A Letter to the Community
No. 15       18th May  2012

Dates to Remember in 2012

MAY
21 – Arts Council
22 – District Cross Country
25 – Under 8’s Day
27 – First Aide /CPR Update

JUNE
11 – Public Holiday Queens Jubilee
15 – Parent/Teacher Interviews
22 – Walkathon – Last Day of Term

AUGUST
21 – 23 – School Camp (Prep-3’s)
21 – 24 – School Camp (Yrs4-7’s)

TUCKSHOP
23rd MAY

HELPERS –
Rachel Williams & Tracey Vayne

CAKES/SLICE - Patti Russell

Upper School News

This week we have had students from Year 5 and 7 completing their NAPLAN Testing. A huge thank you to the Mums and Dads who took time out on the chilly mornings to provide a healthy breakfast for all students, particularly for our test participants. All students have looked fairly relaxed and happy about how they have performed.

While Miss van Bennekom has supervised the testing, the remainder of the class has worked on Maths Mentals, reading, Library lessons and researched information for our Australian Spirit Competition entry. Following testing today, the classroom has been a hive of activity, with – paper stripping for mache, base board preparations, paint mixing, scale drawings, researching of fighter planes, ships, artillery and the aftermath of bombing raids. In addition to this some students have been writing up notes from interviews with war veterans to include in our entry.
Thought for the Week

Listening with Understanding and Empathy
“Nature gave us one tongue and two ears so that we could listen twice as much as we could speak.”

Epictetus

NAPLAN

The students in Years 3, 5 and 7 have now completed their annual NAPLAN tests. Some students said they enjoyed doing the tests and the challenging questions. Results for these tests are usually received back at the school late in term 3.

We would especially like to thank the parents who came in this week to help supply serve some extra breakfast to the students who were doing the NAPLAN tests.

Under 8’s Day

Our students in Prep to Year 2 will be attending an interschool Under 8’s Day at Beaudesert State School on Friday, 25 May. They will leave the school at 8.30am on the bus and return at approximately 1.30pm. The students will have their lunch in Jubilee Park before heading back to school. All students are required to wear full school uniform (hat included) bring their own lunch/morning tea and water bottle.

Can parents please make sure that students are at the school before 8.30am ready to leave on the bus by 8.30am? Parents are invited to come along but there may not be enough room on the bus, so you will need your own transport. The attached permission form needs to be returned to the school by next Tuesday 22May.

R.S.L.

“Australian Spirit” Awards

Students from the upper school need to have completed entry forms back to the school by next Thursday ready to be collected by representatives from the R.S.L. the following week.

District Cross Country

Next Tuesday, selected students from Rathdowney will be competing at the District Cross Country at Hills International School, Jimboomba. Competitors are reminded that they must take their completed South Coast Booklets with them. These booklets need to be signed by Miss van Bennekom to verify official dates of birth. On the day students are to report to the Team manager who will issue students with a purple Christmas Creek shirt and identification number.
Scenic Rim Environmental Leaders Day

Next Thursday 24 May, Mrs Benstead will be attending the above day at Darlington State School with selected Year 6 students. All attending students have been given the necessary paper work to complete and return to school as soon as practicable. The upper school class will be supervised by a visiting teaching on Thursday.

Student Council

Parents please note that all chocolates and money are due back at the school by the 1st June 2012.

Centenary Committee

There will be meeting of the Centenary Committee in the school staffroom at 7pm next Tuesday evening, 22 May. This is to discuss the celebrations and to plan what still needs to be done.

Child Safety Handbooks

Each year the Queensland Police Service donates a “Child Safety Handbook” to each Year 7 student. These handbooks will be given to the students this week. This handbook provides advice on a wide range of safety issues from eating healthy food to staying safe on social-networking sites.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

To all the wonderful people who made the school’s centenary celebrations the huge success that it was; thank you for your contribution! It was a fabulous effort from all involved!! For such a little school to put on such a terrific and well-planned celebration last weekend is truly outstanding!! It really shows the pride the whole community takes in its school!!

The school and members of the Centenary Committee have been flooded with congratulations and many glowing commendations from many of the 1000 plus visitors on the way in which the day was planned and how everything turned out. Our tireless committee workers, and all those helpers from the wider community and the P&C have shown that when everyone in the community works together positively we can achieve great things!! Our event even made the front page of the Beaudesert Times this week!

It was terrific to see so many past parents, pupils and staff catching up with each other on the day, reconnecting with each other re-affirming old friendships. That was the main goal for the celebrations. We hope that many of you will stay in touch with the school.
Above: Students performing the Maypole Dance at the Centenary

Below: One of the Centenary Cakes

Above: Planting of the Centenary Tree by the School Captains

Children Learn What They Live
If a child lives with criticism, he learns to condemn …
If a child lives with hostility, he learns to fight …
If a child lives with fear, he learns to be apprehensive …
If a child lives with pity, he learns to feel sorry for himself …
If a child lives with ridicule, he learns to be shy …
If a child lives with jealousy, he learns to feel guilt …

BUT
If a child lives with tolerance, he learns to be patient …
If a child lives with encouragement, he learns to be confident …
If a child lives with praise, he learns to be appreciative …
If a child lives with acceptance, he learns to love …
If a child lives with honesty, he learns what truth is …
If a child lives with fairness, he learns justice …
If a child lives with security, he learns to have faith in himself and those about him …
If a child lives with friendliness, he learns the world is a nice place in which to live …

WHAT IS YOUR CHILD LIVING?

By Dorothy Law Nolte, Ph.D.
"A World Apart".
On 26th and 27th May, five locations in the Mt Barney valley invite you to experience "A World Apart". This family-friendly event is now in its fifth year, and it allows you to sample unique local food and wine, and visit each venue at a leisurely pace. Your FREE ticket allows you to sample local wine, homemade Italian gelato, an alpaca farm tour, a bushtucker tour and samples, and croquet in a heritage garden. Come and discover Mt Barney, and visit your backyard for a day!!

There will be additional food items and activities for sale on the day including authentic wood fired pizzas, Alpaca crafts, a Scottish High Tea, gourmet bushtucker BBQ fare, and local wine by the glass/case.

Those who visit can enter the multi-prize draw to win over $600 worth of accommodation, experiences, and wine prizes donated by the participating operators.

No booking is needed, just follow the signs, and collect your free ticket at the first venue you visit 9am-4pm each day.

Tracey Larkin
Mt Barney Lodge
1093 Upper Logan Rd
Mt Barney QLD 4287
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GATTON SPEEDWAY
Start time 3pm till 10pm
Admission: Adults $20.00, Old Age Pensioners: $15.00, Students 12-15: $15.00, and Pit entry is $10 for 16 yrs and Over. Kids under 12: FREE
AT: Gatton Showgrounds with the entrance of Woodlands Road.
We have Formula 500’s, Classic Speedway Cars Demonstrating, Microsprints, Compact Speedcars and Modlites racing.
So come and have a good night out with Family entertainment.

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER BY HOSTING A SHORT TERM EXCHANGE STUDENT.
Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2012 for a short term of only 3 months. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria Denmark, Norway, Finland and Sweden will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaut@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our little booklets of international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!
Principal’s Report for the
P&C Meeting 15.05.12

Staff and Students
This term we have had two new enrolments. We welcome Nerissa to our Year 7 class and Emily to our Year 5 class.
Some more casual teacher aide time has become available this term and Mrs Kayleen Todd is now working in the Early Learning Centre on Thursday mornings and Fridays.
This term we welcomed two student teachers from the University of Southern Queensland to our school. Ms Jacalyn Whyatt, a first year student teacher has spent 2 weeks in the Early Learning Centre on her first prac. Presently we also have Ms Aimmee Clifford, a final year student on a 5-week teaching prac at school, also in the Early Learning Centre.
We have had work experience students, Kara, Kasey and Sarah from Beaudesert High School here for the past week working in the early childhood area.

Student Council
The Student Council has almost sold all the chocolates from their annual chocolate drive.
The Student Council members have replanted the vegetable garden and should soon produce delicious vegies for use in our healthy Friday lunches. The Student Council has had to put a hold on Friday lunches for the first part of this term because of other commitments involving the school’s centenary. Healthy lunches will again be offered after this week’s NAPLAN tests.
Meanwhile, the Council are continuing to collect milk bottle tops from Paul’s milk bottles. Please keep an eye out for special milk bottle tops at the supermarket, and please save and send in those bottle tops to the school. Thank you to all the parents who have already sent in tops this year!!
The supermarkets, Coles and Woolworths, are again advertising their school promotions. The Student Council will collect stickers etc. from anyone who is collecting them for us.

School Band
The band played well last Saturday for the centenary. It was great to see all those past band members bringing in their old fifes to join our band for the march-past on Saturday afternoon. Our band of seven became a band of 70 plus for the march-past!! What a terrific sight that was!!
The band also played well for the ANZAC Day march in Rathdowney last month. As in previous years, Mrs Wieland organised some of our past pupils, now at high school, to join the band for the march.
The band was a credit to the school on the day!

School Events
Last month, the school participated in the annual ANZAC Day march in Rathdowney. The band led the parade, and our other students fell in behind the ex-servicemen. Our students all presented flowers or rosemary at the memorial during the service and our Year 7 boys participated in the reading of the resolutions and requiem at the service. Both Shaye and Angus read very well.
The school hosted the annual Christmas Creek Cross Country recently. Most of our 9-12 year old students competed in their age group races, with several of our students being selected for the Christmas Creek team to go the District Cross Country next week at Hill’s International College at Jimboomba.
Last month the school’s Centenary Committee was very busy with preparations for the school’s centenary celebrations which were a huge success!! The committee is to be congratulated on the wonderful work they did to make the day the special day that it was for so many past pupils, parents and staff of our school. We have received emails, facebook messages and videos and photos of the event already. All these communications are full of praise for the wonderful day the visitors had had and people were grateful for the opportunity it gave for them to reconnect with old friends. The committee will still need to meet a few more times to finalise our business.

The student performances on the centenary day were wonderful. The maypole dance went over a real treat, and the songs and mini-musical were all well-received. Great work, kids! And “thank you” to BAMS Theatre Inc. for their help with lighting and sound on the day.

This week the Year 3, 5 and 7 students are undertaking the annual NAPLAN tests. On Tuesday the students are doing the Language Conventions and Writing tests, on Wednesday they’re doing the Reading test and on Thursday is the Numeracy test.

Next Monday, at 9:20am, the Queensland Arts Council (now called Artslink) will be presenting a show at school, entitled “ChoreoFUNK”. This performance will be a dance-based presentation. The show is presented by Expressions Dance Company and will involve the students in an interactive workshop.

There is an Earth Smart leadership day at Darlington State School for selected Year 6 students next Thursday. Mrs Benstead will be attending along with 4 of the Year 6 class. There will be more information going home to the families of the students selected and in the school newsletter.

Next Friday, 25 May, the students from Prep to Year 2 will be attending Under 8’s Day at Beaudesert State School. There will be 5 staff members attending with the children and parents are also invited to accompany the students on the day. The school bus (and cars) will transport everyone on the day.

Parent-teacher interview day has been planned for Friday, 15 June. Parents are asked to set this day aside to meet with the teachers to talk about their children’s report cards. There will be more information about this in upcoming newsletters.

On the last day of term, 22 June, we hope to hold our annual walkathon to Bigriggen. Parents are invited to accompany the students and staff on the walk which will finish with a barbecue lunch at Bigriggen before returning to school for school buses to take students home. The money raised from this is collected by the Student Council and donated to the Queensland Cancer Fund.

**Professional Development**

Tina attended a small school principals’ day at Coomera Rivers State School last week.

Tina will be attending a Regional Principals’ Day at the Logan Entertainment Centre next Monday, 21 May.
What’s Happening in the Scenic Rim?

Beau FM and AMRAP is seeking expressions of interest from musicians and bands to perform and be recorded live for the “Live @ The Train Station” project, May to September 2012. Performances will be mixed and mastered in house for airplay on Beau FM. As well, selected songs will be made available to other community radio stations through AMRAP’s digital download service “Air It”. Applications for Live @ The Train Station close on Friday 25th May 2012. More info

Boonah’s World Environment Day Festival 9am Saturday June 2. free creative workshops, raw food demonstrations, industrial ecology discussions, up-cycled artworks, jewely, furniture and clothing, junk orchestra, community weaving table, wildlife workshops, Boonah’s bulk buy community, innovative recycling bays, and over 50 market stalls. At the Outlook, 4001 Boonah Ipswich Road Boonah more info

Wild Poetry of the Scenic Rim, 4.30pm Saturday June 2 celebrating 50 years of Wildlife Queensland, the event is a tribute to Judith Wright with works by contemporary poets.at the

Outlook 4001 Boonah Ipswich Road Boonah .more info

Beechmont Zest Fest Sunday 24 June A community celebration showcasing homegrown enterprises of Beechmont more info

Eat Local Week 24 June- July 1: Farm Tours, Sustainable Eating, Cooking Classes, Campcraft Night Adventure, Edible Garden Tours, Urban Foraging .June Arts Dinner and much more! more info