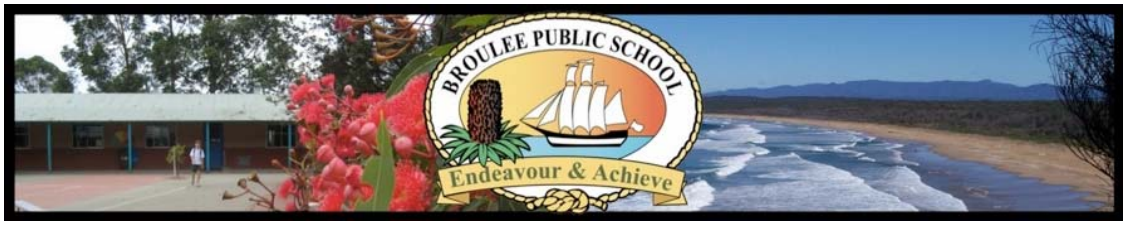

Broulee Public School
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June 2014 Principals Report

Southern Stars

Unfortunately we have had to withdraw our school from the Southern Stars performance. This was an extremely challenging decision but we did not have the funds ($10,000 short) and we were still a few students short for the choir.
We are still aiming at entering the 2015 performance and will work towards fund raising and performances during the remainder of 2014.

DEC Drugs in Schools Policy:
https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/student_serv/student_welfare/drug_incid/PD20020040_i.shtml

I need to remind everyone about the Department's Drugs in Schools Policy, specifically Section 1.4.2. and 1.5.1

1.4.2
"The consumption of alcohol is not permitted at any school function (including those conducted outside school premises) at any time when school students, from any school, are present. A school function is any function organised by the school and/or in the name of the school and applies to all types of functions including dances, farewells, sporting fixtures and barbecue"s.
1.5.1
Smoking on school premises, including school buildings, gardens, sports fields and car parks, is prohibited. This includes students, employees, visitors and other people who use school premises, including community groups. In the case of cross-sectoral sites (e.g. joint school/TAFE sites), a decision regarding the extent of 'school premises' will need to be made in the local context.

Gonski Review

As you would know, our Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli as well as the former Premier and our current Premier have all been strident supporters of the implementation of the Gonski Report. Indeed, the NSW Government signed an agreement with the former Commonwealth Government for the 6 years of funding based on the Gonski Report. Therefore the policy position of our NSW Government is clear.

Accordingly, I have attached for your information the full text of David Gonski's 2014 Australian College of Educators *Jean Blackburn Inaugural Address* delivered last night at the University of Melbourne to an audience of approximately 700 people.

It is fitting that the chair of one of the two most comprehensive reviews of the funding of school education in Australia in the last half century should have given an Address in honour of Jean Blackburn who made such an important contribution to the other most comprehensive review of the funding of school education in Australia in the past half century, the Karmel Report, *Schools in Australia* (1973).

Incidentally, Peter Tannock is the only person who was a member of both the Karmel Report and the Gonski Report – 38 years apart!

NAPLAN:
This year we participated, as usual in NAPLAN. While we downplay this particular aspect of school it was worth noting that the writing paper was rather challenging, especially for Year 3. Results wont be known until September.

Tree Audit.
The department required all schools to have a full audit on their trees following the recent death of a school girl in Sydney when she was hit by a falling branch.
The qualifications for the auditor were rather high and there were very limited people who met the requirements. This has meant a delay in completing the audit as we have had to access someone from Canberra. Our audit should be completed by tomorrow with recommendations going to the DEC for action.

Minor Capital Works:
Fly Screens have been fitted to all windows throughout the school and some painting and concrete work will be completed in the coming weeks. We have yet to hear if we were successful with our grant application for resurfacing the basketball court.

Playground Equipment:
The new chalkboards (in the shape of flowers) should be attached to the walls in the near future. Many thanks to Phil Dunn for making these for our school.

Sue Lowe
Principal