From the Principal’s Desk

It was a privilege to spend all day last Tuesday with our twenty three student leaders at a student leadership conference held at the Perth Convention Centre. Parents assisted in transporting us to the Murdoch train station and from there we caught the train to the Convention Centre. Along with 1, 300 other students, from both public and private schools, our Burrendah students participated in a range of activities designed to motivate, inform and encourage them in their work as student leaders.

Once again, Mr Bradshaw and I were so very proud of how our student leaders conducted themselves and the way they mixed with the other students and enthusiastically participated in the activities. When we met with the leaders the following day, we were impressed with how much of the information they had retained and how keen they were to put into practice what they had learned. Some of the key messages included ‘seeing the opportunities to help others’, ‘taking action’ and being ‘generous with their time, treasure and talents’.

We are encouraging our student leaders to show initiative in their role and not to rely on teachers or the principal to ask them to take on responsibility. One of the ways we are encouraging our leaders to show initiative is providing the opportunity to lead and run the faction assembly held on Friday mornings when we don’t have a community assembly. These assemblies are informal gatherings where the children come to the undercover area and sit in their factions mixing with students from different ages. Four faction captains from two different factions meet in the week prior to the assembly to collaboratively plan the assembly outline. The students decide on the area of focus for discussion and activities based on their observations, confirm which staff wish to speak at the assembly and with Mrs Graham’s help make arrangements for music and items. These assemblies are a chance for our leaders and our students to take some risks and to speak in public to their peers in a very supportive environment without the pressure of having an adult audience. For this reason we ask parents not to stay for these assemblies so we can keep the informal nature of these assemblies and allow all students to gain confidence in performance and public speaking. Of course we welcome all parents, family and friends to our community assemblies where the children prepare well in advance for their performance and speaking responsibilities.

Our next community assembly is Friday 20th March and it is a very special Harmony Day assembly. I do hope you can join us as we celebrate our cultural differences and take this opportunity to acknowledge the way our Burrendah school community embraces our many different cultures and celebrates the richness each individual and family brings to our school.

Jayne Ebsworthy
12th March 2015
Sustainability

Through the combined endeavour of both classroom practice and our Art program, we are now the proud owners of a Worm Farm. Towards the end of 2014, students entered a competition through ABC Splash. Submissions of student work involving Sustainability and Recycling were entered.

Year 4 students working with Mrs Paxton entered their Plastic Bottle Greenhouse and Year 2 students working with Mrs Eitzen in the Art program entered images of their Recycled Sculpture of Marli The Nesting Swan. Our entries in the ABC Splash Recycle It competition won first prize and our new worm farm is up and running.

You will notice posters around the school asking you to save any worm food left over from your lunch or recess to feed the worms. Please check the posters to make sure the worms get suitable “goodies” to eat!

Miss Marlow’s pre primary class regularly give the worms some tasty treats.
News from the Science Lab

Last week we were very lucky to have a very generous donation made to the science lab. Mrs Chere Blight who retired last year still has learning opportunities for Burrendah students as something she highly values. She has given us an amazing rock collection so that all students in our school can learn more about rocks and minerals found in Australia. All students have been keen to see the collection and are enthused about future studies in geology later this year. On behalf of all Burrendah students ... Thank you Mrs Blight.

We have had some new arrivals in the science lab as part of our life and living topic this term. Hermit crabs have now moved into the science lab. We welcome Sandy, Hermie, Crabbie, Snippy and Hamish (names selected by Mrs Mc Cubbin's PP/1 class). Holding a hermit crab has provided a new and exciting experience for many students.

This week our Garden Club started work preparing our garden beds for planting early next term. Everyone enjoyed getting started in the gardens and enthusiasm was plentiful during discussion about the types of crops we will plant. Thanks to the Mums who have volunteered to assist with planting and garden maintenance next term.

Sherryl Crouch
Science Specialist
MUSIC UPDATE

SENIOR CHOIR SOLO AUDITIONS: Students who are intending to audition for a choral solo at this year’s ANZAC assembly will need to pick up a CD to practice with. This will be available tomorrow (Friday) in the Music Room and can be found in the Senior Choir tray.

Solo auditions will be next Friday 20th March in the Music Room during lunchtime. GOOD LUCK and please prepare carefully.

JOINING SENIOR OR JUNIOR CHOIR: The lists of students participating in our choirs this year have now been finalised. This means that students on the choir lists have now made a commitment to choir for the rest of the year. This also means that we will no longer be accepting any new student into choir. Students coming and going from choir depletes the quality of our rehearsals and performances.

CONGRATULATIONS to Steve Kim Year 6 who has successfully auditioned to earn the role as our piano accompanist for our ensembles this year. Steve gave a very clean and well prepared audition. Steve will be asked to accompany the Burrendah String Orchestra, String Ensemble and sometimes choir.

ORCHESTRA ATTENDANCE: A Reminder that it is compulsory for all violin and cello students from years 5 – 6 to attend orchestra rehearsals (Wednesday 7:30am – 8:30am). It is a requirement from the School of Instrumental Music that students attend the relevant ensemble rehearsals where it is appropriate. SIM provides a specialist string teacher to direct the orchestra at Burrendah as it plays an integral part in the child’s learning of their instrument. Orchestra rehearsals are compulsory even if you are a year 6 and attending the Chamber Ensemble on a Monday morning.

HARMONY DAY ASSEMBLY: Next Friday is our Harmony Day Assembly. All students from Pre Primary to Year six have been asked to do a little bit of practice on WE ARE ONE/ I AM AUSTRALIAN. We have been practicing in class music and all students have been given the lyrics to take home. It is also very important that all students are able to sing the School Song and both verses of the National Anthem at assemblies. The lyrics to these songs can be found in the Music Section of our School Website.

GUITAR ENSEMBLE AFTER SCHOOL: Matt Keesing runs a contemporary guitar ensemble in the Music Room on a Monday after school from 3:15pm – 4:15pm. Anyone can join as long as you are receiving formal lessons and have been learning guitar for at least one year. You also require your own instrument. Due to Mr Keesing running his business privately at the school, there is a fee of $12 per class. The class will run on the condition that there are enough numbers to form an ensemble. For further details and enrolments please contact Matt Keesing at mattkeesing@hotmail.com.

Matt also gives private guitar lessons after school in the music room.

Kate Graham
Music Specialist
Art Blast

We are all enjoying our new Art environment in what we have affectionately named ‘The Nest’

Thank you to the group of parents and community members who gathered for our first of many planned afternoon tea arts meetings – it was a wonderful opportunity to have a look around the new facilities and discuss upcoming events on our Arts Calendar at Burrendah Primary School.

Students have been busy creating beautiful Asian inspired banners celebrating Chinese New Year. We look forward to this space being a constant display of wonderful artwork throughout the year – so keep an eye out for upcoming displays for ANZAC day commemorations.

Currently students have been working with Mentor Artist Stella Onderwater as part of Sculpture Walk 2015. Students are learning the process of casting small shapes using hand-made moulds and plaster – these shapes are an integral part of our student submission into the School Sculpture award category. Our inaugural entry in 2014 with yr2’s creating Marli, The Nesting Swan was awarded joint 1st prize with Melville SHS.

Please make the trip down to Deep Water Point, the Esplanade, Mount Pleasant 27th March – 12 April to view amazing artworks in a picturesque location.

Whole School Mosaic Workshops. Pre-primary – Year 6 students are being guided through the process of creating Wildflower mandalas which will be incorporated into a collaborative artwork featured on a limestone seating area.

Danielle Eitzen
Visual Art Specialist
Culture Club has started again in 2015! The purpose of the Club is to give students an insight into aspects of a particular country’s culture, including art, music, dance, food, dress, etc. Students in Years 2 - 6 have been invited to express their interest to join the Club. As numbers are limited, not all students will be able to join the Club this term, but will be considered again next term. Students are selected by their class teacher because they have shown clear understanding of our School’s Core Values.

Chinese Culture

This term Culture Club will focus on Chinese culture, and other cultures in terms 2, 3 and 4. During our first Culture Club, students learned about craft activities for Chinese New Year.

Chinese New Year is a traditional and very important Chinese holiday. It was originally a festival to honour ancestors. It is also known as the Spring Festival, which is the translation from the Chinese name. Chinese New Year is celebrated in countries that have high populations of Chinese people, including Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Indonesia and Australia, to name a few. In the Chinese calendar 2015 is the year 4712, and the Year of the Goat or Ram or Sheep.

At Culture Club students made Chinese paper lanterns, origami fish and decorated red packets. Several parents shared their expertise with the students, and Mrs Tan wore her beautiful Cheongsam, a traditional Chinese dress. We really appreciate parents coming to Culture Club and sharing their ideas and talents with the students! If there are other parents who would be interested in helping at Culture Club, I would love to hear from you!

Term 1 Culture Club dates: 13th March; 27th March.

Margot Evans (EAL Teacher)
OUT OF SCHOOL STAR

Congratulations to the following Burrendah students who have been selected in the Calisthenics Association of Western Australia’s Sub Junior State Team 2015.

- Olivia Gibson
- Saya Jackson

The girls will be competing at the Australian Calisthenics Federation 27th National Championships to be hosted by Queensland at the Gold Coast Arts Centre, Surfers Paradise from 8th—11th July 2015.

We wish the girls and their team all the very best.

Survey Response: There is a need for both before school and after school care at Burrendah Primary.

Mrs Ebsworthy’s Response: I have been approached by a number of before/after school care organisations and I have met with these people. Unfortunately at this stage we do not have room to have a before or after school care facility on site, as the space and facilities they require cannot be accommodated while we have such large numbers of students enrolled. The space and storage areas these organisations require is significant, considering the large numbers a before/after school centre on our site could attract. Each classroom at Burrendah is being used and additional areas like the hall are needed for ‘before and after school’ school events such as music groups. I understand that before and after school care is a very significant issue for working families, however, I trust the parent community can appreciate the demands on our school site and that our priority is to provide quality learning programs for our students throughout the school day.

As referred to in our last school newsletter and as recommended by our School Board our Principal will be responding to comments and questions from our 2014 Parent Survey.
BOOK CLUB AND BOOK FAIR NEWS

Last year our book club was supported by the whole school community and on behalf of the book club team we would like to say thank you very much. Our total sales figures for 2014 were $12,681.00 which credited our school readers and library with $2,761.00 worth of books. In addition to the book club our team hosted two Book Fairs. The two Book Fairs sales total were $7804.95. This gave the school another $2830.00 worth of books for the library. So in summary our school received $5591.00 worth of books. An amazing effort by the school community so thank you again. I would also like to thank Diana White and Teo Stuart-Smith for their wonderful support during 2014 and continued support this year. If you would like to be a member of our book club or help at a Book Fair please call Deb Brown on 0414 974 646 or email burrendahbookclub@gmail.com.

Issue 2 of our book club has now closed. Scholastic Australia now has a new ordering called LOOP. This allows all Burrendah Primary School families to place their orders online and pay by cash, cheque (Scholastic Australia) or credit card. All orders will then be delivered by our book club team to your child. Please provide the child’s name and class number. Further details are listed on the back page of your book club catalogue, on the Scholastic Australia website (scholastic.com.au/LOOP) or download their app.

Our first book fair for 2015 is coming up next week. Starting after school on Tuesday 17th March until after school on Monday 23rd March 2015. We will also be having a very special guest visiting our school so keep your eyes peeled.

Thank you again to the whole school community and our book club team will be looking forward to seeing you at our book fair next week.

EAL Parent Group
Friday 13th March
All parents are invited to EAL Parent Group 9.00 am Friday 13th March
Come and find out “Who are Matilda and the Jolly Swagman?” We encourage you to bring a friend along to join us. We look forward to seeing you tomorrow in the EAL room.

REDS MINKEY HOCKEY
Registration is on this Saturday for Minkey (PP - Yr4) from 11am till 2pm at Trevor Gribble Reserve. Alternatively, you can register at www.reds.com.au and use the Online Registration link. Games are played on a Saturday morning.
If your child is Yr5 or older and wants to play, please contact the club as those teams are currently being finalised.
For more information, please visit www.reds.com.au or email juniors@reds.com.au or minkey@reds.com.au

Diary Dates

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>17-23 March</td>
<td>Book Fair</td>
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<td>18th March</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival Yrs 4-6</td>
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<td>20th March</td>
<td>Community Assembly Rms 22 &amp; 23</td>
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<td>26th March</td>
<td>Yr s 5 &amp; 6 Interschool Carnival</td>
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<td>2nd April</td>
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My name is David Cherry and I have been elected as the P&C President for 2015. This is my 10th year of involvement with Burrendah PS and my first as P&C President. I am passionate about the Burrendah community and fully embrace its multi-cultural diversity. I feel that it is very rewarding to bring Burrendah people together to achieve goals for the school. In my opinion the school has never been better and as part of the P&C I am excited about supporting Burrendah Primary School as best as we can. I look forward to seeing you at the next P&C meeting Monday 30th March from 7 pm in the school hall.

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