Radical Leaders Public Speaking Evening

On Thursday 30 April, BCS staff, parents/careers and students were treated to an incredible evening with talented public speakers from Years 7-10. The ten students who spoke were inspired to listen to as they addressed challenging topics with an insight and maturity far beyond their years, with presentations that were beautifully polished. Thank you to these students for their dedication and effort and to Aria Carroll and Lily Munnings for their wonderful musical performance. Thanks also to the evening’s Officials – Wilough Corby, Abby Birdett and Master of Ceremonies Kristy Moyle. Evenings like this would not be possible without the tireless efforts of many staff members who encourage and help our students to participate in extra-curricular activities. A Public Speaking evening, in particular, would not be possible without the dedication and thoughtfulness of Mr Julian Davies, who remains the heart and soul of public speaking at BCS. Thank you Julian for your generous gifts of time and inspiration to students.

White Card training

As part of reading our students for the workforce, we offer senior students the opportunity to gain a number of qualifications that will be fantastic additions to their resume. These include the White Card, RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol), RGG (Responsible Conduct of Gambling) and Barista qualifications.

On Wednesday 29 April, 16 students from BCS attended a full day of training at the school to obtain their White Card. This certification is the basic Work, Health and Safety ticket to work in the construction industry. It was fantastic to see a range of students taking up this training opportunity. They included Year 9 and 10 students preparing for work experience opportunities later in the year (where this ticket will be required) and two boys who attend Vocational Education and Training work placements one day per week as an alternate education pathway to complement their in-school studies.

Many thanks to all involved and to Allen who delivered quality training for our students yet again. Jo Parsons, Careers Adviser

Community Engagement Working Group meeting

The next CEGW meeting is on Monday 11 May from 3:30pm in the library. The Group is a fantastic way for you to become involved at BCS. With its diverse agenda, and aims for ongoing improvement of the way BCS engages with the school community, there’s work for everyone to get involved in.

Aboriginal Education Consultative Group News

The next AECG meeting is on Tuesday 12 May, in the library from 5:30pm. All parents/carers of indigenous students are invited to attend these important meetings.

The agenda for this meeting will include the planning of our NAIDOC Day celebrations. It is imperative that we have as much input as possible as no funding is available so we will need to rely on parental support to ensure the success of this important day on the school calendar, which all students thoroughly enjoy and support.

Student of the Week

One Student of the Week is chosen from each class by the Assistant Principals, Mr Clarke and Mrs Davis. Students must consistently display our PBLs of consideration, achievement, responsibility and enthusiasm. These award cards count towards the students’ Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. Congratulations to:

Diggers: Joy Jones
Poppies: Jared Osborne-Russell
Gallipoli: Rose Bolin
Lighthorse: Reegan Saunders
Squadron 34: Matilda Jeffery
Coves: Emily Shea
Troops: Jake Darsey

Uniform Prize Winners

Each week a number of students’ names are drawn from a hat and those in full uniform win our uniform awards. Last week’s winners are:

Imogen Dixon
Patrick Shea
Oscar Stuart-Camenzuli
Marlo Munnings
Kiera Hourigan

Reminder for X – 6 Parents/Careers

As per the Primary newsletters:

- Assembly is in the Hall every Thursday at 12pm; and
- Sport is now on Friday.

 parenting ideas by Michael Grose

http://www.parentingideas.com.au

As an ex-house dad, I take my hat off to mothers. When I was busy at work I would often think about what my wife must be doing. I used to conjure up an image of her playing happily with my three-year-old son in the sandpit at the local playground while the other two children slept peacefully nearby. With these images at the front of my mind I thought motherhood sure beat working for a living.

Many years ago I discovered how far from the truth my notion of motherhood really was when my wife and I swapped roles. I must confess that two of the children were at school so I had it easier than my partner but it was as close as I could get. The first thing I learned was that while I may be the primary carer I could never be a substitute mother to my children. Take illness for example. When one of the kids was off-colour, had a cut or bruise or just needed some tender loving care they headed straight for their mother. Dad may do in the meantime, but I was a pale imitation of the real thing, their mum, when it comes to dispensing comfort. I could give them just as good a hug, it is just that their mum was well ... their mum. It is as simple as that.

I also learned there are some things that fathers can’t do as well as mothers. In my case it was my daughters’ hair. The first time I put my youngest daughter’s hair in a plait she cried. Not from pain, just the sight of an embarrasment of being seen in public with a hair-do that looked like a piece of knotty, old rope. It became accepted in my house that ‘dads don’t do hair’. I soon appreciated the unique skills that mothers develop if they are to survive the daily rigours of parenting on a daily basis. In particular, mothers seem to have the uncanny knack of doing 3 jobs at once while dealing with noisy or whingeing children. Anyone who can cut a round of sandwiches, prepare breakfast for a family, find a missing pair of socks for tiny feet while making sure everyone is on track, has my vote. I have trouble getting myself dressed in the morning, let alone worrying about anyone else.

There is no place in a mother’s repertoire for tunnel vision or focusing on one task at a time. These are luxuries reserved for the workplace, not the family home. The fact that kids are noisy, demanding and often unpredictable means anyone who spends a fair time in their vicinity must be flexible, patient and able to keep cool under extraordinary pressure. Qualities I still don’t possess.

Take cooking for example. The job of preparing a decent meal wasn’t too hard. I could – and still can – usually produce something quite edible with a minimum of fuss. However, rarely did I have the chance to cook in isolation. There was always a child interrupting, asking for help or just wanting to chat. Not to mention fitting cooking around bathing, hearing kids read or picking them up from sports practice. An increasing number of mothers do full-time paid work then come home for their second shift of parenting. Any mention to these mothers of my trials with the juggling act, simply evokes a shoulder shrug and a ‘welcome to the real world’ look.

If anyone says that motherhood is not like real work, send them my way. After many years of being the primary parent to my children – usually the preserver of women – I can really set them straight. It’s hard yakka that largely goes unrewarded.

Happy Mother’s Day!
Thank you to Mr Steve Scaife who generously donated his time to connect the school’s new water tank to the vegetable garden.

**Triple P Parenting Online Course**
Braidwood Life Centre will reimburse $30 of the $79.95 cost of the Triple P online course, to the first 10 parents, who register and send proof of their registration to: Peter Malone (pmalone@iinet.net.au)

Triple P Online is a new version of the evidence-based, internationally renowned Triple P: Positive Parenting Program. It’s an easy-to-use 8 module online parenting course for parents of children aged 0 to 12 years. Each module only takes around 30-60 minutes to complete, so it’s ideal for parents who simply don’t have the time to attend a Triple P group. The modules are a fun, lively mix of video clips, worksheets and activities, with parents also able to sign up to receive podcasts, emails and text reminders to help them along the way. Triple P Online is designed for all parents, whether they’re having problems or challenges with their child’s behaviour, or would just like to learn more about building positive family relationships, helping kids to be happy and confident and taking care of themselves as parents. To Register Go to http://www.saccare.com.au/pages/services/Triple_P_Online/
- Enter the code 17UB at the checkout. For any queries, contact Kathy Toirkens 48422021.

**Celebrate Central**
Celebrate Central will again be held during Education Week in Week 3, Term 3. In addition to celebrating the success of our school, our students and their work, this year will also include the following information sessions:
- Transition to Kindergarten 2016
- Transition to Year 7 2016
- Transition to Year 9 2016

Find out about what Central offers for your Kindergarten Child.
Find out what the Secondary section of the school offers for Year 7 students.
Find out about course selections.
Find out about the Higher School Certificate, courses offered and how Central offers authentic learning pathways for all students.

**Upcoming Events**
- NAPLAN Tuesday 12 May to Thursday 14 May
- Year 10 Public Speaking at Bomaderry Friday 15 May
- Athletics Carnival Thursday 21 May.

**Notes that went out this week**
1. CRL Small Schools’ Rugby League Knockout in Cooma

If you have not received a copy of a note that is relevant to your child, please see the website: http://www.braidwood-c-schools.nsw.edu.au/notes or contact the office to obtain another copy.

**Thank you**
Thank you to Ms Helen Hume who generously donated his time to connect the school’s new water tank to the vegetable garden.

**Braidwood Urban Landcare Group**
Braidwood Urban Landcare Group along with DIGGING STICK ART AND FOOD and TWO FIRES FESTIVAL 2015 invite you to the opening of JUDITH WRIGHT GARDEN and The Braidwood Community Gardens Open Day and Soup Kitchen on Sunday 17 May 2015 from 12pm to 2:30pm at Flood Creek (at the end of Garvey Street). More information is available at: www.twofiresfestival.org.au

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**Two Fires Festival**
Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May. A special feature of this year’s Festival is the Unveiling Ceremony for the Dhuga Rock, which acknowledges the Aboriginal people who lived in this area before the town of Braidwood was established. The Unveiling will be from 10-11.30am on Saturday 16 May. BCS students have been involved in the Dhuga Rock project, participating in workshops about indigenous culture, art and dance with Noel Butler and Trish Roberts. We invite students and their parents to come to the unveiling ceremony, and join in the dancing led by Noel and Trish. We will have special red headbands for all children joining the dancing. Please see www.twofiresfestival.org.au for the full program, and we hope to see many families in Rynie Park on Saturday morning! There will be other interesting activities in the Park (all free) as well as a program of presentations in nearby St Bede’s Hall and the National Theatre.
For more information, call Julie 0402 605 945