Dear Parents and Community,

Welcome back to another exciting school year. 2016 is set to be another 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.

Last week I visited all the Year 1 – Year 6 classrooms, with students quickly settling into school routines and working diligently. Thank you to all the parents who have ensured that students are in full school uniform with all the required tools to make learning fun and enjoyable.

In 2016 a number of new teachers and support staff have joined the Briar Road team. Miss Kate Dallacosta, Miss Emily Goncalves, Mrs Danii Riley, Mr Mark Baker and Mr Michael Lett will bring valuable skills and ideas to our team.

This year a number of 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.

I am very excited to be “steering the Briar ship” whilst Miss Anderson is on maternity leave and I look forward to continuing on our journey of ‘Briar Brilliance’ throughout the year.

Yours in partnership,

Mrs V. Hughes

**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. A reminder that students and parents must **use the footpath** rather than taking a short cut through the car park. Safety of all our students and staff is a priority at all times.

**Wearing of helmets**

With the recent sad event in our local community, it is timely to remind all students and parents that the wearing of helmets is a requirement by law when using a scooter or bike. Briar Road PS makes the safety of students a priority and students must wear a helmet to and from school if they have a bike or scooter. We have made it a rule at Briar Road PS that if a student does not have a helmet and brings a scooter or bike to school, we will keep the scooter / bike in the office and contact you. If your child currently does not have a helmet, please keep the scooter / bike at home.

If you have any questions about this school safety rule, please come and see Mrs Hughes.
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 2016 school year.

Diary Dates:

February
Monday 8th Students celebrate PBL relaunch
Tuesday 9th: Meet our staff afternoon 3.15 - 4pm
Thursday 18th First Primary Assembly 5/6T
Friday 19th Swimming Carnival
Thursday 25th: Whole school assembly 2.00pm

March
Thursday 3rd Primary Assembly 5/6T
Friday 4th Infants Gala Day and Infants assembly 2R
Monday 7th Parent Feedback Dinner
Friday 11th Primary Gala Day
Monday 21st: Harmony Day
Thursday 24th Easter Hat Parade, raffle, sausage sizzle
Thursday 31st Whole School assembly awards

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.

Infants Gala Days

Infants Gala Days are back in 2016. The first Gala Day will be Friday week 6. We welcome parents and the community. A note will come home shortly

Miss Quetcher and the PD/H/PE committee

Swimming Carnival

WHEN: Friday 19th
February
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.
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 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.

Meet our staff afternoon

When: Tuesday 9th February 2016      Time: 3.15 – 4pm

What: A fun afternoon is planned to meet the new staff, as well as get to know the staff who are the 2016 teachers of your children. We have a mini olympics planned and it’s also an opportunity to find out information about the class your child/ren are in. More info will be sent out later this week.

Preschool Enrolments 2016

Our preschool offers a wonderful early learning and school readiness program. Preschool enrolments for 2016 are currently being finalised. If you have a preschool aged child please contact our school office.

Kindergarten 2016

A big welcome to our Kindergarten students and families. They are attending the usual school day from 9.00am—3.00pm. If you have any questions, please see Miss Else or Miss Quetcher

Skoolbag & Facebook Community Page

In 2016 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: Briar Road Public School (Community) facebook page. Please join to find out what is happening with our community events!

Student Expectations and PBL Relaunch

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 will be having a celebration of PBL on Monday the 8th February. An exciting program is planned for all students, including a VIP Mr Briar Bee.
Assemblies

The first assembly for primary will be in Week 4. There will be no infants assembly in week 4 due to the Swimming Carnival. Assemblies will be held in the hall every even week.

Infants assemblies are held on Friday 1.00pm and Primary on a Thursday at 2.15pm.

Week 4: Primary assembly 5/6T Thursday 2.15pm (no infants assembly this week due to swimming carnival)

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

Week 6 Infants assembly 2R Friday 1.00pm

Staffing for 2016

<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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<tr>
<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>1D</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Miss Kate Delacosta</td>
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<td>1T</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mrs Karlie Thompson</td>
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<td>2R</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mrs Samantha Rangaiya</td>
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<tr>
<td>2W</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Miss Josie Wira</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/5M</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mr Paul Murphy</td>
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<tr>
<td>3G</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Miss Emily Goncalves</td>
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<td>3/4S</td>
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<td>Miss Jess Scott</td>
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<tr>
<td>K/3B</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mr Mark Baker</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/5B</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>M, T Miss Annaye Blakey</td>
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<td>4/6C</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Miss Allison Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5B</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mr Brady Pudya</td>
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<td>5/6T</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mr Alex Thompson</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6S</td>
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<td>Miss Sarah Hibbert</td>
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<td>Reading Recovery</td>
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<td>Miss Katie Bleeker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning and Support</td>
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<td>Mrs Terina Hamilton, Ms Sandy Klump, Mrs Alicia Hodges</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFF</td>
<td></td>
<td>Miss Annaye Blakey, Mrs Danii Riley</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>Mr Kevin McGuiness, Ms Scherie Munro, Mr Jason Sampson, Mr Michael Lett</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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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<td>School Counsellor</td>
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<td>Roslyn McClure M, T, Emma Shaw W</td>
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