



# BRENT STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

We Learn, We Care, We Work Together



## In brief

### Shining Little Stars

ONE of the most exciting initiatives at Brent St Primary School has been the "Little Stars" program as part of the State Government's Launch into Learning initiative. Parents and their pre-schoolers attend up to three sessions each week, working with a teacher and worker from Good Beginnings or a teacher assistant. The program runs on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Contact the school for more details.

### School chaplain

WE are fortunate to have Michelle Haines as our school chaplain. Michelle is a great listener and helps our supportive school environment by providing pastoral care for students, staff and the community. Michelle is on site three days and encourages all of us to reach our full potential. She operates in an independent, non denominational manner.

### Reading challenge

HOW lucky are our Prep and Kinder students that teacher Julianne Panckridge adapted the Premier's Reading Challenge? When it was found the challenge only involved students from Grade 1-6, Mrs Panckridge set about quickly developing a Kinder/Prep reading challenge — another example of how we learn, we care and we work together at Brent St Primary.

### Mainland tour

TWENTY-SEVEN of our inquisitive Grade 5/6 students are off to Canberra and Sydney in November. This camp is a collaborative project, with students from Geeveston District High School joining us. Families have been busy selling chocolates, having barbecues at Bunnings and planning sleepovers in preparation.

# INNOVATIVE LEARNING



**COOKING UP A STORM:** Eager chefs, from left, Amy Shearing, Mrs Wendy Barnes, Tiarna-Lee Robertson and Sandy Thomas get creative in the kitchen.



**TERRIFIC TWOSOME:** Cousins Montana Dennison and Ebony Dennison help out.



**BOY POWER:** Braiden Tonks prepares lunch in the new school canteen.

ONE of the critical things teachers and students want to see is modern, innovative learning spaces to enhance learning opportunities.

The school community at Brent St Primary is no different.

Recognising last year that the Federal Government's "Investing in Our Schools" initiative provided a great opportunity to modernise, redesign and make better use of tired old spaces, the school developed a plan that has seen the development of Life Skills Centre.

The aim of the design process was to develop a learning space that would provide diverse learning opportunities across the school, offer opportunities for parental involvement and be the home of a healthy canteen.

Students were involved in the consultation process with Hobart architectural firm Terroir, and chose a colour scheme that tied in with the school colours of royal blue and sky blue.

They also suggested including a laundry so the school could wash and dry sports uniforms.

Eighteen months on, the Life Skills Centre is now a central hub of the school. Among our many suppor-

ters, we received great help from the Glenorchy YMCA and Graeme Sturges MHA.

A school competition named the canteen the "Star Snacks Cafe" and operating on gold medal Tasmanian Canteen accreditation it delivers a range of healthy snack and meal options, two days a week.

Staffed and managed by volunteer parents, our school canteen provides opportunities for parents to be actively involved in the education of their children, as well as pick up new skills in food preparation and develop skills in customer service and how to operate a small business.

All profits are being pumped back into the school.

The opening of "Star Snacks" saw a group of students named "Hungry's Catering Crew" plan, prepare and serve a lunchtime meal for all staff.

Other uses for the centre include: housing the Breakfast Club, classes cooking porridge and students making muffins to sell.

Every class is able to make links to numeracy and literacy around recipes, measuring, vocabulary is extended through their experiences and social skills are honed as students work together.

OUR teacher Deborah Westerhof and principal Andrew Moore have implemented a leadership program at Brent St Primary.

This includes learning how to work together to achieve a common goal, appreciating difference, recognising our community is keen to help young people, meeting deadlines and completing tasks.

Using a grant from Values Education Aus-

## Working together to achieve goals

tralia, we have held a leadership breakfast at the Glenorchy RSL, hosted by Glenorchy mayor Adriana Taylor, a luncheon at Parliament House hosted by Lisa Singh MHA, and next term we will ride our bikes to Drysdale House for lunch as a graduation

activity. We are also exploring the community and accepting challenges including collaborative projects with Chance on Main and the Body Shop where female students participate in a program with our school chaplain Michelle Haines.

Students also partici-

pate in a science extension program led by Rob Thomas from Cosgrove High School, exploring and completing research at Woodbridge Marine Discovery Centre, venturing into the forests and exploring crystals and rocket-making with scientists from the CSIRO.

Other things we have participated in this year that help us work towards our school goals of learning, caring and

working together include being part of the Northern Big Band, primary school dance event, a film festival, choir and winter sport.

A Big Brother/Big Sister enrichment program with Rosetta and Cosgrove high schools sees students mentoring, umpiring and coaching our sports teams.

Our students are also able to access facilities at the local high schools that extend and enrich learning experiences.

THIS Mercury School Page was produced by Brent Street Primary School's Grade 6 leadership program. We thank all the sponsors for supporting us.



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