Dear Parents and Community,

Welcome back to another exciting school year. A special welcome to all our new students and families who have begun their educational journey with us. 2015 is set to be an exciting and innovative year at Briar Road Public School! I would like to send a special welcome to all the new students and parents that are joining our school this year. I trust that you will enjoy and prosper from all the services that our school and wider school community provide.

Last week I visited all classrooms and was pleased to see that students and teachers had quickly settled into school routines and were working diligently. Thank you to all the parents who have ensured that students are well-presented, in uniform with all the required tools to make learning fun and enjoyable.

At the conclusion of 2014 we had a number of staff changes. Mrs Karinna Green has accepted a promotional position at Ambarvale Public School and Mrs Anne McElhatton has accepted a position of Home School Liaison Officer based at Glenfield. We wish them well on their new career journey.

In 2015 a number of new teachers and support staff have joined the Briar Road team. Ms Blakey will be team-teaching 3/6S and 5/6H, Mr Polley 5/6P, Ms Hibbert school RFF and Moses Alone SLSO.

This year a number a key events have been planned which assist us to engage and work closely with the school community. I look forward to seeing many new and familiar faces at these wonderful school events.

In 2015 I am asking both staff and students to once again raise the bar on expectations. We are aiming to achieve some outstanding academic results in 2015. I have addressed students about my desire to see them achieve beyond their academic potential in 2015 and look forward to working with parents, staff and students to see this potential fulfilled. I look forward to continuing on our journey of 'Briar Brilliance' throughout the year.

Yours in partnership,
Ms T. Anderson
Principal

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Staff Car Park

A reminder that the school car park is for staff and NSW DEC employees. You may recall that at the end of the 2013 school year a young boy was killed in a school carpark in Sydney’s North West. It was very sad and tragic accident that prompted a re-evaluation of our school carpark. Parking permits are not provided. We understand that some parents may find this an inconvenience, however the safety of all children at our school is our priority.

We have recently installed a rolling security gate and will be endeavouring to have an electronic gate installed on the side in the near future.

Kindergarten 2015

Kindergarten students have settled in so quickly!

Kindergarten students will start at 9.30am and finish at 2.30pm every day this week (Monday 2nd—Friday 6th).

From Monday 9th Feb, Kindergarten students commence normal school hours (9am—3pm).

If you have any questions, please see Mrs Rangaiya, Miss Griffiths or Miss Quetcher
Parent Concerns

Should an issue or concern arise we request that you make an appointment to meet with the classroom teacher and/or the supervising teacher. There are appropriate ways in which our school and the Department expect parents to deal with issues and we would ask you to respect our wonderful school by dealing with issues and concerns directly with the school rather than through other means including speaking with other students or parents and through social media.

Important Information for Parents

The Department recognises that some families will be subject to family breakdown. In the absence of any notification to the contrary, it will be assumed that both parents retain a shared and equal parental responsibility for their children and will be involved in making any decisions regarding their children’s education. This means that the school will recognise that each parent has equal duties, obligations, responsibilities and opportunities in relation to matters involving the school. If any changes occur in your family relationships which have the potential to impact on the relationship between the school and your family, you are required to advise the school immediately.

School Contributions

Each year the NSW DEC asks that parents make a school contribution to assist with school resourcing. The school contribution has been set at $45.00 per student for the 2015 school year.

Diary Dates:

February
Thursday 5th: Primary Assembly 2.10pm 4/5T
Friday 6th: Infants Assembly 1.00pm 2M
16th-20th: Dental Clinic
Tuesday 17th: Class Information Afternoon 3.10pm
Thursday 26th: Parent Meeting 1.20pm
Whole school assembly 2.00pm

March
Friday 6th: Swimming Carnival
Monday 9th: Parent Dinner - feedback for the school
Friday 13th: School photos
Friday 20th: Gala Day Years 3-6

April

Office
Reminders

Have you changed your contact details?

Please come and see the office with new numbers and if any emergency contact details have changed.

Swimming Carnival

WHEN: Friday 6th March
Who: Years 2-6

Note coming home soon!

This is a day where all students participate, regardless of their swimming ability!

It is well-run and fun school day.

Mr Garcia
Uniform

All students are expected to be in school uniform each and every day. Should your child not be able to wear uniform you are required to inform the office. Our new school hats are on sale at the canteen. Please remember that we have in place a **No Hat, No Play** policy at Briar Road Public School. The school hat is a compulsory part of the school uniform. Please note plain red t-shirts/polos are not part of the BRPS school uniform and should not be worn.

Helmets

A reminder to all parents that students riding bikes to school **must** wear a helmet. **Skateboards, scooters and skates** are not permitted at school at any time.

Attendance and Lateness

All students are required by law to attend school each day. Should your child be sick due to sickness a note to the classroom outlining why they were absent is required. It is important that your child attends school each day to ensure that they are maximising their educational opportunities. It is policy of the Department of Education and Communities that parents/carers provide a justified reason as to why your child is absent and/or late. Students who begin school after 9am often miss out on core literacy learning. Should your child’s attendance or lateness become of concern you may be required to attend a meeting with school staff and/or Departmental staff. To support students each morning two names will be pulled out of a box during assembly. If the students are ‘On Time’ and ‘In Uniform’ they will be presented with a canteen voucher. This was a very successful initiative in 2014 and we look forward to it continuing in 2015.

Skoolbag & Facebook Community Page

In 2015 we will continue to email out important news updates, events and the newsletter to the Skoolbag app. You will find an information guide within this newsletter to assist you to install it free on your phone. We also have a [facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/BriarRoadPublicSchoolCommunity): Briar Road Public School (Community) facebook page. Please join to find out what is happening with our community events!

Student Expectations

At Briar Road we have high expectations of all of our students. Our expectations include:

- Following the 3 Be’s at all times. Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner.
- Wearing school uniform every day.
- Attending school each day and being on time.
- Working to their personal best.

We ask that parents support your child to maintain these expectations at all times.
Assemblies

Assemblies will begin in week 2 in the hall. We are trialling assemblies to be on every even week. Infants assemblies on Friday 1.00pm and Primary on a Thursday at 2.10pm.

Week 2: Primary assembly 4/5T  Thursday 2.10pm  Week 4: Primary Assembly 4/5T performing Friday 2.10pm
Week 2: Infants assembly 2M Friday 1.00pm  Week 4: Infants Assembly 2M performing Friday 1.00pm

Whole school assembly: Thursday 2pm Week 5. (No separate Infants / Primary assemblies in these weeks)

At the parent meeting on Thursday 26th March, we would like to discuss the possibility of changing whole school assemblies to once a term. A survey will go out in the next newsletter.

Staffing for 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>BLOCK</th>
<th>POSITION FILLED BY:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Carolyne Hutchinson</td>
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<td>KQ</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mrs Rachel Quetcher</td>
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<td>KG</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Miss Jessie Griffiths</td>
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<td>1C</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mr Stephen Chomicz</td>
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<td>1T</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mrs Karlie Thompson</td>
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<tr>
<td>2M</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Miss Mel Moselen</td>
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<tr>
<td>2K</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mr Kevin McGuinness</td>
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<tr>
<td>K/4K</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mrs Anya Keierleber</td>
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<td>3B</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mr Brady Pudya</td>
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<td>3/4P</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mr Paul Murphy</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/6C</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mrs Allison Cross</td>
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<td>3/6S</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>M/T/W Miss Annaye Blakey W/Th/F: Mrs Julia Stirling</td>
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<td>4/5T</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mr Alex Thompson</td>
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<td>5/6H</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mrs Alicia Hodges &amp; Miss Annaye Blakey</td>
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<td>5/6P</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mr Graham Polley</td>
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<td>Reading Recovery</td>
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<td>Mr Paul Garcia</td>
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<td>Learning and Support</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Terina Hamilton, Mr Paul Garcia, Mrs Elettra Else, Ms Sandy Klumpp, Mrs Vickie Hughes</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFF</td>
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<td>Miss Sarah Hibbert</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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<td>M, T Ms Jacqui Winwood-Smith</td>
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<td>Aboriginal Education Team</td>
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<td>Mrs Elettra Else, Ms Scherie Munro, Mr Jason Sampson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Liaison Officer</td>
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<td>W,F: Mrs Jess Jones</td>
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<td>School Learning Support Officers</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Carolyn Anderson, Mrs Marcia Barnes, Mrs Marilyn Benson, Mrs Heather Doret, Mrs Sue-Ellen Linsley, Ms Alison Perry, Mrs Leesa Shipley, Mrs Jess Jones</td>
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<td>Canteen Manager</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Rhonda Jolley</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Assistant</td>
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<td>Mr Mathew Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Staff</td>
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<td>Mrs Michelle Thompson, Mrs Kylie Dobson</td>
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