Dear Parents,

We are certainly having a very successful time with our bands, choirs and sporting teams.

Once again the Concert Band and Big Band achieved very impressive accolades in the Brisbane Music Festival held at Iona College last week. They both achieved the Platinum Award for their sections. This is the highest possible award and they were the only school in the section to receive a Platinum Award. Our Intermediate Band which is comprised of more than 50% of Year 2 and 3 students received a Gold Award in the primary section. This is exceptional considering the age and experience level. The students in Concert Band and Big Band the previous weekend also competed in the Brisbane Band Festival and achieved the highest possible award in this section. The adjudicator Mr Pat Pickering, Director of Queensland POPS Orchestra, remarked that the Concert Band was the best primary school band he had seen in Australia.

Thanks and huge congratulations to Mr O’Callaghan who has taken our students to every possible competition and performed so very successfully on numerous weekends. Thank you also to the parents for ensuring all students were available for all competitions.

Fundraising Results

Last night I met with the Executive of our P&C Association to discuss funding they would like to give to the school from their fundraising efforts this year. They have made available $40,000 to be spent mainly on air conditioning and improving technology. Thank you to the amazing efforts from a small group of volunteers.

Thank you also to one of our Gold Sponsors Verve Constructions who have donated 7 air conditioners. Thank you so much.
Recruitment of Instrumental Students
This term we are again looking at recruiting sixty new students for our Multi Instrumental Music Program to commence in Term 1 2015. These students will come from Yr2/3/4. To be part of this program students must be achieving A’s in Effort as it requires a certain amount of time out of class time and students need to be able to catch up on work they have missed. Students must also be achieving at a high level as again students are out of class studying their instrument and at sectional rehearsals.

Just as there is a set of criteria to make the Rugby League Team and not everyone can be part of that extracurricular activity there is a set criteria to be part of the Instrumental Music Program which is also an extracurricular activity. Next year we will have over 300 students in our program, this is the largest and best primary school program in Queensland. There is also a compulsory fee which must be paid to be part of the program. All of this information will be sent out if your child is offered a place in the program. There is no need to apply and I am aware many students already have an Expression of Interest tabled. We will be offering places after our analysis of data and discussion with current class teacher occurs.

Congratulations to our Choir who also competed in the Brisbane Music Festival and won Gold. Thanks to Mr White and staff who accompanied the students on Sunday

Congratulations to our girls and boys touch football teams. Last weekend they both competed in the All Schools Touch Football Queensland Championships. The girls finished Saturday head of their pool and went into Sunday’s Championship round undefeated. The boys had to win a drop off on Sunday morning at 7:00am to get into the Cup round. They won this and went on to defeat four other teams to make the final of the Cup round. The boys then went on to defeat Warrigal Road in the final 6-3. Congratulations to both teams and our Mr MacArthur who gives so generously of his weekend and night time to ensure our students can do their very best.

Spirit of Banksia
This year has seen an amazing array of achievements in sport, music and academia. We wish to acknowledge and celebrate all of our fabulous students and staff. On December 8 we will be holding a Spirit of Banksia celebration commencing at 7:00pm. We will feature our performance groups and acknowledge our high achieving teams. Tickets will be limited and information about tickets will be announced shortly. Join in and celebrate our wonderful Banksia.

Facebook
I was in the office this week and was horrified to hear a parent say “I’ll just put it on the Banksia Facebook page.” There is no Banksia Beach State School Facebook page. I have no interaction with any Facebook page except when a helpful parent screen shoots a defamatory and inaccurate posting about our school or a staff member. This is given to my Executive Assistant and is sent to the unit in Central Office for possible legal action. Unfortunately this has occurred recently. I do not read it and I do not acknowledge any information contained in the post. If you have a concern my door, as I have said for the last 8 years, is always open. We have an official Twitter account which is managed by me and contains information about daily achievements and upcoming events. Go to @banksiabeachss to follow us and find out accurate and positive posts.

Let’s Have a Great Week!
Regards
Mrs Jacqui King
Principal

Swimming Years 1-3
Final payment was due Wednesday, 5 November. Students will not be permitted to continue their lessons until all swimming fees are paid. If you are having difficulty paying, please contact Karen Mills in the school office to arrange a payment plan.

Life Education - $6 per student
Life Education is a health promotion charity and the largest non-government provider of health and drug education to children. Students learn about nutrition, physical activity, body image, cyber safety, personal safety, smoking and alcohol etc. All lessons are age appropriate and your child’s teacher will choose the most appropriate topic.

Each class will visit the van individually in a time suitable to class timetables and specialist lessons.

The Life Ed van will be here until 17 November. Invoices were sent home with all students. Payment must be made before your child attends their lesson.

Should you have any questions, please see your child’s teacher.

Bus Travel and Student Details
Each quarter the school does a transport reconciliation report with Queensland Transport. To ensure that your child’s bus pass is not jeopardised, please ensure that the school has your correct residential address on our school records.

Student Council News
Banksia Beach State School is helping to build an English School in Tankahan, North Sumatra, Indonesia.

Our Student Council will be running various projects to raise $5,000 over the next year.

Friday, 14 November Free Dress Day
The theme is Animal. Gold coin donation.

Thursday, 20 November Spider Day

Uniform Shop News
Bookpack forms have been handed out to all students. You can pay for these at the Uniform Shop, over the phone or by putting your credit details on the form and handing it in.

Bookpacks are a major fundraiser for the school. A percentage of every sale goes directly back to our school, so please support us. If you don’t want everything in the bookpack, you can still place order via the Uniform Shop; just cross out what you don’t want – simple!

Senior Beanie Bears
Year 6 and Year 7 beanie bears are now available to purchase from the Uniform Shop for $22.00. There are only 50 available for each year so get in quick!!! Forms have been handed out to all Year 6 & 7 students.

Volunteer Christmas Celebration
We invite all volunteers to our annual Christmas Celebration to thank you for your efforts and the contribution you have made to our school throughout the year.

Where: The Hall
When: Tuesday 25th November
Time: 12.00pm

Please complete an RSVP form and return it to the canteen as soon as possible. RSVP forms are available from the office, A Block, the canteen and from classroom teachers.
Date Claims

November
- Tuesday, 11  Remembrance Day
- Tuesday, 25  Volunteers Christmas Lunch

December
- Tuesday, 2  Year 4 & 5 Awards

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO BANKSIA BEACH STATE SCHOOL IN 2015

To help with staffing and class allocations for 2015, if you know that your child/ren will not be returning to Banksia Beach State School for the 2015 school year, please complete and return this form to the office as soon as possible.

Year 6 & 7 Parents:
For school record and transition/statistical purposes, if your child is NOT attending Bribie Island State High School please indicate which high school they will be attending. If this form is not returned it will be assumed that your child will be attending Bribie Island State High School and this will be recorded in your child’s records and our school records.

Students
____________________________________________  Class  ____________
____________________________________________
____________________________________________

Transferring to: ___________________________________________ School

____________________________________________  Date

Parent signature

Please return to the school office

2015 CLASS PLACEMENTS - Please return to the school office

Child’s Name: _____________________________________________

Present Class: ________________________________

2014 Year Level: ________________________________

Please be aware that you should provide information you believe is educationally significant. We consider Education Queensland class size limits, and attempt to balance gender, ability, and behavioural factors across classes. Parents also are able to provide information that may be important in making these decisions. Comments should be constructive and informative. Reasons need to focus on education rather than personal grievances. Please do not make requests for specific teachers.

________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Forms are to be returned no later than 3.00pm, Friday, 28 November 2014.