Dear Parents and Carers,

**Welcome to the new 2013 School Year**

Please allow me to introduce myself, my name is Lee Braney. I have accepted the position of Acting Principal of Clare State School for 2013 and I hope that it will be extended in the future. My family (Wife Amy, and 3 boys Daniel, Patrick and Liam) moved to Clare from Kedron in Brisbane. We are looking forward to our time in the community and all of the experiences it brings with it.

I come here from Bracken Ridge State School, a school of 500 students in North Brisbane. The majority of my time at Bracken Ridge I have been a classroom teacher who has taught a range of classes including many multi-age classrooms. Whilst at Bracken Ridge I was a part of the Leadership team and was privileged to have a number of opportunities in the role of Acting Deputy Principal. As well as these opportunities I have been a participant in the Education Queensland program called ‘Take the Lead’ for aspiring leaders for the past 2 years.

Before my position at Bracken Ridge I taught at Western Cape College, Aurukun Campus. This school was located in the remote Indigenous community of Aurukun on the Western side of Cape York. My teaching experiences there included a year 4 class and a multi-aged year 8 to 11 class.

All my teaching experiences so far have provided me with an understanding of how important a team culture, ethos and collaborative focus is in helping to achieve the best possible student outcomes. This has been something that I have been lucky to experience and build on within my teaching career so far and something that I would like to foster within my role here at Clare State School.

I would like to take the opportunity to let everybody know that I have an open door policy and I will always make myself available to listen to students, parents and the community. Feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, comments or ideas that you have.

I look forward to meeting and working with you all, and I am excited and feel privileged about being given this opportunity at Clare.

**Staffing**

Year 4 – 7 will be taught by me Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Barb Mitchell on Thursday and Friday. Prep to Year 3 will continue to be taught by Mr Roberson. After two great student free days, all staff are positive about making further improvements in student achievements this year.

**Important Notice:**

As per Education policy, day 8 is the day staff allocation and school funding is finalised for all Queensland State Schools based on student numbers. Due to a substantial drop in student numbers from 2012, the first 8 days of school will be of high importance to our school. Based on current enrolments, Clare State School will become a 1 teacher school. Therefore, all students wishing to attend Clare State School, for 2013, need to enrol and attend regularly during this time. If you know of any prospective enrolments please let the office know so we can make contact. Thank you for your understanding and help with this matter.

**NRL Visit**

On Thursday 31st January from 2.00 – 2.50pm, some representatives from the NRL and some players will be coming out here to the school and talking to the children about the game and doing some drills with the children.

**B and C School Combined Swimming Carnival**

The B & C Schools Swimming Trials will be held at the Ayr Swimming Pool on Wednesday 6th February. The trials are scheduled to commence at approx. 9:00 am and should conclude by approx. 12.00 midday. The trials are for the purpose of selecting children to compete in the Webber shield on 12th February. Parents are asked to provide transport for their child by private car. Children will not be charged entry to the pool. Adults will be charged a $1.00 entry fee. If your child is interested in nominating, please contact the school office on Thursday 31st January.
Please note that the following applies to the trials:

- Only 9 to 13 years old can nominate
- If heats are required a final between the heat winners will be held
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd will receive ribbons
- There are no age champions
- 100m and medley events will be selected on the basis of times provided by swimming clubs

**Swimming**

Clare State School’s PE day has changed from Wednesday back to Monday, so swimming will now be on a Monday. **TERM 1 SWIMMING COMMENCES ON Monday 11th FEBRUARY.** Swimming will be held for 6 weeks and all children need to attend as it is part of the school curriculum. You need to notify the teacher by phone/written note if your child is not attending swimming for that week. Students are required to walk to and from the pool, every child must wear a hat and covered footwear. It is compulsory for children to wear a shirt while swimming and the wearing of sunscreen is recommended. Children whose families are not members of the Clare Pool Management Committee are required to pay $1.00 per student per lesson which is to be paid directly in the box located at the pool. (Children cannot attend without written permission being received – please ensure the attached Permission Slips 2013 are returned by then.)

**Permission Forms**

Enclosed with this newsletter are 3 forms: Permission slips 2013, Medical Information Update 2013 and Internet/Email Access Agreement 2013. Please complete and return each form to school by Friday 1st February to enable your child to attend swimming.

**Reminders**

- Thank you to those parents who have kindly donated a ream of photocopy paper and a box of tissues. If you have not already done so, it would be greatly appreciated.
- Could parents please remember to label snack containers in the Yr P-3 classroom. Please ensure that hats are also named as they are often found lying around with no names on them.
- We are asking if someone could generously donate some diesel for the school mower. If you can help please contact the school or Joanna Marchioni on 0407827155.

Lee Braney
Acting Principal

**Quote of the Week:**

*Achieving starts with believing.*

Anonymous

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- NRL School Visit – Thursday 31st January
- B&C School Carnival – Wednesday 6th February
- School Swimming Commences – Monday 11th February
- Webber Shield – Tuesday 12th February

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Netball sign-on Flyer
- Medical Information/Contact Form 2013
- Internet Access Agreement 2013
- Yearly Permission Slips 2013
- P&C Uniform Orders
- Police Newsletter

**SCHOOL CALENDAR**

**This Week (28th January to 1st February):**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Public Holiday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>NRL Visit</td>
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**Next Week (4th February to 8th February):**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Music</th>
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<td>PE</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>LOTE Yr 7</td>
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