Lyn’s lines

We have reached the time in our school year when we turn some of our attention towards the election of school leaders for 2014. This week I have had the honour of listening to the speeches prepared by our senior students in their quest to become school leaders.

All of our grade 6 students are leaders in many ways, being fantastic role models for our younger students, ever reliable and responsible. So much thought and effort had been put into ‘What makes a great Leader’ from all the nominated students and it was interesting to note what they perceived the necessary characteristics of leaders are.

At Bittern Primary School we continually focus on qualities that are important to develop in ourselves, notably: respect, responsibility, resilience and strong relationships. As role models, our student leaders act with care, courtesy and reliability. They show empathy towards others and act as good friends would, they use manners and basic good grace when dealing with other students and adults. Others are treated fairly and honestly while keeping their dignity intact. They show self-discipline and control of their feelings and actions.

Students in the leadership team are given the opportunity to attend a leadership conference in the city on how to become a student leader and build the following attributes: responsibility, reliability and trustworthiness; friendliness and acting like a good friend should; they learn how to work well with others and get the job done; all the while being positive and enthusiastic. The core values presented at the conference are similar to the values and beliefs that we instil in our students at Bittern Primary.

GENEROSITY
Willingness to use what you have been given (time and resources) on behalf of those you seek to influence.

RESPONSIBILITY
We all have a responsibility to develop what we have and help others to live well.

INTEGRITY
A commitment to: truth and honesty in dealings.

PEOPLE
Every human being is of great significance, and has a purpose to fulfil.

BITTERN LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR 2014
School Captains:
- Hollee Gray
- Ethan Andrew

Jackson School Leaders:
- Max Piotrowski
- Cody Bowman

Thorpe:
- Ella Andrew
- Caitlyn Gillon

Bradman:
- Jessica Giblin
- Lily Milsom

Freeman:
- Tyler Lillywhite
- Cassie Kaye

The following are the speeches from our 2014 school captains:

“As most of you know my name is Hollee Gray. I would like to become school captain because I believe that I will make the most of a great opportunity. By that I mean I will help the school in any way I can. I’m very proud when I have to represent our school and I’m always willing to give everything a go. If I do become school captain that’s the message I will put out there. Just give it your best shot in anything. I will always be ready to fill in if someone is not feeling the best.

Bittern Primary is a great little school with a big community. All we kids know each other and all the teachers know us. In another way everyone knows everyone and I think that’s what is so great about Bittern Primary. I have been a student here since
Prep and I have enjoyed coming to school every day. Lastly, for all of you who know my brother Caleb, who has achieved so much, I would really like to become school captain because he never was. It will probably be the only thing that I will always have over him!!! Thank you for listening.”

“Good afternoon as most you already know my name is Ethan, I have attended Bittern Primary School since grade prep.
I think I would be a good candidate because I’m helpful, kind and caring towards my peers, other students, teachers and school staff.
I’m responsible, honest, well behaved and hard working.
I like to participate in sporting events in and out of school.
I always try my hardest and encourage my teammates.
Last year I took on the responsibility of having a prep buddy. I really enjoyed spending time, guiding them and being a good role model.
I am proud to be a part of Bittern Primary School and I am proud to represent it, in and out of school.
These are some of the reasons why I think I would be a good school leader.
Thanks for listening.”

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL
Our school also has a vibrant and enthusiastic Junior School Council made up of elected representatives from each class. Elections for the JSC will be held during the next week or two. The council meets regularly to discuss issues of importance to the children of our school including fundraising for social service. Children in our JSC also learn about how meetings are conducted, discussing issues and the process of voting to make a collective decision. Members of our JSC wear a badge which informs every one of the important role they hold in our school.
We look forward to the contribution that these upstanding students will further enhance the Bittern Primary School and the wider community.

PLEASE NOTE:
The Leadership team will be introduced to the students and parents at the whole school assembly this Friday, the formal badge ceremony will be held at a later date.

INFORMATION NIGHTS
Next week there will be information nights for parents to find out about the expectations, programs, routines and coming events for their children’s individual classrooms.
Grades 1, 2 & 3, Mrs Towill, Mrs Owen & Mr Durrington will be held on Monday Feb 17th at 6.30 – 7.30 in Mr. Durrington’s room.
Grades 3,4,5 & 6, Mrs Lee, Miss Lewry & Mrs Laidlaw will be held on Tuesday Feb 18th at 6.30 – 7.30 in the Australia building.
The Prep reading information night is Tuesday the 25th of Feb at 6.30 in the Prep room.
See the flyer attached to place on the fridge as a reminder.

DOGS
We all love our dogs as their love is unconditional however we must be aware that some students are at eye level with some dogs which can be frightening. As a responsible pet owner it is expected that dogs are on leads and are behaving in an acceptable manner. Thanks for your understanding.

CAR PARKING
Parking is an issue at all schools and can be more than frustrating at times. Please note that the paths and driveways are not car parks and should be kept free for pedestrians. Last week junior students had to use the road to go around the parked cars. Safety of our students is paramount and strict adherence to the parking rules is not negotiable!

CALENDAR DATES:-

February:

- Fri 14th District Tennis
- Mon 17th Grades 1-3 Information Night
- Tues 18th School Council Meeting @ 6:00pm
- Tues 18th Grades 3-6 Information Night
- Fri 21st 3/4 Camp deposit due
- Fri 21st Buddy afternoon tea @3:00pm (NO small assemblies)
- Sat 22nd Western Port Festival Parade
- Mon 24th Twilight Swimming Carnival
- Tues 25th Prep Reading Information
- Thurs 27th District Swimming Carnival
- Fri 28th Curriculum Day – No Students
Please **do not** park in the school car park.

It is dangerous. Children are not allowed to be in the car park at any time. Please do not walk your children through the car park either. Please park at the front or back of the school. If there is no space when you arrive please drive around the block and wait for a space. Our car park clears very quickly so please be patient. It is a good idea to organise a meeting place with your child so that they know where to wait for a few moments if you are held up getting a car park.

**Attention! Attention!**

ALL Visitors and volunteers to the school are required for **health and safety** reasons to **sign-in** and **out** at the **office** please.

**EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE**

If you have not yet applied for the 2014 EMA, please call into the school office as soon as possible to collect an application form. Applications close 28\(^{th}\) February and **NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

To be eligible you must have a Centrelink Card valid as at 28\(^{th}\) January, 2014. If you are unsure of your eligibility, please bring your centrelink card into the office, or telephone the school.

Thank you

**Fundraising Committee Meeting**

We will be having our first meeting of the year:

**When:** Thursday the 13\(^{th}\) of February

**Where:** Staff room

**Time:** 9:00am

This year we have many exciting events planned including our Spring Food Festival. Our aim is to continue to support programmes such as the Kitchen / Garden.

**We are always after new ideas and support, so new members are more than welcome!!!!!!**

Parent payments can now be made using **BPAY** (Telephone and Internet Banking)

Call your bank, Credit union or Building society to make family payments from your cheque, savings or credit card account.

We hope that this service will make paying for school fees, camps, and excursions easier and more convenient than ever before. Please only use **BPAY** for items **$10 and over.**

**Our BPAY Biller Code** and your **reference number** are on the bottom of the statements you receive from us.

There are a few things to keep in mind though....

When making a payment to us through BPAY please:

- remember to return the remittance advice/excursion permission form to school the following day with your BPAY receipt number on it to ensure that your payment is allocated to the correct charge;

**We are unable** to accept BPAY payments for:

- fundraising activities, lunch orders or Book Club orders

Please ask at the office if you would like any further information.

**EFTPOS:** available at the school office.

You can pay curriculum related charges (e.g. school fees, camps and excursions,) with your debit or credit card over the counter.

There is a **$10.00 minimum. Unfortunately we cannot take payments over the telephone.**
New season starting soon

**Free Training:** Monday’s 5-5.30
Held at Bittern memorial centre, Henderson’s rd Bittern
For further details Call:
Adrian Bricknell: Home : 5983 8614 Mobile : 0425874664
Adrianselectrics1@gmail.com

**HOT DOGS!!**
Hot dogs will be available this Friday, at a cost of $2.50.
If you would like your child/ren to purchase a hot dog, please complete the order form and return it to school this Friday, together with the correct money.

**PLEASE NOTE – THE CANTEEN IS NOT OPEN ON HOT DOG DAY**

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**HOT DOG ORDER FORM**

I would like to order _____ hot dogs @$2.50
NAME: ___________________ GRADE: ____
Please find enclosed $________________

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**CRIP POINT JUNIOR NETBALL REGISTRATION DAY**
**THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2014**
**4.15 – 5.00PM**
Crib Point Football Netball Club are looking for junior netball players for the 2014 Saturday morning competition.
Beginners, 9 & under, 10 & under, 11 & under, 12 & under, 13 & under, 15 & under and 17 & under.
We will also be offering a NetSetGO! Program in 2014
New players most welcome.
Enquiries to Jane on 0417 591 890 or visit our Facebook page (Crib Point Junior Netball)

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**HOT DOG ORDER FORM**

I would like to order _____ hot dogs @$2.50
NAME: ___________________ GRADE: ____
Please find enclosed $________________
INFORMATION NIGHTS AT BITTERN PRIMARY SCHOOL

This is a great opportunity for parents to have all their questions answered about their child’s schooling for 2014!

Expectations, curriculum, student welfare, routines, and other processes will be clarified during this time.

Students in Mrs. Towill, Mr. Durrington and Mrs. Owen’s grades:

WHEN: Monday 17th Feb
TIME: 6.30 – 7.30
WHERE: Mr. Durrington’s classroom

Students in Mrs. Laidlaw, Mrs. Lee and Miss Lewry’s grades:

WHEN: Tuesday 18th Feb
TIME: 6.30-7.30
WHERE: Australia Building

Prep reading Information night

WHEN: Tuesday 25th Feb
TIME: 6.30-7.30
WHERE: Prep room

Hope to see you there!!

Please note that the purpose of the night is to provide general classroom information and is not a parent teacher interview. If you would like to speak to your child’s teacher individually please feel free to make an appointment at a time suitable to both yourself and the teacher.