Dear Parents and Community,

Welcome to Week 4! We have had a successful and smooth start to the school year. Kindergarten students are settling in and are enjoying being an active part of the K-6 school community. We look forward with enthusiasm as we watch them learn and grow each day.

“Meet The Team in 2016” afternoon

Thank you to all the parents and students that came to our “Meet the Team in 2016” afternoon last week. The afternoon provided the opportunity to talk to teachers about the expectations and learning directions for the year as well as a chance to look around the school and have some fun together.

Parent Helpers!

We will continue in 2016 to make improvements in and around our school. If you are interested in helping with gardening at any time please let us know. There is plenty of work to be done and our students enjoy seeing family and community members working in and around the school. There is also the opportunity to help in many other ways around the classrooms. Mrs Jess Jones is our Community Liaison Officer and is available in the Community Room on Mondays and Fridays. Please come and meet Jess if you would like to help at our school.

Emergency Evacuation drill

Every school practices emergency evacuations throughout the year to make sure the staff and students know what to do in the event of an actual emergency. We had our first emergency evacuation last Friday and I would like to congratulate the staff and students on a very calm and smooth emergency evacuation drill.

With Courage and Determination,

Mrs Vickie Hughes
Office Reminders

Please call the school office as early as possible when there are changes to usual picking up arrangements, or parents / carers are running late etc. When we are notified late, it is difficult to get the message (by 3) to the child and siblings. A reminder to also make doctors appointments after school, if possible as we try to minimise disruptions to the school learning day as much as possible.

Compulsory School Attendance in NSW Schools

Under the Education Act (1990) all children from six years to seventeen years of age are legally required to attend school every day. Recent changes to attendance requirements place obligations on schools to more closely monitor attendance and to take appropriate action if students are either not attending or are absent for reasons not justified by the school.

At Briar Road Public School, we value good attendance from all students. Regular attendance is important because it helps your child:

- Maximise their learning opportunities
- Develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities
- To learn the importance of punctuality
- Maintain healthy social relationships with their friends
- Develop a good working relationship with their teachers

Habits of non-attendance can develop quickly. Did you know that if a child misses just 8 days of school a term, they miss more than one year of schooling by the end of primary school? This presents problems as they begin high school.

The law requires that if your child is absent from school, you must inform the school as soon as possible and provide a legitimate reason for your child’s absence. This can be done by

- Sending a note on your child’s return to school
- Contacting through email, phone or fax
- Visiting the school

Your child’s education is important. Please contact the school if there are problems in getting your children to school or if there are concerns you have about them at school. A positive partnership between home and school in this area is of great value to the school but most importantly to the success and quality of your child’s education.

Kristen Kable
Home School Liaison Officer
Briar Road Public School

Morning Fitness Program

Reminder: students who received a note for the morning fitness program; they need to meet at the brown seats by 8.30am on Monday’s and Wednesday’s ready to picked up by the PD/H/PE team :)
Numeracy is important in everyday life. The students at Briar Road participate in the TENS numeracy program daily. They complete short, focused number tasks each day, using simple resources that are found in the home, like dice, dominoes and playing cards. Some activities, which feature dice are listed below. You may like to play these games with your child at home to support their learning at school.

**Kindergarten and Year 1: Collect 10 Game**

A game for 2 people with each person having 2 regular dice. Counters are also required. The players roll the dice and the player with the higher number showing scores a counter; if both throw the same number they both score a counter. The first player to collect 10 counters is the winner. Variations • The player with the lower number scores the counter each time. • Start with ten counters and the player with the higher number on the roll of the dice takes away this number of counters. The first player to have no counters is the winner.

**Year 1 and 2: Addition Cross Out Game**

Cross out is an activity for two players. Each person writes the numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 on a piece of paper. They take turns to roll two regular dice, add both numbers rolled and cross out the total on their piece of paper. The first player to cross out all the numbers is the winner.

**Years 3—6 Take 100 Game**

Subtraction: Each person begins with 100 points. In turn, each person rolls a regular dice and subtracts the number from their 100 points. The first player to reach zero is the winner. Years 5 and 6: Change the number of points to begin, example 500 and players roll two regular dice and multiply the numbers together before subtracting from the total.

**PBL News**

The students had an exciting day at the relaunch last Monday. They listened to respectful messages from Senior Constable Michelle from Campbelltown Police, safety messages from the Campbelltown Fire Brigade and learner messages from Mr Carl Warren. Betty Bee and Mr Bumble Bee, our PBL school mascots were also introduced to the students and will be visiting on regular occasions to remind students of the safe, respectful learners message. Below is a picture of Dakota with Betty Bee and a monster that looks very much like our Dojo monsters used in our class rewards systems. When students earn 15 Dojo points, they receive a gold pass which equates to $1 towards rewards shopping. Rewards shopping happens in weeks 5 and 10 of each term. Our new signs also arrived so look out for these when you visit our school.
BRPS Awards

The school has whole school assemblies twice a term to celebrate as a school our students’ achievements. Students receive class merit awards as the Infants/Primary assemblies based on being safe, respectful and learners. Please keep these merit awards in a safe location at home as when students have 3 merit awards / Principal awards, they are eligible for a ribbon.

Term 1 Diary Dates

February
- 16th and 17th: 3/5M Transition Camp
- Thursday 18th: Primary Assembly 2.15—2.50pm 5/6T
- Friday 19th: Swimming Carnival
- Thursday 25th: Whole School Awards Assembly @ 2pm

March
- Thursday 3rd: Primary Assembly 2.15pm—2.50pm
- Friday 4th: Infants Gala Day & Infants Assembly 1.00 -1.45pm 2R
- Monday 7th: Parent Feedback Dinner
- Thursday 17th: Primary Assembly 2.15 5/6T
- Friday 18th: Infants Assembly 1.00—1.45pm 2R, Gala Day yrs 3-6
- Monday 21st: Harmony Day
- Thursday 24th: Easter Hat Parade
- Friday 25th: Good Friday
- Monday 28th: Easter Monday
- Thursday 31st: Whole school Awards Assembly

April
- Fri 1st: Gala Day Years 3-6
- Wed 6th: School Photo Day