From the Principal's Desk

How wonderful to see so many parents keen to learn more about our school and find out about classroom routines and practices. Over 50 parents new to our school joined me last week for an information session and this week we have seen a large group of EAL parents join our EAL staff for a morning tea. Classrooms have been full of parents keen to hear from their classroom teachers at our parent teacher meetings which have been held over three evenings this week, I thank parents for taking the time to attend these meetings. I am keen to meet with more parents at our Parents and Citizens Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 24th February at 7pm in our school hall. Your children benefit greatly from your active involvement and interest in our school.

We currently have 550 students enrolled from Kindergarten to Year 6 and we have 24 classes. This is approximately 100 less students than we had enrolled at the end of last year, due to our Year 7 students now attending high school and a number of other families moving out of the local area. With the reduction in student numbers we have been able to provide classroom space for specialist and support teachers who have previously operated in very restricted work areas. The teachers involved are enjoying their new space!

This year we welcome three new teachers and two new Education Assistants. Mr Gardin and Miss Fairclough have year three classes and Mr Giles is taking a year five class. Mrs Debra Del Rosario and Mrs Sonal Gupta are Education Assistants who will be supporting Pre Primary students in Room 16 B. We extend a very warm welcome to these staff. I wish to acknowledge and thank my staff for their work to ensure our 2015 school year has started smoothly.

This is a short nine week term and we have a lot happening. Parents are encouraged to refer to the calendar on the website www.burrendahps.wa.edu.au and also the attached term planner to ensure you are well aware of what is happening in our busy school.

Year 6 students will be away for three days at Point Walter for their annual camp where they will be challenged and motivated by activities and experiences that will build their capacity to work as a team and provide an opportunity to get to know each other and their teachers. Thank you to my staff for their willingness to prepare for this camp and work 24/7 over these three days.

I look forward to your continued involvement and communication with our school and I invite you to attend our World Vision concert next Monday 16th February at 11.05 in the undercover area.

Jayne Ebsworthy
12th February 2015
News from the Science Lab

This term students will be focussing on Life and Living in the ocean and Sustainability. We have taken advantage of the clear sunny skies this week to investigate the use of solar power for cooking. Students have made their own mini solar cookers to cook up some delicious apple. We have also been able to use a large solar cooker to harness the sun’s energy with some classes cooking cookies.

Seeking assistance to enhance our student learning in science:
Science as a Human Endeavour is also an important aspect of the Science program. This strand highlights the development of science as a unique way of knowing and doing, and the role of science in contemporary decision-making and problem solving. It also recognises that science advances through the contributions of many different people from different cultures and that there are many rewarding science-based career paths.
If you have a science -based occupation, some spare time and a desire to share your knowledge with our students, I would love to hear from you.
I am also looking for some keen gardeners with some spare time to assist with the planting of our vegetable crops for this year as well as assisting with the maintenance of the vegetable garden.
If you are able to assist in any way please contact me either at school or by email sherryl.crouch@education.wa.edu.au

Mrs Sherryl Crouch
Science Specialist Teacher
Welcome to music at Burrendah for 2015.

Our choirs and ensembles will start next week (WK 3). All you have to do in order to join is turn up to the first rehearsal. String Orchestra started this week and students were notified on the first week of school.

**Yr 6 Chamber String Ensemble** will begin on Monday 16th Feb. in the Music Room at 7:45 am. All String players from Year 6 are welcome to attend. Students that learn a string instrument outside school are more than welcome to join us provided that they have been learning their instrument for a couple of years.

**Senior Choir** is for students from years 4 – 6 and will begin on Tuesday 17th Feb in the Music Room at 7:45 am. All students from these year groups are welcome.

**String Orchestra is compulsory** for students from years 5-6 who are learning a string instrument at school. Rehearsals began Wednesday 11th Feb at 7:30am in the Hall. Year 4 violin students will also be participating in orchestra this year however, they will not be required to attend until they receive an invite from their instrumental teacher. Students that learn a string instrument outside school are more than welcome to join us provided that they have been learning their instrument for a couple of years.

**Junior Choir** is for students from years 1 – 3 and will begin on Thursday 18th Feb in the Music Room at 7:45 am. All students from these year groups are welcome.

**Instrumental hire of SIM instruments** – students starting instrumental lessons this year will already know if they are eligible to hire their instrument from the School of Instrumental Music Program. If you are wanting to hire an instrument for your child the school requires the payment of a yearly hire fee of $110 to the front office as soon as possible. Payment must be made and recorded at the front office before we can allow a child to take an instrument home. Once payment has been made, it is up to the instrumental teacher as to when they will hand out instruments to take home.

**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
Next Monday 16th February at 11.05 am we are very fortunate to have a concert event happening in our undercover area. At very short notice we have been informed that to acknowledge our school’s efforts in recent years in raising awareness of the ‘world hunger crisis’ and for raising much needed funds to address this crisis, World Vision has arranged for a musician Levi Mcgrath to perform for us. Levi is here to support four-time Grammy Award-winning THIRD DAY who is coming to Australia as part of World Vision’s Make A Difference Tour. These artists have been involved with World Vision for more than a decade and have a real passion for encouraging young people to think of others and consider social justice issues.

We have recently been presented with an award to acknowledge we were the second highest primary school fundraiser for last year’s World Vision 40 Hour Famine. So to kick start our fundraising for 2015 we are asking students to bring a gold coin donation on Monday to support the work of World Vision and acknowledge the generosity of Levi McGrath who is performing at our school at no cost. You are invited to attend the concert as together as a community we acknowledge how blessed we are to live in Australia and have plentiful supplies of food and fresh drinking water.

The Burrendah P&C Association would like to welcome all children, parents, teachers and staff to another new year at Burrendah Primary School. It is great to see so many new students, families and staff members joining our lovely school and we wish you all a very enjoyable and enriching school year.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Tuesday 24th February at 7 pm in the School Hall.

The AGM will focus on the election of office bearers and operational matters that are set in place for the year. At the conclusion of the meeting a light supper and refreshments will be provided.

As required by our Constitution, official positions will be declared vacant, nomination called for, and a vote held if needed. These positions are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Three Executive Members

The 2015 P&C will also be needing many people to fill various roles within the P&C.

Please Join Us

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**ENGLISH ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE**

Welcome to all our new families and welcome back to all our existing families. It was lovely to see so many new faces at our New Parent Meeting last Thursday. We really value the rich cultural diversity that thrives at Burrendah.

Yesterday, we welcomed our EAL families at a special Morning Tea. Thank you to all the parents who brought food from their culture to share. It was a lovely time to catch up with existing friends and also to make new friends.

We addressed key issues such as how the EAL Program works and which students it targets. We invited parents to become involved in the school through offering their time to share their culture and their talents. If any parent is willing to offer some time to help in the school, please come and see Chris, Beatriz or Margot in the EAL Room.

Please remember that we have an open door policy and are here to support you, as well as your children. We look forward to another year of working together.

Here are some important dates to remember:

**Parent Network Groups:** Friday’s February 27, March 13, March 27

**Harmony Day:** March 20 – Assembly with students wearing cultural dress, and family picnic at lunchtime.

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**Burrendah Primary School 1976 - 2016**

Yes next year is our 40 year anniversary and we need your help.

We need:

* Parents wishing to be on a committee to plan for this celebration. Please email Jayne.ebsworthy@education.wa.edu.au
* Parents who attended the school or know of people who have attended and have photos and memorabilia to share. Please bring your photos etc to the front office and we will scan and return to you.
* Parents prepared to do some research and gather contacts of people over one 10 year period. Please email Jayne.ebsworthy@education.wa.edu.au

Please help us make this a very special year. We need your help now as events such as these take time to prepare for.

With thanks
Jayne Ebsworthy
Welcome to
Computer Club 2015

Computer Club will be on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings in the library from 8:00 to 8:30am. It will run from week 2 until the last week of the term in term 1, 2 and 3 and until the second last week of term in Term 4. Any students from year 2 to 6 may join. During this time, students may only use educational sites to play games to support their learning.

If you have any concerns or would like more information please see or email Mrs Nichols.

Gail.Nichols@education.wa.edu.au

Monday lunch times
in the school hall for years 4-6.
We have games, music, Bible stories and whole lot of fun – in our club with the permission of the Principal and the parents, children are able to meet together at lunch time for fun and a time of Christian teaching and learning. The club is run by approved Scripture Union leaders. Permission slips will be given to children on their first visit for parents to sign if they want their child to return.

No child can attend without parent permission.

Our first
Special P&C Lunch
will be held on Friday
27th February 2015
Notes will be coming home soon.

TERM DATES FOR 2015

Term 1
School resumes - Monday 2nd February 2015
Last day of term - Thursday 2 April 2015

Term 2
School resumes - Monday 20th April 2015
School Closure (PM) - Tuesday 30th June (Parent/Teacher Meetings)
Last day of term - Friday 3 July 2015

Term 3
School resumes - Tuesday 21 July 2015
Last day of term - Friday 25 September 2015

Term 4
School resumes - Wednesday 14th October 2015
Last day of term - Thursday 17th December 2015

SUPA CLUB
Scripture Union Primary Age

Monday lunch times
in the school hall for years 4-6.
We have games, music, Bible stories and whole lot of fun – in our club with the permission of the Principal and the parents, children are able to meet together at lunch time for fun and a time of Christian teaching and learning. The club is run by approved Scripture Union leaders. Permission slips will be given to children on their first visit for parents to sign if they want their child to return.

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Willetton Junior Football Club
2015 REGISTRATION DAY
SUNDAY 22nd FEBRUARY
@ Willetton Sports Club
If you or your friends are interested in playing Australian Rules Football come along to our Registration Day and join up to play with our fabulous club. Everyone is welcome! We are encouraging keen and enthusiastic boys and girls to come to a long and enjoy playing Football in a fun, fit and friendly environment.

Registrations will be taken for Auskick (PP-Year 3) and for Junior Football (Year 4-Year 12). Registrations can be also be made online:

Auskick at www.aflauskick.com.au
Junior Football at https://reg.sportingpulse.com/v6/regoform.cgi?aid=5&pKey=65e0e07ec330369683da6b276636f309&cID=114&formID=36056

Enquiries can also be made to the following:
Secretary - Helen Hunter 0403 017 844
Auskick Advisor (EFD) - Terry Allan 0410 058 064
Coordinator - Robyn Eade 0407 771 627

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If you have any concerns or would like more information please see or email Mrs Nichols.

Gail.Nichols@education.wa.edu.au
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