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25 February 2014

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Welcome back to all parents and carers to the 2014 school year at Helensvale SHS. I hope that you all enjoyed some time together over the summer vacation. Overall, our students have come back to school really positive and ready for a productive year of learning.

My belief is that all great schools have created and communicated a really clear idea as to WHY they exist. Our School Mission is **One Student, One Community, Many Futures** - which describes our fundamental purpose and serves to clarify our direction and decision making.

### One Student is about:

- Creating a 'school for one' by catering for the learning needs, interests and aspirations of every student
- Prioritising the connection between well-being and learning to provide for the psychological, emotional and social needs of our students
- Every student engaging meaningfully and personally through our 'four pillars of opportunity' – Learning, Sport, The Arts and Community to reach their full potential

### One Community is about:

- Our school as an innovative learning community with an unrelenting focus on, and a commitment to, the learning of each student.
- Very high expectations for learning and behaviour and this is regaled within our community
- Our school as a hub of learning in our community where our parents and carers feel welcome, supported, connected and frequently engage as partners to improve student wellbeing and learning

### Many Futures is about:

- Ensuring every student transitions from our school with a viable pathway to the future because together we delivered on our 'qualification guarantee'.
- Maintaining and growing diverse, deep and productive industry and community links with our students being sought after by employers at a state and national level

- Our students consistently producing learning outcomes that are on par with the best schools in Queensland

This Mission is underpinned by our **Learning Values of Respectful, Responsible and Resilient**. This year we are explicitly teaching these values to our students as we believe values and beliefs need to be taught like we teach English, Maths or Science. We play a leading role with you to ensure that our young people have the values and beliefs to enable them to contribute and engage productively in our community now and in the future. Our Learning values are:

### Respectful – 'Treat others the way you want to be treated'

- I respect who I am
- I listen to seek to understand
- I value others, property and our environment

### Responsible – 'Follow directions without debate'

- I strive to do the right thing
- I am responsible for my own actions
- I uphold the reputation, values and rules of the school

### Resilient – 'Never ever give up'

- I believe
- I reach out
- I bounce back

Our teachers are committed to improvement and are always seeking ways to improve the learning experiences for our students. I am looking forward to 2014 and what learning we can achieve together.

### Strong demand for places in our school

This year we have continued strong demand from the community for places in our school. We have 2150 students presently enrolled in our school which is up approximately 70 students from this time last year. Many of our students travel several suburbs to be part of our school and access the many specialist and quality programs that we offer. Strong enrolment demand is a sign of positive community support. I would like to thank our parents and community for their continued support and for entrusting us with the privilege of educating our young people for the challenges that lay ahead.

## FINANCE AND TEXT HIRE ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITIES

### Uniform Shop:

Commencing Term 2 - 2014 new trading hours apply:  
Open Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 8.00am – 1.45pm  
Closed Monday & Friday

### Finance Counter:

Commencing Term 2 - 2014 new opening times:  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8.00am – 1.45pm  
Closed Monday

## UNIFORM NEWS

The Uniform shop has experienced a very busy start to 2014 and is committed to accommodating both students and parent's needs. Our extended trading hours at the beginning of the term proved very popular with our late night trading assisting those busy working parents.

**School Photos** for 2014 were taken in the SAC with only **28** students out of the entire school arriving in the incorrect uniform. This is a credit to both students and parents and assisted in making the process easier for all involved. **ALL** students in grade 8 were in the correct uniform, special congratulations to those students.

**Bags and Hats** are now available at the uniform shop. We have a bucket hat and a cap available with our school logo on the front; both hats are \$15.00 each.

There are three different styles of bags with our school logo printed on the front.

- Large sport bags which include a provision for runners are \$ 40.00 and come with a **3 year warranty**.
- Small kit bags (which have been very popular) are \$30.00 and come with a **3 year warranty**.
- The back packs are \$59.00 and come with a **lifetime warranty**.

**HSHS Drink Bottles** are also available from finance or the uniform shop for \$12.00 until sold out, limited stock so be quick!

**A top up order of Girls Senior White Blouses** sizes 10, 12 and 14 was placed this week to fill our current orders. Parents will be contacted to collect items when the order arrives.

**The Grade 12 Jersey** orders have now closed; we are expecting delivery of our first order on the 15th of March. A delivery date for our second order has not been confirmed. Students will be notified when a date has been communicated from our supplier.

**The uniform shop now offers a large range of second hand items at very reasonable prices starting at \$10.00. We have a large amount of sport polos and sports shorts, junior shirts and blouses and formal boy's shorts.**



**NB. There are no second hand Senior (White) male or female shirts or blouses or girls formal navy skirts.**

## STUDENT ABSENCES AND ATTENDANCE MATTERS

### STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents are reminded of the need to phone through any student absences on or before the morning of the absences.

When calling or leaving messages please provide

- your name
- your contact phone number
- your child's name
- your student's ID number
- the reason for the absence (e.g.: illness, family holiday, etc)
- The possible duration of the absence.

The School will continue to request advice from parents/carers for unexplained absences if you've not notified us. Notifying the School will minimise the need for these investigations. Our Student Absence line number is 55738560

### ATTENDANCE MATTERS

A reminder to Parents and Students:

Students **should not** leave school grounds without first signing out through the Student Services Counter. In the case of an emergency, we need to know the whereabouts of **ALL** students.

### Late arrivals:

Students who arrive late to school should carry an explanation note from their parent/guardian with them, or the parent/guardian must call **BEFORE** they arrive. The student must sign in at Student Services upon arrival at school.

Please note: If the student does not have a note, or we have not received a phone call, they will automatically receive a lunch time detention.

## Students requiring early pick up:

- If you know you have an appointment, please send your child to school with a note. This should be brought to Student Services before school or during break time to receive a leaving class pass, otherwise the student will not be allowed to leave class.
- If you have an **unavoidable last minute** appointment or you have an emergency, please phone Student Services, prior to your arrival to school so we can arrange for the student to be released from class. This **MUST** happen **before to 2:30pm**. Students cannot be called up **after 2.30pm**.
- Students must be collected from Student Services by a parent/guardian or someone listed as an emergency contact.

## Students that are unwell during school time:

If a student feels unwell during lesson time, they **MUST NOT** contact their parent/guardian directly. They must report it to their teacher who will then send them to sick bay.

The parent/guardian will be contacted to collect their child as a matter of urgency. If we are unable to make contact with the parent/guardian the student will be allowed to rest for 10 minutes.

- Please make sure your contact details are up to date and you check your phone for messages. Our number appears as a private number if you miss our call. Please return our call as soon as you receive the message.

## INDUSTRY AT WORK FOR YOU

What a fantastic start to 2014. Students have been seeking assistance with future traineeships and apprenticeships and securing work placements. In the coming weeks students will be signed up to school-based traineeships and apprenticeships which will help them with their future career goals and also assist them with their QCE points at the end of Year 12, enabling them to gain a qualification in their chosen industry area and start them on their career journey.

We are starting the school year with 85 school-based apprentices and trainees. This is a great testament to the reputation our school has in the Helensvale Community. If you own a business and are willing to place a student with you either as a trainee/apprentice or by giving them industry experience (work experience), please contact me.

School-based apprenticeships and traineeships are only available to students who are following an Industry or Personalised Pathway. Traineeships and apprenticeships may be available in nearly every industry; however it depends on whether they are funded by the State or Federal Government. e.g. Tourism, Carpentry, Flooring, Hospitality, Sport, Hairdressing, IT etc. Remember you need to consider location and transport when applying for a school-based traineeship.

Students and parents must check student and parent emails regularly as I advertise traineeship vacancies, courses, expos and other student relevant information. Vacancies and courses are also advertised on year level parades, so students – listen

out for these each week. At the moment I have about 20 positions for our student to take advantage of.

Parents who wish for their students to participate in the school-based apprenticeships and traineeships program, please contact me for an appointment. Ph 55738545 or by email pford2@eq.edu.au Students wishing to make an appointment, please see me in SM02 before school or at either break.

**All school-based apprenticeship or traineeships (SAT) opportunities must come through the ILO office. Your sporting club or casual employer may give you paperwork relating to a traineeship - Do Not sign any paperwork for a SAT until you have spoken with the ILO first.** If you are interested in your son or daughter obtaining a SAT, please contact me on the details below and ask your child to come and see me in SM02 at to make an appointment.

## GREAT NEWS STORY

Last year 20 senior students applied for school-based apprenticeships through Riviera Marine. Twelve of those students commenced work in mid-January in a variety of trades. They attend work one day per week and most attend TAFE on another day each week. We are very happy with this rekindled relationship with Riviera.

Mitchell CLARK	Yr 12	Cert III Marine Craft
Lachlan DAVIDSON	Yr 12	Cert III Cabinet Making
Morgan DURIE	Yr 12	Cert III Cabinet Making
Tyler JOHNSON	Yr 12	Cert III Cabinet Making
Joshua OWEN-JONES	Yr 12	Cert III Marine Craft
Margaret PIAKURA	Yr 12	Cert III Upholstery
Raez SEBOA	Yr 12	Cert III Marine Craft
Brendan SMITH	Yr 12	Cert III Electro technology
Jack TAYLOR	Yr 12	Cert III Marine Craft
Robert HOLLEY	Yr 11	Cert III Electro technology
Jarad DEVLIN-WALKER	Yr 11	Cert III Marine Craft
Kyle WALSH	Yr 12	Cert III Laminating

If you think you would like this opportunity for your son or daughter, please contact me so we can get this process started for later in the year.

## Year 10 Work Inspirations

As part of our year long career development with Year 10s, we had the opportunity of a number of representatives from Classic Holidays come to speak to year 10 students last week.

Students heard about opportunities to participate in Work Inspirations at the Classic Holidays Head Office at Varsity and in their various resorts. Students have the opportunity to apply for a spot to participate in a 2 day workshop where they will gain inspirational experience within a large organisation. It gives the students an understanding of how careers evolve over time and they will gain a concept about roles within such an organisation. They will realise that some organisations are like small communities and that there are many career avenues to pursue.

Mark Dobbie from the Classic Holidays Head Office inspired our students with a story of how he started on his career pathway and where it has taken him. He reminded students how lucky they are to have these types of opportunities while still at school.

**Paulina Ford**  
**Industry Liaison Officer**  
**55 738 545 pford2@eq.edu.au**



## REFLECTIONS FROM THE PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

The Performing Arts Department has certainly hit the ground running this year. New subjects and new students have made for a busy start to what is going to be a fantastic year of learning and development. We would like to welcome back our students from 2013 but also welcome our Year 8s and students new to our subject areas of Dance, Drama and Music.

2014 for the Performing Arts Department means a myriad of learning experiences for our students through classwork, live productions, guest artists and professionally run workshops. The year will also see us prepare for Drama Festivals, Gold Coast and Brisbane Eisteddfods, Dance Ed in the Spotlight to name but a few of our extra-curricular opportunities we provide our students.

## Year 8 Design

Year 8 teachers and students have been engaged in our new subject 'Design'. Students work term by term within a variety of subject areas to enhance their understanding of the design process. On any given day you will see Mr Foster's class composing their own music, Ms Wilson's students creating their community based theatre project and Ms O'Flaherty and Ms Kelly's classes examining how dance can be used to advertise in dynamic ways. It is always wonderful to visit these classrooms to see first-hand what learning experiences students are engaging in.

## Instrumental Music

Ensemble rehearsals and music lessons have commenced for our students engaged in the Instrumental Program. With over 80 students participating under the experienced tutelage of our staff Ms Dowling, Mr Henshaw, Ms Ashton and Mr Scheerle, students will be preparing for a variety of extra-curricular events whilst mastering their skills in their chosen instruments. In the coming week our students will participate in workshop days at the Gold Coast Youth Orchestra centre as well as the Helensvale Cultural Centre. These workshops will give our students an opportunity to further develop their skills and work collaboratively with staff and guest conductors.

## Year 12 Zen Zen Zo Theatre Workshops

This year our Year 12 Drama students will once again engage with professional artists from Zen Zen Zo Theatre Company in preparation for their major practical assessment in June. To date students have been busy studying the famous Australian play *When the Rain Stops Falling* by Andrew Bovell. Through class activities they have been developing their knowledge and understanding of the plot, characters, themes and symbolism evident within the play. On Monday 3rd March Zen Zen Zo will come to Helensvale to conduct a three hour workshop with each class. These workshops will focus upon developing our students' physical theatre techniques. This is an exciting opportunity for our students to engage practically and learn through doing, with professional artists who are renowned for their work in this area. Watch this space for further updates on these workshops

## DRAMA EXCELLENCE BIG DAY OUT 2014

Friday the 7th of February saw Drama Excellence students from across Years 8, 9 and 10 participate in our first ever Drama Big Day Out. The day began at the auditorium in the new Helensvale Library with a two hour acting skills workshop run by Grin and Tonic Theatre Troupe. The students engaged in character building and improvisational skills led by renowned performer and director Jason Klarwein. Jason is a producer, director and actor who works nationally and internationally with Australia's leading theatre companies. Our students benefited from Jason's theatre experience and thoroughly enjoyed his workshop. Jason is really excited to be taking on an ambassador role with our excellence students and will return to Helensvale numerous times throughout the year to run more workshops and performances for our classes. We are so

privileged to have someone of Jason's calibre mentor our excellence students.

Our students also engaged in some one on one time with Sarah Crone, past student of Helensvale State High School. The students got to ask Sarah about her tertiary studies in the field of Drama and Sarah imparted some valuable advice to our students about embracing every opportunity given to them at school. This then led the students into documenting their goals and aspirations for the year ahead in Drama Excellence.

The last part of the workshop saw students work with peers from across the three year levels to devise a performance based on some thought provoking stimulus. The performances were engaging and perceptive.

The day was a great success with both students and teachers feeling energized and inspired. We are so proud of our excellence students who really embraced and engaged in the day.

**Collette Wilson**  
**Performing Arts Teacher**



*Fiona McConnell with Jason Klarwein*



*Dane Hickson with Jason Klarwein*



*Brady Hancock, Jeylen Faifua, Caitlin Grigg and Loshini Koralage*

## CAREER CORNER

Recent labour market data suggests the biggest growth industries for employment over the next 3 years are in Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade and Construction. The largest growth by occupation is forecast for Aged and Disability Care and Accountancy. Career Development literature suggests we choose our career path by what we are interested in and good at whilst considering the movement of the labour market. There has been steady evidence that your educational attainment correlates positively with your wage and negatively with your chance of unemployment. This means that the more you study the more you are expected to earn and greater your chance of employment. I am sure we all know a few exceptions to this data but the message is clear. Study hard, get qualified, follow your interests and be aware of growth industries and regional initiatives. We are passionate about students making informed decisions based on the latest labour market data, career development research and their interests and skills. Perhaps, rather than asking a young person what they would like to do when they leave school we should ask them what their options are and encourage them to have a Plan (A, B and C) that considers a rapidly changing and diverse labour market. Unlike generations before, this generation is expected to change careers more than 10 times in their lifetime. Visit <http://myfuture.edu.au> to check out the latest career exploration information.

**Carley O'Connell**  
**Guidance Officer**



## SCHOOL NURSE NEWS

Random Acts of Kindness week RAK - I would like to thank all the students and staff that passed random acts of kindness throughout the school last week, the school certainly had a buzz of positive energy about it.

Why do these acts have such a positive effect on how we feel? One reason why we feel elated when we see RAK's occur is because they bring a renewed faith in human nature, a sense of the sheer goodness which human beings are often capable of, which sometimes might seem difficult to see amidst the busy day to day, hustle and bustle of the modern world. The sense of connection is undoubtedly important too, RAK strengthens culture and belonging. The person who performs the selfless act experiences this and perhaps the recipient of the act of kindness too. And when we witness an act of kindness, we become part of the network too. It was a wonderful thing to see students coming to SWeLL, sending cards to people they don't really talk to or spend time with in their class, because they looked like they were having a hard time and wanted to cheer them up.

So when you consider performing an act of kindness, think about its potential three way positive effect. There's the positive effect on the recipient, and the positive effect on you - you might find yourself experiencing the positive emotion of the 'helper's high.' But perhaps the biggest effect of all will be on a passer-by who just happens to witness the act. So remember

Random Acts of Kindness is for life and not just a week. Keep spreading kindness and try and do a small good turn every day, it may be as simple as telling someone they look great, opening the door to someone or helping carry someone's shopping, not act of kindness is ever wasted.

## TIME4KIDS

Time4Kids is approaching quickly and the PCYC Gold Coast event is scheduled for the 12th of April 2014 at the Carrara Markets from 8am.

The aim is to fundraise \$10,000 this year to introduce more programs to the community.

Click on this link <https://time4kids-pcycqld2014.everydayhero.com/au/gold-coast-pcyc> to see the fundraising page.

People wishing to donate can click on the "GIVE NOW" (green button) to make a donation. If they wish to become a Detainee, they can choose "JOIN TEAM" (yellow button) on this page.

## FREE BABYSITTING TRAINING

Here is some information that may be of interest to students who want to gain some skills focused on early childhood education.

This is an opportunity for young people to attend a **FREE** program that supports participants in having confidence to child mind and it may also be useful for those interested in future employment in the child care industry. It's also skills building for young people to earn some cash babysitting! Click link for further information.

## UMAT SENIOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN MEDICINE CAREER

Students interested in pursuing medicine and other health related courses need to sit the UMAT on the 30th July 2014. MedEntry is a government accredited Registered Training Organisation specialising in UMAT preparation.

MedEntry – <http://MedEntry.edu.au> for more information or visit <http://umat.acer.edu.au/register/>