Welcome to the 2017 school year, one that promises to be another great year for Burrowes State School. Once again Burrowes’ parents have demonstrated their passion and commitment to our school, our students are ready to learn and are in full school uniform. Monday afternoon the school came together to talk about the year ahead and set the expectations for the year. We discussed our school rules:

I am Safe, I am Respectful, I am Responsible and I am a Learner.

We further discussed that Burrowes students are readers and that learning begins at the point of challenge. 

Our school improvement agenda continues to focus on:

Reading                  Numeracy                 Explicit teaching

Our staff were involved in four days of professional development last week in preparation for 2017. On Friday the staff worked with Peter Hayes around working collaborative to get the best outcomes for students.

Education is a team effort where teachers, students and parents all work together. Once again I am appreciative of the support from parents.

Our school vision is:

To create and support successful, positive, lifelong learners, who engage in and respect their education and have pride within their community.

We cannot fulfil this vision by ourselves, we must have the support of all parents and community. If the start of the year is an indication then Burrowes is set for a bright future and I want everyone to be a part of the journey.

The first 8 days of the new school year are paramount to the resourcing, staffing and planning for the year. At the end of last year classes were organized based on the enrolments at that time. We are still waiting for around 20 students on our books to return. I am hopeful that many will return next week however please understand that if we don’t get the numbers then some classes may need to be rearranged. All decisions that I make are to minimize any disruption, classes are settled and have hit the ground running so hopefully we can maintain the status quo. Housing developments on Third Avenue and Second Avenue may impact on our numbers throughout the year once the houses are complete and more people move into our area.

Welcome to three new teachers, Ms Wynne in Year 6, Mrs Tolchard in Year 1 and Ms Burley in Year 2. Welcome to team Burrowes.

I would also like to introduce to you Mr Ewing who joins us from up north in the position of Deputy Principal. Mr Ewing brings with him a wealth of experience and provides our school with the opportunity to provide even more support to teachers, families and students.
Our Deputy Principals this year:
Prep to 2  Mrs Lemon
Year 3 and 4  Mr Weir
Year 5 and 6  Mr Ewing

I would further like to introduce the following key staff members:
Head of Special Education Services  Mrs Leegwater
Head of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning  Mrs Jones
Guidance Officer  Ms Maksoud
Behaviour Support Teacher  Mr Kearney
Community Education Counsellor  Ms Milligan
School Chaplain  Mr Edwards

If you have any issues throughout the year your first port of call is your child’s classroom teacher. If you have further concerns after approaching the classroom teacher then you can contact Mr Ewing, Mr Weir, Mrs Lemon, Mrs Leegwater or myself by contacting the school office on 3802 3333.

We will be holding assemblies each Monday at 2pm starting from next Monday with P to 2 (junior) and then 3 to 6 (senior) on alternative weeks. On these assemblies selected students will receive a behaviour award and Principal's Academic Effort Award. Parents are more than welcome to attend.

A special Leadership Induction Parade will be held on Monday February 13 at 2pm.

Before school and in the afternoon
Students are not to be at school before 8am. Breakfast club begins at 8am and operates Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Staff are on duty in the multipurpose courts for Year 3 to 6 and in the undercover area at the top for Prep to Year 2. Parents are welcome to sit with their children in the tuck shop area only. Teachers need time to prepare for lessons and get organised for the day. Crucial teaching time is between 9am and 3pm. Students are not to be picked up before 3pm unless they have a valid appointment, for example, they need to see a doctor. Pick up time is 3pm. Students who leave early on a regular basis miss out on crucial lessons and in some cases subjects. Students who arrive late need to see the office staff for a late note.

Uniform
Burrowes State School is a uniform school with a current Dress Code. I would like to thank the overwhelming majority of families and students who support our school by wearing the correct uniform. Sometimes life can happen, please talk to your child’s teacher, Deputy Principal or myself if you have a concern or question regarding uniform. I have been approached by several parents who have informed me that black shoes are on their way. Once again thank you for your support.

Our uniform prices have not changed for quite a while and as a consequence many of the items sold in the uniform shop were sold at a loss. The small increase in prices ensures that the uniform shop can remain viable, please be aware that hats are still at their below cost price of $10. They will have to go up to $15 soon. Burrowes has a “No Hat, No Play” policy, students need to look after their hats, ensure that their name is written on the hat under the rim and wear the hat if they wish to access the many great play areas and activities on offer at play time.

Resources
At Burrowes State School we review our book list at the end of every year and attempt to reduce the cost for parents as much as we can. Our book lists are either under or just over the $100 mark. If you haven’t brought your child’s school resources in yet, please attend to this as a matter of urgency. Teachers have started lessons from day one and it is crucial that students have their books etc. Please speak to your child’s teacher or Deputy Principal if you are experiencing difficulties in this area.

Attendance: Every Day counts

Last year our school’s attendance was at 89.5%. As a community we all need to play our part to ensure our attendance rate is up around the Education Queensland target of 95%. Every day counts, students need to be at school unless they have a valid reason.
Welcome back Burrowes State School students, staff, teacher aides, parents and community members to the 2017 school year. My name is Neil Ewing and I am the newly appointed Deputy Principal of the Year 5 and 6 cohorts. I have come down from Normanton North Queensland where I worked as a Deputy Principal at Normanton State School. As this is my first week at Burrowes I have to say that I am pleased with the respect and attitudes of all the students I have meet so far. Students have greeted me with many interesting questions and a smile on their faces. I visited all the Year 5 and 6 classes earlier in the week and noticed students uniform presentation was excellent and they were all ready to start the year with pens, pencils, and workbooks on the desk. I hope to stay at Burrowes for an extended period of time to get to know all the students, parents and community. If anyone would like to see me about any school matters please come to the front counter in the Administration building and ask for Neil Ewing. I look forward to working with all students, parents and community in the future.

Behaviour
Burrowes State School has a high level of behaviour expectations. To support students to make the right choices we have a plethora of support staff and programs. Students are rewarded for their efforts through Gotchas, Principal awards, academic awards, Principal morning teas, butterfly parties just to name a few. This year we are implementing the Burrowes Star program. Mr Kearney has provided more detail regarding this new program later in the newsletter.

P and C
Our first P and C meeting will be held on Monday February 13 at 9am in the school resource centre. We are in a rebuilding phase this year and so I am keen to encourage people who love Burrowes State School, are prepared to volunteer their time and support me and the school to continue the great work that we have begun. If this is you then please come along.

Tuckshop
Our new Tuckshop is up and running with an exciting new menu and convenor. Then tuckshop now runs five days a week, both sessions.

Have a great weekend
Stephen Josey
Principal
And We’re Back….
Welcome back to all of our existing and new families. I trust everyone had a lovely summer holiday break.

For those who don’t know me, my name is Donna Bower and I am the Business Services Manager here at Burrowes State School. My role is to manage the school finances, facilities and all non-teaching staff, so if you have any concerns in relation to school processes regarding administration or business side of things, please do not hesitate to contact me.

UNIFORM SHOP PRICING UPDATE

Unfortunately, after advice from the QCPCA and EQ Regional Finance we had no choice but to increase our uniform shop prices in 2017.

At this stage, we have only increased prices enough to cover manufacturing and delivery costs. Even with this increase the school will make little to no profit through the uniform shop. This price rise is due to increases in manufacturing costs both in Australia and off-shore.

We appreciate the beginning of every school year is always a struggle financially on families, however, it is wonderful to see so many parents continue to support our uniform policy by ensuring the correct uniform is worn. The students all looked fantastic this week – keep it up!!

BOOK CLUB
We send the book club brochures out to students twice a term through their classroom teacher. If you don’t receive one, or misplace it at any time, they are available from the office up until the due date. You are able to order on-line by following the instructions on the brochure. If you would rather pay by cash to the office, please make sure you supply the correct money as we don’t carry a float to give change.

P&C MEETINGS AND FUND-RAISING
If you would like to be involved in assisting our P&C with fund-raising or wish to put forward any ideas for fundraising, please feel free to attend one of our P&C Meetings which are held in the Resource Centre at 9am on the second Monday of every month. The next meeting will be on Monday 13th February for anyone interested. We are also always looking for volunteers to assist in both the Tuckshop and Uniform Shop. All you need to do is apply for a ‘Volunteer Blue Card’ (if you don’t have one) which allows you clearance to be working with children and be able to donate some time to us. The ladies in the office can assist with Blue Card application forms.
Welcome to Music at Burrowes for 2017, we trust that you have had a safe and wonderful holiday.

Music has hit the ground running this year, already we have had 47 students from years 1, 2 and 3 sign up for Junior Choir and 55 students from years 4, 5 and 6 sign up for the Senior Choir.

Junior Choir will rehearse every Friday first break

Senior Choir will rehearse every Tuesday first break

I am currently assessing the year 6 students for 2 Cultural Captain positions for 2017. These students will be involved in representing the school in the area of performing arts.

This decision will be made by week 3.

Next week on Friday at first break, students in senior and junior choir will be invited to audition for Burrowes’ Show choir, they will need to prepare a song in a Capella (without backing).

Have a great week

From Miss Anderson

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Welcome to the new year and with it 2017 brings a new era in the Burrowes Behaviour Room.

We are no longer referred to as the Behaviour and Reward Room (BARR). We will now be known as the Wellbeing and Engagement Centre.

In line with the Burrowes’s vision to create and support successful, positive lifelong learners, who engage in and respect their education and have pride within their community.

**Wellbeing**: The centre has a specific focus on ensuring students have access to a positive calming space to allow them to reflect on their feelings and work through any specific problems they may be experiencing inside and outside of their classroom.

**Engagement**: Following on from the importance of ensuring our students are feeling positive and safe at school we will work towards re-engaging students in their learning as quickly as possible. This may occur in the centre or by the student making the choice to return to their classroom.

When student remain in the room the aim is to keep them learning at their year level and with relevant class work.

**A number of programs will continue this year**.

**X-Roads** is our bike program. Crossroads allows several of our identified students to both engage with staff using a smaller ratio of students to teachers 1:3. Giving students an opportunity to further develop social skills while actively supporting their community.

**Mentoring** in 2017 will once again enable our senior students to engage with junior students in the playground. The program gives senior students opportunities to demonstrate their ability to be leaders while improving the play skills of our younger students.

**Rock and Water** program will be offered to a number of senior classes throughout 2017 as a means to both reduce bullying incidents within the school and as a way of teaching many of our students to become more resilient to the influences of other’s behaviour.

I wish all of our families the best for the year ahead at Burrowes State School and hope it is a positive one.

Mr Jason Kearney

Positive Support Co-Ordinator
Welcome back to another great year at Burrowes to all our returning families. To our new families, a special welcome, and I hope your children have settled well into their new classrooms. If you have any concerns or if you just want to enquire about your child’s progress at school, please make contact with the classroom teacher and arrange for a meeting. Communication between home and school is very important and helps teachers understand your child and their particular needs, so that we can give them the best support throughout each day.

Prep News

**Hearing and sight checks**

Students cannot learn if their eyes and ears are not functioning properly. This year, all Prep students will have their hearing and sight tested at school. Their eyes are checked by a nurse from Queensland Health. Their hearing is screened by specialists from ‘Hear and Say’ and the school funds this service. There is no cost to families for both tests but we must have permission forms signed by parents/carers for both tests. Most families will have signed their hearing testing forms when they enrolled. Sight testing forms were given to parents on the first day of school. Please return these forms as soon as you can and give them to your teacher. If you need to get the forms, please check in with the office. Testing will take place in a few weeks, so we are very eager to get all permission forms signed and returned, as soon as possible.

**Please check**

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Grade 1, Grade 2 News

Our Year One and Year Two students have all settled well into their new classes. They attended their first whole school assembly for 2017 on Monday, sitting quietly and attending to the speakers. On Monday next week (week 2), Preps, Year 1 and Year 2 will attend the Junior Assembly. All parents/carers and family members welcome.

**KDK Kids First**

KDK is a before and after school care and Vacation care, we are located on the school grounds in the school hall. We offer the following

* Homework Club  * Breakfast every morning  * Afternoon Tea every afternoon  * Craft activities  
* Sporting activities  * Life skills  * Incursions  * Excursions  * Music and dance  * Cooking Classes  
* Technology  * Social skills  and much more

We deliver and collect the Preps and Year 1's to and from their class rooms.

We are CCB approved, if you would like a free quote please call our office on 3800 7717 or email burrowes.kdk@hotmail.com

**Before School Care 6am - 8:45am  After School Care 3pm - 6pm  Vacation Care 6am - 6pm**

**School Banking**

Please delivery your child's bank book with their money every Wednesday to the tuckshop by 8:45am

This is a great way to teach your children to save and receive great rewards, each term

For more information please call Karen from KDK on 3803 7717
Welcome to 2017

Hello Burrows SS community. Welcome back to another year, I look forward to the year ahead and believe that it will be one of the best so far!

For those of you who don't know me, I am the school Chaplain at Burrows State School.

What does a chaplain do? I hear you ask…

School chaplains promote social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing through role modelling, mentoring, pastoral care and structured programs.

I love the enthusiasm kids bring to school and to doing life. I am blessed with the privilege of working and supporting the kids through their years in primary school and find being a chaplain an extremely rewarding job.

Upcoming Events

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Clubs continue to run every Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings thanks to our incredible young Volunteers.

Breakfast Club is a free breakfast provided through the chaplaincy service to all the students/staff in the school community.

Lego Club

This term instead of planned lunch time activities (Lunch Club) I will be running a LEGO club in the library twice a week. All students are welcome to attend and get creative!

Monday – 1st Break
Grade 1-3

Wednesday – 2nd Break
Grade 4-6

Get Involved!

We are always looking for Volunteers to assist with running weekly breakfasts.

If that is you please do not hesitate to get in contact with me via the school.
YOU CAN DO IT!!!!

Hello! This week we have started looking at confidence in You Can Do It! Throughout the term we will learn that having confidence is important in helping us to become successful and happy in our lives. We will learn that having confidence is important when we do things such as trying something new or something difficult. These tasks involve us accepting ourselves (our good and not-so-good qualities), taking risks, having an ‘I Can Do It!’ attitude and being independent. Our thoughts can either boost our confidence, (“I can do this if I try”) or destroy our confidence (“I will never be able to do this”).

Our confidence can improve through practice (stand up tall, make eye contact, speak in a clear, loud voice). Positive thoughts and believing in ourselves helps to boost confidence.

Something to say to encourage confidence: “You did not get too upset with yourself for not achieving a good result.”

* Children learn better by watching what you do than by listening to what you say.
* Your adolescent’s moods will swing from time to time – don’t expect to always understand them.


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Burrowes SS School Rule
Week 2 .. I am Respectful..
Being Kind/Caring for My Community

Students will learn the meaning of community and how as a member of a community we need to care for each other.

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P and C Meeting
Monday 13th February
Week 4
Resource Centre - 9am
Everyone Welcome

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Tuckshop News
New 2017 Menu
Price list included in this Newsletter

VOLUNTEERS are NEEDED!!

The tuckshop cannot operate without wonderful volunteers

Please call to find out more.

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KEY DATES TO REMEMBER 2017
TERM 1
Week 2
Monday 30th January
Junior Parade
2.00pm in Hall— Parents welcome.
Week 8
Year 4 to 6 Cross Country
More detail closer to event