Dear BGSS Community,

I would like to thank everyone who made the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle/outdoor sauna a success. While the weather kept many home, we were able to raise approximately $1100 for Reef BG. I especially would like to thank Robyn and Peter Southwell for getting and stocking the cold room trailer, Leanne for coordinating all the Volunteers and the late morning and afternoon crews who braved the intense North Queensland heat.

Please note that the AGM will be held on Wednesday 25 March at 6:00pm in the staff room, with a general meeting immediately following at 6:30. If you’d like to nominate for one of the positions please contact a member of the committee.

Regards
John
P&C president

A Happy
Mr Murphy—Reef BG

Tuck shop

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please note that the tuck shop closes at
12:00pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
and
2:30pm on Thursday and Friday
so please do not order food for Big Lunch on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.

Size 8 skorts are now available from the tuckshop.

TUCKSHOP CONVENOR

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Ms Christine Moore who has been appointed to the position of “Tuckshop Convenor” at Belgian Gardens.

Christine attended the P&C Meeting last night and is enthusiastic about working in the Tuckshop and getting to know the children & staff.

Please introduce yourself to Christine and make her feel welcome at BGSS!

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QSCHOOLS APP

If you have downloaded the QSchools App, please activate the “Push Notifications” within the Settings of the App.

This will allow you to receive the school “push” notices from the School.

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the P&C Association will be held on Wednesday 25 March in the school Staffroom, commencing at 6:00pm.

At this meeting all Executive and Committee positions will be declared vacant and nominations for a new Committee will be called.

Below is a nomination form for any parent who is interested in taking on a Executive position for 2015.

Role descriptions for each position is available from the Office if you would like to find out more details about what is involved.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

Wednesday 11 March: Have your say (QSR) - Round Table discussion—parent engagement opportunity 6:30 to 7:30pm in the Hall

Thursday 12 March: Parent Engagement Opportunity—LEM Phonics 3:15 to 4:15pm in the Library

Friday 13 March: National Ride to School Day—trialling on line registration process

Thursday 19 March: Official Farewell for Malcolm Cook from 5:30 in the Hall

BELGIAN GARDENS STATE SCHOOL
PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS - 2015 AGM

I wish to nominate for the following position on the P and C Association Committee:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Other

NAME: __________________________ Signature: __________________________ Date: ______________

(Please print)

SECOND BY: __________________________ Signature: __________________________ Date: ______________
Welcome to all our volunteers for 2015, whether this is your first year at Belgian Gardens, or you are a seasoned regular from over the years!

This year you may now know that there is a change in how classroom volunteering occurs. All classroom volunteering must now be done via our new Volgistics system, which was trialed last year. This is an ongoing process with me entering all the classroom assignments, so please bear with me during this process. Below are the instructions on how to get started.

Firstly, you must have completed the BGSS Volunteer Induction. This occurs each term, so please call the School Administration for the next induction date. I will also endeavor to arrange a night induction session for working parents.

If you do not have a child attending the school that you are a parent or guardian for (i.e. grandparents) you will be required to obtain a Blue Card for Volunteers (free of charge). Contact the School Administration for details.

You can then fill out your Volgistics Application. Go to the BGSS website (www.belggardss.eq.edu.au), then click on ‘Our Community’ at the top, and select ‘Volunteering’. On the first page you will see links to Volgistics to complete your application. Once I have received that via the system, I then process it for you, and check off that you have completed the required induction. You will then receive your temporary password to login, which you can do via the second link on the website page (tip: it’s a good idea to bookmark this page for ease of access later). I will also send a Welcome Letter with all of the relevant links on it as well.

On the Volunteer Login page, you can view all available assignments around the school on the ‘My Schedule’ tab, and schedule yourself in at times and places you wish. Simple as that. We also have a ‘Volunteering Opportunity’ site you can login to, which has assignment details in a clearer format if you are just browsing. You will receive the link for that in your Welcome Letter.

If you signed onto Volgistics last year, but have forgotten your password, please send me an email and I will resend a temporary password to your email.

The main thing to remember is, while it’s great to help out in your own children’s classrooms, we need help throughout many other rooms. Those parents may not be able to help out due to work or other commitments, so if you are free and your usual class is already attended, please look to help out other rooms. If you have any concerns about using the new system, please feel free to contact me on the details below.

Cheers,
Leeanne Stathooles - BGSS Volunteer Coordinator
BGSSvolunteering@hotmail.com Mob: 0432 120 666

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**Classroom Activities** available in all Prep and Grade 1 classes, some Grade 2, and there will be various activities for other grade’s events as they occur. Check Volgistics for each Classroom and Activity available.

**PCP (Perceptual Motor Program)** – Mrs Ballinger is looking for some active helpers for Prep and Grade 1 classes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

**Tuckshop** -Our new Tuckshop Convenor Christine is looking for assistance each day with jobs including food prep (cutting etc), serving, and general assistance.

**HAST** – We are also looking for helpers on the HAST National Ride to School day on Friday 13th March, whether you help out riding with a group or walking, we could use the help!

**Grounds Keeping & Working Bee** – George our Gardener would love some helpers with some of the general maintenance of the School grounds, particularly with looking after the garden beds, pruning, weeding, and the palms. You can help out during the day with a pair of gloves, or attend our next Working Bee on the 22 March.
Safe School Travel – the history of “BGSS Safe ST”

BGSS believe that a healthy lifestyle in a child’s formative years plays a major role in taking a healthy lifestyle into adulthood. Research is also suggesting that having at least 30 minutes exercise a day assists in reducing lifestyle diseases. Not only is the exercise important but reducing the number of cars around our school will help with traffic congestion.

We understand that not all parents/caregivers are able to walk or ride, that’s why we promote the Part Way, is OK option. It’s also a great way to get YOUR 30 minutes exercise. Park your car in the adjacent streets and walk up to school. However if you have to cross Potts Street always use the School Crossing Supervisor directly opposite the front gate. Crossing at other random points or on street corners only increases the risk of injury to our children. Please lead by example.

Due to concerns regarding safety around BGSS, parents contacted DTMR who explained the Queensland Government’s Safe ST Program. This program was the result of a partnership between DTMR and Qld School Transport Safety Consultative Committee. The program’s aim is to improve travel safety for school students through the provision of information, resources and access to a variety of funding programs and safety initiatives. DTMR recommended that parents form a working group with interested stakeholders, followed by consultation with Townsville City Council (TCC).

TCC then conducted site assessments and together we developed the SafeST Action Plan and Priority Pathways documents. It is these documents that guide the working group’s priorities each year. These documents will be reviewed and updated by the end of Semester 1 2015.


National Ride 2 School Day – Friday 13th March

Three weeks to go until the legendary BGSS Ride 2 School Day. We will again be having five organised groups riding, scooting or walking to school if you’d like to join us. Otherwise you can ride from another place if that’s more convenient. The five meeting points and their times are as follows:

1. Robertson Park, also known as Kiteboard Park, Cape Pallarenda Road, Pallarenda. This group will need to leave at 7:30am.
2. Rowes Bay Kindergarten, Heatley Parade, Belgian Gardens. This group will leave at 7:50am
3. Primrose Street, at intersection with Rose Street, North Ward. This group will leave 7:45am
4. Castle Hill PCYC, Hugh Street, West End. This group will leave at 7:45am
5. Hooper Street Playground, Belgian Gardens. This group will leave at 7:50am.

This year we are trialling the use of an electronic registration form using Survey Monkey. The address is https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WTWSXSR. Please go to this link and answer the simple questions about who you are and which group you will be joining, but especially the student’s name/s and class/es. The student’s details will then be entered into the lucky ‘door’ prize.

Alternatively if you don’t have access to a computer, there will be paper forms available at the BGSS Administration Office. Then just put your form into the green HAST box. Students using this method will also be entered into the lucky door prize.

And if you decide at the last minute that you are able to join us and haven’t registered – that will be fine too (but you won’t be eligible for the lucky door prize).

Thanks again to Townsville City Council and Department of Transport and Main Roads whose HAST program sponsors these events: by supporting the HAST coordinator; supplying numerous lucky door prize, as well as a healthy snack for participants.