FROM THE PRINCIPAL
Planning for 2014

We are currently underway with a number of planning processes for 2014, to ensure that our school organisation supports optimum student learning outcomes. Our staff have agreed that maintaining the 16 classes across the school is definitely a major factor in both academic and social progress, so we will again work on this model next year. Therefore we will have two Kinder classes, two Preps, and two classes in Grade one to Grade six.

We will have two Kinder classes with 25 students in each class. One class will attend school on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, the other class Monday, Wednesday and Thursday (the shared day being Thursday where both classes will be in the Kinder room)

Our number of teaching staff is predominantly determined by the number of students that attend our school along with some other formulas. Normally a school of our size would have 15 classes so we have had to use some other models to support the cost of another teacher and class. We have done this through the relief model in 2013.

This model will need to be retained in 2014, although we will not be using this for Kinder and Prep classes. If these grade teachers are absent, our Flying Start teacher and /or AST will take the class.

Our teacher aides’ hours are determined by the number of students who have educational needs together with an allocation of Kinder Aide hours. Our other non-teaching staff allocations e.g. office staff, cleaners and grounds-person are predetermined by size of the school

Our Flying Start teachers will be full time in 2014 again on the request of our teachers. They will support our Literacy and Numeracy practices across the Prep to Grade 2 classes. As we approach our NAPLAN testing in May, they will also support students and teachers in Grade 3 and 5.

Class placements

A number of parents have approached our senior staff recently requesting certain placements for next year. Over the past years this has caused significant issues and takes many hours to satisfy these requests (In 2012 we had over 12 pages of these!!) Therefore this year we intend to use a sociogram to support senior staff in placing students into classes in 2014. This will ask parents and students to complete a form indicating three grade mates that they work well with and get along with, some of their strengths and areas that they find challenging. Therefore we ask that parents do not approach senior staff with this information but rather write this on the sociogram when it comes home within the next fortnight.
Placements will not be based on which teachers are taking the classes and senior staff will not be accepting any requests on this basis. The only exception to this will be students with high and additional needs that require adjustments to their learning program. They will be placed with teachers according to this need. For example students who are on the Autism spectrum benefit from consistency and therefore their placement would be with a full time teacher, opposed to a class where there are two part-time teachers.

**Asthma Plans**

A request for students’ Asthma plans was placed on the last newsletter and we are yet to receive many of them. Without this plan, our First Aid officers and other staff who have all been trained in Asthma management, find it difficult to manage an attack. It is imperative that these area returned to school as soon as possible.

**Water Awareness update**

Students in K-2 classes will be participating in the Water Awareness program within the first two weeks of December. All students will be required to wear a swim cap (can be purchased from the office for $2.00), bathers and rash vest.

In the lead up to this event is an opportune time to work with your children to independently undress themselves, wipe themselves with a towel, and get dressed again. Simply talking them through the process as they try the tasks themselves after a bath or shower can help. Perhaps even have a trial run of packing their swimming bag.

We remind you that school events, where parent help is encouraged like the Water Awareness program, require parents/carers to have a Good Character check completed. The Burnie Aquatic centre is not closed to the public through our sessions and there may be other adults not related to the school in the change rooms.

**Sports News**

Congratulations to Taya Eyles who has been selected as part of the girls team to represent Tasmania at the National Futsal Championships in Sydney in January 2014. At the 2013 championships, Taya’s team Tasmania U12 Girls won the grand final in their age group and became national champions.

**Student Assistance 2014 (STAS)**

The STAS links are now available on the DoE Internet site for parents to access. The Department’s Facebook site has also released details of STAS 2014. Below is a link to the Department’s homepage for parents. The 2014 Application Form and STAS guidelines appear under LINKS on the right hand side of the page.

Alternatively if you require a copy of the application form or further information please call into the office.

[https://www.education.tas.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.education.tas.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx)
2TJ read a story called “The Pros and Cons of Being a Frog”. We then wrote our own pros and cons lists.

**The pros and cons of having a cat —by Millie**

**Pros**
- They sleep on your bed and make your bed warm
- It distracts your baby if mum asks you to look after the baby
- You don’t need to walk it

**Cons**
- You have to feed it early in the morning
- You have to pick up the dead rabbits and birds
- They trip you over

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**The pros and cons of being an acrobat—by Breanna**

**Pros**
- You get to learn lots of things
- You get to be really flexible
- You get to learn things that might hurt other people but not you

**Cons**
- Sometimes you hurt yourself
- Some people tease you for being skinny
- It would take lots of time to get it

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**The pros and cons of being a dog—by Harris**

**Pros**
- You do not have to clean up after yourself
- You get to go inside sometimes
- You have a house

**Cons**
- If you run away you have to go to the pound
- If you be naughty you have to sleep outside
- You do not have hands

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**Our Adopt a Cop visit**
Grade 1W Persuasive Writing – Swings vs. Slides

I like swings better than slides because we do not have them in our playground. It feels like you’re flying.

Lilly

I go for swings because they go very high and you can do tricks on them. You can use your imagination.

Hannah

I like slides because they can be big and massive and curvy and slippery. You go very fast down the slide when you go down it. The one in Launceston, there is a water slide with a big bucket of water. When you go down it, the water tips on you.

Brodie

Slides are better than swings because if your mum pushes you on the swing it is annoying if she pushes you too high.

Gus

Swings are better than slides because you can be Superman or Batman by laying down on the swing on your tummy. You can pretend you are flying and you can stand up on them and you can swing really high.

Sierra

I like the slide because some slides are swirly, and some slides can have water on them. Some slides can even be very long and wide! Swings aren’t any of these so why pick them?

Millie F
Grade 1HM - Fruit Tingle Experiments

We get a cup and we put some water in it and then we put the fruit tingle in the cup. Then the bottom of the cup went all white and the bottom of the cup went all white. It went all bubbly. Then the fruit tingle went small. It went on its side. It's getting a hole in it. It looked like a button and then it didn't look like a button. The fruit tingle became more colourful. It is crocking. Then it smell like shampoo. The fruit tingle broke and it is floating. Then it dissolved into the water.

By Jayda, Coco and Mia

We put some water in a cap and put a fruit tingle in the water and it went bubbly. The bubbles are going up and the bubbles are staying on the fruit tingle. The fruit tingle is getting smaller. The water is getting a bit dark. The fruit tingle is fizzing around the cup. It is green and there is a small hole in the fruit tingle. There are bubbles all around it and the fruit tingle is moving. The fruit tingle is on its side, and it is almost gone. A bit of the fruit tingle came off. Now it is gone. It has dissolved in the water.

By Maya and Charli

We got some water and put a fruit tingle in the water. It went all bubbly. The bubbles are going up. The fruit tingle looks mushy and it is getting soft. It's fizzy. More bubbles are coming. It's getting smaller and smaller. It's falling apart. It went sideways. The fruit tingle is getting thinner and it has a hole in it. The hole is getting bigger and bigger. It went sideways again. It's going up. It is stuck to the side. It broke. We got a fruit tingle. It fell to pieces. It dissolved.

By Tahli and Jocelyn

We got a cap of water. Than put a fruit tingle in the water. It is turning white. It is wrinkly. It smells like lemon. It is making bubbles. The water is turning yellow. The fruit tingle is dissolving. There is a lot more bubbles. The fruit tingle is going up and down. The fruit tingle is getting a hole in it. The hole is getting bigger. There are bits of fruit tingle on the bottom of the cup. The fruit tingle floated to the top. It turned upside down. It broke into pieces. It has dissolved.

By Lexie and Matthew

Grade I HM did an experiment where we put a fruit tingle in some water. We recorded everything that happened.
Grade 2 O’Neill - Investigations
Congratulations to the 46% of students at BPS who entered and ran in the Healthcare Insurance 321-Go Kids race! For a third year in a row we have achieved the **number one participation rate** for schools in Burnie. This is a fantastic achievement. $300 will now go the school from SportFirst in Burnie. WELL DONE KIDS for participating and PARENTS for encouraging them!

Thank you to Sherry Rand for running the fun pre-race sessions.
Come along and try a sport for FREE

On November 24 the Burnie Council, in conjunction with the Local Advisory Group and Mission Australia will officially launch Play4Life with a sports taster day.

Students and their parents are invited to visit one of five sites around Burnie to find out and try one of the many sports on offer, as well as attend the official opening at the Burnie waterfront between 12:30-1:30pm where a free sausage sizzle will also take place.

Every student will shortly receive a personal invitation which includes a chance to WIN a $100 sporting voucher.

So mark this date in your diary and keep an eye out for your personal invitation.

November 24th
10:45-12:00pm: Sports Taster at selected Burnie venues
12:30-1:30pm: Official Launch at Burnie Waterfront
1:45-3:00pm: Sports Taster at selected Burnie venues

Information from the Department of Health and Human Services

This year is the last year the Child Health and Parenting Service (ChaPS) will offer Prep Checks at schools. If your child is aged 312 to 5 and has not had a Healthy Kids Check (incudigvision and hearing assessment) an appointment for this check is recommended either with your local Child and Family Health Nurse or GP.

Are you aged between 5 - 13 years and interested in joining the Surf Club? Would you like to find out more about becoming a nipper? Burnie Surf Club Junior Open Day Sunday November 10th 2013 10—12 noon Come join us for activities, information and clubhouse tours. Bring along your swimming gear and wetsuit (if you have); weather permitting we may enjoy some water fun! Free Sausage Sizzle Contact Stuart Paine: 0419393889 for more information

BURNIE SLSC

Life Saving Since 1921

Register on-line at www.santarun.com.au; at Bendigo Bank Devonport, Ulverstone of Burnie

Around $2000 worth of prizes to be won

For Sale – Ideal Christmas present

- Lenovo ideapad SIOe
- Intel Atom 1.6 GHz processor
- 1GB of RAM
- 150 GB Hard Drive
- Windows XP
- $150.00

Bendigo Bank Devonport, Ulverstone, Burnie Phone 03 64333655 Facsimile: 03 64333858 Email: burnie.primary@education.tas.gov.au

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