



*the grounds of Brooke Avenue School.*



*Students dressed as convicts of the First Fleet Education 177.*



*Infants pupils entertaining Senior Citizens! during Senior Citizens Week 1987.*



*B.B.Q. set in the playground built by the P&C Association.*

## Brooke Avenue Primary School

**B**rooke Avenue Primary School is one of the newest on the Central Coast, having begun operations at the beginning of the 1985 school year. The school enrolment was 247 with 9 classes. The first Principal being Mr. Alf. Roach. Population growth in the Killarney Vale and Bateau Bay areas necessitated the establishment of yet another school, hence Brooke Avenue.

Brooke Avenue Primary School is housed in the demountable accommodation which was formerly Bateau Bay Primary School. The new buildings for the Bateau Bay Primary School were completed at the end of 1984 and the staff and pupils of that school moved to their new site.

Due to the rezoning of the whole area in 1984, the majority of the pupils attending the new Brooke Avenue School were former pupils of Killarney Vale and Bateau Bay schools. The majority of the teaching staff were also from those two schools.

The P.&C. Association, with Mrs. Lois Mason, the first President at the helm, was quickly organised and began working for the school. At its first meeting on 19th February, a Uniform Committee, a Fund Raising Committee and a Canteen Committee were established. Each of these committees worked very hard and rapidly results were forthcoming. A uniform provided the identity of the new Brooke Avenue School and was proudly worn by pupils and supported by the parents. A Canteen providing the nutritional needs of the pupils was soon in operation on a daily basis. Fund raising activities in the form of a Slide-A-Thon at Forrester's Park Slide, Doll and Craft Show and a School Fete, helped in establishing the school in the community as well as producing essential funds.

The school educational program, likewise had a good start. The services of a Resource Teacher were available immediately, as also that of a School Counsellor. E.D.S.A.C.C. stadium provided the venue of an excellent P.E. program. In 1985 the school along with Killarney Vale school took steps to set up a Safety-House Program. It was officially opened by Sen. Cons. Hargreaves on 27th November, 1985. The main function at the end of the first year was the Christmas Concert and Presentation Night which proved to be a very popular and enjoyable evening.

At the beginning of 1986 Mr. J. Deasey was appointed Principal following the retirement of Mr. Roach. An Infants Department was also established in 1986. A second A.P. was appointed, Ms V. Densmore, additional to Mr. I. Witt, A.P. Primary.

During 1986 and 1987, the school has continued to develop educational programs and improve its teaching resources. A Computer Education program is in place and Apple Computers are part of the school resources. Music has also been developed and much enjoyment has been achieved in this area, especially with the recorders. Various staff development days have been held at the school, and these have been of great benefit to all participants.

Brooke Avenue is a growing school, At the end of Term 3, 1987 the enrolment was 302. Due to the establishment of Pacific Del Mar Housing Estate, enrolments are expected to increase considerably, reaching the 400's in 1988. Planning is well underway for the building of a permanent school, on the present site, and the Minister is expected to announce the calling of tenders, once planning is completed.