We acknowledge the Kalkadoon people, the Traditional Owners of the land where our school is built and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise their custodianship and role in caring for and maintaining Country over thousands of years. May their strength and wisdom be with us today.

Would you like your newsletter emailed to you? If so, please email: admin@barklyss.eq.edu.au

PRINCIPAL: Des Gribbin

What a great start to the term! Classes have settled well and everyone is well and truly into their next unit of new learning. This term, we welcomed a number of new families to our Barkly Highway community. Our enrolment has slowly grown from the beginning of the year and we now have 442 students.

Reading and Writing continue as our focus. Workshops were held last Monday and Tuesday to help parents gain extra knowledge and skills to help their children in these two areas. This term we will continue to schedule literacy blocks in the morning session for the Prep to Year 3 classes and in the middle session for the Year 4 to 6 classes. Teacher aides are timetabled into each class's literacy blocks to ensure that students are supported in this important learning.

Reading PM Benchmark targets for the end of Term 2 are: Prep (PM 4), Year 1 (PM 12), Year 2 (PM18) and Year 3 (PM22).

By the end of this week all families should have received class letters explaining what children need to know and do in the various learning areas of the curriculum. Please catch up with the class teacher to discuss any concerns or how best to support your child to achieve their best.

Student attendance this year has really improved since last year. This year we are averaging 93.4% - an increase from last year’s average of 91.2%. Year 2 Red has started this term with 100% attendance – fantastic effort! Let’s keep it going. It’s hard to achieve ‘every day, in every classroom, every child is learning’ if children are late to school or not attending.

Next week a Whole School Review team from the School Improvement Unit will be at the school. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday they will be speaking to students, staff, parents and community representatives. The Review Team uses the 9 Domains of the National School Improvement Tool to develop a report that will support the development of Barkly Highway’s next 4-Year School Plan. While the reviewers work from a timetable for their interviews, they do hope to informally meet up with parents before and after school.

Looking forward to a great term supporting students, staff and parents in the teaching and learning at Barkly Highway.

Regards
DEPUTY’S REPORT

ANZAC Day 2015
Our School Captains led the school’s ANZAC Day Parade on Thursday 24 April. The guest speaker, Warrant Officer Class 2 Yeoman (CSM Delta Company 51 FNQR) spoke to the students on the significance of ANZAC Day. Our Year 6 students sang “Lest We Forget”, accompanied by Miss Mpoumpis on the guitar, while representatives from each class placed a wreath at the flagpole. The school has received many positive comments from community members on the participation of over 130 students, staff and parents who came together to march to the Cenotaph. School Captains placed a wreath at both the Dawn and Morning Services. Our entry into the ANZAC Day Competition is on display at the Buffs Club. Every student should be very proud of their efforts, along with our Arts’ teacher, Miss Mpoumpis, on the 400 odd poppies that were made for the entry."

NAPLAN
NAPLAN dates in May are Tuesday 12 (Language Conventions and Writing), Wednesday 13 (Reading) and Thursday 14 (Numeracy) with Friday 15 May being a catch-up day for students absent on any of the previous test sessions. The students will require 2B or HB pencils, an eraser and sharpener. Our students have been preparing for this week with a schedule that has included practice tests from previous years and daily activities based on test strategies. To be best prepared, students will need to sleep well, eat healthy food and drink water. The school is providing a fruit snack for NAPLAN students each morning prior to the test commencing.

ICAS
The registration for all ICAS tests has now closed with a total of 67 tests ordered. All tests will be supervised in the Resource Centre with the first test, Science, to be administered on Wednesday 3 June 2015. For more ICAS information see https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/

P&C Fundraiser
Combined Family Portrait Fundraiser
Recently a flyer was sent home advertising “Family Portraits”. There are a limited number of appointments available, so get in quick and forward your form and $15.00 to the school in a marked envelope labelled “Family Portraits”. You will receive a $15.00 booking voucher with details to call Jacqui at North Point to make an appointment. There are 2 conditions of this family portrait -
1. A family must consist of more than one generation.
2. No-one can appear in more than one $15 fundraiser photo.

After the photo shoot, each family has the opportunity to view their images and choose which one they’d like to have framed as part of the $15.00 fundraiser package. These photos and any additional photo orders will be sent back to you for collection 4-6 weeks after the date of your fundraising event.

This is not closed to our school community, so more flyers are available for friends and families who may be interested from the school. If we reach the identified target of participation, the company will provide a $200 voucher for a photo package, which will be raffled between the participating families. Further information will be forwarded as the time gets closer.

RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS
Welcome back to what promises to be an exciting and busy term 2!
Our younger clientele of students, including year 3, do need a library bag in order to take a book home.

Our first book club for this term has gone out and orders for this issue #3 have been placed. A big thank you goes to all our Barkly families for your continued support for the book club. Please remember that all orders need to be placed by the Friday of the week the brochures were handed out, as late orders may be held over to the following issues. The LOOP online ordering seems to be well received with a growing number of parents now choosing this service. Of course you can continue to pay directly to the office when placing an order. If you have any questions regarding ordering from book club, please don’t hesitate to see us in the library. With Mother’s Day around the corner, we will be displaying a variety of books by the Children’s Book Council of Australia, with winners being announced by the CBCA in August during Book Week.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge is in its 10th year and we will join the PRC as a whole school as we have done in previous years, hoping that we will have every single student participating. Information will be handed out a little closer to the starting date, which is 18 May 2015.

Also, May is National Family Reading Month. Scholastic offers the “Read More in May Challenge”, now in its 19th year. You can find more information for this challenge online by visiting scholastic.com.au.
As always, please see us with any queries or concerns you may have.
Kind Regards, Svenja Spitzner-Lewis

YEAR 6 CAMP
If there are any Year 6 students who still wish to attend the camp at Tallebudgera, the school is still taking initial deposits.

Final payments for the camp are due NO LATER than Thursday 18 June 2015.

Deadly Ears Team
The team had to limit the number of students seen in their recent visit to Barkly Highway. We hope to have them back this term and permission notes received have been retained for future appointments. Families can also access audio testing via the hospital.
LITERACY NEWS
Hi Everyone,

This newsletter we continue looking at writing and get some more tips from the author of the Seven Steps to Writing Success Program – Jen McVeity.

Step 2: Sizzling Starts

Seven Steps Writing Tips
Series One

When writing, kids always want to start their stories at the beginning of the day, or the start of the first day of the school holidays.

Before:
- I kept out of bad that morning and hurried to get dressed because today Dad was taking us to the zoo. I was really excited because they have this big monkey enclosure there and I was mad about monkeys. I also wanted to get some really good photos for my Science project.

After:
- ‘Here,’ I told my sister, ‘hold my rucksack. I’m just going to give a bit closer to the monkey’s cage.’

A bit closer meant over the fence, past the sign that said ‘No Entry’ and right up to the wire. ‘You’re a monkey mad,’ said my sister. Well, maybe I was. But I was also desperate for an ‘A’ in my latest Science project. A picture of a cute monkey, smiling right at the camera, would make all the difference, right?

Top Tip:
Start stories right where the action begins. Not in the morning, but at the zoo as the person sneaks up to the monkey’s cage, shiny earrings dangling in the sun, just waiting to be grabbed by a quick sharp paw. Far more interesting!

Action Activity:
Next time you are watching a movie with your kids, see how the movie begins with lots of action to grab your attention. Adventure movies (e.g. James Bond) are especially good at this.

When drafting a story, grab your readers’ attention with some action like in the movies. Start the writing with an action scene, a noise, a repeated word or characters talking.

Enjoy writing,
Cheryl Gallagher
(Literacy Teacher)

PARENT WORKSHOPS
This week we ran our second set of Parent Workshops on Monday & Tuesday. The topics we covered were:
- Wonderful Word Work (Spelling and Vocabulary)
- Amazing Authors (Writing)
- And Conquering Questions (Helping children to answer Reading Comprehension questions).

Some feedback from the parents who attended was:
‘Now I know what the kids are doing in class and how they relate to writing. It’s great that the kids are all working at their own levels.’ (G. Hetherton)
‘Very informative. It gives me more knowledge to teach my kids as it was totally different to what I have learnt back home.’ (R. Girish)

“With 4 emerging writers enrolled in school, this content will assist me to support their journey.” (Z. Christopherson)

Our next set of workshops will be in week 9 on Monday and Tuesday 15 and 16 of June. The topics will be
- Marvellous Mathematics
- And Reading Rocks (Reading – the decoding and comprehension strategies we teach the children).

Hope we see you are our next Workshops ❤️ Rod Nelson, Nicola Nguyen & Cheryl Gallagher
(Support Teacher: Literacy & Numeracy, Master Teacher & Literacy Teacher)

Important Dates!

4 – 6 May: Whole School Review
12 May – P&C Meeting 6:00pm
12-14 May: NAPLAN
14 May: Mining Expo (Year 6)
26 May: DITTO’s Keep Safe Adventure
28 May: Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea – free dress (yellow) and gold coin day
3 June: Interschool Sport
8 June: Queen’s Birthday – public holiday
8-13 June: Deadly Ears Team
12 June Interschool Sport
17-18 June: Athletics Carnival
18 June: Final payment for Yr 6 camp due
19 June: Mount Isa Show Holiday
25 June: Report Cards sent home
26 June: Last day of term

THANK YOU
Barkly Highway State School would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to BORAL for their generous donation to the school.
STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Mother’s Day Reminder

Just a reminder that our Mother’s Day Stall begins this Thursday
at first break in the Science room. There will be a huge variety
of gifts ranging in prices from $2 - $5. The stall will be running
every day from Thursday 30 April to Friday 8 May. We only have
a limited number of each item so be quick to have the greatest
choice of presents! Hope to see you there!

This money was donated to the Cyclone Pam appeal to help
those communities adversely affected by the cyclone to rebuild
their schools.

P&C NEWS

NEXT P&C MEETING: 12 MAY 6:00pm

The P&C Association is a group of community minded
people, who promote the interests of Barkly Highway State School and
assist with the development and improvement of the school.
All parents and carers are encouraged to join the P&C and by
becoming a member, you are kept up to date with what is
happening at our school. If you would like to be involved in the
school P&C, either in an executive role or as a member, please
feel free to attend our next meeting. We would love to see you
there!

If you would like to volunteer in the Tuckshop or the Uniform
Shop, please email pandc@barklyss.eq.edu.au. Many hands
make light work and we would appreciate your assistance.

TUCK-SHOP NEWS

Welcome back to Term 2!!
Our special until May 22, is Lorraine’s Delicious Creamy Chicken
and Avocado pasta salad. Small is $3.00 Large is $5.00. This
special is available every day and can be ordered over the
counter or on Flexischools.

THE TUCKSHOP IS GETTING A MAKE-OVER! CALLING
ALL TALENTED PARENTS/CAREGIVERS!! We want to
make the tuckshop area nice and bright and cheerful for our
lovely children and staff. If there are any parents or caregivers
out there with a hidden talent that can do murals or some
artwork on our external walls, we would greatly appreciate your
time to help us complete this exciting project. All materials will
be supplied, we just need some of your expertise and time.
If you are interested in helping please call Deb at the Tuckshop on
4437 3639.

Just a reminder that Flexischools is a fantastic time saver, just go
to www.flexischools.com.au and have a look. You won’t ever
want to see a brown paper bag again! We also have EFTPOS for
those empty wallet moments.
Hope everyone has a great week. Deb Fisher

TUCKSHOP BIRTHDAY CLUB 2015!

To help take the stress out of your child’s class birthday
celebration, we offer you our Birthday Club! On your little
darling’s special day, we can make fresh cupcakes or supply
ice blocks to your child’s class. All we ask is that you give us
a week’s notice to be able to prepare for the special day. Cost
is $1.50 per head.

LOST PROPERTY

The school office has a large collection of valuable
lost property awaiting collection.
If you or anyone you know has lost an item, please
come to the school office with a clear description of
your item and we will gladly return it to you. Items
lost last year will soon be destroyed.
JUMPING CASTLE HIRE

Having a party? Need something to entertain the kids on the weekend? How about hiring a jumping castle! The Barkly Highway State School P&C has two jumping castles for hire. The Disney themed jumping castle is $200 to hire and the Batman slide is $300. Price includes hire for a 24 hour period and includes all necessary tools and equipment. All money raised from the hire of our jumping castles goes right back into the P&C and ultimately the school and our students. Email jumpingcastle@barklyss.eq.edu.au if you are interested or want further details. From the P&C

Uniform Shop
Open Every Thursday
8:30 to 9:00am

COMMUNITY NEWS

“Like” us on Facebook
Keep up to date with the latest information and events on Facebook.
Search and “like” us at ‘Barkly Highway State School’.
www.facebook.com/barklyhighwaystateschool

Graham Rodger, a balladeer, Golden Guitar winner and writer of Slim Dusty’s ‘You can’t take Australia out of Me, presents BROTHERS 3. This concert also features Graham’s special Tribute to the Anzacs.

2015 BRISBANE SHOW CAMP NOMINATIONS FOR
YEAR 6 QUEENSLAND STATE SCHOOL
STUDENTS ARE NOW OPEN

Nominations for the Brisbane Show Camp are now open for Year 6 Queensland State School Students. The Show Camp is a program run by the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre, a department of Education Queensland, for 20 students to live in at the Brisbane Show, Ekka, for a literacy and multimedia camp. The Brisbane Show Camp runs during the Brisbane EKKA from 7th to 14th August 2015.

THE CAMP AIMS TO:
• develop skills (eg. researching, interviewing, writing, editing, technology use) which will enhance their ability to communicate through a variety of genres within the setting and experiences of the Brisbane Exhibition;
• develop students’ technology skills through the use of digital video, digital photography and podcasting productions;
• bring together selected students with similar abilities and interests from the whole of Queensland;
• develop friendships;
• enable students to gain a greater appreciation of the importance of the Exhibition to the rural community of the State.

Further information on the camp and how to nominate can be found on www.urbaneec.eq.edu.au and follow the links to the Show Camp website or by either emailing the centre at showcamp@eq.edu.au or by telephoning the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre on 3552 7111. The Nomination Form can be downloaded from the website.

Nominations for this year’s camp close on 29th May 2015.

Mount Isa Civic Centre
Saturday 6 June 2015 at 7pm
Tickets from Civic Centre and at the door unless previously sold out - $35.00 15 yrs and under $25.00
Group concession - buy 10 get one free.

SURVEY FOR PARENTS AND KIDS

Researchers at the University of Western Australia are looking for parents with children or teens between the ages of 8 and 16. The survey can be done over the internet and at home, and it takes about twenty minutes of your time (10 mins parents, 15 mins children).

To participate go to:
www.tinyurl.com/SSBPParents

For more information please contact
Kate Derry at 0411 811 212.