



NAVIGATOR - 2009

TERM 1, March 27th 2009



PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

As parents you would no doubt be aware of our focus on "Success in Action" as the catch cry to celebrate the wonderful achievements of our students. And "Success in Action" stories abound at the moment and not just in terms of student's achievements but also in the area of staff, parents and the broader community.

Our fabulous "Starquest" last Friday night was another shining example of outstanding performances by our amazing students. Auditions were hotly contested as the final performances were honed and polished for the big night. What an outstanding demonstration of talented and gifted students working with energetic and committed staff producing wonderful performances for family members and the public. Full credit and massive congratulations go to Mr. Coulson and his terrific team of teachers and support staff. Our students just continue to impress and push the standards of performance even higher. Full marks go to our comperes for the evening for their outstanding work in leading the whole evening and sincere congratulations to our intrepid judges Ms Price, Councillor Bob Millar and Mr. Spencer Howson (Presenter on 612 ABC radio).

I must congratulate and acknowledge the great generosity of two companies, John Holland Constructions and JJ Wilson Earthmoving for assisting us in the construction of our long jump pits in readiness for the forthcoming athletics season. It is really heartwarming in these tough economic times that companies are able to be so generous. Full marks to these two community minded businesses.

The printing company Print Approach with Glen Goiser have also been very generous in doing some wonderfully creative work around establishing a Corporate Branding model for the school. This set of standards for our publications and imagery will ensure we have high quality and consistently professional publications and items in print. Well done Print Approach; your support is greatly appreciated.

Parents please reinforce with your child that if he/she feels ill they need to report to Student Services. You will be contacted by the office staff in relation to your coming to school to pick up your child if this is required. It is important for students to understand that we have processes to ensure the care and welfare of students and to enable our records etc to be effectively maintained. Students therefore should not be phoning home or texting parents directly to request parents to come to the school to pick them up.

Have a great fortnight!
Ross MacKay
Principal

DEPUTY NEWS

The last two weeks has seen a series of parent – teacher interactions. Firstly, **STARQUEST** organised by the very dedicated Performing Arts Department, was a thoroughly enjoyable night. Well done!

Secondly, we would like to thank all the parents who attended the parent-teacher breakfasts that have been held over the past two weeks. I look forward to seeing you all throughout the year and meeting even more of you at future events.

Students, Parents and families are to be aware that the Personal Attributes Reports (PAR's) will be given to students on 1st of April, Wednesday week 10.

The Parent Teacher evening will be held on Tuesday 7th April, all parents are of course invited, as Parent-Teacher nights are a great opportunity for staff and parents to meet and for us all to assist our students in achieving the best results they are capable of achieving.

The Parent teacher interviews will start in the afternoon and run until early evening. Booking sheets will be issued to all students prior to the reports, being handed out. Parent teacher interviews will all be held in the PALACE.

Ms Jennifer Skeahan
Mr Sean Bennett
Ms Cathy Pfingst
Mr Scott Shorten

EVENTS

SCHOOL EVENTS CALENDAR - 2009

3 rd April	Netball Carnival
3 rd -9 th April	Yr12 work placement – Cert III – Children's Services
6 th -9 th April	Yr9 Babysitting Course
7 th April	Parent/Teacher Interviews
9 th April	Good Friday

CANTEEN ROSTER



Monday -	30/03	Cathy & Need Helpers
Tuesday -	31/03	Julie & Chris
Wednesday -	01/04	Sue & Diane
Thursday -	02/04	Kharla, Heather, Carol & Gordon
Friday -	03/04	Liz
Monday-	06/04	Gayle & Janet
Tuesday-	07/04	Julie & Chris
Wednesday-	08/04	Sue & Diane
Thursday-	09/04	Carol, Kharla, Kaylene & Gordon
Friday-	10/04	Good Friday

UNIFORM SHOP

We have placed an order with our supplier for jumpers and jackets and are hoping to have this order filled for after the Easter break. Please check page 4 of your child's student diary for information regarding the uniform policy.

Just a reminder of the opening hours for the Uniform Shop. Parents can access the Uniform Shop on –

Tuesday	8.00-10.00am
Wednesday	1.00-3.00pm
Thursday	1.00-3.00pm

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.

MATHS DEPARTMENT NEWS

District Maths Tournament

On Tuesday 19 May Narangba Valley State High School will be hosting the District Maths Tournament. In the lead-up to the tournament, students in Accelerated classes will be working on improving their problem solving skills, an essential component of success in both the Tournament and in Senior Maths. We are currently looking for more students to participate. If interested in being involved, students need to see Mr Fullbrook in Freeman staffroom to register their interest.

Graphics Calculators

Students in Accelerated classes should have received a letter from their teacher recently about an offer for graphics calculators. Graphics calculators are compulsory in Year 11/12 Maths B and C, and students in Yr 8, 9 and 10 Accelerated Maths often find them very useful in preparation for Senior Maths. If you would like to purchase a graphics calculator through the

offer, simply return the completed letter to Ms Hourigan in Freeman staffroom.

Maths Dictionaries

The school is currently offering "Maths Dictionaries" for sale for any students (or parents) who wish to have an extra resource at home to help with Maths terms, definitions, diagrams and examples. If interested, students can collect a letter from Mr Fullbrook in Freeman staffroom and return the payment (\$19.95) to the finance counter.

Maths Tutorials

A reminder that Maths tutorials are still on every Wednesday afternoon in H11 from 2:45 – 3:30pm for any student wishing to get assistance with homework, assignments or exam preparation.

Online Tutoring

You may have heard on the news recently of an online Mathematics tutoring website that has recently become free to access for all secondary school teachers, students and parents. At first glance it seems to have much potential for students who would like some extra assistance with Mathematics at home. To find out more, or to start accessing the resources, go to www.mathsonline.com.au.

Kevin Fullbrook
kfull24@eq.edu.au
Mathematics Head of Department

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Parent Morning Tea

Thank you to our School Nurse, Helen Cootes and Guidance Officer, Ali Dunbar, for hosting parents last week at the first Year 7, 8 and 9 Parent Morning Tea. Information was shared that is important to the growth and development of students in their adolescent years. These morning teas will continue throughout the year and term two dates and topics will be advertised soon. It was a great opportunity for parents to meet and talk with each other and specialists from our school community.

Miss Senior
Middle School HOD



HUMANITIES

Year 11 and 12 Modern and Ancient History Excursion
Last week our students travelled to the State Library of Queensland to learn skills that will be important for research and assessment preparation in their senior years of schooling and into university. Students took advantage of the resources, computers and databases to establish a solid foundation to their assessment work.

Miss Senior,
Miss Bratby and Miss Rasmussen
History Teachers

SENIOR SCHOOLING NEWS

Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test – Application for Special Provision

The Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) recognises that some students may not be able to sit the test and need exemption or can only sit if we vary the conditions for sitting the test.

Exemption:

If you are OP-eligible and you believe you have valid grounds for exemption, you may apply to the QSA. Your OP eligibility will not be affected by exemption. Exemption does not apply to OP-ineligible students.

Varying the conditions for sitting the test:

If you believe you have valid grounds for variations, you may apply to the QSA.

Applications close on 21 May 2009. Applications received after this date will be processed if possible. Application forms are available on the QSA website. From the QSA homepage at www.qsa.qld.edu.au select Assessment>QCS Test>Special Provisions.

See Miss Bratby for more information or, alternatively, contact the Senior Operations Officer (Test Administration) on 3864 0475 or by email at qcs.spc@qsa.qld.edu.au

Thinking about working in health or looking for a career change?

Redcliffe Hospital is organising an Education and Careers Expo on Thursday 16 April 2009 from 8am - 11.30am for students and community members interested in a career in health or a career change.

There will be organised tours of nursing areas, corporate services areas and medical imaging at 8.30am, 9.30am and 10.30am and food services at 9.30am and 10.30am. Morning tea will be provided. For further information or to register your attendance, please see Mrs Lever in the Senior Schooling Office at O'Neill staffroom.

Miss Bec Bratby
HOD Senior Schooling

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Star Quest

StarQuest was a fantastic success showcasing the incredible talent of students within our region. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students and staff involved in making this evening a success.

Presenting the night were Year 12 students; Kirsti Van Der Zeil, Morgan Rigby and Michael Anstey who in Friday the 13th theme kept the audience entertained. Judges for the evening included Spencer Howson of ABC Radio, Councillor Bob Millar and Julie Price.

The Best Music Act and Star Award for the most outstanding performance was awarded to Music duo Amy Beahan and Vivian Emsworth-Copland for their performance of "Popular." Best Drama Act was awarded to David Bugden and Ryan O'Rourke for their hilarious skit "Elementary Dating" and the Best Dance Act was award to Y12 Dance students "Amy Bryant, Hayley Heiskari, Demi Kruger, Amanda Vietheer and Fina Rata for their performance "Dedicated to Chayse Leigh."

Instrumental Music Concert

There will be an informal concert for the parents and friends of Instrumental Music Students at the end of the term (April 8th - 7pm). Students in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Dixieland Band and Stage Band will be showcasing the awesome work they have prepared this term. Parents of IM students - letters have gone out this week to the students involved.

If you have any questions or require further information please contact me at the school. Thank you for supporting the Performing Arts.

John Coulson
Head of Department
Performing Arts

MESSAGE FROM YOUR SCHOOL NURSE

At present, student services are experiencing a high number of students presenting at sick bay, after leaving home feeling unwell.

Whereas Narangba Valley State High School does not wish for parents and carers to allow their child(ren) to be absent from school for minor ailments, it does have a duty to protect the school community from exposure to infectious diseases.

If your child is genuinely unwell, they are best kept away from school, as their ability to learn at this time will

be significantly reduced. Also, due to fighting off their current illness, their immune defences will be lowered, and therefore they will be vulnerable to other infections.

There are numerous infectious diseases where the student must remain absent from school; with many having set requirements for licence to return. School does have access to the Government provided "Time Out" policy, which provides recommendations for exclusions from school for various infectious diseases. If you are unsure of whether your child should be attending school, please contact the school, or, your local health care provider for advice.

TOBACCO FREE DAY

March 27th is National Youth Tobacco Free Day; an annual event coordinated by the Australian Network on Young People and Tobacco (ANYPAT), targeting young people aged 10 to 25 years in Australia.

Smoking kills more people in Australia than all the people killed by alcohol, other drugs, murder, suicide, road crashes, rail crashes, air crashes, poisoning, drowning, fires, falls, lightning, electrocution, snakes, spiders and sharks.

People who start smoking in their teen years are more likely to become regular smokers, smoke more heavily, have difficulties quitting and are at greater risk of getting smoking-related diseases.

Research shows that people do not need to smoke many cigarettes to become addicted to smoking. Young people can be at risk of becoming addicted to smoking even if they only smoke occasionally, such as at parties or on holidays.

Someone who is addicted to smoking may find it difficult to stop or cut down. They may crave cigarettes and experience withdrawal symptoms as their body adjusts to not having nicotine. Getting help with quitting will give young people a much better chance of success. They can:

- visit their doctor for advice on quitting methods or products
- get support from family or friends
- call the Quitline 13 QUIT (13 7848)
- visit www.oxygen.org.au/nytfd

For any more information on smoking, or any other health issue, please contact Helen, the School Nurse.

FINANCE NEWS

Recently, all families should have received a statement from the school. Your statement may contain the following charges:

- Any outstanding Resource Hire Fees/Material Charges from previous years
- Current Resource Hire Fees/Material Charges
- Any offers made to your student (****this symbol denotes an Offer. This is not an invoice and payment is only required when a student indicates they wish to participate in the offer/event***).

Material Charges for 2009 are relevant to the following subject areas and are for **materials provided by the school**. This is an **annual fee** for Years 9 to 12, and a **semester fee** for students in Year 8. This is stated in the Curriculum Handbook provided to all students to assist with subject selection:

- **Home Economics subjects**
- **Manual Arts subjects**
- **Art subjects**
- **Film, Television & Media**
- **Early Childhood**
- **AFL & Netball Academy**

Outstanding Resource Hire Fees and Material Charges must be paid in full for the commencement of **Semester 2, 2009**. If no arrangement has been formally put in place to ensure payment of this debt, resources will be withdrawn from students and parents will be expected to provide all textbooks for the subjects their child is enrolled in for the semester. Further, students may be denied the opportunity to participate in non-compulsory school activities, i.e. Formal, Japan Trip, Camps, Gold Level events, Interschool Sport etc.

To make payments easier, we offer the following services:

- Cash, Cheque, EFTPOS or Money Order
- Direct Debit facilities whereby you are able to make your payments via **Internet banking** (please contact the office for further information)
- **Credit Card** via telephone or through the mail. (please contact the office for a credit card authority form)
- Regular fortnightly deductions from **Centrelink** payments. This is a service offered by Centre Pay, and can be altered at any time. (Please contact the Business Services Manager for further information).

We are aware that sometimes payments can be difficult for some families as such we offer individual **Payment Plans**. Should you wish to enter into a payment plan, please contact the Business Services Manager.

Lisa Harriss
Business Services Manager