

# NAVIGATOR - 2009



TERM 1, February 12<sup>th</sup> 2009

## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Welcome to all our many new families and welcome back to our past students and their families. We have had an outstanding start to our new school year. It has been particularly exciting with enrolments considerably higher than anticipated, giving us a current population of approximately 1580 students.

We are very proud of our student learning outcomes and the good work of staff and students. Particular praise must go to our Year 12 students of 2008 and our staff for the outstanding performance of Narangba Valley High in regard to OP scores. With approximately 16% of students achieving OP scores from 1 to 5; 40% achieving scores from 1 to 10 and 64.5% of students achieving better than Ops of 16 we have much to be proud of. What is remarkable is the students who achieved three OP1s and five OP2s. Truly outstanding for our relatively young school. Furthermore information coming to hand indicates the vast majority of students have entered courses of study and careers of their first choice! This is after all one of our key goals as a school.

To ensure we maximise students learning they must ensure their responsibilities are realised i.e. attendance, completing homework and assignments, meeting the uniform expectations consistently. Students must engage effectively with teachers and form effective learning teams. We are very proud of our students and we wish all students to be proud of who they are and their school. High quality and standards in ALL that we do is to be aspired to. This relates not only to schoolwork but also to behaviour, how we speak to each other, our dress, our social skills, our contribution to our community. With your active support as parents working with our staff the future success of your children is assured.

I look forward to working with you and your children throughout the year and I wish all families a successful and enjoyable 2009.

Ross Mackay  
Principal

## DEPUTY NEWS

Welcome back to all our returning students and of course a welcome to our new students. As you would have read in the Principal's welcome, we have had some outstanding results for our Y12's in 2008 (as we strive to do for all our students). One thing great results do, is show what a great staff and student body we have at Narangba Valley State High School. This also leads to some unexpected consequences, one of which has been an increase in student enrolments of over 140

students compared to this time last year. As many would be aware, this has had a flow on to our class sizes, some of which are quite large. Both the school and Regional Office have been working extremely hard to secure new teachers and the timetable for alls students will be finalised for the week starting 16<sup>th</sup> Feb. The manner in which staff and students have coped with the larger classes, is a testament to their support of our underlying school values of Respect, Integrity and Commitment.

In continuing with our welcoming theme, we are arranging two informal parent teacher breakfasts, whereby, you can meet your sons/daughters teachers. These breakfasts are scheduled as follows;  
Yrs 9 and 10, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March  
Yrs 11 and 12, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

Times for both breakfasts 7.15 am – 8.00am and held in our school Resource Centre (library). If you could let us know of your attendance, by phoning the office on 3385 4555, it will greatly assist catering. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Educational Programs and All Students  
It needs to be acknowledged that the key reason for students attending school is to achieve optimum learning outcomes. This focus is supported by Education Queensland and relevant Government policy. All students must ensure they meet their obligation of attending school regularly, being on time, having all the necessary resources to function effectively in classes and meeting assignment, homework and other assessment requirements. Achieving rigour regarding schoolwork at school and at home is essential for your child to experience success. Please ensure that your child meets the expectations in the areas as stated above. We would be happy to discuss issues around these expectations if you wish. Your child can only benefit now and in the long term with your vigorous support of the school.

For post compulsory students legislation indicates that cancellation of enrolments may occur if certain expectations are not realised. The grounds for cancellation for a student who is more that the age of compulsory attendance are:

- (a) the student's persistently disruptive behaviour is adversely affecting the education of other students at the institution or
- (b) the student's behaviour amounts to refusal to participate in the program of instruction provided at the institution.

Examples of this may include:

- persistent truancy

- extended truancy
- failure to complete assessment requirements across subjects
- failure to actively participate in teacher guided activities

Student absence from school and/or lateness to school is a serious concern. All students have the responsibility to ensure they discuss with the teacher and catch up any work that may have been missed. Students must be encouraged to take ownership of their own learning and educational progress.

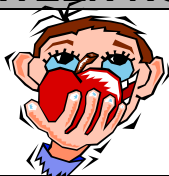
#### Mobile Phones

Parents are reminded that if your child brings a mobile phone to school they should be off at all times and kept out of sight. The safety of these items cannot be ensured if students fail to keep them safe and out of sight. Students with phones visible in class, will be instructed to take the phone to the office, where it can be collected at the end of the day. These are expensive items and where theft does occur recovery is very difficult to achieve.

## EVENTS

| SCHOOL EVENTS CALENDAR - 2009                   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 13 <sup>th</sup><br>February                    | Swimming Carnival         |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup><br>February | QCS immersion day         |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>February                    | Yr8 Parent night          |
| 24 <sup>th</sup><br>February                    | Regional Trial Day 1      |
| 26 <sup>th</sup><br>February                    | Visual Arts excursion     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup><br>March      | School photos             |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>March                        | Parent/Teacher Breakfasts |
| 4 <sup>th</sup><br>March                        | Parent/Teacher Breakfasts |

## CANTEEN ROSTER



|             |       |                         |
|-------------|-------|-------------------------|
| Monday -    | 16/01 | Cathy & Janet           |
| Tuesday -   | 17/01 | Julie & Chris           |
| Wednesday - | 18/01 | Sue & Diane             |
| Thursday -  | 19/01 | Carol, Kharla & Heather |
| Friday -    | 20/01 | Liz & Need Helpers      |
| Monday-     | 23/01 | Gayle & Janet           |
| Tuesday-    | 24/01 | Julie & Chris           |
| Wednesday-  | 25/01 | Sue & Diane             |
| Thursday-   | 26/11 | Carol, Kharla & Kaylene |
| Friday-     | 27/11 | Liz & Need Helpers      |

## UNIFORM SHOP

Reminder of the opening hours for the Uniform Shop. Parents can access the Uniform Shop on -

|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Tuesday                           | 8.00 – 10.00 |
| Wednesday                         | 1.00 – 3.00  |
| Thursday                          | 1.00 – 3.00  |
| <b>(Closed Monday and Friday)</b> |              |

Students can access at first break (11.00) Monday to Thursday (closed for sales on Friday). Apart from Tuesday the Uniform Shop is not open to students before school.

There is a new phone number for the Uniform Shop and that is **3385 4550**. If there is no answer on this phone please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

If you have ordered uniforms and not paid for them by the end of February, these uniforms will go back on the shelves.

At present Maths Mate, English and Biology books are out of stock. New stock has been ordered and are not too far away. When stock arrives it will be advertised in 'Student Notices'. These notices are read to your child in form class so when stock has arrived they can let you know.

An order to the suppliers for jumpers and jackets is about to be placed. If you require a size under XXS (jumper) or XS (jacket) please inform the Uniform Shop on the above number. The jumpers are very generous and are a size down from the polo shirts. This order needs to be placed by the 27<sup>th</sup> February so any orders after that date cannot be guaranteed in time for winter.

## SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Swimming Carnival is on tomorrow (Friday 13th)! So get on your favourite boardies and House Coloured clothing and accessories for a day of fun by the pool. It is an all day event held at the Caboolture Sports and Aquatic Centre. Maintaining last years mix of competition and participation for fun - our Swimming Carnival will embrace an innovative theme - encouraging you to be involved in as many fun physical activities. The competitive races will occur for each of your favourite strokes, followed by a range of in pool novelty events later in the day. Outside the pool, Touch Footy and Beach Volleyball games will also occur. Students are encouraged to wear a hat, bring healthy foods and drink plenty of fluids. The pool tuckshop will be open. House points will be awarded on the day for any event you are involved in- so try and do as many events as you can.

## DUKES AWARD

This year Narangba Valley State High School is running The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, an exciting International Award for young people which currently operated in over 120 countries worldwide. The Dukes Award is a self-development program, offering young people the opportunity to challenge themselves and achieve their potential through a program of individual, non-competitive, personal challenge and development. It aims to build in young people self-motivation and confidence whilst giving participants a real sense of achievement. Narangba Valley State High School will this year be offering Grade 8 Students the opportunity to complete Bridge Level One and Grade 10 Students the opportunity to complete the Bronze Award, this Award also gains students 1 QCE point. Stay tuned for more information on our first Expedition to be held later this term. For more information see Ms Scammells in Laver.

## MATHS DEPARTMENT NEWS

2009 is shaping up to be a busy and exciting year for Mathematics at Narangba Valley SHS. Some of the events include:

- ▶ Our school hosting the district Maths tournament in May when over 700 students and teachers from around the district will converge on our school.
- ▶ Westpac Maths Competition
- ▶ ICAS Maths Competition
- ▶ Yr 8 Problem Solving Tournament
- ▶ Maths excursions
- ▶ ASX sharemarket game.

The Maths Department is also offering free Maths tutorials every Wednesday after school in H11 for the remainder of the year. The sessions run from 2:40 – 3:30pm and are open to students of any age and any level of Maths. They are ideal for students who would like some assistance with homework, class work, assignments or exam preparation. There are usually 4 – 6 senior teachers available, depending on demand.  
Kevin Fullbrook  
Head of Department

## PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Welcome back! 2009 is going to be a fabulous year for Performing Arts. We have great things planned, which I look forward to sharing with you throughout the year.

### Students live on the Radio

Congratulations to student musicians Peter Correlje, Aaron Hamilton, Alex Gilmour, Sam Small and Jake Tomlins who transported ABC radio listeners to Dixieland last Friday. The school's Dixieland Band played the well know piece "Down By the Riverside" live on ABC radio as part of the Brisbane Band Competition. The winners of this competition judged later in the year will get to play at the Brisbane Festival.

### Arts email list

In order to provide parents with the latest information, a Performing Arts email list is being developed.

Recipients on this email list will receive updates via email about upcoming events and meetings. If you would like to receive these emails please send an email to [jcoul33@eq.edu.au](mailto:jcoul33@eq.edu.au) with EMAIL LIST as the subject. This is a great way to make sure you're informed about what is going on in Performing Arts.

### StartQuest

Our annual talent quest StarQuest is on again – Friday March 13th @ 7pm in the PALACE. This year it is going to be massive! Spencer Howson from ABC radio is coming as a guest judge and competition is really starting to heat up. Tickets will be available from the school in the weeks leading up to the night.

### Instrumental Music Rehearsals

Rehearsals for all ensembles have begun and will be held as follows:

Concert Band - Monday - 7.15am in the Music Block

Senior Stage Band - Tuesday - 7.15am in the Music/Dance Block

Symphonic Wind Ensemble - Wednesday - 7.15am in the Music/Dance Block

String Ensemble - Friday - 11.10am in the Music/Dance Block (Music Studio)

### Instrumental Music Tour

This year our music tour is planned for the end of Term 1 and is traveling to Northern NSW. This year's tour will involve the Stage Band, and Symphonic Wind Ensemble. The cost of this tour will be less than \$400 and more information will be distributed to parents shortly. There will be weekend workshops for all students involved in the tour on the 21st of February and the 21st of March.

### Instrumental Music Meet and Greet Trivia Night

The annual Instrumental Music Meet and Greet Trivia Night is being held on the 20th February in the PALACE. This is a really relaxed evening of fun and laughs for Instrumental Music Students and there families. There is no cost however, please RSVP with numbers to IM teachers or by email on [jcoul33@eq.edu.au](mailto:jcoul33@eq.edu.au).

### Drama Excursion

All year 11 & 12 drama students are required to attend a compulsory drama excursion on March 3rd to Laboite theatre. Students will need to complete assessment based on this excursion so it is absolutely essential that they attend. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this excursion or assessment requirements please contact Mr Coulson ASAP. All money and forms are due 17th February.

*I look forward to working with you and your children throughout 2009! If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me at the school.*

Regards  
John Coulson  
Head of Department  
Performing Arts

## SENIOR SCHOOLING NEWS

Welcome back to an exciting new year in the Senior School! It is great to see the enthusiasm and dedication of our returning students and it is exactly this type of attitude which will help students achieve high results in their chosen learning pathway.

If any student is concerned about their subject choices or results from last year, please see Miss Bratby in the Senior Schooling office as soon as possible. There are many support people within the school you can contact for support and it is vital for attainment of the QCE that students are proactive in their approach to schooling. Remember – don't be afraid to ask questions!

### QCE PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Every student completing Year 11 or 12 has a shared goal – attaining a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12. It is an extremely important qualification and students do not need to be following an OP (tertiary) pathway to receive a QCE.

In order to receive a QCE, students must fulfil a number of requirements. Students need 20 credits which they receive by passing their subjects. They must also meet a literacy and numeracy requirement.

As the QCE is so important for all students, parents and carers of Narangba Valley State High School community are invited to attend a QCE Parent Information Evening being held at the school library on **Tuesday, 3 March at 6.30 pm.**

The Senior Schooling Head of Department and Guidance Officer will be present on the night to explain the QCE in detail and answer any question you have.

**If you wish to attend the QCE Parent Information Evening, please RSVP by calling 3385 4555 or by returning the RSVP form below to the school office.**

#### **RSVP: QCE Parent Information Evening – 3 March 2009**

***Return to Miss R. Bratby – HOD Senior Schooling***

**I wish to register my attendance at the QCE Parent Information Evening being held at the school library on Tuesday, 3 March.**

**Number of attendees:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Student's name:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Year level:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS UNDERTAKING TAFE OR SATs**

Congratulations to our Year 11 and 12 students who have chosen to undertake either a TAFE/SkillsTech Course or School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship.

These options require dedication from students. Parents - if your child is undertaking either TAFE/SkillsTech or School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship please remember a few key things:

- You must advise school and TAFE/Employer if your child will be absent from TAFE/work.
- Students must use their at-school study lessons effectively to catch up on any school work missed while at TAFE/work.
- Students must check regularly with their school teachers to ensure they aren't missing any handouts or assignments on the days they are at TAFE/work.
- Students must attend TAFE/work when required – failure to attend TAFE days or work will jeopardise their success.

If you have any questions, problems or feedback (good or bad) please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Lever in the Senior Schooling Office on 3385 4571.

### **THINKING OF A CAREER WITH THE DEFENCE FORCE?**

A Defence Force Industry Tour is being held on May 5th & 6th 2009. If you are interested in a career in the Army then this is for you!!

Each year the Gallipoli Barracks at Enoggera invites school students from all over Brisbane to attend a two Day Work Experience Program. The tour is being arranged by the Caboolture Area Industry Links Scheme who will be organising bus transport for students wishing to participate.

Application Forms can be obtained from Mrs Lever (ph: 3385 4571) in Senior Schooling (O'Neill Staffroom). Applications close Thursday, 19 March.

### **DANCE FOR LIFE**

**What:** The Ashley Drewett Dance for Life is an 18hr event, where each team has at least one person on the dance floor all 18hrs. Dance for Life is suitable for everyone and anyone can join in the fun! There will be plenty of activities and entertainment to keep everyone moving through the night!

**Where:** Ashley Drewett Dance for Life will be held at Deception Bay PCYC  
100 Maine Tce Deception Bay.

**When:** Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2009  
2pm start – 8am finish

Simply go down to the Deception Bay PCYC to pick up a team registration pack, form your team and start fundraising! Every year The Ashley Drewett Dance for Life will donate 1/3 of all money raised to the Cancer Council, 1/3 to the Deception Bay PCYC, and 1/3 will go towards another group dedicated to helping people with cancer.

Good luck for the coming term!  
Miss Bratby and Mrs Lever  
Senior Schooling Department

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

Dear Parents,  
PixiFoto School Photography will be taking our school photographs on the following dates: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of March.

Students must wear their correct school uniform.

To ensure a smooth running day, please note that all photographs will be supplied on a pre-paid basis only. Payment envelopes must be returned **ON PHOTOGRAPHY DAY ONLY – NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Follow these steps to order:

1. Complete student details on the order envelope – **one envelope for each child.**
2. You may pay by cash, cheque, money order or credit card. If you have two or more children attending you may include the payment in one envelope, please note clearly on the outside of all envelopes that you have paid in one envelope.
3. Cheques are to be made payable to PIXIFOTO with your name, address and phone number written on the back.
4. Tick the box for the package required.
5. Enclose the correct payment (change cannot be given)
6. Each student is to hand their individual envelope to the photographers.

If for any reason you are not satisfied with the photos taken of your child PixiFoto will provide a full refund.

PixiFoto will accept late orders for individual and group photographs, a late fee to cover postage and handling will apply.

If you have any questions, or wish to place a late group order please feel free to contact PixiFoto's customer service department on 1300 733 900.

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR SCHOOL NURSE

Hi, my name is Helen Cootes and I am the School Based Youth Health Nurse for Narangba SHS whilst Devi Moodley is on extended leave. I will be at the school every Tuesday and Friday, and alternate Wednesdays from 9:15am.

My nursing background includes general nursing, primary care/public health, teenage pregnancy and sexual health. I will take this opportunity to outline the purpose of the School Based Youth Health Nurse Program.

Today, with increasing knowledge of the unique health issues of adolescence and the health of young people, the role of the school based youth health nurse has

moved towards supporting and providing information on a range of different health topics. I will be providing health education sessions, and a whole school approach to health promoting activities. I am available for students, staff and the school community on a consultation basis to provide information, advice and support for any individual concerns.

Some reasons for accessing my services include:

- 1 Health concerns
- 2 Nutrition and exercise
- 3 Puberty
- 4 Sexual health
- 5 Relationships/peer pressure/bullying
- 6 Smoking, alcohol and other drugs
- 7 Help with health related assignment information
- 8 Personal and family problems
- 9 Overall anything that affects health and wellbeing

As I am employed by Qld Health, information is kept confidential, unless a young person presents as being at risk from harm. Please speak to me about this, if you have any questions.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the next few months.

### Important Notice:

As you are aware, the staff at Narangba Valley State High School, take the welfare of their students very seriously. As with any community, there are students here who have medical conditions and disabilities.

At present, there are a number of students who have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis. This is a severe allergic response to an allergen, which, if not treated quickly and effectively, can prove fatal.

I would appreciate if all students could be vigilant to the signs of a fellow student in distress. The usual indications for an anaphylactic attack to be aware of are:-

- Respiratory (breathing) problems
- Fat pulse, light-headedness and possible fainting
- Sudden, rapid rash and/or facial/neck swelling

If any students notice these signs and symptoms in a fellow student, or, if they have any concerns, please contact a member of staff immediately. If you are out of school, phone '000'.

For further information on the subject, please contact your local health professional, or, Helen, your school nurse.

## P & C NEWS

Welcome to back to a new year....

The Narangba Valley State High School Parents and Citizens Association's general meetings are held on the last Monday of each month commencing at 7pm in the Common Room.

**The next general meeting will be held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2009 at 7pm in the Common Room (situated at the rear of the Administration Block).**

Everyone is welcome and we encourage all parents to become involved in what is happening within the school community. Come along and be part of a great group.

**The annual general meeting will be held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2009 commencing at 7pm.** The general meeting will follow on from the AGM. All positions will be vacated.

## EDUCATION TAX REFUND

Some families will be eligible to claim the Education Tax Refund (ETR) on their 2008-09 tax returns. The refundable tax offset will apply to eligible expenses incurred from 1 July 2008. Parents cannot claim the offset in 2008, but they should start keeping records after 1 July 2008 to enable their ETR claim to be made in their 2008-09 income tax return.

Those families who are eligible are expected to retain receipt for the purchases of items for which they intend to claim the ETR. The school does not have the capacity to reprint receipts and a charge will be incurred for any invoice reprint requests.

A fact sheet outlining eligibility and eligible expenses can be found out the following web link:  
<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=035&ContentID=1394>

## POSSIBLE TRAIN STRIKES

Information in relation to possible Train Strikes:  
Parents should consider:

- \* Planning ahead by checking the Translink website <<http://www.translink.com.au/>> or phoning 13 12 40 for updates.
- \* Using alternative public transport such as buses or ferries.
- \* Travelling outside the morning and afternoon peak traffic times.
- \* Walking or cycling with their children to school.
- \* Car pooling with other parents.
- \* Staying at home if possible.

For details of disruptions to the Translink QR network, please visit [www.translink.com.au](http://www.translink.com.au) <<http://www.translink.com.au/>> or phone 13 12 40.