From the Principal’s Pen.....

As we progress into Term Four it is important that we support students through transition into their next phase of schooling. The Year 6 and 7 students are attending the orientation programs in their selected High Schools and students are reporting that they are very excited about the future.

The Youth Support Co-ordinator attached to the school, Gradi from BABI, is also supporting the older students in their transition to High School. This program involves lunch time activities and small group and individual interviews. More details of this program are included in the Newsletter.

The transition of students into Prep involves an orientation visit for the children from North Stradbroke Island Early Learning Centre on Thursday November 15th in the morning session. I am sure the parents of these students who also attend the orientation are looking forward to seeing the children in the Prep setting. Enrolments are now open for Prep students, please collect enrolment packages from the office.

The support for students moving from Prep to Year One is an ongoing program with the Prep and Year One teachers working closely together. One event in this program will be held on Thursday 21st November when the prep students are invited to spend the morning session in the Year One room with Mrs Gregory. Parents of Prep students are welcome on this day to look into the future by observing their students in Year One. The Year One students go to Mrs Goebel for the morning to show her how much they have learnt.

Our school focus continues to be, every student reaching their academic potential through learning and achieving. Research shows that students with high attendance at school are more likely to achieve. “It is not ok to stay away” is the mantra that is being used by all teachers so that the students and parents receive a strong message that attending school every day is vital.

Last week I had the pleasure of visiting the Quandamooka Camp with 15 other principals and guests from the mainland. Watching 100 students performing cultural Indigenous dance lead by our community mentors is something I will never forget. The team work, respect and pride shown by the students was amazing and full tribute goes to the mentors who were taking the activities. Thank you to everyone who was involved in the success of a wonderful camp experience.

This week we have had special lunch time activities that the students have really enjoyed. Thank you presenters and to Jo Kaspari and Mandy Blivet for organising the activities.

Remember that the Whole School Walkathon is being held on Tuesday 30th October. All students are to come to school for roll marking and to form groups before moving to Point Lookout. This will be an exciting day and I look forward to seeing many community members joining in the fun. Thank you to the P&C for all of the effort they have collectively put in to the organisation of the Walkathon.

See you there

Jenny Wilson
Quandamooka Jarjums Camp

Last week from Wednesday to Friday the year 7’s and 6’s from Dunwich State School hosted the 7th Quandamooka Jarjums camp. Ninety-five students and staff attended the camp from fifteen different Bayside schools. On the first day in the morning we met the other schools at Polka Point and had some morning tea and a Welcome Ceremony. After morning tea we travelled to the Adder Rock camp ground and got settled in. We then had a meeting in the ‘Big Tent’ and got into our groups. Then in the afternoon we all went for a swim and met some new friends. That night we had a disco, a dance battle and we also did the Limbo.

The next day we did group activities which included art, swimming, fishing, touch football and CPR. Then in the middle of our activities we had lunch. That night we had a Kup Murri for dinner and also another disco. Dad Josh came and told us some Dreamtime stories and Uncle Mathew Burns gave us a talk about some Indigenous weaponry.

In the morning we packed up our tents and then we cleaned up the camp site and went for a swim. We had an Iron Man competition and then we played Tug of War. In the Iron Man the ‘Orange Boy Team’ had won and the ‘Green Girl Team’ came second; in the Tug of War the ‘Blue Girl Team’ won and the ‘Green Girl Team’ came second. Then we all got changed and went to the foreshore in Dunwich and had lunch, we went on the Goompi trail and we also painted boomerangs. We did our farewell dances and walked the other schools down to the Big Red Cat, and said our farewells to our friends.

By Shareya and Channing.

On the camp we had 3 days of food, fun and festivity. On the first day we had wraps for lunch and an enjoyable pasta buffet for dinner, which was provided by our mentors and sponsors Keiron Costello, Mandy Blivet and DP World. The second day we had a delectable breakfast of bacon and eggs. For dinner that night we had a Kup Murri made by Corey Parkin. The food from the Kup Murri was outstanding and everyone loved it.

Also on the second night Mathew Burns came in and explained about the Aboriginal culture and their weapons. The last day for morning tea we had mullet and eugaries.

We would like to thank the mentors and the sponsors for this terrific camp.

By Nate and Dan
Gradi Tromp is a Youth Support Coordinator (YSC), from BABI Youth and Family Service, working in the Dunwich State School every Friday. As a YSC she works closely with students, families, schools and communities to create a supportive environment for learning, resolving issues that impact negatively on student’s schooling. Her skills help develop young people and arm them with social and emotional skills.

This Youth Service can provide the following: one-on-one support to help young people assess their circumstances and strengths and make choices, decisions and plans; information, advice and contact with community services and resources to help improve personal and social growth; organise group work to help young people exchange information; offer experience and skills to meet common needs and provide practical support; purchase products and services to support young people through their studies and training.

Currently Gradi is involved in preparing weekly hampers for the school and organising social activities like beading and card making with the express intention of promoting wellbeing, positive relationships and a sense of belonging.

An overview of planned activities for this term :-

2 November – Doomadgee School visit; 30 November – Bravehearts. You should receive a flyer announcing this event shortly. On the 26th October, 9th November, 16th November and 23rd November the year 6 and 7 students will be interviewed individually or in small groups with a focus on transitions for their future education.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call the Principal of this school on phone 3409 6111.

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**National Kidsafe Day**

As part of National Kidsafe Day Year 3 completed an on-line treasure hunt that took them to Safety Island. They learnt about safety in all aspects of life. The lessons covered safety in school, the playground, in sport, at home, with animals and using roads.

Other classes will participating in competitions to create a comic strip, design a mascot and ‘spot the hazard’ to help celebrate Kidsafe Week 22-26th October.

Students please use the crossing at all times. The Crossing Supervisors are there to help you have a safe journey to and from school each day. Debbie Phillips

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**Students of the Week**

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Well Done!
INDIGENOUS SURFING
Pupil Free Day this week proved to be a great opportunity for an extra long surfing lesson at Cylinder Beach. Here is Jiringalla Gray and Ngiri Green enjoying the afternoon.

SAND OCHRE WITH CRAIG TAPP
By Sylah Costelloe
Uncle Tappy made a design on the sand at school near the Tuckshop area. He made two snakes and a turtle that had the hands of the students around it. He used ochre to colour the sand. The colours were black yellow and dark orange, these colours stood out with the background colour being white sand. I put my hand out and surrounded it with black ochre. It was fun and when I put my hand down it felt soft when I put the sand over my hand.

Tuckshop News
We are still looking for helpers for the following tuckshop dates;
- Friday 16 November
- Friday 7 December
Please contact Fiona on 3409 6333 if you can help.

PINK RIBBON BREAKFAST
Where: Stradbroke Island RSL
When: Sunday 4 November 2012 at 9:00am
Cost: $20.00 per person or $50.00 per family of 4
Raffle and lucky door prize.
Prize for “Best Dressed in Pink”

Vacancy - School Crossing Supervisor
Dunwich State School
One casual position exists for a School Crossing Supervisor at our school. Wages are paid at $25.61 per hour and the hours of work will be up to an hour in the morning and half an hour in the afternoon on a roster system.

School Crossing Supervisors may be required to work five days per week in all weather conditions.

Commencement of work for the successful applicant is dependent on:
The favourable outcome of a health assessment carried out by an approved Medical Officer.

Must hold a Positive Notice blue card for child related employment. An application will be organised through The Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Application packs are available from the school office. Applications close at 3.00pm on Wednesday 31st October, 2012.