



# BRIBBAREE PUBLIC SCHOOL

## Term 1 Week 6

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## Principals Update

Here we are, Week 6 already! They always say, time flies when you are having fun and students at Bribbaree Public certainly are continuing with their upbeat positive attitude towards their learning and activities planned for them.

MicroBits continue to impress students. We are coming to realise how versatile they are. Miss Darcy and myself are surprised with all the features they have including shake sensor, light sensor, thermometer, microphone for such a small unit. Over the past two weeks we have shared our MicroBits with Quandialla and Bailey is thriving during this activity often assisting our buddies at Quandialla with their knowledge and process. This week we will be programming them to be pedometers to track our steps.

During our visit to Quandialla, we are so lucky that we have Miss Darcy on staff as she was able to, once again, open the Quandialla swimming pool for sport last Friday. Without Miss Darcy being a member of staff as a life guard for the Weddin Shire, this would not have been possible. Whilst Devina, Bailey and Brooklyn had a swimming lesson, Junmahbi and Indigo strengthen their swimming by swimming some laps and receiving some new pointers for their style. It was much welcomed by both Quandialla and Bribbaree Public due to the heat from the week.

Skipping continues to be a favourite lunch time activity. I have put the challenge to students to learn double dutch (jumping two ropes at a time like an egg beater). In preparation, students have been doing overs and unders as the running through over the rope is the way double dutch starts. So far, we had senior students, Junmahbi and Indigo, skip 3 jumps of double dutch. It has been great to watch their confidence grow.

Exciting news on the library furniture, this week I can confirm our new furniture has been ordered and is expected for delivery in 3 weeks, thank you Mrs Kelly for assisting with this. When I came to realise such a large percentage of our books were over 20 years old, we have spent time culling many of the books from our shelves. I am grateful for Mrs Dixon who has joined our team as a casual teacher for her many years experience in a library that has assisted in this process and Miss Shantelle who continues on Wednesdays to make this shift possible.

Currently, we have a huge number of "old" books culled from our library. All families and community members are welcome to come and have a look if there are any you would like to take home. Once we have next week's P&C meeting, books will be removed from our school. Bruno will be repairing and painting our back wall of the library prior to the installation of the new furniture. Bribbaree is so lucky to have such a handy General Assistant! Thank you Bruno.



Bribbaree Public School have signed up for the Premier's Reading Challenge. Miss Shantelle has taken on the organisation of this activity. All students borrowed books from our library that can be logged against the books they have read. Stage 1 students are to read 30 books, while Stage 2 and Stage 3 students are to read 20 books before August. This is obviously due to the length of books for the older students. Students are encouraged to return their library books on a Wednesday. It was also mentioned during our borrowing time that some students still have outstanding books from last year and it would be greatly appreciated if these books could be returned. Please let us know if you require a reminder for the books that may be at home.

It's Electrifying is our science unit this semester. Yesterday, we had the opportunity to experiment with circuits. The plan is to backwards map for the finished product. Whilst we haven't spoken about insulators and conductors of energy, that is going to be a hot topic next lesson as students discuss their frustrations for running lights and motors using battery packs. In the end, everyone was successful and their understanding will continue to develop over the coming weeks.

During our last P&C meeting, it was stated parents would like to have increased opportunity to come into our school and discuss their child's achievement and growth. I would like to invite all parents to make an appointment time with their child's teacher. I will make myself available for all students while Mrs Sirol will join us when meeting with Stage 1 students. Week 8 is officially the week that we intend on organising these meetings, however if this doesn't suit, please let us know so we can make other arrangements. Times will include Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Time slots 3.30pm – 4.30pm.

Please let the school know when you would like to make your appointment to discuss your child's learning.

No doubt our families now all know about the transitioning from communication to School Bag to School Bytes. As our department has made this compulsory, we are going to be fully up and running on this platform by the end of this month. In the mean time, it would be great if families resist from using School Bag and use the school number to text any information needed for the school.

Attendance remains a focus at Bribbaree Public School in 2024. We are tracking student attendance and we know that when students attend school consistently, learning is optimised. We follow Departmental policy and will contact all parents within 2 days of absence. No contact is required if you have sent through a text prior to the commencement of the school. If your child is sick for more than 2 consecutive days we will require a doctors certificate.

Today we were grateful to Mrs Butt from Monteagle for the invitation to attend Young Library for the book launch of Alphabetter. We were fortunate that the author, Maura Pierlot, was in Young during this launch and personally signed individual copies of her book for the families of Bribbaree Public School. The school was excited to be able to purchase a copy for each of our families to put on their very own bookshelves.

NAPLAN - Each year the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy is undertaken by students in Years 3 and Year 5. Students will participate in tests for writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. NAPLAN 2024 will take place from Wednesday 13 March to Monday 25 March. At Bribbaree, we are hoping to have all our students completed by 20 March with writing commencing on the first day. NAPLAN is just one part of our school learning assessment program. The tests assess literacy and numeracy skills your child is already learning at school.

In preparation for NAPLAN, our school will undertake activities to help students become familiar with the format and functionality of the online tests. These activities are not an assessment of student ability and will not be marked. Excessive preparation for NAPLAN is not required nor recommended. The public demonstration site (<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>) is available to see the types of questions, tools and functions used in the NAPLAN tests. Further information about NAPLAN is available on the NESA website (<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/understanding-the-curriculum/naplan/parent-information>). If you have any questions about NAPLAN, please contact the school.

This week, I will be flying to Sydney to attend my Principal Induction Wednesday – Friday. Whilst I am excited for all the learning it will bring, I have faith in Mrs Sirol (Friday) and Mrs Gorman (Thursday) who will be at the helm in my absence.

