Brisbane City Council Immunisation Program – Thursday 8 May
This Thursday, 8 May 2008, the Brisbane City Council will visit the College to carry out vaccinations for Year 8 and Year 10 students.

If you returned the parental consent form that was sent home late last year, your son will receive their 1st dose of a 2 dose Hepatitis B vaccination (Year 8 students only).

Year 10 students will receive the Boostrix vaccination. If you completed and returned the parental consent form and your son is absent from school on Thursday, you will be contacted direct by the Brisbane City Council Immunisation Program to make alternative arrangements for the vaccination.

Peer Groups
I found the following article on peer groups. While much of the information is aimed at teenagers, dealing with our children’s choice of friends and the influence of their peer group is relevant to all ages. Having a group of friends is important for most, if not all children. Peer groups can be a very positive influence on your son’s life. They can also be a challenge for parents.

The following is a (non exhaustive) list of the positive things that peer groups provide:

- A sense of belonging and feeling valued.
- Somewhere to fit in, when they feel neither children nor adults.
- Increased self-confidence because they are accepted by the group.
- A sense of security and of being understood by others who are going through the same experiences.
- A safe place to test values and ideas.
- Help in the move towards independence.
- Practice in getting along with the opposite sex.
- Ways to meet new people.
- Friendships.
- Practice in learning to give and take.
- Influence in making decisions about their life.

Some of the problems that peer groups may present to parents include:

- Long hours on the telephone.
- A home that’s overrun with teenagers.
- Particularly when they are teenagers, some members of the peer group may do things that are outside your ‘house rules’, such as smoke, swear, drink alcohol or raid your refrigerator.
- Serious behaviours, such as shoplifting or drug-taking.

Suggestions for parents

- Work out the best solution for your family with regards to telephone or internet use, such as setting time limits or using ‘call waiting’.
- Set house rules. Negotiate where possible, while maintaining your values.
- Try to provide privacy and space for your teenager and their friends by changing the use of your rooms, if necessary.
- Keep low cost food available for example, fruit in season, breakfast cereals and bread.
- Be clear about what videos are allowed to be watched at your home.
- Make firm rules on alcohol consumption or lock your liquor cabinet, if necessary.
- Above all, keep your sense of humour (and proportion!)
When parents don't approve

You may not be comfortable about your son or daughter's choice of peer group. This may be because of their behaviour, or because of some more serious risk (such as the peer group being into using alcohol or other drugs, skipping school, shoplifting or vandalising property). Here are some suggestions:

- It is our responsibility as parents to keep our children safe
- Remember that criticising your son’s choice of friends is like attacking them personally.
- Keep the lines of communication open and find out why these friends are important to him.
- Check whether your concerns about their friends are real and important.
- If you believe your concerns are serious, talk to your son about the behaviour, not the friends.
- Encourage your son to trust their own sense of what is right, based on your family’s values, and discuss ways of saying ‘no’.
- You have the right to let your son know what your concerns are and to ask how they will cope if pressured to make risky choices.
- Talk with your son about the immediate and long term consequences of the inappropriate behaviour.
- Encourage opportunities for them to mix with other young people.
- Show your son that you trust him.
- Remember that we all learn valuable lessons from mistakes.

A friend in need

Sometimes, a young person who seems unsuitable will choose your child for a friend because your home gives a feeling of being safe and secure. This is, of course, a compliment to you and him, and may be an opportunity to help someone. You may be able to offer friendship and support. If you are really uncomfortable about the friend's behaviour, you need to talk to your son about it. Remember, you are unlikely to be able to break up the friendship if it is strong.

Adapted from [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au)

**Mother and Son Breakfast - this Friday**

We will be holding a Mother and Son Breakfast to celebrate Mother’s Day on 9 May at 7.00 am at the Shangri-La Gardens - 1969 Wynnum Road, Wynnum West. Cost is $20 per person this will include a hot buffet breakfast. If you would like to attend please RSVP by completing the attached tear off slip and enclose payment to the silver locked box (admin building). Final responses must be in by 9.00 am tomorrow as we need to provide final numbers to Shangri-La for catering purposes. We will not be able to accept late responses or arriving on the day. Please note school will start at 8.40 am on 9 May.

**Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 Tests - 13, 14, 15 May**

Boys in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will undertake the nation wide tests in literacy and numeracy next week. The class teachers have been helping boys prepare thoroughly for these tests. These are very important tests, however it is not really possible to ‘swat up’ for them. The best preparation is a combination of effort in class, full completion of homework, a good night’s sleep the night before and a proper breakfast on the day of the test.

**Scholarship Exam - Saturday 9 May**

Parents are reminded if their sons are sitting the 2009 scholarship exam this Saturday they should be at school by 8.15 am. Full details concerning timing and what do bring have been previously sent home.

**MBC Musical – The Wiz**

I look forward to attending the MBC music this weekend. For the first time, we have a number of boys, both on stage and back stage, involved. They have been working extremely hard and it should be a terrific show. Tickets are available from The Powerhouse.

**School Oval**

Over the last twelve months we have been successful in receiving a number of grants to enable us to water the College oval. The lush state of the grass is a testament not only to the dedication and ability of our Property Manager Mr Des Schinkel, but also due to being able to water the oval. The Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund provided $30 000 to MBBC for the installation of a water bore.
P & F Meeting/ Cyberbullying Information
In conjunction with next Monday’s P & F meeting Community Police Officer Joe Cranitch will be speaking on the issue of cyberbullying. It should be a very informative presentation on a significant issue for today’s young.

Roderick HW Crouch
Principal

Memory Verse
Not one of them will have to teach another to know me, their Lord.' "All of them will know me, no matter who they are." Hebrews 8:11

House of the Week
Congratulations to Doherty for being the House of the Week last week.

Award Cards
Congratulations to following students who received award cards last week: Prep - Callum Maybury, Oscar Melita, James Cullen-Ward Year 1 – Cairo Falvey, Connor Southern, Jack Kelly, Isaac Anderson, Sam Moore, Nicholas Cowley, Luke Ferguson, Hamish Stewar, Stirling Schmidt, Finley Mitchell Year 2 – William Reynolds-Ferraro, Louis Martin, Peter Georges, Ben Carstairs, Steele Glenn, Drew Mackay, Johannes Osotonu, Hudson Beck, Toby Kennett Year 3 – Nicholas Christofis, Jack Carstairs, Isaac Game Year 4 – Alex Kutschkin, Teal Dovey, Tavis Bancroft Year 5 – Benji Punin, Joshua Beck, Sam Bugden, Matthew Ott, Owain Thomas, Julian Teike

Tuckshop
For this Thursday’s tuckshop there are two options: Hot Dog with a flavoured Milk or a Ham, Cheese & Tomato Roll with a Gatorade. Both meals are $6.50 each. Please fill out the tear off slip to order tuckshop and place in the silver locked box with exact money by Wednesday 10.00am. Tuckshop cannot be ordered on Thursday. No change is able to be given so please include the correct money.

Tuckshop Volunteers
Volunteers are needed this term to collect the boys’ tuckshop from Moreton Bay College each Thursday. We also need volunteers to count money each Wednesday collected from tuckshop. Without the help and support of volunteers, tuckshop would not be possible. If you have some free time on a Wednesday or Thursday morning please fill out the tear off slip in the newsletter or call the office on 3906 9444.

OSHC
Term 2 Tuesday and Thursday After School Care placements are full. Casual days are able to be taken for the remaining four school days, however can not be guaranteed.

Before School Care days are still available.

Please supply afternoon tea for you son if he attends after school care in a separate container to their school lunch.

Miss Natalie Mossop
OSHC Co-ordinator

Wet Weather Information Line
The wet weather information line is available to call at anytime to check to see if your son’s sport matches or any other event will still be taking place whilst there is rain. The number is 3906 9450.
Brigidine College Year 9 - 12 Dance
Friday 16 May

Brigidine College conducts a Year 9-12 Dance on a couple of occasions during the year. The next dance will be held on Friday 16 May and our Year 9 and 10 students are invited to attend. The aim of the dance is to provide a safe, secure and non-threatening environment for the students to enjoy and interact.

The dance will be fully supervised with police, security, teachers, and parents in attendance. No tickets will be issued. Admission is by Student ID and $10 payable at the door. Refreshments will be on sale throughout the night.

When: Friday 16 May
Time: 7.00 – 10.00pm
Venue: Brigidine Multi Purpose Centre, Fairley St, Indooroopilly
Cost: $10 payable at the door (+ Student ID)

Bunya to the Bay (B2B) is a 16-day hike, bike, canoe and boat journey for 30 junior secondary students, the River Ambassadors, from a range of schools throughout South-East Queensland catchments. The River Ambassadors are accompanied by staff from the Outdoor and Environmental Education Centres. They will travel from the Bunya Mountains to Fort Lytton at the mouth of the Brisbane River (24 August – 7 September). The River Ambassadors will be focused towards a key outcome – What is the Future of our Waterways? They will explore who is responsible for managing our waterways and their value to our community.

Moreton Bay Boys College has the opportunity to nominate two students from Years 8 to 10 as River Ambassadors.

To qualify for selection as a River Ambassador, students must be reasonably competent in strands of one or more of the following KLAs: English, HPE, Science, SOSE, Technology and/or The Arts.

They will also need the following personal attributes:
- Moderate or above fitness level
- Self resourcefulness
- Self disciplined
- Adaptability / flexibility
- Ability to cope with adverse conditions (weather, lack of sleep etc)
- Motivated
- Good communication skills
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Enthusiasm
- Good team member
- Ability to work towards a common goal
- Appreciation for the natural environment.

As well as the potential River Ambassadors possessing
- Be prepared to contribute to the final reports and publications resulting from B2B 2008
- Attend all orientation activities (Orientation Weekend June 21/22)
- Be an active Ambassador within their communities to raise awareness of their local waterways and related issues

If you believe you would make a great River Ambassador for B2B 2008, you will need to nominate by writing a letter to Mrs Patchett. Please be sure to address the points above, but limit your nomination letter to one A4 page.

Nomination deadline for MBBC selection is: Friday 16 May
Successful nomination does not guarantee your selection to the River Ambassador team for B2B 2008 as these positions are highly sought after by students from all over Queensland. If you would like any further information, please contact Mrs Patchett.

Mrs Diana Patchett
Assistant to the Principal

Spotlight on Sustainability

*We stand at a critical moment in Earth’s history, a time when humanity must choose its future. As the world becomes increasingly interdependent and fragile, the future at once holds great peril and great promise. To move forward we must recognise that in the midst of a magnificent diversity of cultures and life forms we are one human family and one Earth community with a common destiny.*

Earth Carter preamble, [http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/2000/10/the_earth_charter.html](http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/2000/10/the_earth_charter.html)

Sustainable living must be the new pattern for all levels: individual, communities, nations, the world. Living sustainably depends on a duty to seek harmony with other people and with nature. The guiding rules are that people must share with each other and care for the Earth.

To adopt the new pattern will require a significant change in the attitudes and practices of many people. Moreton Bay Boys College will strive to demonstrate the importance of an ethic for living sustainably. To this end, the College staff has formed a Sustainability Sub-Committee that meets twice a term to pursue goals related to the key elements of sustainable living. Members include: Mrs Caroline Fogg, Mrs Alex Givney, Mrs Anne Green, Mrs Diana Patchett (Chairperson), Dr Brett Sawyer, Ms Sarah Smith and Ms Mary Youngman.

We currently have project teams working on the Stewardship of Nature Refuge, Environmental Education, Recycling Programs and Alternative and Efficient Energy Use, as well as individual contributions to a variety of related activities (including educational signage for the Refuge, grants and awards, etc.).

In an effort to raise awareness in the College community to issues of Sustainability and Stewardship, the Sub-Committee will publish items of interest each week in the newsletter. We hope that you will find them interesting. If you would like to contribute to our Sustainability initiatives, please contact Diana Patchett, Assistant Principal.

**‘Gliders in the Bayside’** with Ben Holmes

Wednesday 14 May, 7-9pm at the Wynnum North Bowls Club

Ben has previously worked for Wildlife Preservation Society and the City Council’s Educational Interpretive Centres. This free evening seminar is presented by the Bayside Creeks Catchment Group. Light refreshments will be provided.

**Wildlife Photography Workshop** with Steve Parish

Sunday 18 May, 9-11am at Melaleuca Environmental Park, Clifton St, Manly West

Celebrate Habitat Brisbane Day with Australia’s foremost wildlife photographer, Steve Parish. Guided tours, Geckoes Wildlife display and sausage sizzle.

**Prep-3 Nature Refuge Event**

Friday 22 May 4-5pm

**Friends of the Nature Refuge Event**

Sunday 24 May 9am-noon

---

**Sport**

As some details are still to be finalized concerning this week’s fixtures, all sports results and information will be updated on the College website by Thursday morning.

*Mr Hamish Pike*

*Sports Master*
Next week is going to be very busy at school, many of the students have testing and we have the big P & F fitness-a-thon on 15 May. I hope everyone is organising their sponsors. You can be sponsored per lap (each lap is one kilometre) or you can just be sponsored an amount for completing the course. We have some AFL tickets for the highest fundraiser and their will be subway parties for classes who raise the most money. All students who participate will receive a sample bag. The forms are due back on or before the day of the fun run. We hope to see parents at this event and if you would like to help out please contact Hamish Pike or Lara Rennie 3348 3366.

Chocolate money and Entertainment book money should now be finalised. Please remember to return money in the appropriate envelope to the school office or the silver box located outside the school office as soon as possible or return the item. Always ensure everything is clearly named.

In Term 1 we had a great mum's night out with the Fashion Parade. We are now trying to come up with some ideas for a Dad's night. In order to do this we need some help. Dr Crouch is looking to get some men together to form a small group to work on this project. If you are keen to be part of this please contact him via his assistant Louise Seddon - seddonl@mbbc.qld.edu.au.

Our next P & F meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Monday 12 May. Items on the agenda include - the dinner dance, trivia night and a car boot sale. It is always important to have your feedback, we look forward to seeing as many parents there as possible.

The final figures for the fashion parade are now in. We received $2700 from the sale of tickets $881 from raffle ticket sales, $495 from Nicole Preston Imports, $46.24 from Phoenix Cards (Sara Binks), Cash donations of $31.92 from Lara Rennie and $200 from Bank of Queensland. This totalled $4394.16. We had $356.41 in expenses which meant we raised a total of $4037.75. What a fantastic effort. Thank you to everyone involved.

We are certainly on our way to meeting our $30 000 target. Please continue to support the P and F.

Mother's Day Stall
If you are looking for a special gift for Mother's Day head to the school tuckshop for the Mother's Day stall. On sale will be Chocolate Flowers and Handmade cards for $2.50 each. The stall will be open on Thursday 8am – 8.30am and on Friday from 10.30am – 11.15am. All proceeds from the stall will go to the P & F.

Lisa Thompson
P & F President
Tear Off Slips

Tuckshop Volunteer
Name: ___________________________________________ Day Available: ____________________________
Contact Number: _____________________________________________________________

Tuckshop Order – Thursday 8 May 2008
Name __________________________ Year: __________

☐ Hot Dog with a flavoured Milk
☐ Ham, Cheese & Tomato Roll with a Gatorade

(Please circle choice of drink)

Please enclose exact cash (no change is able to be provided).
Please put in an envelope marked Tuckshop and place in silver locked box by 10.00am Wednesday, 7 May 2008.

Mother and Son Breakfast - Friday 9 May 2008 7am
I would like to attend the Breakfast at a cost of $20.00 per person which I have enclosed.

Mother’s/Guardian’s Name: __________________________________________
Son’s Name/s: ________________________________________ Year: _____
Son’s Name/s: ________________________________________ Year: _____

RSVP: Friday 2 May 2008

Please place this slip in an envelope with payment in the silver locked box located outside the school office.

________________________________________________________________________


