Dear friends,

First and foremost thank you to all the staff, families and community members who have provided myself with a warm welcome to Coalstoun Lakes and our state school. I would like to acknowledge and thank Miss Brooks on her Principal handover and transition from last year to ensure smooth continuity of programming, student information, achievement and improvement results, and overall instructional leadership as Teaching Principal throughout 2013.

Thank you also to all the staff for their welcome and commitment over the past week prior to the students return for undertaking two days of flexible student free time in addition to the standard Student Free Days last week. This has provided us with time to not only review strategic planning, administration and documentation, undertake Professional Development, but to work directly with staff on our vision, mission and goals as a school and the values that
**Date Claimers**

**Public Holiday - Australia Day**  
Monday 27 Jan

**Term 1 Commences**  
Tuesday 28 Jan

**Term 1 Swimming**  
Tuesdays  
Season Pass or $1.50 per week

**Broncos Development Day**  
Monday 3 Feb - 12:30 - 2pm

**North Burnett Cricket Trials**  
Tuesday 4 Feb - as per notes.

**Principal Business Meeting**  
Friday 14 Feb - Mr Reed away.

**P&C MEETING**  
General and AGM  
Tuesday 11 Feb - 3:30pm

**P&C TRANSPiration Area MOWING ROSTER**  
Holidays - Gibbs family  
Week 4 - TBA  
Week 8 - TBA

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**we, our families, P&C and community hold dear.**

Through our motto of ‘Integrity and Industry’ we aim to achieve the best educational outcomes for every student in our school. As such, our focus is on the classroom and students through a strong focus on literacy and numeracy development, Australian Curriculum implementation and continual improvement of our teaching team practices to ensure that every student is engaged and learning.

We have an exciting year ahead with a well rounded small school program, a strong Explicit Improvement Agenda focused on student improvement, achievement and wellbeing through our evidence-based multi-age context, philosophies and direct teaching strategies including Explicit Instruction.

The students are keen learners who have a well balanced, safe and supportive school in which to grow, learn and develop holistically and the early-bird smiling faces on the first day was a sight to behold as we got down to our core business. I look forward to working with all students and staff daily and naturally, all those involved with our school, in the best interests of our students, families, staff, school and community. Please feel free to contact the school to discuss any aspect of your child's welfare or education and we look forward to positive home-school partnerships.

**LATE MAIL** - We were pleased today to be notified that our new website has been recognised and featured on departmental websites as the January 2014 - Website of the Month! Well done Coalstoun Lakes! More information is in our updates below...

‘Integrity and Industry’  
Benjamin Reed  
Principal - breed15@eq.edu.au

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**Explicit Improvement Agenda**

**Literacy and Numeracy Aims** - All students to be above the National Average in NAPLAN and improving at a rate greater than the nation.

**Australian Curriculum Aims** - All students achieving C+ or better in English, Mathematics and Science and making Adequate Yearly Progress or Value Adding in improvement and achievement.
Staffing

Teaching Principal 5-7 — Mr Benjamin Reed
Teacher P-4 - Mrs Nicole Gibbs
Teacher Aides - Mrs Edwards and Mrs Trigger
Facilities/Cleaning Officer - Mrs Medew
Schools/Grounds Officer - Mr Gibbs
HPE Teacher - Mrs Holmes
eLearning German LOTE Teacher - TBA
Student Support Teacher - TBA
School Chaplain - TBA

Current Permission Information

Term 1
Swimming permission forms (required prior to Week 2 - Tuesday)
Season Pass or $1.50 per week

Positive Behaviour Focus

In the month of February we are ‘Balanced’
- we look after ourselves
- we use time well
- we reflect on our learning
- we have a range of interests (physical, creative, spiritual, intellectual)

Student of the Week Awards

Our weekly Friday Assembly Student of the Week Awards recognise many positive student achievements and can be nominated from any of our staff for many reasons - personal learning goal achievements, demonstrating leadership, or an attribute that exemplifies our motto through compassionate and thoughtful acts that embody - Integrity and Industry.

Term 1 - Week 1 - 2014

P-4 - Georgia Corfield has made an excellent start to 2014. She has completed her homework tasks to a high standard and has flown through her number facts flash card this week. Georgia has made an effort to keep her work neatly presented and is a kind and helpful member of our class. Great work Georgia, keep it up!!
5-7 - Aleah Tayler has quietly achieved all bookwork and homework to a high standard and has worked diligently on all assigned tasks and contributed to all class lessons. She has demonstrated high levels of respect and support for others including helping the new Teacher with information and a welcoming attitude which shows in her friendships and support of her classmates. A wonderful start to the year and congratulations on being our Class Student of the Week!

Congratulations to all 5-7 students on settling back into respectful routines and welcoming Mr Reed!

In The Classroom

P-4

Welcome to all our families! A special welcome to Claire McNaughton and her family to Coalstoun Lakes State School. We are looking forward to an exciting and full year of learning.

We are very proud of the way the students are settling into their class and how they are working beautifully together. It is very pleasing to be part of. We look forward to a great year together. This year we will continue with sending home a Data Notebook for your child, which we hope you will find useful to give you a snapshot of your child progress during the year. However, please feel free to contact us and make a time to discuss any concerns further and we will do the same. It is important that we work together, along with your child to help them achieve their potential.

Here’s quick overview on our focus for our units this term:

English - Prep-year 2 Focus: Exploring emotion in picture books: In this unit students listen to, read, view and interpret written picture books, including stories from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. They identify emotive content and justify their interpretations of the stories.

Year 3-4: Investigating author’s language in a familiar narrative: In this unit, students listen to, view and read simple chapter books to explore the use of descriptive language in the construction of character. They also examine and analyse the language features and techniques used by the author. Through a written response or creation of a new chapter, trick or plan, students develop alternative behaviours and actions for a character.

Maths: In the number strand of maths we have been focussing on counting, number facts and year 3-4 student multiplication tables. Will have been looking at ways to classify and compare numbers using more/less; before/after and for year 3-4 odd, even. By the end of the year students will need to be confident in using numbers to (and hopefully beyond for some students): 20 (prep); 150 (year 1); 999 (year 2); 9999 (year 3); 9,999 (year 4)

Science: Focuses on Life and Living - In this unit students describe observable features and use these to classify living and non-living things. Students will investigate life cycles. They will make predictions about human impact on living things and examine relationships between living things and their dependence on the environment. As part of our unit could students please BRING a BABY PHOTO to school or could you please e-mail a copy to ngibb10@eq.edu.au, many thanks.

History (we are going to focus on history for semester 1 and then geography in semester 2) focuses on Commemorations and Celebrations: In this unit, students will develop an understanding of the
significance of celebrations and commemorations from Australia and other places around the world. We will also examine the historical origins of celebrations and commemorations and explore a range of perspectives on the historical events that we remember when we celebrate or commemorate.

Mrs Gibbs - ngibb10@eq.edu.au

5-7

Tuesday we welcomed all students and myself to the classroom of our 5-7 cohort. Remember throughout the year that Year 6 and 7s will graduate together at the end of this year, as Year 7 formally moves to High School in 2015. In English we have commenced looking at types of short stories, their characteristics, purposes and themes in contrast to traditional novels. In Mathematics, we are looking over our multiples, factors and extending to index notation. In Science, we began looking at flora and fauna adaptations and environments, with a focus on some of the extraordinary anatomic, behavioural and physiological changes that occur in all species through evolution. History will be undertaken in Term 1 and 3 whilst Geography will be undertaken in Term 2 and 4.

We have a some great programs, sports, activities and events planned for this term and throughout the year. It is very exciting to hit the ground running with respectful, eager and engaged students! Homework from Day 1 and a quick check of the student computer accounts and email, spelling, reading, writing and homework, who would know we had even been on holidays! Well done this week to all students on teaching Mr Reed the rules for daily life at school! Looking forward to a great year!

Mr Reed - breed15@eq.edu.au

A new coallakess.eq.edu.au

With pride we launched our new school website prior to the commencement of term, and I invite you to visit coallakess.eq.edu.au and provide feedback on how we can communicate with families and community better as we continue to improve our online presence. In addition, we have launched complimentary social media channels with a Facebook page and Twitter feed. Our new website also integrates directly with the new QSchools smartphone app which provides easy access to track not only our school but other schools if you have siblings in other state schools like High School. The app provides direct newsletter, calendar and news item feeds as well as many other information sections and social media aspects of our website.

We took the opportunity to move our newsletters to an online system as well and have also developed new staff collaboration sites and a safe student homepage launch portal. As we engage more and more with the digital local and global community, increased emphasis must be placed on ICT literacies.

Curriculum

To give an overall update to the state of curriculum and programs at our school, we would like to provide this brief overview from the Principal and Teachers and some of the terms and subjects the students may talk about at home.
The Australian Curriculum now covers the subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography. Education Queensland provides us with a consistent state wide unit and lesson planning sequence, commonly referred to as C2C (Curriculum into the Classroom). HPE including Physical Activity, Technology, LOTE (Year 6 and 7 - German) and The Arts including Music are still assessed and reported on through the Queensland Syllabus. Queensland SOSE has now officially been replaced by History and Geography as separate National Curriculum subjects. All subjects have term based units except English where two 5 week units per term are undertaken.

As a school and staff we place a priority emphasis on literacy and numeracy standards incorporating Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy through calculator and non-calculator methods. At the forefront is the individual student improvement and achievement through target and goal setting and empowering all learners to engage with their own targets and goals. Engagement and goal acquisition are extremely motivating intrinsic processes that develop determination, resilience and realistic personal reward and satisfaction.

We have some existing quality whole school programs through Spelling Mastery developmental spelling lessons, Soundwaves, a strong year over year age and year level based whole school phonemic spelling program, and iMaths, which is a workbook and tracking style mathematics text resource. Both Soundwaves and iMaths texts are National Curriculum aligned and provide a consistent year over year school wide text and structure for students to work with in support of the subjects and curriculum. All staff also have key responsibilities for some specific small group and individual extension and support programs which can be discussed with Teachers. Please feel free to discuss any aspects of our Curriculum, Pedagogy, Assessment and Reporting with our Teachers or Principal. We will discuss other aspects of schooling in future newsletters and value your input as the partners in your children, our students, learning, development and well-being.

Facilities Update

During the course of the holiday period the Administration Office had asbestos flooring removed and new flooring installed. We have taken the opportunity to freshen our ICT infrastructure to enable better campus wireless performance in addition to setting all laptops up in the Resource Centre ready for eLearning German LOTE and the Year 5 Project 600 virtual classroom lessons.

We have authorised replacement of both playground structure timber edges to be replaced with Rubber softball edging and sand replenishment. In addition we have organised locksmiths to undertake a single key system that will also allow for designated P&C key access to designated sheds and facilities such as gates and tennis courts for example. We will continue to investigate improvements to our library throughout the year to increase access and borrowing for students.

Reading Tips

A quick tip on READING: Decades of research support the fact that parental involvement in a child’s school learning will promote that child’s success. Here’s some ways you can encourage reading with your child other than sharing a good book, these are great if you have a reluctant reader:
1. Play board games. Scrabble or Boggle are specifically good for building vocabulary and spelling.

2. Collect trading cards. There are card series to appeal to most interests, from sports to space travel, Yu-Gi-Oh! to Beanie Babies.

3. Learn “how to.” Is there something your child would really like to do, such as perform magic tricks or add sequins to her jeans? Encourage her to find out how by reading about it.

4. Get cooking. Invite your child to help you bake a cake or a special meal together. If necessary, simplify and rewrite a recipe's instructions so he can read it to you.

5. Make cards. Have your child make her own cards for holidays, birthdays, party invitations, and thank-yous. Help her write a personal message to each recipient.

6. Create signs and labels. Help your early reader build his vocabulary by creating stickers or signs for his room that identify toys or furniture: "bike," "desk," etc.

7. Take a road trip. Write down travel directions and have your child serve as navigator when you drive. Give your co-pilot a map before you go, and ask her to mark the route according to the directions.

8. Put on a play. You can perform the play for a special celebration or family party. Help your child find an appealing script or create one together based on a favourite movie. Remind your child that he must memorise his lines by reading them over and over.

9. Write messages for your child. Even if you spend hours together in the same room, there are many reasons to write to your child. Drop a letter in her school bag or email her a joke she can forward to her friends. Post a list of chores on the refrigerator, and write family news or appointments on a wall calendar.

10. Host a scavenger hunt. Make a list of items that your child and his friends need to find inside your house or around the neighbourhood. Provide written clues that lead to the treasures.

**Community Information**

Hi Everyone,

Well football season is ready to kick off for 2014.

Please find attached flyer for Monday 3 Feb 2014 at Gayndah Sports Oval for Brumbies Junior Rugby League Sign on. All is welcome make sure you bring your friends.

We are also having a meeting on Wednesday night at the sports oval at 7.00pm. If could be in our shed depends on touch. We can have it in our shed. This is where we will discuss what the Brumbies are going to do for 2014 season. Everyone is welcome the more the better.

If you need more information please feel free to contact me. Cheers

Sandra Kenny

Secretary Brumbies
CENTRAL BURNETT BRUMBIES SIGN ON DAY WITH SAUSAGE SIZZLE
COME AND TRY JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

WHEN: MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2014

AT: 4:00PM TO 5:30PM GAYNDAH SPORTS OVAL
6:00PM TO 7:00PM COACHING CLINIC and UNDER 16s 18s and A Grade Players drills and skills
WITH BRONCO PLAYERS COMING TO HELP.

SO GRAB YOUR FRIENDS, DUST OFF YOUR FOOTY BOOTS AND COME JOIN THE CENTRAL BURNETT BRUMBIES JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE AND HAVE SOME FUN AND PLAY THE GREATEST GAME OF ALL - RUGBY LEAGUE.