Issue 1 February 2015

B.G.S GAZETTE

BRODERICK GILLAWARNA SCHOOL

RELIEVING PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

CALENDAR

16th -26th February

PLP Meetings

3rd March

P & C Meeting

5th March

Year 7 Immunisations

18th March

Cancer Council Parent meeting

1st April

School photos

2nd April

Last Day of School

CONTENTS

Relieving Principal's Update 1
Senior Carroll Snapshot 2
Healthy Lunchbox Session 3
P & C News 3
Assisted School Travel 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first school term in 2015. My name is Wendy Milburn and I'm relieving for Karen McDonell for the year. My substantive position is Principal at Chalmers Road School in Strathfield which is the same type of school as Broderick Gillawarna School. My teaching career has always been in special education as I have a deep passion and commitment for working with students with special needs and their families to assist them in reaching their potential and independence in life.

I have been warmly welcomed by everyone and right from the first day here, I see the wonderful work all staff do to make BGS such a wonderful place. It is clearly evident, that staff, are committed to providing the best education and opportunity for your child or children. I have thoroughly enjoyed already, seeing some amazing teaching, high student engagement and above all, the enthusiasm and motivation provided by teachers and SLSO's in the classrooms.

It's only been 3 weeks and I'm still learning everyone's names and roles (and getting a few wrong!) and don't know every student yet, however the level of activity that is occurring across all stages of the school is highly commendable of a school that has set high standards of expectation and education for your child.

I'd like to invite any interested parents to come to the first P&C meeting for the year on Tuesday 3rd March at 9.30am. This is your child's school and your input into providing the best opportunities for their educational future is encouraged as it is so important. Many activities have already commenced across the school such as swimming, music therapy and Indigenous games. I have met a number of parents already and have been warmly greeted and look forward to meeting many more of you over the next few weeks as you come in for your son and/or daughter's PLP meetings.

Thank you
Wendy Milburn
Relieving Principal



SENIOR CARROLL SNAPSHOT



The students of Senior Carroll 2015 have begun work at school with gusto. We celebrated Australia Day by making our own Australian flags and listening to a Dreamtime Story "Warnayarra the Rainbow Serpent". A large Rainbow serpent on the back wall of the classroom was painted and all students decorated the serpent with red, black and yellow hand prints. We are going to add some more lines and dot

printing to it. In the story the Rainbow Serpent came to the village in a storm cloud and was so powerful it destroyed the village huts, windmills, water tanks and gardens with its powerful tail. Whenever a storm is building, look carefully in the dark clouds for signs that the Rainbow Serpent is returning. We cut strips of coloured foam and glued them onto some black paper. Now we have lots of Rainbow serpents slithering across the walls of our classroom.















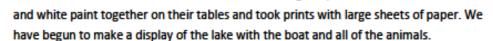






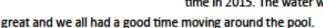
During Literacy sessions we have begun looking at the text "Who Sank the Boat?" This is a story about the animals of Mr Peffer's farm. One by one they climb into a small boat. The cow is the first to get in, followed by the donkey, sheep and pig. The boat was still floating on the water until the tiny little mouse hopped in. All the

animals walked back to the farm wet. We are trying to work out who sank the boat? The students have been placing the animals into the correct order of getting into the boat. We have also been using the animal puppets to try to work out just which animal sank the boat. The students used their hands to mix green, blue





On Tuesday morning all the students in Senior Carroll went swimming for the first time in 2015. The water was



We have begun training for the NSW Boccia championships to be held later in the year. Every year a team from Broderick Gillawarna school compete against a number of other schools, but so far we have not been lucky enough to come first. Maybe 2015 will be our lucky year? On Wednesday we all participated in the Indigenous Games session. There were tunnels to crawl through, stepping stones to walk on and hurdles to step over. We also used the outdoor bowling alley to knock over as many pins as we could. A great time was had by all.

So, as you can see, the students of Senior Carroll have been extremely busy in the first weeks back to school. Keep a look out for the next exciting chapter of Carroll's Class Capers.





to improve the health of your family and save money

Come to our FREE Healthy Lunch Box Session

Date: Wednesday, 18 March

Time: 9am-9:45am

Venue: Broderick Gillawarna School



Eating enough fruit and veg every day can help protect your kids against diseases including some forms of cancer. This popular session run by Cancer Council NSW as part of the *Eat It To Beat It* program will give you:

- New and exciting ideas for healthy lunch boxes your kids will love
- A Show Bag including a great healthy lunch box kit and planner
- Simple ways to get the whole family eating enough fruit & veg

Don't miss out - registration is essential. To book your place please register no later than 13/3/15 by calling or visiting the school front office.

During 2015 we will be evaluating Healthy Lunch Box sessions with the help of researchers from the University of Sydney. Participation in the evaluation is completely voluntary.



P & C NEWS

The Parents & Citizens Committee will be holding their first meeting for 2015.

Date: 3rd March 2015 Time: 9.30 am Where: School Hall

All Parents are welcome



GENERAL INFORMATION PARENT FACT SHEET #1

Assisted School Travel Program



travel needs of their child to role in supporting the safe Parents play an important and from school

Assisted School Travel Program

student must be: transport of their children to and from school. Families who have a child with a families are responsible for the disability may be eligible for transport through the Assisted School Travel Program (ASTP).

The program supports those eligible students who need transport assistance in order to attend school where it is necessitated by the nature of the and circumstances of the family. disability student's

In addition, a student must have parents' who are unable to provide transport to and from school either fully School Student Transport Scheme and Subsidy. Both schemes are managed school will provide information for you Families and schools need to assess a Conveyance by Transport for NSW. Your child's student's travel support needs and explore the suitability of all forms of travel to and from school including the Vehicle

independently.

How do I apply for ASTP? Eligibility criteria for ASTP

Complete Part A of the Application for Assisted School Travel form which is available from the ASTP website ms/astp/index.php and submit it to the school when completed. Schools then complete Part B. To be eligible to apply for ASTP a assessed as having an identified ŧ, and Communities' Disability Criteria May

according to Department of Education

disability

If you are unable to transport your child to and from school, supporting documentation may be required and should accompany the application.

NSN

government or non-government

school and

appropriate

closest

a NSW resident and enrolled in the

2003 and

Who approves applications and organises ASTP?

enrolled in a special school or

class or an early intervention program or require high purposes if enrolled in mainstream assessed as unable to travel

support eve

Where possible, ASTP will do this The school lodges your application for within seven working days and you will assessment and processing by ASTP. be advised in writing of the outcome.

mobility

for

assistance

child. Before transport commences the regarding pick up and drop off times to If travel is approved, ASTP will organise the transport arrangements for your will contact contractor/driver



What are my

parent?

complete a Variation to Approved Travel Arrangements form where there is a change of residential address, a change to school attendance times or a request

for transport to respite services.

Inform the school. The school will

What happens if I move?

Parents play an important role in supporting the safe travel needs of their child to and from school. To assist parents are responsible for: Parents play an important role

9 the school in the application providing accurate information process

ō

temporary. For permanent variations Part A of the Application for Assisted School Requests for temporary variations can only be supported if there is an existing transport service available. Your school will advise if any additional information is

Variations may be permanent

Travel is also completed by parents.

- and place
- assisting or lifting your child in and out of the vehicle. Drivers may

What additional supports

are available?

- ensuring your child is safely seated with seatbelts fastened and
- providing appropriate seating and loose equipment stored away

you, will complete a Change Request

form when this occurs.

Sometimes a child's travel support needs change. The school, in consultation with

- other equipment as specified in the to be consumed in vehicle without child's travel plan (no food or drink
- child is not attending school on a

and/or medical issues. ATSOs provide a

high level of supervision during travel.

with additional needs due to behavioural

An Assisted Travel Support Officer (ATSO) can be requested for students

your circumstances change or if you have any concerns about transport. notifying the school and ASTP

> ATSOs and drivers are made aware of a will follow strategies listed in the child's

Parents and schools should ensure that child's specific needs for travel. ATSOs travel support plan developed by the

screening of travel staff **ASTP** responsibilities

screening to meet child protection requirements. Runs are required to have relief drivers/ATSOs to cover absences. All drivers/ATSOs are also screened prior to employment. Please ask to see identification if you of unfamiliar travel staff. All vehicles contracted for the ASTP must meet safety standards set by Transport for have any concerns about the identity



responsibilities as a

- ensuring your child is ready to meet the transport at the specified time
- being present to meet the vehicle at the pick-up/drop-off point 15 minutes either side of the arranged
 - assist with wheelchairs
- a
- authorisation of ASTP)
- notifying the contractor/driver if your particular day

All drivers and ATSOs undergo

Please note that ATSOs and drivers are

not allowed to administer medication

without the authorisation of ASTP.

transport cannot commence unless an

ATSO is present in the vehicle.

school. If a child requires an ATSO

NSW Roads and Maritime Services.



services is not approved? application for ASTP What can I do if my

and parents can then seek advice from ASTP. Parents may lodge an appeal to should be sent along with this form. The Appeals Panel meets once a month and you will be advised in writing of the application was not approved. Schools ASTP using the Appeals Panel Request form. Additional supporting information Contact the school in the first instance to discuss the reasons as to why your appeal outcome.

Where can I find further

The ASTP website contains information how to apply and all the necessary about the program, the eligibility criteria,

http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/students

upport/programs/astp/

If you have any questions or concerns relating to applications, ATSOs, drivers 8:00am to 5:00pm on 1300 338 278 or please contact your school or ASTP staff for assistance Monday to Friday or travel arrangements for your child, ASTP email

parents.astp@det.nsw.edu.au

.NSW.EDU.AU Reference in this document to "parent" includes a guardian, carer or other person having the parental responsibility or care of the student