



HELENSVALE STATE HIGH enewsletter

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1 December 2023

Our School Values

**Our School Values –
I am RESPECTFUL
I am RESPONSIBLE
I am RESILIENT**

Click here for more information and to see the event calendar

<https://helensvshs.eq.edu.au/Calendarandnews/Eventscalendar/Pages/Eventscalendar.aspx>

From the Principal

Dear Helensvale State High School Community

Throughout this term we have hosted many events celebrating the wonderful achievements of our students this year. Such achievements demonstrate how we, together as One Community, are committed to achieving our vision for each and every student to succeed.

Each year our Student Council comes up with a theme, with input from the entire student body. This year our theme was 'Aspire to Inspire'. In the words of our students:

Aspire to Inspire challenges students to push themselves to inspire not only other students but also themselves.

I would like to share with you some of this year's major highlights and examples of how students have been inspired by their peers, staff, families and community to challenge themselves academically, physically and emotionally.

Academic Highlights

- Eighty-seven of our students have already received early offers into universities, with more offers yet to come.
- Our commitment to STEM education continues to ignite a passion for exploration and discovery, propelling our students towards a future of endless possibilities.
- Twenty of our Year 12 students are receiving awards from the Royal Australian Chemical Institute and the Australian Institute of Physics for their outstanding achievement in Chemistry and Physics.
- Years 7 - 10 STEM Ambassadors engaged with BOP (Buy Our Product) Industries and Gold Coast City Council at their Innovation Conference. Our students asked questions of industry professionals via a panel discussion, engaged with students from other schools across the Gold Coast, Logan City and Brisbane, and shared their ideas about the future with Artificial Intelligence and pressing environmental issues.
- The Singapore Exchange continued this year, which saw students collaborating online, before Swiss Cottage school visited us for a whole day of in-person, STEM activities and cultural exchange.
- This year we participated in the 2023 Education Perfect ANZ maths competition, answering 90,000 questions. A special congratulations to two of our students who received an Elite award for their participation in this international competition.
- Just like STEM, our students excelled across Humanities and English.
 - History students proudly exhibited their historical creations at Night at the Museum, where students were recognised for their outstanding efforts, receiving awards in teacher's choice and people's choice categories.
 - Year 8 Geography students excelled during the Sustainability Expo where they demonstrated their global environmental awareness, showcasing their recommendations for sustaining threatened world environments.
 - Year 8 and 9 Excite History students participated in the Australian History Competition alongside students from all over Australia. Two of our students gained High Distinctions.

- Over to English where we were honoured to host Associate Professor Darren Livill, from Clemson University of South Carolina, to speak with some of our senior English and Literature students about 'Spotting Media Trolls through Critical Thinking Skills'.

The entrepreneurial nature of our students never ceases to amaze

- Our E4E (Education for Entrepreneurs) students held our largest Market Day ever with over 30 stalls showcasing innovative product and service ideas.
- The International Student Program has grown to over twenty students with the number of international students continuing to increase next year. Study tours were back in full swing this year with six schools visiting. These study tours have offered opportunities for our students to collaborate with international students, learning about diverse cultures and traditions.

The talents of our students in the field of Arts are exceptional

The level of talent of our arts students is inspirational, with so many outstanding achievements across dance, drama, art and music – way too many to mention, but here are a few:

- Our dance eisteddfod students from years 7-12 achieved 3 firsts, 3 seconds, 5 thirds and 1 highly commended. Our dancers also performed at FUTURE STARS dance eisteddfod receiving 7 firsts, 4 seconds and 1 third. A phenomenal achievement.
- At this year's drama festival, our year 9 drama academy students received Best Dramatic Performance of the festival and runner up in best overall play of the festival. Two of our students were recognised individually for their amazing performances.
- Instrumental Music had another successful year. Just some of their many achievements:
 - At the Gold Coast Eisteddfod our ensembles received a platinum award, 5 gold awards, and a silver award, as well as placing with 1 first, 2 seconds and 2 thirds in the various categories.
 - There was the Melbourne band tour, and we had seven students chosen to represent our school in the State Honours Ensemble Program run by the Queensland Conservatorium of Music.

- Our drumline was sought out to play at the Upper Coomera ANZAC service and to lead the candle ceremony at the end of the Relay for Life.
- Eleven of our students represented our school in Creative Generation – State Schools on Stage, across a number of areas including Indigenous Dance, Orchestra, Featured Drum line, Drumline and Massed Strings.

Design provides hands on experiences

- The Building and Construction classes have been busy building the dog kennels – they are so unique and demonstrate high quality skills of the trade. Not to forget the portable BBQs and rosewood hallway tables that our students constructed.
- There were numerous catering and hospitality events this year, and as always, they were of industry standard.
- ‘Vale Eats’ was introduced by our Certificate II in Cookery students.
- Our Yr 11 and 12 hospitality students prepared numerous 3 course dinner functions for friends and family at Karangbah restaurant.
- High teas were a special feature for the Hospitality Practices students serving many sweet and savoury delicacies on 3 tier plate stands along with colourful pots of tea.

Outstanding sporting achievements

- The Open Boys Schools Premier League Football side won the SPL Grand Final for the first time and were undefeated through the year.
- The Year 11 and Year 12 Mixed Netball Team won the Indoor Netball Federation Queensland Premiership.
- 28 students with disability from Year 7 to 12 participated at the Willing and Able Games held at the Gold Coast Performance Centre. Lots of fun was had by all!

Wellbeing for learning

- In addition to academic pursuits, we have worked tirelessly to further embed Respectful Relationships Education, fostering an environment where empathy, communication, and understanding thrive.

- As a school, we remained committed to boosting wellbeing, nurturing a positive school culture where each student's mental, emotional, and social welfare is prioritised. The success of Mental Health Week highlighted our dedication to destigmatising discussions around mental health and promoting self-care practices.

As this is the last newsletter of the year, on behalf of the Helensvale State High School staff I wish you all a safe and happy holiday. Start-up procedures will be communicated to families prior to the commencement of Term 1, 2024.

So many opportunities and so many successes.

Kind regards

Karen Lindsay

Principal.

Women in Business Awards 2023 – Awardees of Merit

The Women in Business Awards were held on the 14th of November, where we had 3 representatives this year: Mahlee, Mariya and Kiara. These three exceptional young ladies showcased themselves through portfolios of their many outstanding achievements, and a rigorous interview process to be invited to the breakfast award ceremony. We are extremely proud of these 3 students and their achievement. As we applaud Mahlee, Mariya and Kiara, we also recognise their broader impact of their achievements, in the school and wider community; inspiring countless others to strive for excellence. These future leaders exemplify resilience and commitment, grace and humility. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!

Christiana Moore



Graduation Photos



Helensvale State High School: Away For The Day Policy

Dear Parents and Carers

Queensland state schools are committed to reducing the distraction of mobile phones and wearable devices to provide optimal learning environments for all students.

'Away for the day' aims to:

- provide optimal learning and teaching environments, free from the distractions caused by personal use of mobile phones and wearable devices
- support schools to create safe and supportive learning environments that prioritise student engagement and wellbeing
- encourage increased face-to-face social interactions between students
- promote the health and wellbeing of students by providing opportunities for social interaction and physical activity during break times, and
- reduce the potential for students to be exposed to the negative impacts of the digital world, resulting from unsafe or inappropriate use of technology, such as cyberbullying, accessing harmful content or breaches of personal privacy.

Link and Launch

LINK AND LAUNCH



Grade 12 graduates and their families – a message of continued support

Leaving school after graduating from Year 12 can be both exciting and scary. There are lots of opportunities for further study, work and training, but it can sometimes be confusing to work out the best option for you.

Elaine you Link and Launch Co-Ordinator based at HSHS as you know, can give you the independent and specialised advice and on-going support that could open the door to your future pathway.

Talking it through might just make the difference!

There are so many fantastic opportunities awaiting you, don't be shy – give Link and Launch a try!

Link and Launch Support can include:

- Career Planning & Assessment
- Resume writing
- Job Applications
- Interview Preparation
- Uni applications
- Apprenticeships & Traineeships
- Employment Full or Part Time
- Free TAFE for Under 25's
- Community referrals
- SQW/Job Ready Programs
- Labour market research
- Wellness



Call or text Elaine on 0401 127 905
Email: ebran61@eq.edu.au
<http://www.qld.gov.au/linkandlaunch>

Finance & Uniform Shop Extended Trading hours

2023 - 2024 FINANCE OFFICE & UNIFORM SHOP EXTENDED TRADING HOURS Operating hours are subject to change. Updates are available via Helensvale State High School Facebook page.			
	DATES	FINANCE OFFICE	UNIFORM SHOP
2 nd Last Week Term 4 – 2023 Week 9	Monday November 27 th	8am – 1.45pm	8am – 12pm
	Tuesday November 28 th	8am – 1.45pm	8am – 12pm
	Wednesday November 29 th	8am – 1.45pm	8am – 12pm
	Thursday November 30 th	8am – 1.45pm	8am – 12pm
	Friday December 1 st	CLOSED	CLOSED
Last Week Term 4 – 2023 Week 10	Monday December 4 th	8am – 1.45pm	8am – 12pm
	Tuesday December 5 th	8am – 1.45pm	8am – 12pm
	Wednesday December 6 th	CLOSED	CLOSED
	Thursday December 7 th	CLOSED	CLOSED
	Friday December 8 th	CLOSED	CLOSED
Christmas Break 2023 – 2024	Please note that the school finance office & uniform shop will be closed for the Christmas break from Wednesday 6 th December 2023. Reopening Monday January 15 th 2024.		
1 Week before school returns – 2024	Monday January 15 th	8am – 3pm	8am – 3pm
	Tuesday January 16 th	8am – 3pm	8am – 3pm
	Wednesday January 17 th	8am – 3pm	8am – 3pm
	Thursday January 18 th	10.30am – 3pm	10.30am – 3pm
	Friday January 19 th	8am – 12pm	8am – 12pm
1 st Week Term 1 – 2024 Week 1	Monday January 22 nd	8am – 3pm	8am – 3pm
	Tuesday January 23 rd	8am – 3pm	8am – 3pm
	Wednesday January 24 th	8am – 3pm	8am – 3pm
	Thursday January 25 th	8am – 1pm	8am – 1pm
	Friday January 26 th	CLOSED – PUBLIC HOLIDAY	

BYO Portal information

There are distinct advantages in purchasing a laptop through this portal. This document lists all of these advantages in detail and provides links to vendors' websites and any required login credentials to the sites.

Please find all the relevant BYOD information in the following PDF.

[Click here to download the BYOD flyer](https://helensvshs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/782/byod.pdf)

https://helensvshs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/782/byod.pdf

Holiday Programs

Unleash your volleyball passion this Christmas break at Sharks Volleyball!

Join our exciting holiday program, perfect for all levels—beginners, intermediates, and advanced players.

Led by the Australian Volleyroos, enjoy 13 dynamic sessions over 5 weeks, including **10 thrilling 1.5-hour** indoor sessions and **3 exhilarating 2-hour** beach sessions.

Open to **Grade 4 to Grade 12** students in 2023, our program is not only action-packed but also incredibly affordable.

Elevate your game and make unforgettable holiday memories. Don't miss out on this festive volleyball adventure.

[Click here for more information](http://www.sharksvolleyball.com/holiday-pass)

<http://www.sharksvolleyball.com/holiday-pass>



BORED THIS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS?

SHARKS VOLLEYBALL HOLIDAY PASS

Your all access pass to a holiday filled with VOLLEYBALL!

WHAT IS HOLIDAY PASS?

- ✓ 10x 1.5hr Indoor Volleyball Sessions
- ✓ 3x 2hr Beach Volleyball Sessions
- ✓ Sessions facilitated by our very own Volleyroos (The Famous Fenny)
- ✓ Perfect for beginners, intermediate and advanced level players.
- ✓ Ideal preparation for School, Club and State Team Volleyball Trials





As part of our Learning and Well-being framework, we have created a Well-being Hub for students and parents, which can be accessed through the Helensvale State High School webpage. The hub includes links to other websites and apps which can help to support student well-being, as well as provide information on career pathways. To access these 'well-being hubs' click on the icons below or go to the HSHS website (<https://helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au/>), scroll down the page and click on the relevant icon.

Click here to view the Helensvale State High School Website
<https://helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au/>



Parent Well-being Hub



Student Well-being Hub

Acknowledgment of Country

Helensvale State High School as **one community**, acknowledges the Kombumerri Peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our school is built. We respect their long history, ancestry and culture. We pay our respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging for they carry the memories and traditions of past times.

We would also like to extend our acknowledgment to other First Nations Peoples: those hailing from the Torres Strait Islands and those belonging to other Aboriginal Language Groups.

We acknowledge the strength and **resilience** of Kombumerri peoples. We **respect** their enduring connection to the local wetlands and the cultural **responsibility** they uphold to preserve wildlife. Together, we go forward, learning in the spirit of these values.

Helensvale SHS Farmers Markets

Don't forget to support our local farmers.



THE HELENSVALE
farmers market



EVERY SATURDAY 6-11AM