From the Principal and Deputy …

‘FUN FRIDAY’

What a fun day this Friday is going to be! Friday 4 March is National Ride2School Day, Clean Up Australia Schools Day and Story Dog Day.

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

We hope that as many children as possible (and parents) can join teachers in walking or riding their bikes/scooters to school on Friday. There will be five meeting points and every child who walks or rides their bike to school will be eligible for a free healthy breakfast from the kitchen. Students who catch public transport will also be eligible for the free breakfast. Please see the attached letter which was sent home detailing where and when to meet.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA SCHOOLS’ DAY

In the afternoon all classes in the school will clean up a particular area of the school as our contribution to Clean Up Australia Day and to make our grounds sparkle. Parents are welcome to join us.

STORY DOG DAY

On Wednesday Year 2s presented a certificate of appreciation to our Story Dog volunteers: Jim and Wendy and Xavier and Piper (the dogs). Later in the year we will raise funds to further show our appreciation for the wonderful work done by this organisation. It is truly amazing as to how motivated the Year 2 students are to read, when they know that Xavier or Piper will be listening to them.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS COMING SOON!

Parent teacher interviews will be offered in Weeks 8 and 9. Please look for a letter from your child’s teacher informing you of dates and times available to discuss your child’s progress and strengths and weaknesses in literacy, numeracy and social development.

ATTENDANCE

Every day counts. We need every student at school nearly every day to reach our attendance target of 95%. At the end of each term, every student who has attained 95% attendance will have their name go into a draw for an IPad at the end of the year. Last year’s winner was Matilda B. These tables show the current attendance rates for each class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Bilin</td>
<td>95.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Murun</td>
<td>89.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Wajin</td>
<td>92.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Bunneen</td>
<td>93.62%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Bowai</td>
<td>87.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Jalumm</td>
<td>92.58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Muni</td>
<td>92.47%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Guran</td>
<td>95.68%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Ngaurrm</td>
<td>93.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Mibunn</td>
<td>93.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Borobi</td>
<td>94.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Kabul</td>
<td>93.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 Ngurun</td>
<td>91.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Jingree</td>
<td>94.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Baleirei</td>
<td>93.57%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
From the Principal and Deputy con’t ....

HOUSE CAPTAINS
This week’s photo is of our wonderful Cooper House Captains.

NERANG STATE SCHOOL’S RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR PLAN - OUR BEST ALWAYS
Earlier in the year an information letter detailing the school’s reward system was sent home. Today you should find the second information letter with regards to the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan. This letter details consequences for unacceptable behaviour and the school’s procedures around these. On the back of the letter minor and major behaviour incidents are detailed.

BEHAVIOUR FOCUS
For the last fortnight our behaviour focus has been: Be safe and responsible when using the stairs and pathways. Every classroom has on display a poster promoting this behaviour.

WHEN ON THE STAIRS
- always walk when using the stairs
- walk on the left hand side of stairs
- hold the railing if you have an injury or are feeling unwell
- walk behind the person in front, don’t overtake on the stairs
- speak quietly when walking on stairs
- the stairs are not a play area

WHEN ON PATHWAYS
- always walk
- walk on the left hand side
- walk behind the person in front of you
- if you need to overtake do so without bumping the person in front of you
- balls should be held along pathways
- pathways are not a play area

HOW TO BE A STRONG PARTNER IN YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION
As a parent your involvement is absolutely critical for your child’s success at school. Following are 5 tips to help you, help your child succeed. Another 5 will be in the next fortnight’s newsletter.

1. Stress being on time and daily attendance! Research shows that school attendance is the single most important factor in your child’s school success. Is your child on track to achieve 95% attendance for Term 1?

2. Prioritise schoolwork. Stress that school and homework comes before friends or sports. Limit or restrict TV, computer, videogames, phone use during school nights. Set high expectations that you expect your child to do his/her schoolwork to the best of his/her ability, and then make sure he/she does by following through.

3. Set high educational aspirations for your child. Be involved from the get go! Know what’s going on in your child’s classroom/school. Monitor your child’s school progress. Read the school newsletters, volunteer, show up to school events, and answer each communication.

4. Partner with the teacher. Show up to every parent teacher interview/parent information session. Call for an appointment if you see your child struggling. Maintain ongoing communication with the teacher and the school. Stay connected! Don’t let that report card surprise you. Know how your child is doing.

5. Show daily interest. Create daily rituals such as in the car, during the family meal or every night before your child goes to bed to discuss school. Ask: “What is something new you learned today? What was the best thing that happened at school today? Did you make a new friend today? Don’t let a day go by that you don’t talk about what happened in your child’s classroom and what he/she is learning.
12 ALTERNATIVES to 'Losing it' with your Child

We all know that children, including adolescents, at times, can drive you crazy. They may not listen. They are messy. They don’t think before they act. They don’t consider another’s feelings. Unfortunately these factors are a part of growing up, and it takes a loving family to help them learn to be respectful, responsible, tolerant, caring, loving and self-controlled. When everyday problems pile up, our tolerance as parents may not be as strong. Often our ability to control ourselves will be tested. We may be easily angered but the message here is: DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON YOUR CHILD or CHILDREN or PARTNER.

It’s a matter of mustering your self-control (we all have it). Think of the benefits.

If you show self-control, your child knows what it looks like and can copy it.

Here are some alternatives:

- Stop in your tracks. Step back. Sit down. Talk yourself back to calm.
- Take 5 deep breaths. Inhale. Exhale. Slowly. Slowly
- Count to 10. Better yet, 20 or say the alphabet out loud or backwards
- Phone a friend, or a relative. Even the weather number.
- Still mad? Punch a pillow, a punching bag or munch an apple.
- Thumb through a magazine, newspaper, photo album, work manual.
- Do some sit-ups, kick a ball, jog on the spot
- Pick up a pencil and write down your thoughts/feelings/frustrations
- Take a shower, or better still, a bath
- Lie down on the floor listening to your favourite music
- Talk to your pet - they are good listeners and non-judgemental
- Go to your shed (if you have one) otherwise do that gardening/ mowing you need to do

By now hopefully you are feeling calm. By now the problem may not have seemed like it deserved the blood pressure, but it’s time to deal with the issue in a calm, peaceful, rational way. You can do it. It’s all a matter of choice.

Adapted from: Qld Centre for Prevention of Child Abuse Information Sheet

Kind regards

Kirsty Thiesfield - Guidance Officer
News from the Classroom ....

2 BOWAI IS REALLY ENJOYING SCIENCE!

What Australian creature has long ears, soft, grey fur and is associated with Easter? It’s not the feral pest, the rabbit, but the shy bilby. 2 Bowai have been learning about the life cycle of animals and Mrs Cargnoni organised a guest speaker to explain that our cute little bilbies are close to extinction because of predators such as feral cats and foxes and because bilbies compete with rabbits for food and burrows.

As part of our Science lessons, the Year 2 students are raising mealworms, as bilbies love to eat the squirming beetle larvae. These mealworms will be sent to a bilby breeding enclosure in Charleville where Save the Bilby Fund’s main captive breeding program is based.

Mealworms that the bilbies love to eat aren’t really worms. They are the larvae of darkling beetles. A darkling beetle experiences complete metamorphosis which means that it has four distinct stages of life. The four stages are egg, larva, pupa, and adult.

2 Bowai are learning many interesting facts about bilbies and mealworms and are also helping to save one of our cutest Australian animals from extinction.

All students are encouraged to enter a Save the Bilby colouring competition with forms available from class teachers. At Easter time, 2 Bowai would like everyone to look for the Easter bilby chocolates that donate money to the Save the Bilby fund. Let’s all work together to save this unique Australian animal from extinction.

2 Bowai (We’re friendly sharks!)

Mrs Kay Davidson

Sports News ....

OCEANIC DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

We had 7 swimmers attend the Oceanic District swimming carnival on Thursday 18 February (Naturelle B, Matilda B, Kyla B, Zieh P, Caleb N, Connor B and Pippa S). On a very hot day these student represented Nerang State School admirably and gave it their very best effort competing against students from 25 primary schools. Naturelle B won the 50m breaststroke and qualified for the South Coast Regional Trials where she also qualified in the 100m breast and 50m free. Well done swimmers!

This week 295 ten to twelve year old students from all the public and private schools on the Gold Coast competed over two nights at the Southport Aquatic Centre to qualify for the state swimming championships. Naturelle swam the freestyle and breaststroke and qualified in the 100m breaststroke. She will compete against students from all over Queensland at the championships in Brisbane later this month. Well done Naturelle on your outstanding effort!

Yours in Sport

Catherine Donovan - PE Teacher
Assembly Awards  26 February 2016 ....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Bilin</td>
<td>Alena G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Bilin</td>
<td>Lauren R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Murun</td>
<td>Eva F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Murun</td>
<td>Jarvis B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Buneen</td>
<td>Amelia C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Buneen</td>
<td>Ruby M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Buneen</td>
<td>Willow S</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Bowai</td>
<td>Bella C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Bowai</td>
<td>Cillian S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Jalumm</td>
<td>Kalani T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Jalumm</td>
<td>Tilylah P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Guran</td>
<td>Ayden C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Guran</td>
<td>Ayla A</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Ngaurm</td>
<td>Joel K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Ngaurm</td>
<td>Reighan J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Kabul</td>
<td>Honey D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Kabul</td>
<td>Lily N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 Ngurun</td>
<td>Calvin W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 Ngurun</td>
<td>Kimi R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PCYC Outside School Hours Care ....

**Do you need before or after school care for your child?** We have vacancies book now to secure your place. Please contact Michelle on 0437 733663.

We have an Australian theme this term and the children are having a great time producing some beautiful artwork.

As this is only a 9 week school term the holidays are fast approaching. We are currently finalising our vacation care program and will have that out in the next couple of weeks.

*Michelle Venter - Co-ordinator*

Snack and Chat ....

**TO ALL PARENTS AND CARERS**

Come join us every second Friday for ‘Snack and Chat’ outside the kitchen at E block.

We care for every person involved in our school, especially you!! We want to create a positive and friendly community where long lasting friendships are made.

THIS WEEK - We have a special guest who is bringing along an amazing snack for us all to share along with the recipe. She is also going to share some fantastic ideas for quick, easy and nutritious lunch boxes. Feel free to bring along any lunchbox ideas you have.

Looking forward to see you all there!

*Katie Campbell - School Chaplain*

Student Banking ....

We have had a fantastic start to school banking this year with many students currently eligible to claim some fantastic new prizes as all the unclaimed tokens from last year have carried over. Our School Banking day is every Thursday. Siblings who are not currently attending our school, but have a Youth Saver account with the Commonwealth Bank, are also welcome to bank through our school, collect tokens & claim the same prizes as our students.

**Our first School Banking sign on day will be Friday 11th March at 8am-9am outside the tuckshop & also 2pm-3pm outside assembly.** Parents please bring along ID for yourself. All students currently attending our school do not require identification, but siblings will require a birth certificate.

We would also like to welcome Kim Bouquiaux & thank her for volunteering to be the second School Banking Co-Ordinator for our school.

*Katrina Pirrone - Student Banking Co-ordinator*
Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 15 March 2016.

School Disco - Thursday 17 March (Prep to Year 6)

We are holding our first disco for the year on Thursday 17 March. **The theme is anything Irish or Easter!** We would love to see you all dressed in your Irish or Easter outfits.

Prep to Year 6 students are invited to attend. Entry is $5.00 per student. A meal deal is also available for purchase for $5.00.

Mother’s Day Stall

We will be holding a Mother’s Day Stall again this year. We would welcome any donations for the stall. These can be left at the tuckshop or at the office.

Thank you in advance for your generosity in making

Community Noticeboard ....

**Year 7 Expo 2017**

**Benowa State High School**

**Our purpose has never been clearer**

**YEAR 7 EXPO 2017**

**Tuesday 1 March 2016**

Each year our Expo and Tour provide an opportunity for you to explore our classrooms, talk to staff and students, learn more about our programs, find out more about enrolments and scholarship.

Should you require more detail on our up coming Expo, contact the school on (07) 5582 7333 or email enrolments@benowashs.eq.edu.au.

I look forward to meeting you on the afternoon.

---

**Can Saver Plus assist you with school costs?**

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniform and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- lockers and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have a regular income from work or your parent(s), such as full-time, part-time, casual or seasonal work, and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Sylvia Constantin in your local Saver Plus Worker:

(07) 5648 9182 / 0421 07 6 021

or sylvia.constantin@benevolent.org.au

Saver Plus was developed with the financial assistance of St. Laurence's Catholic Parish and the Queensland Government.

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**What's on at Nerang Branch Library**

**School Holiday Activities**

Nerang branch library goes wild these school holidays with a range of jungle themed craft activities.

**Book now**

[Link to online booking](http://bit.ly/GCLibrariesEvents)

or by phoning 5581 7180

**Link up to School Benevolent**

**All age Playgroup - 0-5yrs**

Focus on readiness for Prep Nerang State School Playgroup

Wednesday 9.00 to 11.00 am

Located in Science block

Call North Gold Coast Early Years Centre at Nerang for enquirers,

5844 9100

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**Our purpose has never been clearer**

**YEAR 7 EXPO 2017**

**Tuesday 1 March 2016**

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