



Broulee Public School
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March 2014 Principals Report

Fete:

Grateful thanks to all the organisers and helpers of the fete, especially Natalie Fairweather. To organise such an event is huge and it could not be done without commitment, energy and enthusiasm. From the staff – a massive “THANK YOU”. We'll now just hope the weather and numbers are what we want.

Pizza Oven:

Thanks to Nerida Bourke and Clare Dunn my two wonderful Kindergarten teachers who, along with Tim McDonald organised our Pizza evening last Thursday evening. It was a lovely relaxing evening, well attended and provided solid evidence that the pizza oven works! We even picked up some additional volunteers for the fete during the evening.

School Numbers

Our numbers are continuing to rise and on our last Entitlement Report we have moved over the magic number of 300. This gives us extra office time which was wonderful news to Julie in the front office.

IN2UNI

This week I had the pleasure of meeting with personnel from the University of Wollongong to look at introducing the *IN2UNI* program to our year six students. This program is a partnership between the Education Department, the University of Wollongong and the Catholic Education Office. The program starts the conversation with students about higher education (either university or TAFE). It aims to lift educational aspirations, academic capacity and encourage students to explore possibilities and opportunities beyond school. The program is followed on in high school and at that level involves enrichment programs, workshops and transition pathways into university and TAFE.

The *IN2UNI* program fits beautifully into our school "*life long learning philosophy*" where we hopefully instil in our students a love of learning that stays with them not just for school but for the rest of their life.

School Budgets and Playground Equipment:

Given our present budget and the uncertainty of what we might have to cover it was with regret that I made the decision to shelve the play equipment that Jesse had spent much time working on. At this stage I'm not confident of exactly what is ahead and I must ensure that education is our core business. As I expect to see curriculum differentiation occurring in the classrooms I prioritised supporting the classes with additional Teacher Aide time rather allocate money for the new playground.

I'm very grateful for all the work that Jesse put into this project however and am hopeful that we will get back on track in the future.

We did make the decision to look at what we could do as a group and the following ideas were put forward:

- Join with the ESC and contribute to their project when they re-vamp the play area in COP. This is expected to exceed 100,000 and be happening (hopefully) within the next few years.
- Develop an area within the school grounds focusing on Imaginative Play. This could include a wavy wall, man made grass hills, stepping stones, weaving orbs, more “flower” chalk boards and the inclusion of a small boat similar to the one at the Muffin Shop.

It was recommended that we hire a qualified Playground Landscaper to help us with the layout and planning process.

Sue Lowe
Principal

