Welcome to all students, families and teachers for the 2015 year. We hope you have a great year of learning.

Our first major fundraiser for the year is a sausage sizzle at Bunnings, Domain Central, on Sunday February 22nd. Funds raised will be donated to the Reef BG Room. If you are able to help please contact the volunteers coordinator at: BGSSVoluteering@hotmail.com.

P&C Committee.

School Banking

School banking will be on Wednesday this year.

If you would like to help out with school banking for a few hours each Wednesday, please contact the volunteers coordinator at: BGSSVoluteering@hotmail.com

COOKBOOKS ON SALE $12.00
Available from the School Office

Tuck shop

The tuck shop is looking for volunteers for Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays starting in March.

The menu shall remain the same until the new tuck shop convener has been appointed. Once they have been appointed a review of the menu shall be performed.

Second Hand Uniforms

If you have old uniforms that you don't require please take them to the tuck shop so that they can be sold as second hand items.

School Captains; House Captains and Vice House Captains

The P&C Executive would like to extend our congratulations to the students who were elected into the roles of leadership as school captains and the sporting houses for the 2015 school year.

Well done to all the students who nominated and delivered speeches for the elections.
NOTICE OF AGM

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Citizens Association for Belgian Gardens State School, will be held in the school staffroom, on Wednesday 25 March commencing at 6:00.

At this meeting all Executive positions and sub-committee positions will be declared vacant and a committee will be elected for 2015.

If you would like to be a part of our Community Group, please fill out a nomination form for a committee position and come along to the Annual General Meeting. Nomination forms will be available in the Office from Monday 23 February.

Positions for Election:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- QCPCA Representative

Secretary
Belgian Gardens State School P&C

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Healthy Active School Travel

As a result of the school community’s interest in improving safe access we were invited to participate in a new initiative “Healthy Active School Travel”. This program is funded by the Australian Government, supported by the Qld Department of Transport and Main Roads and administered by the Townsville City Council (TCC). BGSS is now participating in its third year of the HAST Program.

Each year TCC work with BGSS and parents and develop a Travel Plan for activities. This always involves one major event each term, and a few smaller activities along the way.

Given that our Ride 2 School and Walk 2 School events are the most popular, we will again be participating in these national events. However the activities in the other two terms were determined using a quick email survey to participating parents, asking what they would like to see in 2015. Our HAST champions, the School and TCC then decided what could be achieved. Thank you to all the parents that provided feedback in 2014.

Therefore the following major events have been approved:

Term 1 - National Ride to School Day – Friday 13th March
Term 2 - National Walk Safely to School Day – Friday 22nd May
Term 3 - Scooter Skills – dates to be confirmed
Term 4 – Bring your Bike or Scooter or Backpack – date to be confirmed

Each month students will also participate in monthly “Hands Up” surveys. These are usually conducted by the senior leaders, collecting data about how students travel to school. TCC coordinates this data and provides us with quarterly and annual updates.

Thanks again to the HAST Minor Infrastructure Grants that have funded the construction of our all-weather bike shelter, new bike racks, inflation station, lighting, and soon-to-be-built western wall. Our biggest achievement of course has been the increase in students actively travelling to school. Their confidence and skills have increased and I hope this continues despite the sometimes uncomfortable weather. Well done.

National Ride 2 School Day – Friday 13th March

This is our third year participating in this national event. We are starting to organise riding teams and one walking team to help students ride, walk, scooter or skate to school that morning. A letter will be sent home shortly advising on how to register, explain where the teams will meet, and at what time they should leave in order to get to school on time.

We will have some prizes for those students who register their participation before the due date. We are also hoping to have the Queensland Police Service at school to engrave any bikes or scooters – so in the event they may be stolen and then recovered, they can be returned to you. Bikes and scooters can be locked in the new bike shelter or in the old bike racks. Thanks to HAST program, we will also have a healthy snack and fruit available.

If anyone is interested in helping with the R2S day, we will need two parents on each of the five groups to assist with traffic control, as well as a couple of helpers at school. Please email the Safe School Travel Coordinator Helen McLaughlin on bgsspandc.safeschooltravel@gmail.com.