



3 June 2013

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



One Student, One Community, Many Futures

### Independent Public Schools (IPS)

Our school will have the opportunity later this year to submit an Expression of Interest to become an Independent Public School. This initiative is aimed at providing schools with opportunities to make decisions at the local level and directly respond to local community needs and aspirations. The policy is aimed at reducing red tape, giving schools more opportunities to achieve the best possible outcomes for their students and local communities.

If we become an *Independent Public School* we will have the opportunity to make local decisions aimed to enable increased innovation and financial flexibility by:

- The freedom to directly recruit staff and to build a team that is fit-for-purpose to drive innovation
- More autonomy to manage and utilise infrastructure, financial resources and human resources
- More autonomy to work in new ways with local businesses, industry and other community organisations
- An option to pursue creative models of sponsorship, industry partnerships and infrastructure partnerships
- Increased flexibility to shape curriculum offerings that suit the needs of our students
- The freedom to shape and deliver innovative educational practices that maximise outcomes for students.

Part of the process to become an Independent Public School is to undertake a broad consultation with:

- Staff, including the Local Consultative Committee
- Parents, including the Parents & Citizens' Association (P&C)
- The wider community, including local businesses and industry

The level of support within our school and community will strongly influence whether our school will submit an EOI to become an IPS school. If any parents or carers would like to

become part of the parent consultation group then could they please call Mark Blackshaw on 55738555.

### Flying Start Update

*Flying Start* is the Queensland Government initiative whereby students will begin high school in Year 7. This will begin in 2015. Here at Helensvale SHS, we have commenced planning for this change. We will have a new 24 classroom building constructed which is purpose built for Junior Secondary students (Years 7 – 9). Construction will begin later this year.

Our teachers will soon begin work on planning curriculum for our new Junior Secondary model. We are working together with our local partner primary schools to ensure a smooth transition for all students from primary school to high school.

Each newsletter, we will provide you with a *Flying Start* update to keep you informed as to the progress of this agenda in our school.

For further information, you can visit [www.flyingstart.qld.gov.au](http://www.flyingstart.qld.gov.au)

### Our School Musical

Thank you to all parents and community members who attended our school musical 'Footloose'. Below is some of the feedback that I have received from the community.

'I was absolutely stunned by the quality of the performance. The acting, singing, choreography, sets and the band were all fantastic - as was the behaviour of the students in the audience. I believe that the students and the teachers who devoted hours to the production are a credit to our school'. (Parent)

'The best school musical I have ever seen. Such great talent on display! Congratulations to the students, staff and the school' (Local Primary School Principal).

Fundamentally, I believe the musical was all about learning. Our staff showed a level of commitment and passion to enable our students to produce something special and provide them with an overwhelmingly positive experience that they will never forget. Our students have also been taught that to create something of quality requires planning, dedication, creativity, teamwork and collaboration. These are the skills needed by our students for their 'many futures'.

**Mark Blackshaw**  
**Executive Principal**

## JUNIOR SECONDARY NEWS

Students in Years 8 and 9 will be busily working through assessment and exams in the coming weeks. During this time,

it is critical that students are developing good study habits at home and are managing their time effectively.

Some good study habits include:

- Having a quiet space that they can dedicate to study and homework
- Regular study and homework (same time every day)
- Reading through work that has been completed during the day to revise new concepts
- Not leaving assignments to the last minute – planning time to complete the task successfully

## Year 9 NAPLAN Tests

Year 9 students have completed their final NAPLAN tests. All students are to be commended on their effort, attitude and behaviour during the testing period. Students worked to the best of their abilities and we will be anxiously awaiting the reports which will be delivered in September.

## Uniform

As the weather becomes colder, it is important that students have a school jumper to wear to school. These can be purchased from the Uniform Shop.

## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS – YEAR 12, 2013

### Term 2

**The following is important information for parents, guardians and those students enrolled in Year 12 in 2013.**

Year 12 is a demanding time, however there are particular responsibilities that lie with the student to ensure it is as successful as possible. This includes satisfactory attendance and punctuality at all timetabled classes and the satisfactory completion of all assessment.

### Block Exams

Block Exams will be held from Wednesday June 12 up to and including Wednesday June 19. Exams from ALL subject areas including VET subjects will be timetabled over the six days. Students attend their exam in full correct school uniform. The Learning Centre will be open for students who may need to complete assignments or private study.

### OP Predictions

OP predictions have been made based on assessment from Term One. Not all students will be interviewed this term. Students who are asked to meet with their appointed mentor will be discussing the changes in their progress.

The important issue to remember is that it is a prediction only and no Core Skills results are taken into account. The data used is based on the student's results at the end of Term One and an average of Helensvale High's Core Skills Data for the past three years.

The predictions are very helpful for students and their QTAC application.

## School Procedures

There are several School Policies that Year 12 students need to follow –

**Time In Lieu** – students, who have an evening class or a traineeship, may be eligible for Time In Lieu. This is where students have 3 lessons of study. They must have a Time In Lieu Card and follow all processes. This includes NOT leaving the school grounds during the day unless they are signing out to go home in Lesson Four.

**Parking** – students are not to park in the school grounds during the day. They may, however, park in school grounds after 3.15 if they have an evening class. Students also need to be mindful of parking in the surrounding streets and not disturbing our local residents.

No student is to leave the school grounds during the day. Helensvale High does not approve lunch passes. Students leaving school grounds and travelling to local shops during the day will face consequences that could include suspension and not being invited to the School Formal. Please discuss this with your child, I fear the day that a phone call is made to a parent that their child has been in a car accident when they should have been in school grounds.

## Important Dates – Term Three

Monday 8 July	Scholarships Early Entry	Scholarships and/or Early Entry to many tertiary institutions are now available.  Griffith University – see Ms Stubbs  Bond University - Forms available at <a href="http://www.bond.edu.au/apply">www.bond.edu.au/apply</a>
Sat + Sun 20 + 21 July	Tertiary Studies EXPO	Brisbane RNA Showgrounds
Sunday 11 August	Griffith University Open Day	Gold Coast, Nathan and South Bank have their Open Day
Tuesday 3 Sept	QCS Test	Paper 1 – Writing Task Paper 2 – Multiple Choice I Students to be at SAC by 8.20am. All correct equipment in a clear container.
Wednesday 4 Sept	QCS Test	Paper 3 – Short Response Paper 4 – Multiple Choice II Students to be at SAC by 8.20am. All correct equipment in a clear container.
Friday	Gold Coast TAFE	Applications are due to Ms Stubbs by 9.00am.

6 Sept

Early Entry/  
Scholarships

## Graduation

The Graduation will be held at the Gold Coast Arts Centre on Wednesday 13 November. The Arts Centre has seating for just over 1000, which means that students are issued a very limited number of tickets. Students are guaranteed **two** tickets other than their own. There is no cost for parents when we use the Arts Centre, however guests need to be aware there is no standing room and no room for prams or pushers. There is limited space for wheelchairs and guests who use a wheelchair will need to inform the school later in the year.

I urge parents to be aware of the restricted seating and not to expect families to be issued with multiple tickets. Unfortunately I have had parents in the past want more tickets as they have family coming from interstate or overseas. It is just not logistically possible for us to issue a large number of tickets per family. Your co-operation in this is sincerely appreciated.

## Formal

The Formal for the Year 12 students is traditionally held in the last week of their school year. The Formal this year is booked for Friday 15 November at the QT Hotel in Surfers Paradise. Arrival times for the Formal start at 5.00pm, with all students entering the function room at 7.00pm.

The Formal is by **invitation only**. This means that students must have all fees paid, all assessments completed for all their timetabled subjects, their CPR training completed, all textbooks and library books returned, their laptops returned, and have satisfactory attendance for the year. When these conditions are met, then students will be issued with a Formal invitation.

Unfortunately, in the past, some students have not been invited to the Formal as they have not met these requirements. We hope that we can all work together so that all eligible students can enjoy this final event. All students have brought home a letter that outlines these requirements. Please discuss this information with your child so that there are no disappointments later in the year.

We have a very active Formal Committee this year, who are organising fund-raising activities to lower the price of the Formal ticket. The cost of the Formal will be between \$120 - \$140. The more money the Committee raises, the less the cost to students in November. Students attending the Formal do receive a photo from the Formal as well as a DVD that has memories of their year and the Graduation on it.

## Heads of Learning Community

This year there are two Heads of Learning Community working with Year 12 students.

Ms Byrne and Ms Jones are working tirelessly with students on the all important issues of attendance and uniform. If you have concerns in relation to your student's attendance or uniform, please contact the relevant HLC.

Concerns with your student's academic progress can be addressed to their relevant teacher or curriculum Head of Department.

If you have any concerns about your students' progress, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you

**Sharyn Stubbs**  
**Deputy Principal**  
**sstub4@eq.edu.au**

## FOOTLOOSE – A ROARING SUCCESS!

Last week Helensvale State High School celebrated their production of 'Footloose' at the Gold Coast Arts Centre. Over nine hundred audience members attended the production over two nights and our community is simply raving about the production.

The eighty strong cast, crew and instrumentalists showcased their performance skills and sheer professionalism after months of dedicated rehearsal and preparation. The large scale production was a wonderful example of collaboration and creativity and encapsulated the excellence our school has to offer. Congratulations to all staff and students involved in the production – it was an outstanding celebration and Helensvale High is exceptionally proud of you.

**Michelle Phelan**  
**Musical Producer**



## AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS WEEK 2013

In 2013, for the first time, four northern Gold Coast schools, known as the Northern Collegiate, consisting of Pacific Pines SHS, Helensvale SHS, Coombabah SHS and Upper Coomera College, will combine to run ABW collectively. Our goal is to produce a program that is not only competitive and intensive, but one that allows students from across all four schools to work in teams to develop leadership, business and enterprise skills.



Students will learn about running business from the business perspective by working with business mentors and engaging in presentations by leaders of the local business community.

The program begins on Monday 17th June through until Friday 21st June. There will be a dinner held on Friday 21st June at Hotel Grand Chancellor, Surfers Paradise, to announce the awards to teams in several categories.

This year our Northern Collegiate ABW has been extremely privileged to be sponsored by two Principal Sponsors, Club Helensvale and the Coomera Chamber of Commerce.

We also were very fortunate to receive 12 Team Sponsors – BBC Digital, Boost Juice, Commonwealth Bank, Councillor



Tracey Gilmore, Councillor William Owen-Jones, Document Solutions, Klearnet Solutions, MSP Photography, Nerang RSL, QTMB, Stuart Robert MP and Shine Lawyers.

Many thanks go out to these wonderful sponsors for so graciously giving of their time and assistance to the students and for their financial contribution to the program.

**Lisa Campbell**

**Head of Department, Business Education**

## YEAR NINE 1 TO 1 LAPTOP PROGRAM

We are excitedly awaiting the delivery of the laptops for our Year 9 students at the end of next week. We will be processing them as quickly as possible to have them in the hands of students following the Queen's Birthday public holiday (Monday 10 June).

Responses from parents/caregivers in joining this fantastic learning opportunity have been impressive to date. If you have not as yet submitted the *Student NSSCF Charter Agreement* to the Finance Department, with your pro-rata co-contribution of \$90, I would urge you do so at your earliest convenience. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please contact our Business Services Manager. Both the Charter Agreement and the booklet about the program are available on our website and for your convenience, are included in this newsletter:

To summarise, the requirements for participation in this program are:

- **All school fees up to date**
- **Return of completed to Finance along with a \$90 co-contribution payment *Student NSSCF Charter Agreement* for participation in the laptop program for the remainder of 2013.**
- For any family experiencing financial difficulty, please contact Mrs Jo Ashton, Business Services Manager on 5573 8555 or by email [jasht44@eq.edu.au](mailto:jasht44@eq.edu.au) to discuss this matter with respect to joining the program.

**Sheryl Carr**

**Head of Department, Information Technology**

## WINTER SOCIAL

The start of next term will see the annual revival of a Student Council tradition: the Winter Social. This is an opportunity for our Year 8 and 9 students to leave their school woes behind in a fun filled and supervised environment. The Helensvale community encourages our junior students to attend as it will help to build lasting friendships as well as school spirit.

Students can expect the latest music, competitions and prizes. Food and soft drinks will be available for purchase during the event. Places are limited so get in quick! Tickets can be purchased through finance for \$5.

**NB:** if you had already purchased your ticket for the postponed event, you do not need to purchase a further ticket.

**Date:** Tuesday 16th July (week 2, Term 3)

**Time:** 6pm-8pm.

## THE CANCER COUNCIL - BIGGEST MORNING TEA

On Thursday 23 May staff at Helensvale SHS took part in the Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea. This was a great success and with the fantastic help of the Year 9 Student Council Members, a great time was had by all. We had mounds of cakes, biscuits and goodies all donated by members of staff, plus tea and coffee on offer in exchange for a small donation to raise funds for the much needed Cancer Council charity.

Our Year 9 students were the waiters and waitresses for the morning and staff certainly appreciated and commented on their efforts.

We were also lucky enough to have been donated a \$100 gift voucher by Woolworths which we raffled to staff. Our final tally was a whopping almost \$400!!!

Well done and thank you to everyone who helped in any way at all. You are wonderful!



## YEAR 8 ART

In week 4 this term, 5 classes participated in an Aboriginal Art Workshop spread over 4 days with a local Aboriginal Artist and member of the Helensvale High Community, Tony Gordon. Year 8 Art students are given this fantastic opportunity to participate in a professional workshop which for most of them, was their first Art workshop ever. Students got to learn a little bit about the local Aboriginal community, hear Mr Gordon play the didgeridoo and get one-on-one experience with a local Artist. With this new found knowledge and appreciation for Aboriginal Art, the students spent three more weeks in class polishing their skills and creating some vibrant and detailed artworks. The Visual Arts Department would like to say thank you to Tony Gordon for once again leading such a large and vibrant group of students through the workshops and to all the teachers, Miss Braun, Mrs Winters, Mrs White and Mr Foster for their dedication and commitment to their students.

## GIRLS BMX RACERS

Stephanie Grigg year 12 and Caitlin Grigg year 9 recently competed in the BMX National Titles at Sleeman sports complex in Brisbane. Stephanie competed in the category of 17+ women and after some tough racing finished well placed in 24th out of the 33. Stephanie was unlucky to miss a spot for the world championships in New Zealand.

Caitlin competed in the 14 year girls with a tough class of 24 riders and finished up 19th out of the 24. Caitlin was also unlucky to miss a spot for the world championships. On Sunday, Caitlin finished the weekend with a ride on her cruiser finishing 5th in Australia!

Both Stephanie and Caitlin ride for the Crash Bandicoot racing team and train extremely hard all year round. They also race every weekend of the year, to maintain their very high racing standards.

This was a fantastic effort from both girls in very hard age classes. Well done girls – keep it up!



## GOLD COAST SECONDARY SCHOOLS DRAMA FESTIVAL ONLY MONTHS AWAY!

It's that time of year again when talented Drama students start auditions and rehearsals in preparation for this year's Gold Coast Secondary Schools Drama Festival. Helensvale has a proud history of participation in the festival and has been awarded many accolades over the past 15 years. This year Ms Collette Wilson's Year 8 Excellence class are busily creating their student devised production that focuses upon the journey young people take into adolescence.

Mr Brett Edwards and Mrs Michelle Phelan are prepared to start rehearsals next week with their Year 11 and 12 students on their student devised, Brechtian Theatre piece based on the theme of all that is logical and illogical! In 2013 Mr Matthew Steenson joins our dedicated team of drama festival directors and is co-directing the Intermediate Drama Festival cast with our talented drama teacher Ms Wilson. Keep an eye out for further news regarding what these talented Year 9 and 10 students will be exploring through the dramatic arts.

The Gold Coast Secondary Schools Drama Festival is a festival which celebrates performing arts across both state and private schools on the Gold Coast. This year the festival takes place over three weeks in August and will be staged at various venues including Palm Beach Currumbin State High School (Juniors), Hillcrest Christian College (Intermediate) and The Southport School (Seniors).

All the best to students who are committing to this wonderful learning experience! Thank you also to the teachers for their dedication to events such as these.

**Michelle Phelan**  
**Senior Drama Festival Director**

## BRACE YOURSELVES, WINTER IS COMING - HELP THE HOMELESS!

During the cold months of winter, parents, teachers and students alike all just want to curl up in the warmth of their beds. However much we dread the upcoming months, we all know the winter harshness is inevitable. It is our stroke of luck that we have a roof over our heads, warm food to fill our stomachs and a soft comfortable bed in which we can safely sleep. Think of everything that keeps you warm in winter. Think of the thick blankets, woolly jumpers, gloves, beanies and boots. It seems

that now days, those items are merely a fashion statement, not something to fend off the cold.

In the approaching months, we'll all be wrapped in layers of clothes, continuing life as we know it, and maybe occasionally complaining about the cold wind. However, the Australian Bureau of Statistics states that there are over 100,000 homeless people scattered across the country, unable to find a decent place to live, much less possessing warm belongings to fend off the cold. Imagine yourself in their shoes...

This term, the Helensvale High School Community Leadership Group is lending a hand to support the homeless people of the Gold Coast. However, our attempt to help them will be futile without **YOUR** support. We're sure everyone reading this has a little something extra that you no longer need, but something that could be used to keep someone else warm. It could be a blanket, jumper, beanie, gloves or even that Christmas sweater someone knitted for you. Everything you donate will be of great help to us and an even greater help to the people in need.

So clean out those wardrobes, and bring your donations of warm items to SM01, any day before the end of term. With your help, there is one less person left freezing on Gold Coast streets this winter.

Thank you, and stay warm.

## CHAMPION BASKETBALL PLAYERS

Budding young basketball superstar Milly Disteldorf, who is a student in Year 11 here at Helensvale SHS, recently competed in the U/18 National Basketball Championships held in Brisbane.

Milly is a year 11 student here at Helensvale High School and is an integral part of the ESP basketball program within the Physical Education Department. Milly was part of Queensland South that went on to defeat the perennially strong Victoria Metro team to win Bronze. Her performance was all the more impressive as she is a bottom age player and will be eligible to play next year in the same age group.

Sariah Wi Neera is also part of the Helensvale ESP program and has just been selected for the Under 16 Queensland South team that will compete at the National Championships in South Australia in July.

Both girls form the nucleus of the strong Helensvale Open Girl's Basketball team that will compete at the State Schools Championship later this year.

## STUDENT SERVICES PROCEDURES

### ABSENCE PROCEDURES

Report a student absence using one of the following methods of contact. Please remember to include the date of absence(s), student name, reason and parent/caregiver name.

Email:	studentabsences@helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au	
Phone:	Attendance Line	07 5573 8560
	Attendance Officer	07 5573 8555

**Reply SMS:** When you receive an SMS regarding your child's unexplained absence from Roll Mark you may reply with the absence reason. **You are also able to save this number to your phone contacts and use it to SMS future student absence notifications.** The SMS is received by the Attendance Officer. **The text message is the preferred method of communication regarding absences.**

## EARLY COLLECTION OF STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL

First and foremost, please try and schedule appointments outside of school hours, however where necessary please follow the early collection procedures below:

Please send a written note with your child to Student Services before Roll Mark and a leave pass will be issued. At the required time the student will be released from class and be waiting at Student Services ready for the parent/caregiver. This substantially reduces the waiting time for parents/caregivers and greatly assists our Student Services staff.

If an unexpected appointment arises, please advise our Student Services staff by phone and we will endeavour to have the student waiting at Student Services when you arrive.

## ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS IN STATE SCHOOLS

All medication, including over-the-counter medication such as paracetamol and alternative medicines, treatments or supplements, must be authorised by a medical practitioner before it can be administered to students.

The medication must have a Pharmacy label attached. The label will include:

- Name, strength and description of the medication
- The dosage form, dose and route of administration (may include duration of therapy)
- Any special directions
- Correct storage information, expiry date and batch number
- Initials/logo of the pharmacist taking responsibility.

A written request must be received from the parent in the form of:

- A letter (for short term medication) or
- A signed Request to Administer Medication at School form for students with chronic (long term) medical conditions

Medications will be locked in a secure box at Student Services.

## INDUSTRY AT WORK

### INDUSTRY @ WORK @ HELENSVALE

Student Name	Qualification /Industry Area
Soriah Wi Neera	Certificate III Sport Coaching – Basketball Association
Zoe Sadgrove	Certificate III Business Administration – Australian Homestay
Dakota Shultz	Commercial Cookery Apprenticeship – Southport Yacht Club
Bailey Watts	Certificate III Business Administration – Studio Village Community Centre
Tayla Adams	Certificate III Business – Beauty & Body
Jade Ellis	Certificate III Hospitality – Parkwood International Golf Club
Ceanna White	Certificate III Hospitality – Coffee Lounge
Alex Judd	School Based Traineeship – City Beach

Congratulations to the above Year 11 students who have gained traineeships and apprenticeships in the last month. They either applied directly through the ILO Office or contacted local businesses in the area to see if they would be interested in giving them the opportunity of work experience that has led to a SAT.

## CURRENT VACANCIES

I have employers and training organisations continually contacting me with vacancies for School Based Traineeships. Please ensure you check your emails and apply promptly if you see something you think takes your interest. Large numbers of Hospitality and Business Administration opportunities are always available in various industry areas – including Accountants, Training Organisations and Medical.

## GOLD COAST SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION

The **Gold Coast School of Construction** is an initiative of Hutchinson Builders. Students who attend the GCSC will be provided with dynamic, industry based training opportunities.

Please find below information about the program and if you are interested, please contact me and I will be passing these expressions of Interest onto our Senior Deputy. If the application is approved, Cameron McConnell, the Co-ordinator of the Gold Coast School of Construction will be interviewing your child for a position at GCSC.

- Owned and operated by Hutchinson Builders
- Funded by QLD Govt

- 1 day per week for 12 MONTHS – Year 11 Sem 2 /Year 12 Sem 1
- Gain Certificate 1 Construction
- Structured Workplace Learning
- Students must have WHITE CARD (by start of program)
- Students must have Steel Capped Boots

OUTCOME: Industry experience leading to possible work placement and employment opportunities.

If you are interested, please email me with a formal expression of interest. Students need to write a statement about why they should be interested in this opportunity – include your career goals, school subjects and hobbies related to the building and construction Industry. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have more questions regarding this program.

## GOLD COAST INSTITUTE OF TAFE – GCIT – APPLICATIONS OPEN

Applications are open for Year 10 (6month – 2 year courses) and 11 (6month & 1 year courses only) students to apply for the courses with the 2014 GCIT Schools Program – Most are held at the Ashmore Campus, so transport must be considered before applying. These are only available to students who are NOT OP Eligible.

Courses are available from Cert I to Cert III for a period of 6 months to 2 years in the following Industry Areas.

- Cert I Boating – 6 months
- Cert II Electrotechnology (need to have a high level of maths ability to apply) – 18 months
- Cert III Fitness – 2 years
- Cert III Tourism / Events – 2 years
- Cert II Hairdressing – 1 year
- Cert II Retail Cosmetics – application and product knowledge – 1 year
- Cert II Automotive – 1 year
- Cert I Engineering – metal fabrication, welding – 1 year
- Cert III Live Production, Theatre & Events – Coomera Tafe – 1 year

## HOW TO APPLY FOR GOLD COAST TAFE PROGRAMS

1. Collect an Expression of Interest Form from Mrs Ford in SM02.
2. Complete and Return Expression of Interest Form to Mrs Ford – Industry Liaison Officer SM02
3. Mrs Ford will email you TAFE Application Details. Once you have completed, notify Mrs Ford so HSHS School acceptance letter can be sent to GCIT on your behalf along with your attendance and academic record.
4. You will be notified if you are successful or unsuccessful by GCIT.

5. Only students who are not OP Eligible are allowed to apply for GCIT Courses. See Mrs Ford if you have queries.

If you would like further information regarding the GCIT Schools Program – please don't hesitate to contact me on the details below.

## 2013 SOUTH EAST REGIONAL SATS AWARDS

The SAT Awards recognise and reward the outstanding achievements of individuals and organisations within the vocational education and training sector. This year Helensvale State High School has 20 students who nominated for the awards in their chosen industry areas. We have applicants in the Hospitality/Tourism, IT/Media, Hairdressing, Building & Construction, Sporting and Business Administration categories.

Based on their applications, students will be short-listed to attend an interview by the judging panel in June, then from there, chosen as a finalist for the 2013 SATS AWARDS. Helensvale SHS has a tradition of having students placed in the final 3 of most categories. Fingers crossed for this year's applicants.

**Paulina Ford**  
**Industry Liaison Officer**  
**55738545 0448 189029 pford2@eq.edu.au**

## STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME AND SUBJECT LEVIES

Student Resource Hire Scheme and subject levy payments are now due.

Thank you to those parents/guardians who have made payment of your child's resource hire scheme, and subject levies, your payments are much appreciated. Financial statements detailing your child's account were recently sent home with reports. Payment can be made by the following methods:

### PAYING BY INTERNET BANKING: Direct Payment into School Bank Account

School's Bank Account Name:	Helensvale State High School General A/C
BSB Number:	064 430 CBA Branch Southport
Account Number:	00091174
Reference/Details:	Record <b>"Student EQ ID Number &amp; Surname"</b> in the reference/details section so that your payment can be recorded correctly.

### PAYING IN PERSON: Payment by Cash, Credit Card, Debit Card, Cheque or Money Order

- Payment can be made at the finance department **Monday to Friday 8.00am to 1.45pm**
- Cash, Credit Card and Debit Cards (EFTPOS), Cheques and Money Orders are accepted



## **PAYING BY PHONE: Payment by Credit Card ONLY**

- Call the school on 55738569 or 55738588 , Monday to Thursday between 8.00am and 3.30pm, Friday between 8.00am and 3.00pm
- Please have the account and your credit card details with you when you call
- Visa and Mastercard accepted

Parents/guardians experiencing financial difficulty can contact the school's Business Services Manager, Mrs Jo Ashton on 55738555 so that special arrangements can be made. Payment by Centrelink is also available. All discussions are held in strict confidence.

## **STUDENT CORNER**

Heidi Greenwood is a student at Helensvale SHS and is currently in Year 11. Heidi's ambition is to be a Journalist and as such she has asked if she could write an article(s) for each edition of our newsletter. We will be printing Heidi's report in the Student Corner with each edition. She has some lovely ideas and we encourage her to express her views in her writing.

## **ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE QUEENSLAND**

Across Queensland each year, 8-10 thousand abandoned and strayed animals are brought into the Animal Welfare League (AWL) to be taken care of and rehomed. Last year, approximately 6000 cats and dogs were welcomed into a new family with open arms. As the AWL is a charity and there is no government funding, all centres rely predominantly on donations from the community.

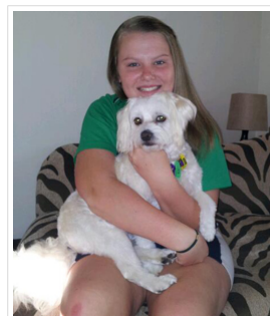
Currently, there are 60-70 dogs and 80-100 cats at the Arundel Animal Welfare League Centre on the Gold Coast. On average, 30-35 dogs, about 30 kittens, and 28 adult cats find a new homes each week. Jill Milgate, 36, has been working as an employee for the AWL for two and half years. She says, "There are a lot of new animals that come in to the rehoming centre, with at least 100 new dogs and cats each week."

All animals stay at the rehoming centre until adopted. However, Melinda Phipps the manager of the Arundel rehoming centre said "Sadly some animals have chronic health problems or aggression issues that we cannot treat." These animals are then euthanized by Animal Welfare League vets on site.

So who adopts these animals? Is it retirees, young couples or families? According to both Melinda Phipps and Jill Milgate, "There is a wide mix of people who adopt from AWLQ, There is no dominant group."

Jim and Jill, retirees, embraced a Jack Russel cross Chihuahua in 2009, naming him Mr Parker. Since then, Mr Parker has been an excellent addition to the family, with Jill describing him as a character. "[We adopted from the Animal Welfare League] to give a little dog a second chance," said Jill. Two other seniors took home an overweight long haired Sausage dog, and after some tender love and care, dieting and exercise, the old dog regained its health and vitality. Another retired couple adopted a blind female Tenterfield Terrier. Even one of our members of staff here at Helensvale SHS adopted their pet dog Tess (who

was a 3 year old stray, maltese x shitzhu), from the AWL at Coombabah almost a year ago. "Tess is such a lovely little dog and we are very lucky to have her. She is a best friend to all of us and we can't imagine being without her now", said Michele her owner.



*Our best friend Tess!*

So what do you get when you adopt an AWL pet? Animals are retrained to become family friendly household pets, they are vaccinated, de-sexed, micro chipped and flea and worm treated. On average, this costs \$550 per animal, although, some pets require extra medical procedures which costs significantly more. With adult cats only \$120, kittens \$200, adult mixed bred dogs \$240, mixed-bred puppies \$450 and pure-bred puppies \$600, this is a great deal compared to the costs incurred by the AWL per animal. In contrast, breeders and pet shop owners charge considerably more.

The AWL needs your help. Perhaps some of you have adopted pets from the AWL, or have volunteered your spare time to help out at the centre, or have maybe made a generous donation of food, money or equipment. The Animal Welfare League has always done a fantastic job caring for misplaced animals and needs your help. I hope you have enjoyed my article and that it has inspired you to support this worthy cause.

The AWL are always looking for people to adopt and donate, so why not take a look at their website [www.awlqld.com.au](http://www.awlqld.com.au) or better still go and have a trip down to the shelter on Brisbane Rd, Coombabah. You will be amazed at the work they do!

**Written by, Heidi Greenwood**

## **SCHOOLIES SUPPORT TEAM (SST) VOLUNTEERS**

Do you love the colour orange? Terrific – so do our school leavers every year!

New Volunteers are currently being recruited to register as Schoolies Support Team (SST) Volunteers for the annual Gold Coast Schoolies Community Safety Response.

In November each year following the conclusion of Year 12 within the Queensland education system, thousands of school leavers descend on the Gold Coast to celebrate their achievements. As a result the Queensland Government coordinates a Safety Response.

In excess of 1,000 Volunteers from all walks of life and a variety of community organisations participate each year to support the school leavers enjoy their celebrations safely.

Annually the SST Volunteers assist with authorised wristband distribution, conduct street and beach patrols and provide walk



home services, a friendly smile and a wise ear to school leavers. The SST Volunteers wear bright orange tabards during their duties in order to be easily identified and provide important information about the schoolies hub, safety response and overall experience.

Volunteers are being sought for this year's Safety Response. Some Volunteers are required during the day on the first Saturday with the rest of the week involving night time work 6pm to midnight approximately. You can volunteer for as little as one shift or if super keen you can participate every day!

All Volunteers are required to hold or obtain a Positive Notice (Blue Card) for Working with Children from the Commission for Children, Young People and the Guide Guardian in Queensland. You will be assisted to obtain your Blue Card, free of charge, as part of the volunteer recruitment process.

Being an SST Volunteer is a fantastic way for parents of school leavers to connect with the safety response without cramping the style of their children. Often Mums and Dads also volunteer in the years prior to their children leaving Year 12, so that they can experience the safety response directly and be more assured and prepared for the day their own child wants to join in the excitement.

Consider volunteering today. Visit the website for more information or to register your interest: [www.schooliesvolunteer.com.au](http://www.schooliesvolunteer.com.au) or call Crime Stoppers Queensland who are the SST Volunteer Coordinators on 1300 309 355. Crime Stoppers Queensland is a registered charity and community volunteer organisation.

## MOTIVATION

### Promise it

Motivation can come simply from being clear about your goals and acting on them. Say that you want to start a study group, then commit yourself to inviting people and setting a time and place to meet.

Promise your classmates that you'll do this, and ask them to hold you accountable. Self-discipline, willpower, motivation: none of these mysterious characteristics needs to get in your way, just make a promise and keep your word.

### Sweeten the task

Sometimes it's just one aspect of a task that holds us back. We could stop procrastinating by merely changing that aspect. If dislike for your physical environment keeps you from studying, then change the environment. Reading about social psychology might seem like a yawner when you're alone in a dark corner of the house. Moving to a cheery, well-lit library could sweeten the task. Talk about how bad it is. One way to get past negative attitudes is to take them to an extreme. When faced with an unpleasant task, launch into a no-holds-barred gripe session. Pull out all the stops: "There's no way I can start my homework now. This is terrible beyond words, an absolute disaster. This is a catastrophe of global proportions..."

Griping taken this far can restore perspective. It shows how self-talk can turn inconveniences into crises.

### Turn up the pressure

Sometimes motivation is a luxury. Pretend that the due date for your project has been moved up one month, one week, or one day. Raising the stress level slightly can move you into action. Then the question of motivation seems beside the point, and meeting the due date moves to the forefront.

### Turn down the pressure

The mere thought of starting a huge task can induce anxiety. To get past this feeling, turn down the pressure by taking "baby steps." Divide a large project into small tasks. In 30 minutes or less you could preview a book, create a rough outline for a paper, or solve two or three math problems. Careful planning can help you discover many such tasks.

### Ask for support

Other people can become your allies in overcoming procrastination. For example, form a support group and declare what you intend to accomplish before each meeting. Then ask members to hold you accountable. If you want to begin exercising regularly, ask another person to walk with you three times weekly. People in support groups ranging from Alcoholics Anonymous to Weight Watchers know the power of this strategy.

### Do it later

At times, it's effective to save a task for later. For example, writing a resume can wait until you've taken the time to analyse your job skills and write career goals. This is not a lack of motivation-it's planning. When you do choose to do it later, turn this decision into a promise. Estimate how long the task will take and schedule a specific date and time for it on your calendar.

## ENGAGING ADOLESCENTS PARENTING COURSE

'Engaging Adolescents' is a low cost program which will be run by the Village Family Support Program in June. The courses cover strategies and increases the confidence of parents on how to manage adolescent challenging behaviour, with skills building around tough conversations. The course begins on Thursday mornings starting 6 June 2013, (an evening program may be available if demand is high). Please contact Nikki at the Studio Village Community Centre on 55298253, to place your name on the waiting list. Nikki can also be contacted as a Family Support Worker and offers individual support for those who need someone to talk to for information, advice or referral, including 1-1 parent courses. Please call between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday to book an appointment.

## GOVERNMENT HOUSE OPEN DAY (FOR SOUTH-EAST QUEENSLAND SCHOOLS)

Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland, and Mr Stuart McCosker invite you to Government House on Saturday 8 June from 10am to 3pm in celebration of Queensland Day.

Entry is free and there will be a variety of activities including:

- A community fair of Queensland volunteer and community organisations
- Food to purchase or bring your own picnic
- Musical entertainment
- Tours of the house and grounds

Government House is at 168 Fernberg Road, Paddington. See [www.govhouse.qld.gov.au](http://www.govhouse.qld.gov.au) for details.

## HELENSVALE HORNETS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

Helensvale Hornets Junior Rugby League is looking for players of all shapes, sizes and Skill levels to come and join their Under 15's squad. No previous experience necessary. It is a great way to keep fit, make new friends and have FUN!

The team train on a Tuesday and Thursdays 5.30pm-6.30pm at the Helensvale Hornet home ground, Robert Dalley Park, Robert Dalley Drive Helensvale.

For further information please contact Wayne Court, the club president on 0439713719.

## GOLD COAST HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICES – ORAL HEALTH SERVICES

### ORAL HEALTH CARE MATTERS

Did you know that Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services in both the community and school dental clinics accept Teen Dental Vouchers?

Good oral health care is important for young people. The government has provided Teen Dental Vouchers to help enable and maintain good oral health and preventative care. These vouchers can be presented to private dentists or Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services, including a community or school dental clinic.

Children attending schools up to the end of Year 10 who present a Teen Dental Voucher with Gold Coast Oral Health Services will receive a comprehensive examination, x-rays, scale, clean and a full course of care. Children in Years 11 and 12 in receipt of a voucher can only be seen by Gold Coast Oral Health Services if the eligibility criteria is met. They will then be placed on a waiting list to receive a comprehensive examination, x-rays, scale, clean and a full course of care.

If the Teen Dental Voucher has been used at a private dental practice, completion of the private dentist's treatment plan will need to be undertaken privately at own cost. Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services will only be able to provide Emergency Care for these children, not a full course of care as prescribed by the private dentist.

Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services have qualified and experienced dentists, oral health therapists, dental therapists and dental assistants who work together to provide a range of oral healthcare services to meet your child's specific oral health needs in a caring environment.

As the Teen Dental Voucher expires by 31.12.13, it is important that you arrange your appointment as soon as possible by telephoning the Gold Coast Oral Health Services Call Centre on

**1300 300 850**. Oral health services are also provided during all school holiday periods.

For more information on the nearest community or school dental clinic, the Oral Health Call Centre will be able to assist you with your enquiry.

## CURRUMBIN COMMUNITY FARM SCHOOL – FAMILY FUN DAY

**Sunday 2ND June, 9.30am – 2.00pm**

Live Music, Rock Climbing, Farmyard Feeding, Jumping Castle, Market Stalls, Food & More!

**STALL HOLDERS WANTED – From \$10**

1226 Currumbin Creek Road, Currumbin Valley  
Phone: 5533 0312 Email: [alock16@eq.edu.au](mailto:alock16@eq.edu.au)

Please come along and support our Community Farm School

## WEP – WORLD EXCHANGE PROGRAM

**Experience Life As An Overseas Teenager with WEP!**

WEP's not-for-profit student exchange programs give secondary students the opportunity to choose from over 20 countries to live and study for a summer, semester or year. Have the time of your life! Our volunteer host families look forward to inviting you into their community, sharing their culture with you and learning about yours. WEP is also offering scholarships towards semester and year-long student exchange programs to Argentina and China commencing in 2014.

### Find Out More!

If you would like to go overseas or invite an exchange student into your family, simply request a FREE information pack, including our brochure, fee sheet and FREE application form:

- Visit [www.wep.org.au](http://www.wep.org.au)
- Email [info@wep.org.au](mailto:info@wep.org.au)
- Call 1300 884 733