Welcome back for our fourth and final term of 2009. I trust that you all had a relaxing, safe and enjoyable holiday. As always term four is shaping up to be very busy indeed. This week I am pleased to welcome Carol England and Yasmin Harper to our school. Yasmin and Carol are third year Bachelor of Education students from QUT in Brisbane. During their time at Lundavra they will be working closely with the students with Carol preparing a program aimed specifically at our students in the early years and Yasmin working with our students in the upper years. The younger students will be exploring fairy tales whilst the older students will be looking at short stories. The visual arts component of the unit will study lines culminating in the students producing an art work to grace the cover of their written pieces.

Over the past years Buranda State School in Brisbane’s inner south introduced a philosophy component to their curriculum. The success of this program has lead to this approach to education being integrated into the QUT bachelor of education program. Carol and Yasmin will be implementing a number of philosophy lessons during their time at Lundavra. The program aims to engage our students in ordered, rigorous philosophical discussions in order to improve their understanding of the world in which they live, and to make them better at thinking. The program asks them to go beneath the surface of things and really examine what concepts mean. Through philosophy, children become better thinkers. They think and talk about their thinking. They learn to recognize faulty reasoning, make distinctions, draw conclusions and make good judgments based on sound reasoning. They learn to reason inductively, deductively, hypothetically and analogously. They think about things we normally take for granted so develop deeper understandings of concepts. Through philosophical communities of inquiry, children learn to value and respect one another, which spills into all areas of their lives. They learn that everyone’s ideas are important, and they learn to explore disagreements respectfully. They learn to disagree with the idea, not the person. I am thoroughly looking forward to observing the philosophy lessons our students will be taking part in over the coming weeks. Yasmin and Carol are looking forward to working with our students and being welcomed into our community. I will continue to share the activities and successes from within our classroom over the coming week.

National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results for our years 3, 5 and 7 students have been released and will be distributed later this week. I urge you to contact me at the school if you have any questions or enquiries about your student’s results or if you would like to organise a meeting to discuss the report. I am extremely happy with the results achieved this year with all students achieving above the National Minimal Standard across all areas, a great improvement on our results from both 2007 and 2008. I congratulate all students who took part in the national testing program and thank them for their continuing commitment to their education.

Have a wonderful week.

Yasmin, Carol and I hope to see many of you at this evenings P&C meeting.
COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

One in every nine Australian women will be diagnosed with breast cancer by the age of 85. It could be a mother, sister, aunt, cousin, niece or friend. Whoever they are, one thing they have in common is that they will all need our help and support.

This year, Cancer Council’s Pink Ribbon day is on Monday, October 26th. Pink Ribbon Day is your chance to help raise money and awareness for all Australian women affected by breast cancer.

For as much as we do to help improve survival rates and treatments, the fact is there is still so much more to be done.

Show your support for breast cancer by ordering pink products to sell, volunteering your time to help, buying pink, holding a pink fundraiser, or making a donation.

This year alone around 13,500 Australian women will be diagnosed with breast cancer.

You can help us fight breast cancer

While survival rates have increased with recent breakthroughs, one in nine women still face a diagnosis by the age of 85 and will need our help and support. Your contribution can make a difference.

Fighting breast cancer through
• Research • Support • Prevention

Go to:
www.pinkribbonday.com.au
for more information

Share Your Thoughts on Parenting

Share your thoughts and ideas about parenting and programs to support parents, as part of a project conducted by the Parenting and Family Support Clinic (PFSC) at the University of Queensland. We are looking for parents of a 2-10 year old child to complete a survey and view some short videos about parenting programs. The study is available online at: https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/engagement. Alternatively, if you reside in the Brisbane metropolitan area, you can complete the study at the PFSC by contacting Faye Nitschke (Email: faye.nitschke@uqconnect.edu.au or Ph: 07 3365 7307).
Welcome back to our 4th term for 2009. I do hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday, away from home or just relaxing at home. The weather is still keeping us guessing with the cool nights and warm and dusty days.

This term the children will be participating in games, dance and swimming for PE. It was suggested after the Star Gazing night at Kindon that we should do a return visit and have a Bush Dance.

This will be discussed at the next P & C Meeting for confirmation.

The last day of term was a great day for the children and there are some photos from the day.

Swimming commences in Week 3 and a Swimming Permission note will go home soon. Please fill it in and return it to school as soon as possible. The Swimming Transport Survey has been assessed and it appears that we will not be needing the bus for swimming and relying on parents to transport children to town.

A reminder regarding hat, sunscreen and water bottles everyday at school. There will be sunscreen available for use at school. Several children had to stay under the building last term because of NO HAT and several children had time out because they did not keep their hat on their head. This will continue to be reinforced. Our school is a registered SUNSAFE SCHOOL and we need to abide by the rules of Education Queensland.

Watch the weeks fly!

Glenda Bignell

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Birth certificates for children starting Prep Year

Parents of children born between 1 July 2004 and 30 June 2005 who are starting Prep in 2010 will need a birth certificate to enrol them in the Prep Year.

The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages is encouraging parents to apply for birth certificates now to avoid the new school year rush.

To apply for a standard or commemorative birth certificate you can:

- visit the registry at 110 George Street, Brisbane or your nearest courthouse.
- Don’t leave it to the last minute – apply for a birth certificate now.