



BRIGHTON STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

From the Principal Patrick McAuliffe

Hello Everyone

Meet Marley and the Whalers

Some years ago at Aspley, Mrs Hill's year 7's teamed up with some year 3's to make a life sized Humpback Whale. So when the National Geographic Channel announced a competition for students to design a Blue Whale model and post up pictures with the aid of their teachers, Brighton's year 7 classes knew that they had two challenges. The first was to be as good as Mrs Hill's old grade 7 class and the other was to make a life sized inflatable Blue Whale.

A quick search of the web found a Blue Whale template which needed to be converted from feet to metres. Mrs Hill found the CD of the Humpback Whale project and everyone had a good look at it. Then Mr McAuliffe got the materials and we got to work.

Over a period of two weeks, teams of six to ten kids measured, cut, taped, cleaned, taped again and solved problems. Mr McAuliffe always said "Measure twice, cut once." The crucial test of our construction ability was when we inflated the body of our whale. Next we climbed inside and double taped the seams and joined the flukes and tail.

Our Blue Whale is 25 metres long, 7 metres across the flippers and 12 metres circumference at the middle. We used 50 metres of black builders plastic, 50 metres of white plastic, 200 metres of tape, 30 metres of bird netting and 200 metres of twine. The whole class had to work as one to lift the whale for the bird netting to be tied off

When the wind blows through the windows the whole whale heaves and sways, so much so that one of the prep's said "Look! It's breathing."

This has been a great activity! The whole school has been amazed by the size of our Blue Whale. It is a project that everyone should have a go at just to achieve something great, something huge, something that is a fantastic team effort and to learn about the biggest thing that has ever lived on our planet!

Pencil Grips for Sale!!!! Years 1 and 2 students- please get one

A Good pencil grip is one of the first steps to developing good handwriting skills. As a parent you can help your child to develop good pencil grip. Correct pencil grip will allow your child to write quickly and smoothly, while a tight or incorrect grip can hinder writing. To help your child get into good habits it would help them tremendously if you could get them a pencil grip that they put on their lead pencil. As of next Monday there will be jumbo pencil grips available for sale from the library. They will cost \$3.40 and can be used over and over again. To get one your child/you needs to come to the library with the money and one can be purchased at that time. Please label it with a pen straight away. It will make good handwriting and letter formation that much easier.

At home you can improve your child's fine motor skills through various writing activities or through other fun activities which involve movement of fingers (like playing with play dough), colouring and using pegs. Please help them with this – it will make a big difference to how they cope at school in general. See you at the library with your \$3.40!!!
Mrs Jeston- Support Teacher



BRIGHTON STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

ICAS Competitions - must be in by **Wednesday 8 April** - forms available from the office foyer.

DENTAL VAN IS HERE. We need your Permission forms returned ASAP.



MONSTOR TRUCK FLYER WITH TODAY'S NEWSLETTER – BUY YOUR TICKETS FROM THE OFFICE – SEE JUDY!

MONSTOR TRUCKS ARE COMING TO BRIGHTON STATE SCHOOL – MONDAY 6TH APRIL

Brighton State School will also be pre-selling the tickets to the **BIG MONSTOR TRUCK SPECTACULAR SHOW on Friday 24th April** at **7pm – PINE RIVERS SHOWGROUNDS**. For every ticket sold the School receives 20%! So please consider us when purchasing your tickets. Adults \$25, Children (4-14) \$15, Children under 3 FREE, Family pass – (2 adults, 2 children) only \$50.

'Change for Chappies'

Thank-you to 'Bramble Heights News' for letting the Chaplaincy service here at the school have a 'Change for Chappie's' money tin on their front counter. After only a month people have kindly donated \$26.80 from just spare change. So, if you are at the newsagents across the road from the school and have any spare change then please put it in the tin. The money from the tins will go towards Chaplaincy resources, programs and events like 'Chappies Breakies' and towards subsidies for camp fees that the Chaplain will use to help pay for specialised camps they invite kids to.

Student Council Fundraiser

The student council is holding a fundraiser for the **Victoria bush fire victims**. On **Thursday, 2nd April**, wear something **RED, ORANGE or YELLOW***. **Cost is a gold coin**. Extra donations are also welcome. (All money raised will go directly to the Red Cross).

***Dress code:** Remember to be sun safe and something 'red' does not include normal school uniform. *Ideas: socks, scarf, bandana, headband, hair ribbon etc.* Only wear suitable accessories - only stud or sleeper earrings.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS – Meredith Kelly

Dear Parents, this week I handed out "*permission to audition*" slips to children in the advanced instrumental classes for the **North Brisbane Honours Music Camp**. This camp acknowledges North Brisbane's extraordinarily talented instrumental students. Around 150 students will be offered a place (about 300 will audition) so entry into this camp is **only gained by those who work for the position**. If your child is in yr 7, please ask them to see the list of scales they are required to play and perhaps they can play their set piece for you as well. Auditions will be held at school in the beginning of term 2. Only 1 week to go before the senior choir performs at the **Sandgate Village Fair!!** Notes were handed out and have been promptly returned (thank you!). The children are asked to wear long black trousers (**not ski pants**) black shoes and black socks. The band performance shirts will be handed to the girls at school on the day before our performance. I hope to see you all there supporting/cheering for our girls at their first public appearance.



BRIGHTON STATE SCHOOL

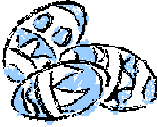
PREP to YEAR 3 SPECIAL CLOWN DAY – Wednesday 8th April 2009 – please return your permission forms.

Newsletter

NEW NEWSLETTERS HAVE ARRIVED! Have you checked out the new advertising on the back?

P&C FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE NEWS & REMINDERS

Easter Raffle - Money and any unsold tickets are to be returned to the office Black Box by next Monday 30th March. The raffle will be drawn at school parade on Monday 6th April. Don't miss out on the fantastic prizes.



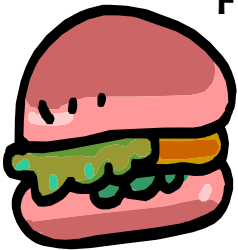
MOTHERS DAY STALL IS COMING! Donations can be left in the box in the Office foyer.

Collect4schools - ARE YOU TRAVELLING JETSTAR???? We would love your boarding passes.

JUSTYNE'S FRIDAY SPECIAL

Fried Rice - \$5 - YUMMY!

We would love your help in the tuckshop – helpers still needed!



TUCKSHOP DAYS - MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY

Community News

St Kieran's Parish Sacramental Program 2009 – Enrolments are now being taken for the Sacramental Program in preparation for the receiving of the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. If you would like your child/children to be enrolled in the program please contact Ann Lugsden 3602 5027 or pick up an enrolment form from the office at St.Kieran's school.

"A New You – Dare To Be Great Women's Retreat will be held in the Bunya Mountains from April 17 to 19. Includes yoga, relaxation, pampering and life coaching. Only 10 places. Phone 0408 485 100, email annemaree@womensretreat.com.au or visit www.womensretreat.com.au"

For Sale - Older style upright freezer \$50, 5 drawer Works well, great spare for the garage - Ph 3869 0695