FOCUS OF THE WEEK – Be Respectful

SAFE AND HAPPY EASTER BREAK
Students will not attend this Friday 29th March nor Monday 1st April as these are holidays for the Easter period. I hope all families enjoy the break and come back safe and sound next Tuesday for the final two weeks of Term 1.

EASTER HAT PARADE
This Thursday (28th March) students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will be involved in Easter activities in the morning and an Easter Hat parade after recess. Parents are welcome to attend the Hat Parade from 11.20am in the COLA. The P & C Easter Raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the Hat Parade.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION
This week you will receive a letter asking you to contribute to helping us provide the quality of education your child deserves. We receive government funding that allows us to fund a basic education for your child.

Often the funding we receive doesn’t cover the costs we have to run the school. For example there isn’t an allowance for electricity to run the air conditioners in the school. Air conditioning is not a standard part of equipment and was installed by parents and the school for the comfort of students. The cost of maintaining the air conditioners and running them (electricity) is the responsibility of the school community.

Money raised through the voluntary contributions goes directly to providing additional reading and mathematics materials, sporting equipment and technology for use in classrooms. This then allows us to cover other costs such as running the air conditioners.

The voluntary contribution is endorsed by the P & C association.

The contribution this year has been reduced to reflect the additional costs of parents supplying textbooks for students.
First Child - $40
Two Child - $60
Three or more children $70

HARMONY DAY
Last Thursday we held a special assembly for Harmony Day. This year’s theme was “Many Stories – One Australia”. At the assembly representatives from each class spoke about a culture they had studied during the week. Some students shared their story about their cultural background. I spoke to students about the many things we have in common and the many differences. I spoke about accepting those differences and respecting each other’s ‘stories’.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION – DRILL
Last Thursday afternoon we held an emergency evacuation drill as part of our regular processes to ensure the safety of all school users.
Our procedures were all found to be robust with the entire school safely on the back field within a very short space of time.

P & C EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS
Please return your Easter Raffle tickets sold or unsold as the draw takes place on Thursday.
VISIT BY KAREN NICOL, PRINCIPAL OF ERINA HIGH SCHOOL

At last Thursday’s P & C meeting Mrs Karen Nicol presented to the members and guests. Mrs Nicol talked about the focus of Erina High School on providing students with the skills and knowledge to be leaders in the 21st century. She spoke about the wonderful opportunities at EHS and various pathways that students can pursue.

Mrs Nicol also brought along three ex-Brisbane students – Alicia, Cameron and Jayne. It was great to listen to these ex-students explain their journey at Erina High School and the opportunities they have had along the way.

Those present were very impressed by the confidence and clarity of the students who presented. They were also impressed by the passion and vision demonstrated by Mrs Nicol.

Erina High School will hold an open evening on Wednesday 3rd April at 6pm starting in the school hall. Parents and students are welcome to attend.

CHICKEN POX

We have been notified that cases of the virus ‘chicken pox’ have been present in our community. Please make yourself familiar with the signs and symptoms:-

Some symptoms:

- Chickenpox begins with a sudden onset of slight fever, runny nose, feeling generally unwell and a skin rash
- The rash usually begins as small lumps that turn into blisters and then scabs
- The rash appears over three to four days. At any one time, the lesions of the rash vary in stages of development
- Symptoms usually occur two weeks after exposure to the virus

Children that have chicken pox should not attend school for 5 days after the rash appears and when all blisters have crusted.

SYDNEY NTH REPRESENTATIVES

Last week three of our students attended the Sydney North Regional PSSA Swimming Carnival. All three did a great job in representing our school. Their results are listed below. Congratulations to Skye for making three finals and for being the 4th fastest swimmer in a region that covers from the Harbour Bridge to Swansea.

Ashlee 4th in her heat – overall 13th out of 39 girls
Sam 4th in his heat overall 12th – reserve for the final
Skye 4th final of 50m fly
8th final of 50m breast stroke
9th final of 200m Individual Medley

BOYS’ SOFTBALL TEAM

Good luck to our boys’ softball team for this Wednesday when they play Gosford in the first round of the state knockout.

CENTRAL COAST DANCE ENSEMBLE TRY OUTS

Good luck to the six girls selected to try out for the Central Coast dance ensemble on Tuesday.

RUGBY LEAGUE TRIALS –SCCPSSA Zone

Congratulations Lachlan who has been successful in the zone rugby league trials. Lachlan will now trial to be part of the combined Central Coast team and if successful will attend the Sydney North Regional Trials.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL RIBBON ASSEMBLY

We held our ribbon assembly for the swimming carnival last Friday afternoon. Congratulations to all of the students who received ribbons.

COMBINED EASTER SERVICE

Next Wednesday morning our scripture teachers will be holding a combined Easter service for students that attend scripture.
**SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS**

At the beginning of next term staff will be involved in two professional learning days. On Monday 29th April teachers will be involved in work on our Empowering Local Schools project. Teachers will reflect on their own teaching practices, engage with current research and begin planning for visits to other teacher’s classrooms. On Tuesday 30th April teachers will spend time learning about the new English syllabus and planning for the implementation of the syllabus. Students do not attend on these days. Students return on Wednesday 1st May.

**NEWSLETTER COMIC**

This week’s comic comes from Lachlan and Gabe. It is called Super Kindy Kid!

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK/FOLLOW US ON TWITTER (Repeat)**

One of our goals in our three year plan is to phase out paper copies of the school newsletter in favour of a digital version. The first step in this is to establish a Facebook page and a Twitter account so that we can send the link for the newsletter to parents. Parents won’t have to join Facebook or Twitter as the newsletter will still be available on our website. The use of Facebook and Twitter is just a way to send a reminder, to those that use these services, that the newsletter is ready for viewing. Of course if you are not an internet user you will still have the option of receiving a paper copy. During this transition period we will send both the paper copy home to all families and post to our social media sites. In a couple of weeks we will give families the chance to opt out of receiving a paper copy. As we develop our use of social media we will use these services to provide reminders to parents about school events and news.

Please like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.

www.facebook.com/brisbania

@BrisbaniaPS

Mr Burgess
Principal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRINCIPAL’S GOLD BOOK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rosie  KS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liam  KS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleb  K/1T</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isobel  1SF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shaylah 3/4K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holly S 3/4K</td>
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**Band News:** Mr Gallan has been very impressed with the children’s attitude and effort during lessons. He has written some new sheet music for the children and believes when you hear it you will know the tune straight away. Think of it as a challenge. Well-done Brissie band members!

**Reminder:** fees are due next week (week 10). If you have any questions or queries please let me know.

Miss Iles
Easter Chocolate Raffle
The moment we have all been waiting for is nearly upon us....... only four more days until the Easter baskets are raffled at the Easter Hat parade this Thursday 28th March 2013. We are so pleased with the donations of eggs, chocolate and gifts and it has enabled us to create 15 fun-filled baskets. Thank you again to Liza Moulton who has created the chocolaty baskets for us.

Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets at the IGA on Saturday and to the number of keen volunteers who helped sell the tickets. A very special thanks to the many Brisbania students who enthusiastically persuaded the Saratoga shop-keepers to part with their money and buy our raffle tickets. We sold over 100 tickets on Saturday which helped to boost our profits.

P&C Monthly Meeting
We hope everyone who came along to our P&C meeting last week enjoyed the presentation by Karen Nicol, Principal of Erina High School. Karen brought along a number of ex-Brisbania students who shared their experience of high school and gave an enthusiastic and enlightening presentation at our monthly meeting.

Again, it was great to see some new members come along to the meeting - we love to have new ideas and new enthusiasm at our meetings and we hope we can continue to grow our P&C and share the joy of providing great new equipment to our students.

Want to know what we talk about at our meetings? - When finalised, our minutes will now be included on the school website.

Canteen
Thank you to everyone who purchased meals from the canteen last week for Harmony Week and a huge thank you to Paula Egan for her creativity in preparing a world tour of food over the four days. Don't forget to check out Paula's menu. If you don't have a copy, please check out the school website for an up to date list of available options.

Need to know what's in the food? - Paula will be happy to talk to anyone who needs to know the ingredient lists in the food items. Did you realise that Paula prepares and cooks many of the meals available from scratch? She contributes an outstanding service to the school and we are privileged to have a canteen open five days per week. We can only continue to provide our canteen service if you support your canteen, so don't forget to get those lunch-orders in!

BUYING A NEW HOME OR RE-MORTGAGING
Did you know that Newcastle Permanent are offering Brisbania Public School sponsorship from every mortgage they arrange for our community? Telephone Newcastle Permanent on 13 19 87 for a competitive mortgage application; tell them that Brisbania Public School referred you and we will receive $300 deposited into our Newcastle Permanent bank account. Simple, we think so and we hope you think so too!

Thank you again for everyone's recent support, we couldn't do it without you.

Andrea Young
Ph 0458 003 651
andrea.young264@bigpond.com

New Karate Class at Davistown
Ages 6 to 8 years are welcome
(Davistown Progress Hall)
Thursday 4pm to 5pm trainer Mick Barrett
7th Degree Black Belt and founder.

Www.isshogaikarate.com.au
Ph: 4324 3113
K-2 2013
Easter Hat Parade

This year, the K-2 Easter Celebrations will be on Thursday 28th March. All children in the K-2 school will be taking part in Easter fun activities during the morning. After recess, at 11.30am, parents, friends and family are invited to come to our spectacular…….

BRISBANIA EASTER HAT PARADE!

So it is time to start collecting Easter ‘stuff’ to decorate your child’s Easter bonnet or hat. Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 students will need to make and decorate their creations at home. A separate note will come home with some ideas. We hope you can hop along and join the fun!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th March</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade and activities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P &amp; C Easter Raffles Drawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 29th March</td>
<td>Easter Public Holiday (Good Friday) - No School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 1st April</td>
<td>Easter Public Holiday - No school</td>
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<td>Tuesday 9th April</td>
<td>School Disco</td>
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<td>Infants (K-2) 4:30pm - 5:45pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Primary (3-6) 6:00pm - 7:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cost: $3</td>
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<td>Friday 12th April</td>
<td>School ANZAC DAY Service</td>
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<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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DAVISTOWN PROGRESS HALL
TUESDAY NIGHT – 7.00 PM
Fun, laughter, fitness & dance
$10 per class – 10th class free
Contact – Debbie: 0449 992 837
Email: deb.scott@bigpond.com
Website: http://debbiejames.zumba.com/
Kids Zumbatomic classes
in Wyoming area as well!
STAR OF THE WEEK

KD—Harper  KB—Tom
KS—Connor  K/1T—Phoenix
1C—James  1/SF—Emma
1/2H—Billy

ASSEMBLY AWARDS WEEK 8 TERM 1

STAGE 1—Cooper, Aliyah, Jack, Sienna, Ruby, Navadah, Will, Jayda, Allira, Bodhi, Mitchell, Beau, James, Georgina, Thomas, Chelsea, Bailey, Brayden, Isaac & Aimee.

STAGE 2—Abbey, Amber, Aidan, Taylah, Tyler, Baylee, Hayden, Skye, Olivia, Jaden, Holly, Alice, Maxwell, Abbey & Aidin.

NO ASSEMBLY AWARDS THIS WEEK FOR STAGE 3

Home Reader Awards—20 Books

Aaron, Kaitlin, Allira, Bodhi, James, Aimee, Finlay, Finn, Joel, Sammy, Jet, Eva, Wade & Rory.
Davistown RSL Netball Club needs more players!

Has your daughter expressed an interest in playing Netball this Season?

Davistown Netball Club is currently seeking Under 11 & Under 12 Players to boost our teams. All teams have an experienced coach and will be taught the ideals of playing in a team sport. A payment plan for fees and uniforms can be discussed.

If you are interested please call our President Lauren Dixon on 0415 619 393.