



HELENSVALE STATE HIGH SCHOOL



One Student • One Community • Many Futures

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



I would like to welcome back all parents and carers to the 2013 school year at Helensvale SHS. We hope all our families enjoyed some time together over the summer vacation and our students are ready for a productive year of learning at our school.

Our school mission is One Student - One Community - Many Futures. This is about each student engaging personally (One Student) in our school and achieving to their full potential. We will create an innovative learning community (One Community) that prepares our students for the future (Many Futures).

Under this mission we have eight priority areas for this year which will focus our actions and drive improvement. These areas are:

- Academic Quality - focusing on the explicit teaching of higher order thinking skills and creativity
- Student Engagement – working to make learning as relevant as possible for our students and to integrated the use of new technologies in learning
- Reading Comprehension - improving the reading comprehension levels of all our students
- Curriculum Delivery – continuing to work on consistent whole school curriculum and planning
- Indigenous outcomes and Kids in Care – working to support all students achieve the best that they can
- Teacher Professional Learning - focusing on teaching strategies and using digital resources to enhance learning
- Student and Staff Wellbeing – promoting the wellbeing of all students and staff as a priority and emphasising the link between well-being and learning
- Junior Secondary – continuing our work in designing our new Year 7 building and developing our Junior High curriculum program for the arrival of Year 7 in 2015

Our teachers are committed to improvement and are always seeking ways to improve the learning experiences for our students. We are looking forward to 2013 and what we can achieve together.

Enrolments

This year we have seen continued strong demand from the community for places in our school. We have 2085 students presently enrolled in our school which is very similar to our number 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 and supporting them to be the best they can be.

It's Not OK to Be Away

A main focus of improvement this year is student attendance rates. Our goal is to achieve an average attendance rate of 92% across the school. For students to achieve this rate they cannot be absent for more than 16 days this year. We are improving our monitoring and communication processes this year to keep students and parents informed as to how we are tracking with our attendance.

Helensvale State High School

243 Discovery Drive
Helensvale Q 4212
P. (07) 5573 8555
F. (07) 5573 8500

office.hshs@helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au
www.helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au

Subscribe to our E-Newsletter

www.schoolzine.com.au/secure/helensvaleshs6852/

Sponsor our E-Newsletter

Contact Schoolzine on
1300 795 503
to advertise in our
E-Newsletter.

Interestingly, last year the highest absence rates each week were either on a Friday or a Monday. Some of our students have a tendency to take long weekends. We have also moved exams to the last week of each term to enable teaching and learning to occur up to the last day. We want to address the fact that some students seem to have higher absence rates in the last week of each term.

Attendance drives and supports student learning. There is a direct relationship between attendance rates and school performance. Students that have high absence rates miss work, do not complete assessment, understand less and have poorer grades. Our new motto concerning attendance, that we wish to reinforce to our students, parents and community that "It's Not OK to Be Away". Improving student attendance rates will improve if we all work together and reinforce that "It's Not OK to Be Away".

In 2013, students who do not participate in a team for Cluster Sports day will attend school as normal classes will be operating. It is Cluster Sport or Normal School Day: "It's not ok to be away"

In addition, if your child is late for school they must have a note or a phone call/text to explain their reasons by the time they arrive at school.

School Uniform

Our students turned up on the first week looking fantastic in our school uniform. Thank you to parents and carers for their support in ensuring our students presented so well. The focus of improvement this term with the school dress code is to ensure students:

- Are not wearing facial piercings and inappropriate earrings (including spacers)
- Wear formal uniforms on Formal Friday and change for sports classes
- Who are undertaking dance have a uniform for that subject and need to change in to it as necessary
- Are not mixing and matching the uniform. They should only wear the sport uniform on days that students have sport or HPE
- Are wearing *all black* leather shoes
- Hair is of natural toning and a consistent colour throughout

We appreciate your support as we believe a strong uniform standard sets high expectations for our students and supports the tone and culture of our school.

Regards

Mark Blackshaw
Principal



Check our Facebook page to keep up to date with current Helensvale SHS news.

YEAR 8 NEWS

We have welcomed 426 Year 8 students to Helensvale State High School in the last 2 weeks. It has been an absolute pleasure to watch their excitement and enthusiasm as they move around the school and their enjoyment whilst they are in their classes.

We have some important events coming up for Year 8 students and their families:

Year 8 BBQ is on Wednesday 13th February in the Student Activity Centre from 5 – 7pm. There will be a sausage sizzle. The Year 8 Drama Excellence class has been busily preparing a performance for us also. Mr Blackshaw and I will talk to the families and give some information about Year 8 at Helensvale SHS. It is also a great opportunity to meet the Year 8 teachers and Student Support Staff.

Immunisation forms went home last week and must be returned to Student Services by Wednesday 13th February. Immunisations will take place later in the term.

Year 8 Star!

It is always nice to hear stories of students who demonstrate courage and honesty. Josh Pettman is one such student. A senior student in our school who was distraught as she had lost her mobile phone, was extremely pleased to find that Josh had found her phone and had handed it in at the Library. Thank you Josh! You are courageous and honest. Well done!

Heidi Booth, Year 8 Deputy Principal

FINANCE NEWS

- **2013 Student Resource Scheme** payments are now due. Any outstanding 2012 fees must be finalised promptly
- Invoicing for subject levies will commence and be posted home from week 4. Any outstanding **subject levies from 2012** may encumber the admission into subjects with levies in 2013
- **Laptop payments** for Year 10-12 have been invoiced and are now due for payment
- **ID Cards** will be issued early in March. For students to be eligible to receive an ID card a Student Resource Scheme form must be completed and returned to the finance department. The first instalment payment must also be paid in full.
- **Excursion payments** are required to be paid in full prior to the student participating
- **Year 12 Senior Jersey** the final date for payment and ordering is February 13th. Cost is \$70.00 and all fees must be up to date. If paying by EFT you will need to allow time for payment to be processed and received prior to the 13th.

The Finance Department is in the process of trialling a new payment option for parents/guardians called BPOINT. BPOINT is a regular automatic fortnightly deduction from your credit card set up through the school via the Commonwealth Bank. If you are interested in assisting the school with a trial of this new payment method please contact the Finance Department on 5573 8569.

Any parents/guardians experiencing financial difficulty are welcome to contact the school's Business Manager, Mrs Jo Ashton on 55738 555 or by email jasht44@eq.edu.au

**FINANCE/TEXT HIRE &
UNIFORM/STATIONERY P&C SHOP
2013 TRADING HOURS**

Monday – Friday 8am to 1.45pm

**FINANCE/TEXT HIRE &
2013 PAYMENT METHODS**

In person: EFTPOS Credit/Debit Card Cheque Cash

Over the phone: Credit Card (5573 8569)

Electronic funds transfer: Payment by EFT can be made to the school bank account.

BSB: 064–430

Account Number: 00091174

To ensure correct identification of the payment, **please ensure that the EFT payment reference clearly includes the student's EQ ID, e.g. 7778621199H so that payments are allocated correctly**

Centrelink deduction: Payment by Centrelink deduction payments can be arranged through the school finance department.

1 TO 1 TAKE HOME LAPTOP PROGRAM FOR YEAR 9 STUDENTS

Our parent information evening relating to forthcoming laptops for year 9 students is being held next week in the Student Activity Centre (SAC) on Thursday 21 February. If you can't attend one of these two sessions on this evening, we will provide you with all the necessary information over the following week.

INSURANCE

Please read the online information carefully regarding insurance cover for students at school.

IMMUNISATIONS

Below is a list of dates for immunisations for Year 8 & Year 10 students.

Visit	Proposed Clinic Dates	Year Level	Vaccinations
1	26 March 2013	8 (male and female students) 10 (male and female students) 10 (male students)	Hepatitis B and HPV Diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis booster vaccination HPV
2	28 May 2013	8 (male and female students) 10 (students as required) 10 (male students)	Chickenpox and HPV HPV
3	27 November 2013	8 (male and female students) 10 (students as required) 10 (male students)	Hepatitis B and HPV Diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis booster vaccination HPV

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE PERFORMING ARTS?

Instrumental Music 2013

Welcome to all new Instrumental Music students, and welcome back to our hardworking, committed 'old' students.

We have an exciting year for you this year, which requires your energy and commitment! All lessons and ensembles will be starting in Week 3, except String Ensemble which begins in Week 4, so ensure you have your lesson timetable sorted with Mrs O'Neill or your Instrumental Music teacher.

We welcome back Virginia Dowling and James Henshaw, Instrumental Music teachers from last year, and we give a special welcome to Sue Purton, Tegan Allen and Paul Stanton-

Cook, new teachers to Helensvale this year, who are looking forward to working with our talented students.

Ensemble Rehearsal Times are:

Monday 7:45am	String Ensemble	Mrs Dowling
Monday 3.00pm - 4.30pm	Wind Symphony	Ms Purton
Tuesday 7.30am	Wind Ensemble	Ms Allen
Friday 7:30am	Big Band	Mr Henshaw

Please ensure students are picked up promptly at 4:30 after Wind Symphony rehearsals. A Percussion group may be formed at some stage but as yet there is no further information available.

MUSIC AND MUSIC EXCELLENCE- REVENGE OF THE SYNTH

Monday 4th of March-

See your Music Teacher for permission forms!

Year 8, 9 and 10 Music and Music Excellence students are being treated to an experience like no other with **Bach to the Future Episode II: Revenge of the Synth**. This exciting show starts with the advent of the keyboard synthesizer in the 1960s, and follows its trail-blazing 50 year journey to its current status in today's popular music. Lionel Robinson shows how these most unmusical of instruments, born in the science lab, conquered the world of music!

Have you ever wondered how:

- 'Switched on Bach' (played entirely on the Moog) became the biggest-selling classical record ever;
- Synths snuck into popular culture via the Beatles, the Doors, Stevie Wonder, Pink Floyd, and made sounds we had never heard;
- They spawned whole new genres of music like Progressive Rock, Ambient & Electronica Music;
- They invaded the music of the cinema; became polyphonic and ousted the electric guitar so we had to listen to Depeche Mode & Gary Newman; and then ingratiated themselves with guitar legends like Eddie Van Halen;
- They used digital sampling (invented by two Aussies) to impersonate other instruments and put orchestras out of work;
- They made us talk a new language - ADSR envelopes, arpeggiators, oscillators, synth pads and leads, MIDI;
- They dominated the dance floor right up to the present day and their desperate need to be included in everything, from the pop charts to your iPhone apps. With the help of some mighty synths, Lionel explains what makes these space invaders tick. The accent is on fun, audience involvement and making awesome noises!

THE PERFORMER: Keyboard player/singer/composer **Lionel Robinson** comes from London, where he has played most of the music venues from Ronnie Scott's to the Hammersmith Odeon. Since he began his professional career as the resident pianist in Elton John's restaurant, "Friends", Lionel has toured extensively in the UK & Europe, embraced all kinds of music, keyboards and hairstyles and even played for several members of the Royal Family. He moved to Sydney 18 years ago and continued to travel via his music, doing residencies like the Sheraton Mirage (Port Douglas), Kingfisher Bay (Fraser Island), the Ritz Carlton Osaka (Japan). A man with a tireless love for his work, when not touring with his school shows, Lionel can be seen regularly around Sydney and beyond, solo or with his band.

Monday 4th of March- See your Music Teacher for permission forms!

This will be a great opportunity for students to listen and learn from an industry professional.

HSHS SCHOOL MUSICAL 2013

Do you know who is starring in your school musical?????

Keep a watch out for news, goss and stories about the stars of this year's school musical in the school newsletter each issue. You will be able to find out information on the musical, how the preparation is progressing and who is working on and in it! Get inside gossip from the teachers and students involved.

You will be the first to find out information on ticket sales and performance dates. This year's musical is going to be huge and you won't want to miss it! So get your dancing shoes on and get ready to get FOOTLOOSE!

INDUSTRY AT WORK FOR YOU

What a fantastic start to the 2013. Students have been seeking assistance with future traineeships and apprenticeships and securing work placements. In the coming weeks students will be signed up into 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.

We are starting the school year with 85 school based trainees and apprentices. 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 are 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, you must check your school and parent email regularly as I advertise traineeship vacancies, courses, expos and other relevant information through the school email system. Vacancies and courses are also advertised on Year level parades so listen out for these each week. At the moment I have about 30 positions for our students 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 SMO2 before school or at either break.

The following students have gained a School Based Traineeship or Apprenticeship in the last couple of weeks.

Student Name	Qualification/Industry Area
Tegan Sylvester	Business Administration – Recruitment Company
Alex King	Horticulture Traineeship – Horticulture Business
Nathaniel Ellis	Sporting Traineeship – Qld AFL
Ethan Fava	Sporting Traineeship – Qld AFL
Kayla Hutchins	Children's Services – Smarter Kids Chlcare
Dylan McDonald	Horticulture Traineeship – Parklane Landscaping
Maddison Brown	Hospitality Traineeship – Coffee Lounge
Joseph Sabin	Sporting Traineeship/Life Guard – Local Pool

Sam Taylor	Plumbing Apprenticeship – K&K Taylor Plumbing
Kendall Arbon	Business Traineeship – Training Organisation
Jessica Kilian	Pastry Chef Apprenticeship – Broadbeach Patisserie

NB: Jessica Kilian participated in 8 weeks of work experience with the Sofitel at Broadbeach before being offered this position at Madam Grenouille Patisserie. So your first workplace isn't always the one where you will gain a placement.

All 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 ILO first. Parents, if you are interested in your child obtaining a SAT, please contact me on the details below and ask your child to come and see me in SMO2 to make an appointment.

Services available to students at Helensvale State High School through ILO

ILO Role: To administer, manage and monitor students who leave our campus to participate in External Programs that provide students with a Nationally Recognised Qualification and a QSA approved course.

Suitability for students to participate in External Programs

Whichever program your child chooses there will be questions asked in regards to the suitability of the Program for your child. Does it fit into your Senior Schooling Pathway Plan? Will it help you on our Career Pathway? Are you going to be able to cope with the extra study expectations?

SATS – School Based Apprenticeships & Traineeships

School-based apprenticeships and traineeships (SATS) allow high school students to participate in paid work for an employer, train towards a recognised qualification, and complete their secondary school studies. A flexible school program allows students to effectively combine a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship (SAT) while studying for their Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and/or Overall Position (OP) score.

Work Experience/Trial for a position

As part of Helensvale State High School's commitment to extending our students beyond the classroom and preparing them for the future, we offer a programme of Work Experience. This program enables our students to undertake an opportunity that extends their knowledge and skills in a particular field, whilst still studying at school.

External Courses

Gold Coast Institute of TAFE Schools Programs & External Intuitions offers Queensland Studies Authorities (QSA) approved courses. Applications must be based on Career Pathways and are available to Year 11 & 12 students only. Applications and Positions advertised **mid year** for the following year.

Tax File Number Applications

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) with cooperation with schools, offers students over the age of 13 the opportunity to apply for a tax file number (TFN) through school. This is a voluntary program and make sit easier for students to obtain a TFN. Students need a TFN for employment, applying for Centrelink benefits, opening bank accounts or deferring university fees. See ILO and complete the form. Students will receive the TFN via a notification letter sent to their postal

address with in 28 days of the TFN being received by the ATO.

Builders' White Card

The White Card course is a requirement for anyone who wants to work in the construction industry. The White Card can be delivered a number of ways. Search for your local provider online or see ILO for companies who deliver it online, in person or in a school group setting.

Blue Card – Working Children Check

This assesses a person's eligibility to hold a blue card or exemption card based on their known past police and disciplinary information. This process also disqualifies certain people up front and prevents people from working with children whose past behaviour indicates they are not eligible to enter regulated child-related employment. Students can apply through the ILO.

If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment please contact me on details below

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

WELCOME BACK FROM THE LIBRARY!!

Our first task for 2013 is that I would like to encourage all parents and students to join the Gold Coast City Council Library. The GCCC Library membership allows access to numerous resources that will assist students with their assessment. Students are able to collect membership forms from the school library, or parents can take students to Helensvale Library and join up.

Please take advantage of our wonderful council libraries!

Marnie Griffiths Teacher Librarian

Y8 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Year 8's had their swimming carnival on Friday 1st of February. Although not many of them were brave enough to swim those that did, demonstrated their skills in all of the strokes. It was impressive to see 8 girls doing butterfly down the pool and each of them showing a perfect stroke selection. The winners on the day were Hawks, Seagulls, Eagles and then Magpies. The full school swimming carnival was held on Tuesday 12th February.

Any sporting enquiries can be directed to Mrs Skennar in the HPE department – skenn1@eq.edu.au

MATHS TUTORIALS

Our dedicated Maths staff offer FREE Maths tutorials every Thursday between 3.00pm – 4.00pm in SM07. This is for students of all year levels so take advantage of this wonderful service.

CONGRATULATIONS TO A TALENTED PAST STUDENT JESSE RASMUSSEN

One of Helensvale's most talented students is continuing to flourish in his chosen, competitive industry of dance and entertainment. Jesse Rasmussen a super star onstage and off, has gone from strength to strength in the dance industry, currently starring in Dein Perry's Tap Dogs at Jupiter's Casino.

We are very proud to call Jesse a past Helensvale State High School Performing Arts student!

"Training on the Gold Coast, Australia, with Peta Norton and Robert Sturrock, Jesse wowed Las Vegas in 1998 when he won the Showcase Dance Championships, and went on to win in Australia. Since then Jesse has toured the country playing *Tip* in David Atkins *Hot Shoe Shuffle*, *Oh What a Night*, *Grease – The Arena spectacular* and *Candy Man with Wayne Scott Kermond*.

Film credits includes: Peter Jackson's *King Kong*, George Miller's *Happy Feet 1* and most recently *Happy Feet 2*.

Jesse runs two hip hop companies, FlowCity Australian Dance Convention and JTown Productions. He has worked with the likes of Guy Sebastian, Natalie Bassingthwaite, Marcia and Denny Hines and Savion Glover. Jesse has also performed and choreographed for Stan Walker on the SummerBeats and New Zealand tour, Jessica Mauboy's Beyonce tour & Channel 9's *Hey Hey It's Saturday 2009* reunion show. Most recently Jesse choreographed for Lil Banditz Krew (*You Talent Time* winner).

In 2009, Jesse was a Top 20 finalist for Australia's *So You Think You Can Dance* and then went on to choreograph for the show."

Congratulation Jesse on your continued successes!

DISCOVER SAILING DAY

If your children are interested in sailing, come along to the Hollywell Sailing Club on Sunday 3 March for a FREE Discover Sailing Day. For further information, see the online flyer.

COOMERA HOCKEY CLUB – SIGN ON DAYS 2013

Saturday February 16th 10.00am – 12.00pm
Gold Coast Hockey Stadium, Musgrave Ave, Labrador

Sunday February 17th & Sunday February 24th 10.00am – 12.00pm

Coomera Anglican College, Days Rd, Upper Coomera

We have places available for:

Juniors in under 11, 13, 15 and 18
Seniors both men and women
Vets both men and women

Email Tony: tony@coomerahockey.com

NRL TRIAL

GC Titans v NZ Warriors

Date: Sat 9 Feb 2013

Venue: Pizzey Park, Miami

For more information and to purchase discounted tickets go to www.burleighbears.com.au

Children 10 and under free with a paying adult.

MANAGING QUERIES REGARDING SCHOOL BUS PASSES AND TIMETABLES.

For queries regarding **eligibility** and **applications** for a school bus pass under the School Transport Assistance Scheme, please direct parents/guardians to the **Department of Transport and Main Roads on 5630 8857** or www.tmr.qld.gov.au

For queries about the issuing of a bus pass, the payment of top-up fares, timetabling, or route information please refer to Surfside Buslines at www.surfside.com.au then click on Schools Services tab – if you still need further information telephone 5571 6555, are staff are endeavouring to respond to your enquiry within 48 hours.

GET STARTED VOUCHERS TO HELP CHILDREN GET ACTIVE

Get Started is a new State Government funding program offering up to \$150 per student towards sport club registration or membership fees to help families who can't afford to sign their child up and encourage other children who would improve their social connections or health to get involved.

Children with a parent or guardian who holds a Health Care or Pension Concession Card and submit a form will qualify, while other families will also need to submit recommendations from two referral agents with their application. Details are available from the Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing's [Get in the Game website](#).

The first funding round opened on 15 January 2013 with vouchers distributed on a first-come, first-served basis until the allocation is exhausted or closes on 15 April 2013. A second round will open on 15 July 2013.

<http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/funding/getinthegame/referral-agents.html>