Thank you to the many parents who were able to make it along to our Parent Teacher Night to finish the month of April. It is always a great opportunity to have parents and teachers working together to get the best outcomes for our students and I would encourage all families to maintain regular contact with our staff. Our school website has the email addresses of all teaching staff available for parents to be able to contact where needed. With the vast majority of teachers time spent in class, this is most often the most efficient and practical way to maintain contact through the term, however we are always welcoming of phone calls or face to face discussions in the interest of helping students to achieve. If you have any concerns please don’t hesitate to contact us as soon as possible.

Our major event for the month of May is our Open Day. This was reintroduced last year and the afternoon was a great success with many parents, families and community members coming in to the school to the various displays. It was also a great chance for former students to come in and see the many facilities upgrades we have had over the last few years, with our Rock Climbing activities and Performing Arts Complex proving particularly popular. Last year however it was the Science Department who won the most popular display competition with their wonders of science work. It will be interesting to see what our other departments displays will be able to offer in 2013 and I would encourage you and your wider circle of friends to come in between 3.00pm and 5.30pm on Wednesday, May 29th.

This week we are fortunate to have the CyberSmart team at BSSC to deliver courses for students, staff and parents. The parent session starts at 6pm in our PAC and will provide an overview of the strategies families may find useful in helping students navigate the online world.

PRINCIPAL UPDATE MAY

EVENTS in MAY

2nd
- Cybersmart Outreach Program
- Legal Studies Conference

6th
- ARTIE Seniors Night

9th
- District Cross Country

14th-16th
- NAPLAN Yr 9

16th
- Broncos Mentoring Yr 12

17th
- Ipswich Show Holiday

20th
- Week 6 Excursion Week

28th
- Regional Cross Country
- Open Day

30th
- Yr 10 Student Conference

Yr 10 Hospitality Assessment

Yr 12 Mentoring Session Yr 12

Regular Activities

MONDAY
- Homework Club
- Musical Rehearsal

TUESDAY
- RACE Activities
- English Tutoring
- Math Tutoring
- Homework Club
- Arts Tutoring
- Business Tutoring
- Rock Climbing Club

WEDNESDAY
- Science Tutoring
- B-TADS
- Pedal Prix
- Elders Breakfast

THURSDAY
- Science Tutoring

FRIDAY
- Science Tutoring

KEY PRIORITIES:

⇒ STUDENT OUTCOMES
⇒ LITERACY / NUMERACY
⇒ STUDENT WELLBEING
⇒ ENGAGEMENT - Students, Staff, Parents & Community

May is the month of NAPLAN for Yr 9 students, with the 14th to 16th the official test dates. At BSSC we encourage all students to sit all of the tests and to try their very best for each session. While there is much debate around the NAPLAN process, it is a good opportunity to sit a diagnostic test to help students, parents and the school understand where student’s strengths and weaknesses lie. Improving Literacy and Numeracy standards is a key focus of our National Partnership plan, and the 2013 NAPLAN tests will provide us with valuable feedback regarding how the programs we use are impacting student performance. We would ask that families assist students by ensuring they are well rested and have a good breakfast (as with all school days) to ensure optimal performance during the tests. It is also important to ensure students are present for all of the tests over the three days. We will have catch up sessions for students who miss sessions, however this means they are missing valuable class time. If you have any concerns about the test I would encourage you to contact Ms Joanne Francis our Junior Secondary Deputy Principal.

Our Excursion Week for Term 2 is in Week 6 with the various excursions listed on the left hand column of this page. Once again it will be a hectic week, however this helps to ensure our normal class time is largely uninterrupted during the term.

Each year at the start of Term 2 we run internal surveys for staff, students and parents to gain an understanding of how we are progressing as a school. The survey will only take a couple of minutes and I would encourage parents to share your thoughts in regards to our school. The link for the online survey is: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2013BSSCParent

Finally, we are progressing to the final stages of preparation for our NASA Trip in the September holidays. Thank you to all families who have assisted with fund raising activities through our P&C and a reminder the major raffle of the State of Origin Jersey will be drawn on Wednesday June 5th at our school State of Origin night. Tickets are still available via the front office for $5.

www.bundambassc.eq.edu.au

Andrew Peach—Principal