Maximising Achievement......Every day counts!

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Year 5 Numeracy Project
A number of our year 5 students were selected by Regional Office to participate in an eLearning Numeracy Project. Mrs Gale Brackenreg supervises the group each Friday morning as they work through a variety of problem solving activities with students from other local primary schools. An on-line teacher instructs our students and provides feedback on responses. The students have been very receptive to this new form of instruction and have been keen to ensure they use this time to improve their problem solving skills.

Marycrest Visits
This term, staff and students of 5/6M have made two visits to the residents of Marycrest Nursing home. Our connections with Marycrest continue to deepen as we build on the friendships formed last year. I would like to say thank you to both Mrs McClintock and Ms Takumi Akada for ensuring that the time spent at the nursing home was both meaningful and engaging for both students and residents. Ms Akada needs a special mention also because she attended both these afternoons in her own time and not on one of her rostered work days.

Upcoming Event – Crazy Hair Day & Harmony Day Celebrations
Friday, 13th March - All students are invited to wear a crazy hair style and bring along a gold coin donation for the Leukaemia Foundation. Please note that hair colour will NOT be on sale at school and school uniform must be worn.

Tuesday, 24th March - Our Harmony Day Celebrations will take place in the school hall 2.00pm-3.00pm. Parents and family members are most welcome to share this time with us. Orange is the traditional colour of Harmony Day and students are most welcome to wear clothing of that colour on this day or clothing of traditional dress. Please note that all clothing should be modest. (Singlets and tops showing the midriff are not to be worn.) School shoes or joggers (as per our dress code policy) are to be worn.

Say No to Bullying – Friday, 20th March
The 2015 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is on Friday 20th March 2015. This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say Bullying, No Way! and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time. National “Say No To Bullying” Day is an opportunity for our school to reinforce some key messages from our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

U2B is getting me more confident in maths and at using different strategies for different problems - Hugo

U2B helps me learn maths problem solving strategies and I like working online in the computer lab - Lola

It’s made me more confident in MAD T strategies and having a go at tougher problems - Finn S
**Conflict or Bullying?** At East Brisbane State School we believe that a shared whole-school understanding about “conflict” and “bullying” is a vital starting point for our work. Students and adults may define and confuse behaviours that represent conflict as bullying and vice-versa so we need a common definition as follows:

**Conflict** is a normal part of life. Conflict can be deliberate or accidental. Students can be empowered to respond effectively with conflict resolution training so a teachers’ role is like a “conflict resolution coach”. Though conflict is unpleasant it can be an opportunity to learn more about oneself and others, to build confidence and create stronger friendships and community understanding.

**Bullying** is different to conflict. Bullying is **deliberate, repeated** and involves differences in (perceived) power. Bullying can affect everyone in our school community so everyone has a responsibility to address it:

- **Bystanders** – should discourage bullying and report bullying behaviour to teachers.
- **Students** – should report bullying to teachers and understand that bullying is not acceptable.
- **Parents** – should listen, record facts and inform teachers if they believe their child is being bullied.
- **Principal & Teachers** – should respond appropriately to reports of bullying. This would include investigating and contacting families.

According to research, conflict often precedes bullying. Therefore if students can learn to manage conflict then the potential for bullying can be reduced.

At East Brisbane State School a fundamental part of the Responsible Behavioural Plan is to explicitly teach, model and encourage conflict resolution skills through the curriculum and school community. Without training in conflict resolution skills, conflict is more likely to be managed in destructive ways and students may not learn to manage it constructively. The implementation of our school’s High 5 Hand provides students with a number of strategies when dealing with conflict. A handout has been attached with this newsletter.

**When Issues Arise?**

Should you become aware of an issue or incident between your child and another, I ask that you contact your child’s teacher in the first instance. I do not encourage or recommend parents approaching or confronting other parents (or the other student) on such matters. Classroom teachers and I will work together to ensure adequate follow up is given and parents are contacted when necessary.

Warm Regards,
Joanne Nicholls
Principal

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**PE NEWS**

Every Friday Prep G and Prep/1R hop, jump, skip, kick, catch, throw, hit, roll, bounce, balance and move anti clockwise around our motor sensory circuit on the oval. We'd like to give a big thank you to Miss Caroline Black who helps us in our movement skills and keeps us on task every week. I would be interested to know if your little ones can show you anti clockwise!!!

**Water Polo Clinics** were held last week with Matthew from Qld Water Polo for students in Years 2/3-5/6.

**Year 5/6B will head off to Marycrest** tomorrow March 13. We look forward to hearing of your adventures with the residents and thank you for the sharing of your time. I would especially like to thank Takumi Akada who has visited the Retirement Home each week in her own time to provide art activities and songs with the students.

**Indoor Rockclimbing** and conditioning classes will take place on March 13th for 5/6M and March 27th for 5/6B at Artesuave. This business is new to the area at 28 Wellington Road East Brisbane and we do look forward to our involvement there. Please ensure students wear their school shorts and polo shirt for climbing, as well as needing a water bottle and hat. All forms and the $12 are required to the office as soon as possible. Please call Emanuela on 0416190288 or 33931505 if you are interested in the Yoga and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu classes that run there too.

Qld TAFE Sport and Recreational Term 2 will see Years 3/4K, 5/6B and 5/6M involved in a new venture with Qld TAFE Sport and Recreational Students and Lecturers. Every Friday we will visit the Pineapple Park with our class teachers and myself to participate in a variety of activities co-ordinated by myself and Mark Stevenson Lecturer from Qld TAFE. This activity is free to our students and we do look forward to the activities the students will have us involved in to ready us for our Budgie Cup Touchfootball on June 12 as well as working on our fitness and sporting skills. Notes concerning this will be sent home soon in readiness for next term.

**District Trials** Good luck to Hiro who is off to Touch Football District Trials, Ro thy who is off to Rugby League Trials and Emad, Nick and Cooper off to District Soccer Trials. Week 8 Friday will see some cross country trials for our 10-12 year students at the Pineapple Park - 2km in under 12 minutes or 3km in under 5 minutes is required. Cross Country District will be the first Thursday back next term. Thoughts until next time: “What makes something special is not just what you have to gain, but what you feel there is to lose.” and “Always make a total effort, even when the odds are against you.”

Yours in Sport
Karen Florager
**STARS OF THE WEEK**

**CLASS OF WEEK 6 2/3N**

- **PG** - Smokey
- **P/1R** - Lucas
- **1/2D** - Jerielle
- **2/3G** - Uriah
- **3/4G** - Madeleine
- **5/6B** - Meisko
- **5/6M** - Mystique

**CLASS OF WEEK 7 Prep/1R**

- **PG** - Smokey
- **P/1R** - Lucas
- **1/2D** - Jerielle
- **2/3G** - Uriah
- **3/4G** - Madeleine
- **5/6B** - Meisko
- **5/6M** - Mystique

**Interesting Facts of the Human Body:**

1. It is believed that the main purpose of eyebrows is to keep sweat out of the eyes.
2. We exercise at least 36 muscles when we smile.
3. It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.
4. You sit on the biggest muscle in your body, the gluteus maximus.
5. People are the only animals in the world who cry tears.
6. Every time you lick a stamp, you're consuming 1/10 of a calorie.
7. The length of your foot is the same as that of your forearm between your wrist and the inside of your elbow.
8. At birth we have over 300 bones. As we grow up, some of the bones begin to fuse together as a result an adult has only 206 bones.
9. The tooth is the only part of the human body that cannot heal and repair on its own.

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**Year Prep G**

As we move through our 7th week of Prep for this year, Prep G continue to show me how wonderfully they are progressing in developing positive school routines and in their ability to work together as a learning community. Each week we enjoy a Philosophy lesson together, and our focus recently has been on "Respect". The children participated in a discussion and sorted through a variety of images determining which behaviours displayed "showing respect" and "not showing respect". They have also drawn their own thoughts on behaviours which reflect "respect" and "not respect". Maths learning this week has been focusing on "pattern", with the children exploring the idea that they can use more than their sense of sight to help them identify patterns. They have particularly enjoyed making movement patterns with their bodies. Our science unit exploring "living things" continues to excite Prep G. Recent news on the "living things" in our classroom are....Our tadpoles are no longer tadpoles. They are now Brown Striped Marsh Frogs who enjoy eating the fruit flies which are attracted into their frog tank. Our caterpillars are no longer caterpillars. The 3 caterpillars which Tyee brought to our classroom have now changed into chrysalis and we are waiting and watching for the next exciting change. While our 4th small caterpillar has built it's cocoon and we are wondering what it will change into? Our visiting Blue Tongue continues to camouflage himself well amongst the soil and grass in his shelter, and our bean seeds are no longer seeds. After planting them a week ago they have now split and grown their first roots, with some beginning to shoot. Learning in Prep G continues to be an exciting and hands-on experience.

**Year Prep/1R**

The term is flying by and what a busy term it has been so far! The students are really enjoying the science unit. The preps arrive each morning and eagerly inspect the tadpoles for any signs of change! We have had a few cheers of delight as legs have been spotted! Lucas brought in a spectacular dragon head caterpillar which has settled in well in its new home! The year one students are learning all about healthy and unhealthy habitats. We had a very successful excursion to Raymond Park where the students observed and photographed different types of habitats. They were very disappointed to see so much rubbish in the park and were discussing ways to educate people on the need to protect our parks. As we move through our 7th week of Prep for this year, Prep G continue to show me how wonderfully they are progressing in developing positive school routines and in their ability to work together as a learning community. Each week we enjoy a Philosophy lesson together, and our focus recently has been on "Respect". The children participated in a discussion and sorted through a variety of images determining which behaviours displayed “showing respect” and “not showing respect”. They have also drawn their own thoughts on behaviours which reflect “respect” and “not respect”. Maths learning this week has been focusing on “pattern”, with the children exploring the idea that they can use more than their sense of sight to help them identify patterns. They have particularly enjoyed making movement patterns with their bodies. Our science unit exploring “living things” continues to excite Prep G. Recent news on the “living things” in our classroom are....Our tadpoles are no longer tadpoles. They are now Brown Striped Marsh Frogs who enjoy eating the fruit flies which are attracted into their frog tank. Our caterpillars are no longer caterpillars. The 3 caterpillars which Tyee brought to our classroom have now changed into chrysalis and we are waiting and watching for the next exciting change. While our 4th small caterpillar has built it’s cocoon and we are wondering what it will change into? Our visiting Blue Tongue continues to camouflage himself well amongst the soil and grass in his shelter, and our bean seeds are no longer seeds. After planting them a week ago they have now split and grown their first roots, with some beginning to shoot. Learning in Prep G continues to be an exciting and hands-on experience.