie Jingle Bells, Silent Night,  
               When Christmas Comes to Town
Instrumental   Clarinet Duet – Jolly Old St Nicholas  
               Ensemble – Jingle Bells, Deck the Halls

Year 5B       Somewhere over the Rainbow
Year 1        All I Want For Christmas is My Two Front Teeth
Prep          Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer
Year 2B, 2W, 2/3B  Nativity Scene
Year 4B, 4/5B  Twas the Night Before Christmas
Year 3/4B, 3B  Let’s Eat
Year 5B, 5/6B  So this is Christmas
Year 5/6B     We wish you a Merry Christmas

7:30PM  Principal’s Speech
       Presentation of Graduation Certificates for Year 6 & 7 students
       P&C President’s Speech
       School Captains Speech – The Year That Was

Class and School Awards
- Citizenship Shield
- Sporting Shield
- Bluewater Values - Junior and Senior
- Academic Encouragement Award
- Sport Encouragement Award
- Inter-House Values
- 3 x Encouragement Awards donated by Patches of Bluewater Craft Group

Year 7 Awards
- Citizenship
- Sport
- English
- Maths

Announcement of 2015 School Captains and Sport Captains

Please Note:
- All students are required to sit with their teacher and class during the performances
- Food & Drinks available
- No food or drinks will be served during the performances
- No alcohol or smoking is permitted in the school grounds
- BYO chairs or blankets for audience members please