

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Bruce More on Sick Leave**

Our Principal, Bruce More, has had to take sick leave for the last six weeks of this term and will not be back until Term 2. In the interim, I, Barry Courtney, am acting Principal. Carole Baker (HOD English) is acting Deputy Principal and Leanne Bell is acting HOD English. We wish Bruce all the best and look forward to his return.

### **Good News on Facilities Front**

We have received great news with the announcement by the Member of Barron River that Smithfield has been allocated \$1.273 million for refurbishment of our Science laboratories. This comes from the State Government - State Schools for Tomorrow program. And there is more good news....

- i) We have been given \$40,000.00 minor works grants to complete work to the front of the school improvement project. Designers have already been engaged to move this forward.
- ii) We are applying for two sections of the Federal Government Building the Education Revolution program and are confident of both going ahead
  - a) \$1.0 million for the building of two new Science laboratories
  - b) \$200,000.00 for the refurbishment/upgrade of classrooms
- iii) Under the Smart Schools Subsidy Scheme, we have \$195,000.00 for upgrade/extensions to our school library. Design briefs for this are being drawn up.
- iv) District Office has found funding for exterior painting to L and A Blocks. We are negotiating colour schemes for this at the moment.

So you can see we are in an exciting stage of rejuvenation for our school. We will continue to seek avenues to further supplement the above developments. One project we are currently applying for earmarks a further \$1.25 million for Hospitality and Engineering facility development.

### **Year 9 National Tests**

If you have a child in Year 9, they are currently being given preparation for the National (NAPLAN) tests in Literacy/Numeracy, which are held in May. Our school planning team has a range of preparation activities in place so students are well placed to do their best on the tests. More details on these tests will follow for parents/guardians of Year 9 students.

### **Business Service Manager Position**

The school will be interviewing applicants for this position, which is to be filled for Term 2. Currently, we are fortunate to have Linda Halliwell working in this position for Term 1. Many of you will also be interested to know Maxine Wienert, one of our office staff and previous acting BSM, has been seconded to work in District Office for six months. We wish her well in her new position there.

### **Term One Assessments**

The assessment period for first term is upon us and a number of students will be doing that "little extra" on study and assignments at the moment. This increase in workload may bring additional stress so students need to carefully manage their time/commitments over the period.

Finally, can I congratulate students on their efforts put into first term. Our school uniform is looking great. Reminder: with cooler months approaching, purchase a school jacket as it is the school uniform jumper!

It has been a busy term but I am hearing positive messages from all levels. The Year 8s have settled in well and I have seen a real commitment to improved work ethics in Years 11 and 12.

Our Year 7 into 8 Information Evening is on Tuesday 24 March and I look forward to meeting prospective new parents and students on the evening. I know they will hear many positive messages about our school

Regards  
**Barry Courtney**  
Acting Principal



### **USED LAPTOPS FOR SALE!**

Three years old laptops (Acer Travelmate 3232WXM) that have been a part of the Computers for Teachers program will be sold for \$75.00 each. The laptops come without any software and in a very used condition.

There is no guarantee for functionality of the laptops or devices on them (USB ports, DVD drives etc.) and there is no warranty whatsoever. The laptops will be sold in order of requests received.

If you want to buy one of these laptops please send an email to: [pkapp1@eq.edu.au](mailto:pkapp1@eq.edu.au)

