Hello everyone,

**New Principal**

The school community would know that I had been appointed as Acting Principal of Brooks High School for terms one and two of 2016. During that time there has been a process underway to select the new substantive principal to take the school into the future. This week we have received the news that the new principal has now been appointed.

Mrs Louise Fisher will begin work here at the beginning of term three. This is an exciting appointment as Mrs Fisher is a very experienced principal. Her strong focus on teaching and learning will be a great asset to our school. I expect that Mrs Fisher will want to visit Brooks this term to meet staff, students and parents. Please make her welcome when you meet her.

**Other News**

It seems that sport has again been a big feature at Brooks High School. This week we hosted a round of the North East Cup, with as many as 300 visiting students from other school. Teams participated in football, netball, and soccer games. From what I saw it was a wonderful day.

Last week the school’s cross country running races were held. We had a false start to the day as we attempted to avoid some bad weather. After initially thinking that we would postpone the Grade 7 & 8 races we were eventually able to get underway at around 10.30. Participation in the event was wonderful. I was able to walk the course as the Grade 9 & 10 girls competed, and had a run with the Grade 9 & 10 boys in their event. Well done to all participants. Thanks to Mr Innes and his team for the organisation of these two events.

**Science and Engineering**

Groups from Brooks participated in the Science and Engineering challenge which was held last week at UTAS. I was able to go and watch our groups as they worked on the challenges set. It really was a wonderful experience. Thanks to Mrs Phillips for organising our groups for the event. See over page for photo highlights of the day.

Peter Bird  
Principal
School uniform is seen as very important at Brooks High School. Generally we have very good attitude to school uniform amongst our student population. As winter approaches however, it is possible that the approach by students becomes more relaxed as they seek warmer options. It's important that we all work together to get uniform right with all students wearing uniform every day.

**Easy points to remember:**

**Top:** school polo, school jumper, hoodie or rugby top. Black coat.
If students need another layer then an undershirt is acceptable. Not a hoodie under the polo.

**Bottom:** Plain black shorts or long pants (preferably with school logo). For girls winter uniform with tights.

I found this extract from the Guardian news paper quite interesting.

Some people believe that a school uniform can improve learning by reducing distraction, sharpening focus on schoolwork and making the classroom a more serious environment, allowing students to perform better academically.

Perhaps most importantly, a uniform means students don’t have to worry about peer pressure when it comes to their clothes. When everyone is dressed the same, worrying about what you look like isn’t so important. There is no competition about being dressed in the latest trend, which would put a great deal of financial pressure on students and parents. Potential bullies have one less target for their insults; it’s hard to make fun of what someone is wearing when you’re dressed exactly the same.

In America, where a majority of schools do not have a uniform, roughly 160 000 children miss school every day due to fear of attack or intimidation by other students. This might not be directly linked to what they’re wearing, but having a uniform can be a safety net for many students who might otherwise suffer from bullying.

*The Guardian October 3, 2013*
Brooks High School was one of seven schools who travelled to University of Tasmania to participate in the Science and Engineering Challenge. Students were all placed in colour coded groups, each one of them competing in different challenges such as creating a mechanical hand out of straws and providing electricity for an imaginary city.

My group was given a sheet with ten different challenges. The first was fairly simple. We had to provide electricity to twenty buildings using all three power stations and whatever cables we liked. The challenges did get more difficult as we went on. We were scored on each challenge that we completed. Points were deducted for every building that did not light up. The more cables we used, points were also deducted. Some cables were worth more points than others. Therefore we had to think about which buildings were worth lighting up.

Next we had a lunch break and were able to buy food from the café or eat our packed lunches. The second half of our day my group participated in an activity where we had to create a tower made of straws, paper and sticky tape. The tower had to go through two tests. One to see how much weight the tower can hold and another test to see if it would survive an earthquake. Brooks High School came fourth overall in the challenge.

We all had a great day!

Written by Mikayla Brazendale
I have been working on developing skills in macro photography. I have gone outside to shoot flowers and plants approximately 5 times. We walked around the school and chose flowers that had nice colour and texture. At times, Manip and myself would crawl into bushes and plants to get the best shot! I have enjoyed taking these photos, I think my photographs are great!

Ram Balisampangrai G9
The 2016 Brooks High School Cross Country was a huge success. Participation across the whole school dramatically increased with students tackling the challenging new course of the farm land next to the school. Students had to contend with wet, muddy conditions and two creek crossings that made each race interesting.

It was great to see and hear the positive feedback from all students. Well done to our cross country champions, and to all our students who will represent the school at the upcoming Interhigh Cross Country.
Round 1 of the North East Cup took place at Brooks High School this week under cold but sunny conditions. In its 3rd year, the annual sporting gala day has students from Scottsdale, Port Dalrymple and Lilydale High Schools who compete in Football, Netball and Soccer. The day was an absolute success with our students carrying the high expectations of the school, whereby displaying great sportsmanship and comradery towards their opposition. Round 2 will be hosted by Port Dalrymple in a few weeks’ time and we hope we can continue this positive advertisement for Brooks High School.

We would like to thank past students Kaleb Clark, Blake Holmes and Callum Harrison and our local statewide football team, the Northern Bombers offer of their time to assist with umpiring.
Volunteers Required

DO YOU LOVE GARDENING??????
DO YOU HAVE SOME TIME TO SPARE!!!!!!!
DO YOU ENJOY WORKING WITH CHILDREN?????????????
WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO SOMEONE ELSE'S WORLD!!!!
IF YOU DO, WE NEED YOU!

We are looking to refresh our school garden and are looking for someone/people to help us. Previously we have had berries growing in quite a few of the beds and they are ready to be pruned. The fruit trees need a haircut too!!!!!!! The ground needs fertilising ready for spring planting. We have seeds ready to germinate.

We will have a band of merry students to help get it all ready. If this sounds like you, please contact Liz Gibson on 6324 7200.

Communication and Information

- Absences - Phone office on 6324 7200
  SMS mobile phone number 0416 907 090
  For advising the school of a student’s absence

- Photos and News - Facebook
  Brooks High School Page
  Brooks High School Sports Page

- Brooks High School App - Information for students and families
  Including copies of School Newsletters
  (Free to Download)

  Office Hours: 8.00 am to 4.00 pm