Welcome to the 2013 school year!

As many of you will already know, I will be Acting Principal at Briar Road until a new principal is appointed to our school. At this stage I have been asked to fill the role until the end of Term 1. A list of staff members and their role in the school has been included over the page and further staffing updates will be communicated via future Newsletters.

So far it has been a very busy start to the year. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new students and their families and hope that you enjoy becoming a part of the Briar Road PS community. It has been wonderful to catch up with a number of ex students who have enrolled their children at our school, as well as meet the new kindergarten students and their families. If I’ve not met you yet, please don’t hesitate to introduce yourself when you see me around the school.

As well as new students, we also have some new staff members who I would like to welcome. Mrs Johns comes to us from Harrington Park PS and will spend the year in the Assistant Principal - Mentor role. She will also be supervising our Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 classes. Some familiar faces include Mrs Munro who joins us in the Aboriginal Education Officer role while Mr Sampson works across our community of schools, Miss Higgins who spent some time at BRPS last year (and this year will be teaching 2H), and Ms Willoughby who has returned from leave. It’s great to have Ms Willoughby back with our support classes.

We have a busy term ahead so please make sure that you keep up to date with newsletters and our Parent Calendar. Other sources of useful information include our Facebook page and our school website, so stay tuned to these as they are updated throughout the year. Some important dates in the next few weeks include our Meet the Teacher afternoon on Tuesday 12th February followed by our first Parent Meeting for the year on Wednesday 13th February at 9am in the Community Room. Our Swimming Carnival is on Thursday 21st February at Bradbury Pool. It would be great to see as many of you as possible at these events and at our whole school assemblies, which for a trial period will be held on Thursday afternoons. **Our first whole school assembly will be held this Thursday afternoon at 2.15pm.**

I hope that we can all enjoy another great year working together at Briar Road PS!
Reminders

Some important reminders at this time of the year include:

**Voluntary Contributions** – These are payable to the office as soon as possible. They go towards providing additional resources for your children.

**Car Park** – We had a number of near misses in our car park last year. For the safety of our children our overcrowded staff car park is out of bounds for parents. Please also remind your children that they are to enter and leave the school via the footpaths only – and not through the car entrance as this is where many of our near accidents have occurred.

**Dogs** – We have in the past had incidents where two dogs have met at school and one has decided that he didn’t like the other. The resulting scene can be distressing for all concerned so like most other schools and for the safety of our children dogs are not allowed on the school grounds.

**Bikes & Scooters** – Students are not to ride their bike or scooter to school without a helmet. If this occurs the bike will be removed and returned to parents. Students are not allowed to ride their bike inside the school grounds. We ask that they walk their bike or scooter from the gate to the bike rack so as to avoid colliding with others in our busy school playground.

**Skateboards and Roller-skates/Roller-shoes** – are not to be ridden at school for safety reasons.

**Nuts** – This year we, like many other schools, have decided to ask that students do not bring nuts or nut products such as peanut butter and Nutella to school. This decision is in response to the growing number of children in the community who suffer from nut allergies – a potentially life-threatening condition. While we understand that it may be difficult to ask your child to do without their favourite food during school hours, please explain that it is important in order to avoid the possibility of other children becoming ill.

**Medical Issues** – It is now time to update your child’s records and inform their class teacher if your child suffers from a medical condition that may impact on their school day. For serious conditions we also ask that parents provide a letter from their child’s doctor outlining the condition and any preventative or treatment recommendations so that we are prepared to support your child.

**Dealing with conflict and other problems**. – I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and family members that when problems arise between students or families we ask that they are dealt with in the appropriate way. Please do not approach children or other parents on school grounds. If you have a classroom concern please make an appointment to see your child’s class teacher. Alternatively, for more serious matters, you can make an appointment to see myself or a member of our executive team.

Mrs Miezio
**Briar Road Staff for 2013**

**Executive Staff**
Acting Principal/Support Class Supervisor – Mrs Terri Miezio  
Deputy Principal/Learning Support Team Supervisor – Mrs Karinna Green  
Assistant Principal – Mentor /ES1 & Stage 1 Supervisor – Mrs Jaqui Johns  
Assistant Principal /Stage 2 Supervisor – Mr Steve Chomicz  
Relieving Assistant Principal/Stage 3 Supervisor – Mrs Alicia Hodges  
Assistant Principal/RFF Supervisor – Mrs Vickie Hughes (Wednesday & Thursday)  
Deputy Principal – Aboriginal Education across Community of Schools – Mrs Tammy Anderson

**Class Teachers**
Preschool – Mrs Lee-Ann Lowes  
KM – Mrs Amanda Mair  
KG – Miss Jessie Griffiths  
K/1V – Miss Amanda Valliant  
1R – Ms Tracey Rodgers  
2H – Miss Courtney Higgins  
3M – Miss Mel Moselen  
3A – Mrs Anne McElhatton  
4C – Mr Steve Chomicz  
5H – Mrs Alicia Hodges  
5/6G – Mr Paul Garcia  
6M – Mr Paul Murphy  
K-3K – Miss Katherine Kontopoulos  
3-6W – Ms Debbie Willoughby and Mrs Jaqui Winwood-Smith  
2-6M – Miss Kati Mesarosh

**Support Staff**
Library - Mrs Amy Hodgson  
RFF Teachers - Mr Alex Thompson and Miss Tegan Davies  
Aboriginal Education Resource Teacher – Miss Elettra Else  
Reading Recovery/ESL – Mrs Anya Keierleber  
Learning and Support Teachers – Miss Sandy Klumpp, Mrs Terina Small & Mrs Vickie Hughes  
School Counsellor – Mrs Ros McClure

**School Learning Support Officers**
Preschool – Mrs Carol Meek  
Support Classes – Mrs Marilyn Benson, Mrs Heather Doret & Ms Alison Perry  
Mainstream Classes – Mrs Marcia Barnes, Mrs Carolyn Anderson, Mrs Leesa Shipley and Mrs Jessica Jones  
AEO—Mrs Scherie Munro and Mr Jason Sampson (CoS)

**Office Staff** – Mrs Michelle Thompson, Mrs Kylie Dobson, Mrs Jayne D’Arcy  
General Assistant – Mr Mat Jones  
Community Engagement Officer (2 days) – Mrs Jessica Jones  
Canteen Manager – Ms Rhonda Jolley
Hello and welcome to all our new families and welcome back to all our families that have been with us last year.

To the parents that do not know me, my name is Jess Jones and I am your Community Engagement Officer.

This year our Community Room will only be open on Monday & Wednesday

**Playgroup—Wheely Good Fun!**

We will still be holding Playgroup in the Community Room on a Monday from 9–11am for families with children aged between 0–6 years. This playgroup is open to all families living in the Campbelltown area. This playgroup is **FREE** of charge!

**Community Tutors Program**

If you are interested in volunteering in your child’s class or in another class we would love to have you!

If you can spare 30mins–hour any day of the week to assist our classroom teachers would appreciate it.

Please see me on a Monday or Wednesday if you are interested.

**Pre-Loved Uniforms**

You can find pre-loved uniforms in the Community Room. If you are interested in purchasing a pre-loved uniform they will be available on Monday & Wednesday in the Community Room.

Pre-loved uniforms require a **GOLD COIN DONATION**!

Please note: We can not hold pre-loved uniforms for you.

**Our first Community Meeting will be:**

**WEDNESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2013**

**9.10AM**

**COMMUNITY ROOM**
EMERGENCY CARDS……………………EMERGENCY CARDS………

Please, if you haven't already, bring back your new cards.

It is imperative that the school has your updated numbers and emergency contacts. If you have misplaced your card please see office staff for a new one.

Thank you for your cooperation.

BRIAR’S NEW PHONE OPTIONS....

If your child is absent from school you can now leave a message on our answering machine by pressing option 6. This so far has been very successful.

We now have a “school news” option which allows you to listen to what’s happening at Briar. To hear the latest news press option 8.

Our after hour messages will be listened to first thing in the morning, so you can leave a message during the night and we will retrieve it and pass it on to the relevant staff member. Thank you.
Briar Road Public School works tirelessly to provide all students with the highest standard of education. It is our aim to allow all students to reach their full potential. We want all students to feel safe at school and valued as citizens. If you have any issues regarding your child's education please do not hesitate to come and see us.

We would like to thank McDonald's for their generous donation of 500 McDonald's Awards—this sponsorship is to the value of $3000.

www.briarrd-school.nsw.edu.au

Thank you to Sizzler restaurant—Campbelltown

Campbelltown RSL Club

For their kind donations towards our chocolate wheel for Briars Backyard Bash!

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE CANTEEN SELLS STATIONARY ITEMS.

Glue Sticks $1

Lead Pencils .50c

Pens .50c

Eraser .50c

Sharpeners .50c