Dear families, caregivers and friends of the Blackbutt State School community, welcome to this edition of the Blackbutt Bulletin,

From the Principal’s Desk

ATTENDANCE - EVERY DAY, EVERY HOUR, EVERY MINUTE COUNTS AT BLACKBUTT STATE SCHOOL THANKS TO YOU ALL

I’d like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year. Thank you for the overwhelming support as I’ve become familiar with this wonderful school community.

OUR YEAR 6 GRADUATION

On Tuesday, our Year 6 students celebrated their final year at primary school with a special graduation dinner at Blackbutt Golf Club.

Students and their families were joined by Blackbutt State School staff for a night of laughter— and tears— as Year 6 teacher Mr. Ben Hawthorne and his students reminisced on a year packed with hard work, leadership challenges, special friendships and some fun-filled moments.
Year 6 Graduation Continued...

Our two special guests were Mr Gavin Jones our South Burnett Council Representative and Mr Barry Sutherland, the trust fund manager for the Archie Muir Bursary who flew into Blackbutt from his home in North Queensland to be here to present the bursary prizes at the graduation.

It was a very special occasion for two of our 2016 students who were the proud recipients of the inaugural Archie Muir Bursary computer prizes on the night. Archie Muir was a well-known local resident who ran the local garage for many years. When he passed away, some time ago at 74, he bequeathed some money to support the young people of Blackbutt State School. One boy and one girl were chosen for the bursary prize which will be an annual event from this year. Each student applying for the bursary was subject to a rigorous application and selection process which was weighted by a panel including fund manager for the Archie Muir Trust, Mr Barry Sutherland. Congratulations Hayden and Mara.

Our proud inaugural Archie Muir Bursary recipients were Hayden Martin and Mara Dorman.

A number of our Year 6 students were the recipients of Blackbutt State's School highest achievement medallions.

The Highest Performer Medallion and Dux of School was Lawson Green for his outstanding efforts in academic results, attendance and behaviour. The High Performer Medallion for the next highest academic results, attendance and behaviour went to Sienna Norris and Roan Perkins-McAuley. Mara Dorman was awarded the Achievement Medallion for consistently working to her full academic potential and showing a positive attitude to learning. The Commendation Medallion went to Lauren Beutel for showing sound to high achievement in all her studies, participating in special school programs, consistently taking part in events to help others and for being a positive role model for others.

Congratulations to all year 6 students.
Blackbutt State School students marked a successful 2016 with a special Celebration Parade to share their achievements. Proud students and their parents enjoyed the hour-long parade which included the presentation of a $320 cheque to Helping Hands, a charitable group helping Blackbutt residents in need.

I addressed the audience of parents and carers before the presentation of Gold and Platinum Behaviour Certificates. Students with an attendance record of 100% during the term also were acknowledged with special certificates.

Students were given the option of donating reward Buzz Buttons to charity, with more than 2500 Buzz Buttons donated. Mrs Davina Holmes from Helping Hands accepted the $320 cheque on behalf of the charity group and acknowledged the generosity of our students who had donated their hard-earned Buzz Buttons to a worthy cause.

“‘I am proud to accept this cheque which will go towards helping local residents in need, especially at Christmas time,’ ” Mrs Holmes said. “Blackbutt students have shown that they support the broader community by helping their chosen charity.”

Students were awarded their Gold and Platinum Behaviour Certificates, with Platinum Gold Certificates going to those students who consistently achieved the above rules.

Platinum Certificates were awarded to students for always following school rules, showing exceptional behaviour inside and outside the classroom, being responsible for their

There was a special farewell for our outgoing teachers, Mr Ben Hawthorne and Miss Helen Neller who enjoyed a trip through an impressive archway formed by fellow staff and students.

We welcomed two new teachers for 2017, Mr Lewis Bishton (Year 6) and Mr Keith Perrett (Year 5) who visited to meet their new classes.

FAREWELL MR HAWTHORNE AND MS NELLER

It is with great sadness that I formally say farewell to two key members of our staff. Mr Hawthorne our year 6 teacher and Ms Neller our Inclusion Teacher/Learning Support have both taught at Blackbutt State School for the last three years.

Mr Hawthorne looking his best as The Man from Snowy River

Ms Neller looking her best as Grandma Poss from Possum Magic in our Library Book Week Display.

Mr Hawthorne has taught year 6 during his time at Blackbutt State School. Mr Hawthorne has been voted as the most popular teacher in the Library Book Week display for three years in a row. This is an achievement he cherishes. Ms Neller has taught years 1&2 classes, and has been the Learning Support and Inclusion teacher during her time at Blackbutt State School. Ms Neller has organized the talent quest in her own time for the last three years. Ms Neller is proud of nurturing future performance artists from Blackbutt. It’s time for them to relocate and both teachers have been successful in transferring into the North Coast Region. Mr Hawthorne will be teaching at Banksia Beach State School. Ms Neller will be teaching at Eatons Hill State School.

Both teachers have contributed significantly to our community. We wish them the very best for their future career, but will miss their hard work and ‘can do’ attitude.
IS THE COST OF BASIC FOOD ITEMS, HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES AND TOILETRIES GETTING BEYOND YOU?
The South Burnett Pantry might be the answer.
The Pantry is open every Friday from 8.30 -12.30
First time customers need to register at the check-in desk and every week people pay a $40 handling fee for the hamper. The hamper includes your choice of fresh fruit and vegetables, milk, bread fresh or frozen, meat/chicken/fish, frozen dairy products, a selection of tinned and packaged foods as well as toiletries, household cleaners and baby items. YOU CHOOSE THE ITEMS YOU WANT.
PANTRY ADDRESS:– 22 Stolzenberg Road Kingaroy
Nanango Wesleyan Methodist Church also has a pantry every Thursday morning in the side Street Heritage Bank is on.
Cost of their hamper $20
If you need emotional support or just someone to chat with I am at Blackbutt School every second Wednesday.
Wendy Chapman (Chaplain)

REQUEST FOR PRIVATE DONATIONS FOR SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY
Any parents or carers who wish to donate to support the school’s Chaplaincy Program. This could be a one off amount, or we can organise for regular amounts to be donated. Please contact the office staff, principal or our Chaplain to organise.

We might ask ourselves where has the year gone with Christmas just around the corner. Children will be finished assessments and entering into all the end of the year activities. Just a reminder to families who may be struggling, remember the pantry in Kingaroy every Friday morning or Nanango on Thursday and Friday.
For all the times you’ve felt different
For all the times you’ve been left out and left alone
And for all the dreams that haven’t come true
Christmas has a message of hope for you
As this school year draws to an end’ I would like to wish you all a safe and Happy Christ- mas.
Wendy Chapman (School Chaplain)

STUDENT ENROLMENTS 2017
Some students have relocated. Our anticipated Prep numbers are under review. The formation of Prep/Year 1 classes and Year1/Year 2 classes are now under review. Until we return in 2017 and can confirm numbers, we will be forming a straight prep class until Day 8. After day 8, depending on enrolments at the school, we may need to form a Prep/Year 1 class and a Year1/Year 2 class.
**Teacher Staffing for 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Ms Stacey Hazell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep/Year 1</td>
<td>Ms Shannon Wright</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1/Year 2</td>
<td>Ms Simone Newitt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Ms Laura Hanton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Mr Justin Perrin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Mr Keith Perrett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Mr Lewis Bishton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Ms Madeline Williams (2 days per week-Tuesday and Wednesday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A/DP</td>
<td>Ms Natasha Miller (3 days per week-Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPE</td>
<td>Ms Natasha Miller (2 days per week-Thurs &amp; Fri)</td>
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**Head of Curriculum**

Ms Laura Hanton (1 day per week – Friday)

**THE LAST WEEK OF TERM**

Events for the last week of term are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7 December 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Report cards go home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8 December 2016</td>
<td>9am to 2pm</td>
<td>Class Party Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2pm to 3pm</td>
<td>Individual classes organise their own days</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christmas Celebration</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Whole school sing-a-long in hall performing Christmas Carols – each class performs something. Announce the year 6 award recipients</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9 December 2016</td>
<td>9am to 3pm</td>
<td>Clean and Move Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Students help with clean up. Staff move into 2017 teacher rooms.</td>
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**SOME 2017 EVENTS**

**OUR SCHOOL PRIORITY FOR 2017**

Next year we will be focusing in improving the teaching and learning of writing inclusive of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

**MEET AND GREET SESSION-20 JANUARY 2017**

Next year on Friday 20 January 2017, parents and carers will be invited to meet their new teachers from 11.00am to 12.00pm and put away their children’s school books et al prior to school starting on the following Monday 23 January 2017. Please mark this date into your calendar and come along next year to meet the new teacher/s for your child/ren.

**THRASS PARENT/CARER WORKSHOP TUESDAY 17 JANUARY 2017**

Next year, we will be offering a THRASS workshop for parents and carers on Tuesday 17 January 2017 from 4.30pm to 6.00pm. This workshop will be presented by presenters from the THRASS Institute who will be working with all school staff during Tuesday 17 January and Wednesday 18 January. THRASS will be re-invigorated at Blackbutt State School to ensure we are using a consistent sounds to letters program from Prep to Year 6. Please mark this date and time into your calendar for 2017.

**2017 BOOKLIST**

A copy of the required booklists are available on the school’s website.
Information included in the last week's newsletter was for families and carers about “What makes a Positive School Community”. Each fortnight fact sheets appear in the newsletter and they are a great source of information and a very easy read. I encourage all parents and carers to take the time to reflect on the messages included to assist us all in nurturing the development of children.

Positve Behaviour Milestones
A special congratulations go to the following students who have reached the following Buzz Button Milestones.

**50 Buzz Buttons Reached**
Year 1: Cooper Baird, Braxton Collin, Jordan Danielson, Abbysea Alsop, Mia Brott-Hoffmann, Haylee De Vere, Natanya Kamp
Year 6: Faith Garven

Year 2: Alex McMahan, Indigo Leyland
Year 5: Claire Stretton
Year 6: Kane McPherson, Taran Trevanion-Cuthbert

**100 Buzz Buttons Reached**
Year 6: Faith Garven

Year 2: Max Gee, Jazz Mladenovic
Year 4: Cameron Redlich
Year 5: Lillyana Beutel
Year 6: Jacob Forrester, Lawson Green, Jett Hoffmann, Hayden Martin, Roan Perkins-McAuley, Paegan Lemire, Sienna Norris

**150 Buzz Buttons Reached**
Year 6: Kane McPherson, Taran Trevanion-Cuthbert

Year 4: Brodie Horvath, Pete Lawton, Summa Collins, Mystique Lemire, Mackenzie Sakowski
Year 6: Kiara McCormick

Year 4: Toby Neilen, Amelya Mathews

Year 4: Skylar Gilroy, Tia Mladenovic

**200 Buzz Buttons Reached**
Year 4: Brodie Horvath, Pete Lawton, Summa Collins, Mystique Lemire, Mackenzie Sakowski
Year 6: Kiara McCormick

Year 4: Toby Neilen, Amelya Mathews

Year 4: Skylar Gilroy, Tia Mladenovic

**250 Buzz Buttons Reached**
Year 6: Kiara McCormick

Year 4: Toby Neilen, Amelya Mathews

Year 4: Skylar Gilroy, Tia Mladenovic

**300 Buzz Buttons Reached**
Year 4: Tia Mladenovic

Year 4: Skylar Gilroy, Tia Mladenovic

**350 Buzz Buttons Reached**
Year 4: Ashlyn Daly

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**Kids Matter at Blackbutt State School**

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**TUCKSHOP**

Thank you to all for your support this year.

Volunteers wanted! Our wonderful Tuckshop ladies are looking for someone new to take over tuckshop next year. If you are interested please contact Sarah or Sandra in the tuckshop on Fridays.

**Uniform Shop**

The Uniform Shop is open on Monday afternoons from 3:00 to 3:20pm and Friday mornings from 8:15 to 8:45pm.

The school is chasing any second-hand shirts, so if students are finished (outgrown etc) with the current style, please consider donating their shirts for the second hand uniform scheme. Please deliver to the school administration.

**Breakfast Club**

**EMAILING REPORT CARDS AT THE END OF THIS SEMESTER**

At the end of this semester we will be emailing report cards to all parents who have an email address. Please visit the office or phone the school to let us know your current email address. The class teachers will be asking you for this over the coming term.

Please ensure that you have given the office your current email address.

Please add OneSchool.application@deet.qld.gov.au to your list of safe senders to ensure report card emails aren’t sent to the Junk folder.

Emailed report cards will only have the Principal’s signature on them. You will notice on the emailed report cards that the teacher’s signature field is blank. There is no facility to upload the teacher’s signature into One School at this time.

**FUNDRAISING NOTICE: CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED, some donations have already started coming in. Raffle tickets were handed out earlier this week! Raffle is drawn Thursday 8 December at the Christmas Sing-a-long.

 Regards Jenniel