**Homework**

This year’s homework has changed. Students are asked to work on their spelling and reading as the main priority. At times there will be maths homework sent home in the form of Signpost to support the lessons in class. But at this stage the focus is on spelling and reading. Students are asked to use the look, cover, write, check process on two of the lists and ask a parent to test them for the remaining list.

**PLEASE NOTE—CHANGE OF DATES IN COMING EVENTS**

Day 8

School numbers for Day 8 were at thirteen. In the coming week we will be finalising staffing based on these numbers. As a result there should not be a significant change to the teaching staff, but we have yet to finalise the teacher aide hours. As things progress I will keep you all informed.

**Swimming**

Swimming starts this week. We have set it for 6 weeks and will see how the weather is progressing as we move into Autumn. If the temperature stays up we will be able to continue swimming through until the end of the term. If not we may need to end the swimming early. This year we are swimming in the Quinalow State School pool, and Mr Marley-Quinn will be taking the lessons. Students not swimming will be with me doing work, and then there will be a swap part way through the morning.

**eKindy**

eKindy is running very well, and it looks like we may have a few new members. In the coming weeks Danielle will be visiting the school, (eKindy Teacher) and working with Kim and the families to improve on practice. Our first week of eKindy has been a great success and is continuing to grow. Great Job staff, Big effort Kim.

**Permission Forms**

We need all permission forms returned for the school webpage and Facebook pages. If you do or do not want your child’s work and/or photo on these we need the forms returned. There are a few outstanding forms to be returned and we need these done as a matter of our start to the year procedures. Any questions please ask any of the staff.

**Michael Sutton.**

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**Office Hours:**

Tuesday 8.00am-3.00pm

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**Religion Teachers:**

Mrs Kummerow and Mrs Hensel

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Principal: Mr Michael Sutton | Irvingdale Road Bowenville Qld 4404 | Ph: 0746 637127 | Mobile: 0475 807124 | Fax: 0746 637189 | Email: the.principal@bowenvilss.eq.edu.au
COMMMUNITY EVENTS:

TENNIS LESSONS
Tennis Lessons in 2015
At the Bowenville SS
Lessons for all ages & standards
Friday mornings before school
Contact Club Professional
Ben Campbell
M: 0414 645 916
(enrolment form attached)
e: faultless@samford.net

BOOK CLUB:

Book Club is due back by TOMORROW 11th February. All orders can be dropped into the school office. NO CASH PLEASE—needs to be cheque or credit card.

PLAYGROUP:

Playgroup will be Wednesday 11th February. Please bring a piece of fruit to share and a hat. Gold coin donation appreciated. All enquiries to Kim Welke—kwelk4@eq.edu.au

eKINDY:

Things to find at home to help our school eKindy / Playgroup:

Scrap pieces of wrapping paper
Old Catalogues
Magazines
Cardboard boxes (Cereal boxes)
Cardboard rolls (Glad wrap cardboard tobes – NOT toilet paper rolls though)
Material scraps
Lace, ribbon and wool
Rice, pasta (that we can colour to use for collages)

If you have any of these laying around your house and you would like to get rid of them, please think of us.
Thank you for your help,
Kim Welke.

P & C NEWS:

AGM and Bus Meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th February. BBQ will commence at 6pm with Bus meeting at 7pm followed by AGM at 7.30pm

John Hensel 0429 92 42 92 jdhensel@bigpond.com
P & C President

Four generations attend the same school—Please see story attached
If you would like to sponsor our Newsletter for 2015 please contact the school office or email amorg140@eq.edu.au

Our sponsorship helps with the publication of our end of year school magazine.

There will be a **BOWENVILLE FIRE BRIGADE GENERAL MEETING** on Thursday 19th February at the Bowenville Fire Shed at 7.30pm.

*It is essential that as many Local Property Owners and Residents, attend as possible.* Any NEW people to the area please come along; the Levy for Fire Brigades is added to your Rates notice. So spread the word to those afar, for the Bowenville Fire Brigade district goes from the EAST, Prospect Rd near Jondaryan along Malu Rd, the Old Acland gravel road, Morgan’s Rd and Wonga Plains South Rd to the WEST, east side of Griffiths Rd to the creek, east of Auchmah Boundary Rd and over to the NORTH, south side of Quinalow Edgefield Rd almost to the North Branch of the Myall Creek to the SOUTH on the Jondaryan St Ruth Road. Many people are NOT on the Bowenville Mail Run, so will not receive this notice.
Anyone wishing to have a stall is welcome. Stalls are $20 and can be booked by phoning the church office on 46623 717.
FOUR GENERATIONS ATTEND THE SAME SCHOOL, BOWENVILLE STATE SCHOOL

John Harth is the first generation to attend Bowenville State School. He is the second youngest child of 6 children, son of Ernest & Dorothea Harth and attended the School from 1943 to 1950, when it was first located south of the railway line. Ernest his father, held the position of Treasurer of the School Committee (the P&C now) from 1941, for 18 years over a number of different terms, while all his children attended the school. John with his other siblings going to school at that time, would either walk or run through the neighbouring properties (shortcut) or ride a pony the 5 and a half kilometres. Later the younger children got bikes to ride all the way. John can remember having many adventures going to and from school, mostly either chasing after the pony that had shied at something or picking himself and his belongings up from the ground. He did teach himself to swim along the way in a gravel quarry which held water after it rained. In winter, the teacher would light a wood fire in the classroom to keep everyone warm. The sole teacher would teach all the 40 or so students of all ages. John used slate boards instead of books and later ink and paper came into the school.

Janette Harth now Wise, the eldest child of 4 children, daughter of John & Josie Harth who lived on the family property “Bunya View” Bowenville with John’s parents, attended school from 1963 to 1969, at the new location north east of the railway line, where it is today. All four children of John & Josie attended Bowenville Primary School before going on to Dalby for High school. John was an active member of the school’s P&C while Josie was Secretary at times and a member of the School’s Mother’s Club or Ladies’ Auxiliary and also worked with other volunteer mothers at the new School Tuckshop which was established in 1965 to be used once a week for the students to be able to use money and purchase food items for themselves. John a farmer and being a reasonable carpenter plus other members of the School’s P&C built the room and made the benches for the Tuckshop. No government assistance for that back then, the P&Cs were the makers of a school. The P&C had to be strong to get what the school required. Smaller schools seemed to fare better as there was always a strong local community behind the school and its students.

Janette remembers the large numbers of students, some 130 odd who schooled each year while she was there. She had around 12 to 14 students just in her grade while she can remember her elder brother having 22 in his. Bowenville had students from Grade One to Grade Seven. Back then, the school had only 3 teachers, no teacher aides or administration part-time employees and one teacher had 3 grades to teach in the same class room, usually the 3 grades with the least number were put together into the one room. The students used pencils mostly and pens with ink only for Copy Book writing. Having so many students, sports like softball, cricket, netball, football and tennis were always played during the school day, as we could make many teams. The students also played against other schools close to Bowenville – Jondaryan, Acland, Formartin, Quinalow and Kulpi, every Friday afternoon. She can remember building lots of cubby houses out of small branches, sticks and star grass, down the back amongst the trees. The girls would bring their dolls and shoe boxes for their beds to school. The star grass was very soft and there was much of it, and when pressed together made good walls as well. The boys made roads and played Cowboys and Indians, bang bang games. A wife of one of the headmaster’s taught the girls Red Cross lessons, where the girls even had uniforms to wear after earning points for their nursing rank by doing written tests and practical work. The Girl Guides, Brownies, Scouts & Cubs were also movements that a student could be involved in. Some of the mothers would teach the girls sewing and having to make a sampler of all the stitches you would use in your life or some craft work with wooden pens and other things of more interest for the boys while a male teacher would teach the boys wood work (carpentry). The school also had a Choir which won many eisteddfods during the 1960s. She can remember getting a big 27 inch bike for her birthday so she could ride to the bus stop a kilometer away, there were 3 buses operating around Bowenville to collect the students for school. Living only a short distance from school, there were many hours spent travelling on the bus as it would change routes each month and the long way took around 45 minutes to go the 5 minutes to school. Lots of time to do all that reading for High School but very long for the young primary school children. We used to play all sorts of card games and many other games also.

Lance Wise the youngest child of 4, son of Murray & Janette now living at “Avalon” Bowenville, is the third generation to attend Bowenville State School. All his siblings also attended Bowenville School where Lance went from 1991 Pre-School to Grade Seven in 1998. The year 1998 was Bowenville School’s Centenary when he was one of the School’s Captains. Teacher Aides and part-time Administration Staff were part of the School where there was around 50 students and 3 teachers at that time. Most country children were out doorly and athletic and enjoyed the outdoor activities that were available, and this is where Lance during Sports Day in his last year at Bowenville broke the school record for Shot-Put which had been held for a very long time. Computers and the Internet were in the school and this opened up another whole new way of being taught; the students even communicating with other over-seas students. Lance can remember the same bus schedule and route, his mother had, as “Avalon” was just across the road from “Bunya View” where she lived while going to Bowenville School. The only difference was that he and all his siblings could drive from the age of about 5. Their parents had an old Mazda sedan that was used around the farm but mostly for them to use to get to the bus stop instead of the bicycles which were also used perhaps not as much as they should have been. It was very ease for farm children to learn to drive vehicles, be it cars, utes, motor bikes or tractors; came in very handy when an extra hand was needed.

Now we come to today 2015, some 72 years after John Harth started, where Bridie Wise his Great Grand-daughter, is the Fourth Generation to attend the Bowenville State School. School life for her will be greatly different from the 1940’s. Bridie is the eldest child of 3 children, daughter of Lance & Fallon Wise living at “Ridgewood” Bowenville. The school bus is still available for the students and when Bridie to more settled into school life, she will use. All students will have the use of computers or tablets from Prep and there are 2 teachers with teacher aides and administration staff with other specialised teachers coming every couple of weeks. The classrooms are air-conditioned; play ground items are under cover and the children are much more aware of the dangers of life today, not quite as free and easy, as in earlier generations. I wonder what school life for Bridie will hold.