

# WATCH US SOAR IN 2024



**BROOKTON  
DISTRICT HIGH  
SCHOOL**



**EDITION 10**

## PRINCIPALS ADDRESS - KRIS DEWSON HALL

I am delighted to announce that I have been appointed as the Principal of Brookton District High School on a permanent basis – no more acting! I am incredibly proud to accept this position and eagerly look forward to continuing the wonderful work we have begun with the amazing staff and students at Brookton.

This term is already bustling with activities including NAIDOC week, Athletics Carnivals, two camps, Book Week Dress-Up Day, Oracy, Fathers' Day activities, and the Science Fair. Phew! We certainly pack a lot into one term.

A new initiative we are introducing this term is Bertie the Support Dog. Bertie, a miniature dachshund, is very sociable. Many of our students with special needs will benefit from spending time with Bertie to help regulate their emotions, while others will find it an incentive to work hard to earn some time with Bertie. More information about the program will be forthcoming.

We are placing a strong emphasis on 'Respect' this term in our behaviour expectations, starting with a continued focus on greetings. When someone says good morning, respond in kind and inquire about their day. Even if you don't feel like talking, remember to 'fake it 'til you make it' and reply with a good morning. Academically, we are promoting reading as foundational to all educational skills. We have over 50 students participating in the Premiers' Reading Challenge, and we sincerely thank parents for their support of this initiative. Reading with and to your child should not be seen as homework but as a fundamental part of our role as parents in fostering their imagination and understanding of the world around them.

## SEABROOK BUS DRIVER WANTED

Seabrook are still on the lookout for a school bus driver. This valuable service is pivotal during the cold winter months and hot summer days getting our students to and from school safely. It's only 40 minutes each school morning and afternoon and makes a real difference. The bus is a small van and easy to drive. All enquiries to Erica McGuire.



# NAIDOC WEEK



NAIDOC week was celebrated here at Brookton DHS during week 1 of term 3 with fun activities on each day. The students favourite were the cupcakes, lovingly made by our gorgeous canteen manager Leonie McGuire. Thanks so much for all the extra time and attention you gave to these Leonie, they were really appreciated.

In 2024 the Aboriginal & Islander Education Officer (AIEO) role has been shared between 3 wonderful staff members each bringing their own strengths to the role.

## Olive Bennell

Olive comes to us from the Ballardong Nation. She is daughter of Raymond & Marjorie Bennell nee Mcguire. Olive is one of 16 children, with Olive being the 12th born. Olive's grandfather John McGuire originated from up north, the Onslow area. Her grandmother was Nelly McGuire nee Bennell. Olive lived on the Brookton reserve in the 50's & 60's and has great memories of her childhood. Her favourite memories are running around in the mud and picking tadpoles out of the creek. This is Olive's third time at BDHS working in the AIEO role with her superpower being her connection to and understanding of local families. Olive recently returned from representing her community in Melbourne at a national conference; her favourite displays were the Torres Strait Islanders singing, dancing & praying.

## Maddie Smith

Maddie comes to us from Perth, she is young and full of energy which we class as one of her superpowers. Maddie has arrived at BDHS with a wealth of experience from many schools including Cecil Andrews College Perth, Santa Clara Catholic Primary School, Makybe Rise Primary School and her favourite at TjunTjunTjara, 1233km east of Brookton. She talks about her times there with a massive smile on her face saying 'the students there have so much respect'. This is a fly in/fly out or sometime drive in/drive out site. If you don't already know where it is you should look it up. Maddie's mob is from Gnowangerup and she has many roles here at Brookton including EA Special needs, LOTE teacher, relief teacher and AIEO as well as studying to become a fully qualified teacher. Maddie stays extra busy with her favourite past times being food and Netflix. Maddie has one gorgeous daughter, Mavis, and we can't wait to have her here at the school.

## Tiara Atkins

Brookton are lucky to have a relief AIEO to tackle the roll on short notice and to cover professional development days for Maddie and Olive. Although Tiara steps into the AIEO roll with ease her superpower is working in the high school as an EA. Tiara was born in Northam and her family moved to Pingelly when she was very young. Tiara attended Pingelly Primary School before heading to Narrogin for High School. She met Dean, a Brookton local, in 2014 and came to Brookton for love. We are very lucky to have her on staff and her two boys attend our school. When her son Noa grows up he wants to do a lot of building with pop. Tiaras other son Leo has a favourite meal of garlic bread. Tiaras favourite past time is camping, she loves to travel and her favourite spot is Exmouth. She has visited 4 times and she just can't get enough of the beaches up there. She also loves the burnouts and motorbike riding.

