
Since testing began in 2008, Queensland is the most improved state with significant gains made in 9 out of 20 areas over this time.

Beechmont State School once again achieved pleasing results across all Year levels. Mean Reading scores were higher than the National mean in all Year levels. Our mean scores in Reading, Writing, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy in Years 3, 5 and 7 were higher than the Queensland mean score. Over the next few weeks our staff will go through the NAPLAN results in much greater detail to look closely at the areas where we can build on our performance.

Although NAPLAN results form a useful piece of information, they are not the be all and end all on which to judge a school’s success.

It is important to remember the results represent a point-in-time testing over a few hours each May. The NAPLAN results are important but are just one of the many pieces of information our school uses to improve learning outcomes for our children.

School-by-school NAPLAN results are available at https://naplan.qsa.qld.edu.au/naplan/.

**BEECHMONT DAY**

This Friday, 20 September, the last day of term is Beechmont Day. There will be no buses to school on Friday.

Beechmont Day is celebrated on the last day of Term 3 each year. All green forms should have been returned indicating whether your child is attending or staying at home. If you haven’t notified us you need to do it today please.

This year we are holding this great day at Kurrawa Park in Broadbeach. We will meet at 9:30 am near the large playground which is south of the Surf Club.

On Beechmont Day, the children experience a range of activities. **We will spend some time on the beach but there will be no swimming**

As part of Beechmont Day we also have the judging of the sickest joke on Beechmont competition, so children need to be practising an appropriate joke / riddle to say on the day.

Children must wear a **School shirt and a School Hat**. We are in a public place and must be able to quickly recognize children because of their School Shirt and School hat. School hats are available for purchase from the Office.

We will be sending home a note informing you of travel arrangements for the day. There will be a bus provided for those children requiring transport.

**SCHOOL NURSE VISIT**

Good vision is important for a child’s educational, physical and social development. With approximately 1 in 4 Australian children suffering from an undetected vision problem, vision screening is vital for your child’s learning to give him/her the best chance of reaching their full learning potential. Many children try to adapt to their vision problem without knowing they could see better. *

The Child Health Nurse will commence Vision Screening for all Prep Year children on Thursday September 19th, 2013. If you wish to have your child participate in this very important health screening, please complete and sign the Vision Consent form sent home with your child last week and return this to your child’s class teacher as soon as possible.

All parents will be advised in writing of the outcome of your child’s screening.
COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER
19 Sept School Nurse Visit
20 Sep Beechmont Day at Kurrawa Park
20 Sep Last Day of Term
07 Oct Public Holiday Day Labour Day
08 Oct First Day of Term 4
08 Oct Nomination open for Beechmont Award
09 Oct Colour Day Theme ‘Pink’
11 Oct Parade
14 Oct Interhouse Reading Competition starts
18 Oct Auskick starts

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
Wed 18th Sept Volunteer needed
Fri 20th Sept Janine Van B

FAREWELL FROM DAVID MURPHY

Dear Parents,

It is with a very heavy heart that I have to tell you, that I will not be returning next year & will be resigning. This was certainly not in my grand plan, but circumstances have changed for me this year and this is the only path I can take.

I would like to sincerely thank you all for your friendship and support of our school over the years. I leave with lots of very fond memories of my time at Beechmont, and have many an interesting story about things that have happened with the children during the last 28 years.

I have been extremely lucky to work with some amazing staff during my time at Beechmont, their dedication to the children of Beechmont has been above & beyond the call of duty, they are to be congratulated for their dedication to the children. Also the other amazing thing about Beechmont has been the children. How they automatically adapt and respond to the traditions and culture of the school has been remarkable. Their energy & enthusiasm that they bring each day is a credit to you, their parents. Their openness & honesty is a ray of sunshine each day, along with the staff the children make working at Beechmont School an absolute pleasure.

My sincere best wishes to you all, all current & past pupils & staff. I value the wonderful friendships that I have made during my years at Beechmont School.

Best wishes, David

OFFICE NEWS

Due to changes in procedures newsletter articles will need to be in to the School Friday preceding Tuesdays issue or if emailing Sunday proceeding issue. Thankyou for your assistance.

UNIFORM NEWS

The Uniform shop is open every Friday from 8.15am until 8.45am. -Thanks Janine

GARDENS

Once again the Walters family have volunteered their time, equipment and money to assist us in cleaning up the front car park and the area around the Tasmania block. As of Sunday there have been 20 truck loads of rubbish removed from the front of the school. I know it does look empty at present but we have had plans drawn up to make the gardens look beautiful. The front garden near the school entrance will start to be organised over the holidays. The Administration block gardens will be started in Term 4.

The clearing out of plants around the classrooms and paths is a priority. As summer approaches we need to ensure that the gardens are cleaned out and there is clear access around the buildings.

PREP 2014 REMINDER

Our Prep Orientation morning will be held on Tuesday 19 November between 9am- 11am. Please spread the word to any of your neighbours who may have Prep aged children, as we would love to see them on that day.

To be eligible to enrol in Prep in 2014 a child must be born between 1st July 2008 and 30th June 2009. Please spread the word.

MOUNTAINS MATES MUTTERINGS

your Beechmont State School P&C Assn.
Outside School Hours Care Service
Ph. 55459124 or a/h 0417775741
email-mountainmates@bigpond.com

The Vacation Care Program was on last week’s newsletter. Book in early for Monday 30th September for our ultimate Wheelee Day. We have booked Go Cart Wild to deliver us 6 pedal Go Carts and one extra large go cart to do laps around our Mountain Mates race track. Limited numbers for this day. Enjoy the rest of your week ☺

From Kim, Janine, Clare, Kara & Christie. Your Mountain Mates Team.
SUPPORT OUR MARKET BBQ

On the 3rd Sunday of every month Beechmont State School P&C runs the BBQ at the Beechmont Markets, from 8-12pm. Please come & support your school by buying a drink, sausage in bread or delicious burger. We would also appreciate any volunteers that can offer their time to help the wonderful team of Steve & Melissa Waters. Steve & Melissa do a wonderful job to run this BBQ each month but we do need your help. The Market BBQ assists in raising funds for the P&C so that essential items can be purchased to enhance the education experience for our students. Fund raising is becoming increasingly difficult and the number of volunteers that assist in fundraising activities is limited, so any assistance you can provide to the market BBQ would be appreciated.

If you are able to assist, please contact Douglas or Michael Kenyon on 0414 180 271.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Congratulations to William Kattaj-an-Blackwell for his participation in the Queensland Braille Reading and Writing Competition. A fantastic effort William.

NEWS FROM THE TEACHERS

BAND REPORT

Dear Team,

I wish to report that the Junior Combined Day was a huge success. It was a great day with all students giving their best, their behaviour was excellent. I was very impressed. Well done Junior Band members. We worked through 3 new pieces and all students did a great job of bringing all their resources together to make great music on the day.

Musically they are on their way towards the State Comp at Iona in November. It is exciting we are a few weeks before the competition and they are coming together nicely.

Big thank you to everyone for putting in their valuable time to help assist and come together to make this day happen.

John Clyde |clyd3@eq.edu.au

LIBRARY NEWS

All library books should now be returned in preparation for the holidays. Please check with your child that their book/s has been returned. Thank you for your support in this matter.

YEAR 1/2 CLASS

This week the children will be completing assessments in Science and Math so daily attendance at school right up until the end of term is important. The 1_2 website page has some new photos to view and I am currently trying to put the children’s completed informative text PowerPoints on the Ed Studio English page so that you can view samples of their work. Term 3 has been jam-packed with learning and the holidays are arriving just in time. To lighten the load a little there will be no homework this week.

Congratulations to last week’s award winners: Luka Allen, Becky Bennett, Daisy Bowler and Caitlin Hoey for excellent spelling results and Miranda Cording for the highest score on the weekly Literacy Planet Leaderboard.

If there is anything you wish to discuss you are welcome to contact me on 55459100 or kpryo8@eq.edu.au

Wishing 1_2 an enjoyable and restful holiday,

Kerry Pryor

YEAR 3/4 CLASS

It is hard to believe we have reached the final week of the term. The children (not to mention the teacher) are feeling the strain of a long, hard term of work but we are still working hard to complete our set activities. We are currently working on several assessment tasks to finish up our units of work so it is important for children to be here for the remainder of the week.

In Science, we are revising work on erosion and weathering and consolidating concepts the children have previously covered. We will be looking at erosion and weathering in the local environment (Good timing with the rain) and investigating the causes of these events.

Science Excursion: This term in science, our class has been learning about space and our Solar System. To consolidate and further extend their knowledge, we will be taking an excursion to the Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium at Mt Coot-tha on Friday the 25th of October (Week 3 of next term). A note will be sent home this week confirming the date and payment details.

I will be taking leave for the first two weeks of next term. Teaching our class will be Elizabeth Perkins. Our class program will continue as normal during this time. Thanks Elizabeth.

Have a great week.

Regards, Dan Albright dalbr1@eq.edu.au
You may have noticed that the list of weekly award winners has been missing from the last couple months of newsletters. The children in the class have also noticed that there are no award winners from our class on stage on parade. My decision not to give extrinsic rewards in the form of awards was influenced by my attendance to the 2013 Positive Schools Mental and Wellbeing Conference in May.

During the conference I was exposed to research by Associate Professor Helen Street, a renowned psychologist that shows that extrinsic rewards do not make a lasting impact on changing habits or behaviours. In fact, when talking about education, children can often focus more on the reward rather than on the benefits of the education. Below is some information based on research, written by L Davies M. Ed. You can find more information on this topic by googling the pros and cons of extrinsic rewards for children.

Children can be categorized as intrinsically or extrinsically motivated. Children who are motivated intrinsically exhibit a desire to learn. Usually they pursue a subject for the pleasure of learning or for a feeling of accomplishment. Intrinsically motivated students tend to prefer challenging tasks and to understand information in depth. They are more likely to choose projects that demand greater effort than extrinsically motivated children who usually work to receive some reward or to avoid a penalty. Extrinsicly motivated students tend to gravitate toward easier tasks and are inclined to put forth the minimal amount of effort for the maximum reward. Even though children who enter school are often inclined to be either intrinsically or extrinsically motivated, a worthwhile goal for educators is to foster intrinsic motivation in children.

Many teachers believe that student motivation can be "jump started" by providing tangible rewards such as stickers, candy or prizes. They assert that reinforcing appropriate behaviours can have positive results since children tend to continue or repeat an action that is rewarded. They state that some parents do not encourage their children to do their best at school and hence the students are indifferent to learning. These teachers insist that tangible rewards can help these students develop a reason to apply themselves. They state that through the use of rewards children learn to listen, to complete work, and to behave appropriately.

Others argue that rewards devalue learning and counteract the development of self-discipline and intrinsic motivation. For example, when a child does an assignment to get a piece of candy, you have not taught him or her the value of hard work or learning. These opponents assert that tangible rewards produce short-term changes and only serve as motivators if children want them. They contend that the use of rewards fosters competition and the "What's in it for me?" attitude; the more they are used, the more incentives students expect. They maintain that rewards can have a negative effect upon student initiative and performance because they are seen as bribes used to control, and that older children in particular may feel insulted and/or manipulated when rewards are offered. Critical observers point out that rewards have not been shown to change behaviour when children are left unsupervised.

One teacher reported: "I used to use tangible rewards because they had immediate results. Now, instead, I use praise and positive feedback that is sincere, timely, and specific. I believe the children cooperate in class because I respect them, and because I impress upon them that what they are learning is important to their future. Giving tangible rewards does not foster a sense of pride in work well done. I worry about children who are accustomed to being rewarded constantly, i.e. the first time my class played a game, the students ask, 'What do we get if we win?' I replied, 'The satisfaction of knowing you did a great job.'"

Apart from reading, there will be no set homework for this week. Homework will resume next term in week 1. It will include spelling words, reading and a new problem solving worksheet.

Science: This term in science, our class has been learning about space and our Solar System. To consolidate and further extend their knowledge, we will be taking an excursion to the Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium at Mt Coot-tha on Friday the 25th of October. A note will be sent home this week confirming the date and payment details.

We hope you have a safe and relaxing holiday
Katie and Joyce
kmann38@eq.edu.au  jbour96@eq.edu.au

Wow!! I cannot believe that it is the end of term already. It seems like only yesterday that I was welcoming everyone back for the second semester. It has been an excellent 11 weeks of school in the Year 6/7 classroom with most children working hard and giving their very best every day. I would like to wish everyone a very happy and restful holiday and hope that you get to enjoy some RnR with your families. If this term is anything to go by, then Term 4 will be over before we know it. Have a wonderful vacation and I look forward to seeing you all for the final 10 weeks of 2013.

Have a great week
Tanya Stanley tstan15@eq.edu.au & Crichton Roberts crobe60@eq.edu.au
COMMUNITY NEWS

BEECHMONT JUNIOR CRICKET CLUB SIGN ON
When: Saturday 12th October
Where: Hall on Graceleigh
Time: 9am
All welcome, for any further information contact Greg on 0405206076

BEECHMONT MASSAGE
Take some time out to relax and be pampered with a full body massage using a blend of calming essential oils. Soothe away your aches and pains, and be left feeling blissfully relaxed, the perfect way to unwind.

$60 for 60 minutes / ph 0401 372 647 / mobile service available

Ellen Miller is a qualified and experienced massage therapist. Offering relaxation, therapeutic, deep pressure, ayurvedic and hot stone massage.

Beechmont Netball Club News

Well Saturday season has come to a close with a fantastic Grand final day on Saturday. Unfortunately, we did not have any teams in the finals; however, all girls performed outstandingly and made their coaches very proud. It certainly gives us something to strive for next year!!

A special mention to Jela, Natasha, Emma and Katrina who were all nominated for Sportsperson of the year in their respective division. Congratulations girls!! This nomination has come from the officials and umpires and is a reflection of the positive attitude and outstanding sportsmanship you have obviously shown each week and you are commended for being such outstanding representatives of our club.

Also, big congratulations to the Saints team who were awarded the Junior Spirit Award for 2013. This award is voted on by all other teams in the division and is based on sportsmanship, and team spirit. It certainly is a very big honour to receive this award and is an achievement our club should be proud of.

Firstly, to the Executive, Greg Slater, Michael Powell and Kim Sami, you guys are amazing. Your commitment to Beechmont Netball has gone above and beyond this year and I am sure that I speak on behalf of everyone involved in the club when I say, we couldn’t do it without you!!

A big, big thank you also to all of the parents/caregivers for the support you have given the club this year. Without your commitment to getting your child to training and games each week we wouldn’t have a club and your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Our Presentation Day at the Hall on Graceleigh on Saturday afternoon was a terrific success. Big congratulations to the award winners from each team.

The job of choosing the recipients of these awards this year was certainly made difficult by the impressive efforts shown by all girls over the last 26 weeks.

Once again thanks to everyone for a terrific 2012 Saturday season and we hope to see you all in 2013!!

Beechmont SS, NAB AFL Auskick Centre
Sign on & 1st Session—Thursday 17th October
Time: 3:10pm-4:10pm
Venue: Beechmont SS School Oval
Address: Beechmont Rd
Cost: $60

For more information contact Adam Dunning on 5594 5722
Or visit www.aflauskick.com.au
Participants receive a benefits which includes, Hat, Water Bottle, Football, Back pack and much more.

TO REGISTER:

OPTION A: PREFERRED OPTION—
Three Easy Steps
1. Register online at www.aflauskick.com.au
2. Print submitted registration form
3. Hand form with payment to your AFL Auskick Co-ordinator at the first session

OPTION B—
Complete a handwritten registration form and give along with payment to your AFL Auskick Co-ordinator at the first session.