Some new kids on the block.....

My name is Ivy and I have started at Barcaldine State School in Year 3. I have been to a small school before and also did school through Distance Education. I really wanted to come to Barcaldine because there are so many more kids here. I have an older brother in Year 5 and a sister in Year 7 who have also started here. I would love to play football and cricket while I’m here.

My name is Mitchell and I am in Year 7. I previously attended St Joeys and was school captain there. I already have a sister here in Year 10. I wasn’t worried at all about coming here as I already knew most of the kids. This school has way more kids than St Joeys and the class sizes are much bigger.

My name is Martina and I have come to Barcaldine this year from Boulia, where I was school captain. I am in Year 7. I knew other kids who were already going to the school, so that’s why I wanted to come here. I want to be able to play soccer. I have never been away from my family before and will only go home in the holidays but I don’t think I’ll get homesick.
Dear Families
Welcome back to another school year! I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new students and families. We hope you enjoy your time at our school and in our community. 2015 is a monumental year in Queensland Education with the official move of Year 7 into High School and the change in age requirements for entry into Prep.

I would like to begin by thanking all the parents who have ensured their children are in full correct school uniform. The students on Day 1 looked splendid in their uniforms.

During the holidays the school has undergone a number of renovations: the Early Phase classrooms have had significant maintenance work done, a new covered eating/play area has been constructed in Secondary and the oval has had a new sprinkler system installed. We will continue to ensure regular improvements to the learning environment remain a priority to ensure our students have the optimum surroundings to achieve to the best of their ability.

**New Staff and Staff Movements**

We have six new teachers with us this year and a number of staff taking on slightly different roles in 2015.

A picture and brief statement from each of the teachers is later within this newsletter.

- Mrs Sherelle Shields is sharing Year 2 with Mrs Nicole Landers
- Mr Corey Rose is our Year 3 teacher
- Mrs Katrina Egerton re-joins our staff to teach Year 6 and Year 9/10 Media Studies
- Mrs Kylie Burton comes on staff full-time this year to be our core Year 7 teacher as well as continuing her coaching role from 2014.
- Mrs Gemma Tavita joins us to in Secondary to teach Agriculture as well as a number of other subjects, including some primary P.E.
- Mr Jeff He is our Secondary Mathematics B/Physics teacher and Junior Secondary Maths and Science.
- Mr Paul Carroll joins us to teach Senior English Communication, Prevocational Maths and Year 9 English and Science and The Arts in Year 7.
- Mrs Jo Martin-Cameron has been appointed Pedagogical Coach for the Barcaldine District, so will be travelling, working with teachers in Blackall, Alpha, Aramac and Winton, as well as here in Barcy.
- Miss Jenna Peut also joins the Barcy team as District Relief Teacher.

**Parent and Community Involvement**

Research shows that students achieve higher results and produce better quality work when parents are actively involved in their child’s education. Last year the P & C was extremely active and provided significant financial support to our students through the provision of resources such as iPads. The P & C also provides an opportunity for providing avenues for greater parental input into the school. The P & C is a vital part of the school and more parent and community representatives are always welcome at the meetings. Meetings are every third Monday of the month at 3:30pm in the Staff Common Room in the Administration building. Our first meeting for 2015 will be on 16 February.

On Thursday 05 February, I invite all families along to the school to meet the staff. Prep-6 will have scheduled classroom talks beginning at 5:30pm and all staff - Primary and Secondary - will be available for informal chats at a BBQ in the Primary Undercover area from 6:30pm.

I look forward to meeting all and here’s to a great 2015!

In All Our Best
Grant Williams
Principal
Dear Families

As another school year commences, I wish to welcome all of the returning students and all new students to the Secondary school; may the time that you spend at our school prove to be a rewarding and fruitful experience.

As class commenced in period three on Tuesday afternoon, I am very pleased to say that all students were aware of the classes they were attending and settled in very well to the school routine. The Year 7 students certainly made themselves heard in the playground and handball court (they will have to get used to the change in the handball rules – you can never have the same rules for such a simple game .... I look forward to seeing how the negotiations will take place over the course of time). It certainly appeared that the transition of the year 7 students to secondary school at our school has commenced well.

The year 8 students also settled in well and are to be commended for their organisation and preparedness to begin Secondary school on the ‘right foot’. I do hope they are enjoying being separated from their year 7 cohort – this would be the first time in many years. I will look forward to following their progress.

**ROLL GROUP TEACHERS:**

Please be advised of the arrangements for Roll Group Teachers for the various year levels. As the students do not have the same teacher for all of their lessons, the Roll Group Teacher acts in a pastoral role for your child and families are invited to make contact with a member of Administration or with your child’s Roll Group Teacher to discuss matters of concern.

Your child’s Roll Group Teacher will assist with absences and communications of such, monitoring your child’s well-being at school, ensuring your child is meeting the expectations and demands of a Secondary school setting, working with your child to ensure that deadlines are met within the required timeframe. I encourage families to ensure the communication channels remain open with your child’s Roll Group Teacher/s.

Please be advised of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR LEVEL</th>
<th>ROLL GROUP TEACHER/S</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mrs Kylie Burton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Miss Samantha Wahlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Miss Helen Efremoff and Mr Jeff He</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mrs Gemma Tavita and Mr Mitchell Bourne</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Miss Rachelle Horn and Mr Paul Carroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mr Adriaan Greyling (assisted by Mrs Meegan Wills)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**YEAR 12 LEADERSHIP CAMP TO CAMP FAIRBAIRN:**

The year 12 students should have taken home the paperwork for the upcoming Leadership Camp to Fairbairn Dam in Emerald. This is a wonderful camp and past student highly recommend the course and activities that are planned. Individual instructors are allocated to each school and the actual leadership program is designed with the student cohort in mind. It is always a highlight of the school year for the Year 12 students.
Just a reminder of the details:

**Dates** - Monday, 09 February 2015 – Friday, 13 February 2015 (inclusive)

**Cost** - $200.00 per student; payable to the Front Office, where a receipt will be issued on payment. Should families wish to discuss a payment plan, please do not hesitate to make contact with Katherine Stewart as the Business Services Manager.

A significant amount of funding is sourced through REEAP Funding for payment for students to participate in this amazing opportunity. Funding covers daily costs associated with meals, accommodation and camp fees for the Outdoor Education Centre.

**Forms** - the Consent Form and Medical Forms are to be returned to me as soon as possible please, so that I am able to collate the necessary information for the Fairbairn Camp School.

**Other Details** – A draft program will be issued to the students a few days prior to leaving Barcaldine and any last minute details that require communication home.

In closing, I leave you all with the following ……. Fun Facts about Colour (courtesy of Readers’ Digest, by Alison Caporimo; January 2015, page 95)

Why Soccer Balls are Black and White:

*Turns out the sports staple was made for TV. For the 1970 World Cup in Mexico – broadcast around the world on television – Adidas created the iconic black-and-white panelled ball, intended to catch the eyes of viewers better than a single-coloured one, would as it moved across black-and-white TV screens. The black pentagons also helped players and referees recognise the swerve and flight of the ball.*

Go the Socceroos in the Asian Cup final when they play South Korea on Saturday.

Why Karate Belts are Black:

*There are a lot of myths surrounding the martial arts’ most prestigious designation. The most likely story, however, claims that white belts used to be dyed to a new colour upon the student’s advancement to a higher level. Hence, the increasingly darker order: white, yellow, orange, green, blue, purple, brown, red and black.*

Until next time

Meegan Wills

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**Welcome back to another school year.** I would like to extend a warm welcome to those staff, students and parents who are new to our school community.

**Congratulations to those students who have taken on leadership positions for 2015 across the school.** Throughout the year our students across several year levels will be participating in a number of tasks and tests set by Education Queensland and ACARA.

**NAPLAN 2015**

In Term Two Years 3, 5, 7, 9 will once again be involved in the NAPLAN-National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy. National tests are a way of providing information on how students are progressing and provide support for improvements in teaching and learning. This testing occurs across three days and has been scheduled for May 12th, 13th and 14th.

Students involved with this testing will begin preparations as early as Week 5 of this term. The preparation involves students in becoming test wise. That is, not teaching to the test but preparing students for test conditions, questioning techniques and the look of the test papers. Many of these strategies are already embedded in the day to day teaching practices of our teachers but it is important for students to feel comfortable when placed under stringent test conditions.
NATIONAL CURRICULUM-2015
Australia is continuing to move towards a national framework for schooling with the aim of raising education standards and achieving nationally consistent curriculum, assessment and reporting. In 2012 The National Curriculum began the implementation process across Years P-10 in the subject areas of English, Mathematics and Science. Throughout 2013 History was introduced. Throughout the 2014 school year staff at Barcaldine Prep-12 State School continued with this implementation with the phasing in of the subject of Geography. In 2015 the remaining strands of the humanities will be introduced—these being Civics and Citizenship for Years 3-8, becoming and elective in Year 9 and Economics and Business in Years 5-8, also becoming and elective in Year 9. Health and Physical Education programing will also be aligned with the Australian Curriculum in Years Prep-10. In the Primary sector the Health component will be taught by class teachers whilst the physical component will be taught by HPE specialists.

Learning and Wellbeing Framework
In 2015, we are continuing with contact lessons for all classes from Prep-12. Students learn best when their wellbeing is optimised and they develop a strong sense of wellbeing when they experience success in learning. We are aware that students with high levels of wellbeing make better learners. Contact lessons at our school will address these needs. The lessons are of a maximum 70 minute duration and are taught by classroom teachers in the Primary phase and Roll Group teachers in the Junior Secondary and Senior Phase.

Topics that may be covered in the Primary sector are based on the Health component of the Australian Curriculum as well as incorporating our Positive School Behaviour topics. In the Junior Secondary and Senior Phases topics may include Home learning and study sessions, Time Management, Self Esteem and Self Confidence, Test/Exam strategies and Goal setting. These are just examples of topics that may be covered throughout the year.

Barcaldine Prep-12 State School are continuing to trial a Student Wellbeing Program entitled The Learning Curve.

PREP TO YEAR 12 MEET & GREET
Barcaldine Prep-12 State School staff would like to invite you, as a parent or caregiver of a student attending our school, to meet your child’s teacher/teachers for 2015. This year we are offering a brief information session for Prep-6 parents followed by a BBQ for all parents where Primary and Secondary staff will be in attendance. This will commence at 6:30pm in the Primary Covered Games area.

The Meet ‘n Greet is to be held on Thursday 5th February with class groups timetabled as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>5.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
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<td>Year 4</td>
<td>5.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>5.30pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Each session will be conducted in the classroom applicable to the year level. If you are unable to attend on this date and would like to meet with your child’s teacher I welcome you to contact the school office to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Secondary parents are invited to meet their child’s teachers at the informal BBQ commencing at 6:30pm.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 5th of February.

Until next time

Kim Ogden
Hi all, my name is Corey Rose and I come to Barcaldine Prep-12 State School all the way from the beautiful Sunshine Coast. I am a second year teacher who previously worked in Biloela teaching their final cohort of Year 7’s at the local Primary School. I have moved to Barcaldine to truly experience the Queensland outback and get away from the hustle and bustle of the City. I look forward to the opportunities and experience I will have during my time in Barcy.

Hello,
My name is Jeff He and I was born in China and moved to Brisbane when I was a teenager. I arrived in Barcy two weeks ago by train and it’s been a very pleasant experience so far living and teaching here.
I am teaching Maths B and Physics and Junior Secondary Maths and Science.

Hi Everyone,
My name is Katrina Egerton and I am excited about starting a fantastic year at Barcaldine Prep-12 State School teaching Year 6. I am returning this year after a short period as Director of Barcaldine Kindy and look forward to working with you all at some point.

Hi, I’m Paul Carroll and a new teacher here at Barcaldine. I’ve recently arrived from the snow and rain of England. Originally from the North of England I have spent most of the last 6 years teaching in schools in London, with the exception of 6 months spent teaching Distance Education in Charleville. I’m looking forward to being part of the community in Barcaldine, once I’ve have got used to the hot weather and calling proper football where you actually kick a ball, Soccer.
My name is Gemma Tavita and I will be teaching Year 9/10 Agricultural Studies, Year 11/12 Agriculture/Horticulture, Year 8 Health and Physical Education, Year 7 Mathematics and Years 3, 4 and 6 Physical Education.

Previous to teaching at Barcaldine Prep-12 State School I was a Health and Physical Education Teacher at Tieri and Capella State Schools.

Before becoming a teacher I studied Certificate 3 in Agriculture whilst working as a Jillaroo on Portland Downs station, Ilfracombe Shire.

I have a passion for Health and Physical Education and Agricultural Studies and am very much looking forward to experiencing the Goat Expo later on in the year. I’m also a keen Austswim instructor and Netball player/coach.

My experience thus far at Barcaldine Prep-12 State School has been very positive. All students have displayed responsible, respectful and safe behaviour practices and all staff have been extremely welcoming and team focussed.

I look forward to working with all students to achieve their individual goals in 2015.

My name is Jenna Peut and I am the DRT (District Relief Teacher) this year at Barcaldine Prep-12 State School.

I will be travelling around the district to places such Alpha, Jericho, Isisford, Blackall and Aramac to name a few.

I am based in Barcaldine so you may see me around helping out of taking some classes.

I am very excited to start here in Barcaldine and look forward to meeting you all.

Hi Everyone,

For those that don’t know me, my name is Sherelle Shields and I have worked at this school in the past.

I am thrilled to be back at Barcaldine Prep-12 State School teaching again. Nicole and I are settling into our shared role, teaching Year 2.

I have three children. Kendra is joining Year 3 and the twins, Nate and Anika are keeping everyone busy at Kindergarten.

Looking forward to saying hello and catching up with you all.
What is your favourite thing about Prep?

- Playing outside—Bianca
- Playing with the bubbles—Max
- The castle—Kathleen
- Playing on the fort—Willis
- Prep is fun—Josie-Ann
- Drawing pictures—Kayde
- Drawing—Georgia
- Singing ‘The Wheels on the Bus’ - Ava A
- Prep is good—Nulla
- Playing in the castle—Alivia
- Playing in the big shed—Cooper
- Playing with my friends—Gracie
- Drawing—Summer
- Playing with Charlie and Willis—Ryan

Our latest renovation projects within the school