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18 July 2014

Principal's Message



Welcome back everyone to a new term. This term is important for Year 12 students as they complete the majority of their assessment for Year 12. Interviews are being conducted this week by myself and Year 12 Year Level Coordinator, Elissa Murray, to ensure students are on track and

going to receive a QCE.

It is **School Opinion Survey** time again and will be conducted between July 21 and August 3, 2014. All families (previously only sample families), school staff and a representative sample of students will be invited to take part. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say about what this school does well and how it can improve.

The survey starts next week, and access details for the Parent/Caregiver Survey will be mailed home at the end of this week in preparation. We encourage you to take this opportunity to complete the survey. School computers will be available for the next two weeks for any parents who need one – on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons after school.

I would like to extend an invitation to you to be involved in the Queensland Government's plan to map out a 30 year plan for education in our state. School parents can be involved through responding to seven key questions on the **Queensland Education Accord** questionnaire via the website www.dete.qld.gov.au/educationalaccord. Or parents can contact their local Member of Parliament before July 21 to express interest in attending the Queensland Education Accord Summit to be held in Brisbane on September 25, 2014.

Student information:

Wellbeing program – Our plan for our Wellbeing Programs this semester includes possible presentations to help students learn more about their health and wellbeing:

- A representative from ADFQ to speak about drugs and alcohol
- Health workers to speak about health and wellbeing and sexual health

Message to students for this term is again about Ownership of their behaviour – quiet, calm, respectful in classrooms, no

swearing in the school grounds as this is a workplace and coming prepared for class with pencil, pens, books and diary.

Events:

- The majority of Year 10 students are away this week at **CQU**. This is a great program where students have the opportunity to take part in uni life and explore options that are available to them.
- The **ABC truck** visited the school on Thursday and was a great opportunity for some students to experience the world of broadcasting – being filmed presenting news reviews and using the green screen.

Upcoming Events:

- **ARTIE** visit to the school next week. Parents and students are invited to a BBQ this Sunday, July 20, 2014 at 5.30 pm at the MPS. There will be opportunity for students to have a bit of a footy game, followed by a BBQ, and if we are lucky some music with Michael Tuahini.
- **Parent Teacher Interviews** will be held on July 28 from 3.30 pm to 6.00 pm. Students will receive booking information, but if your student does not present it to you, please feel free to phone the school and make some bookings.
- **QCS Practice days** for Year 12 students will be held on August 12 and 13.

Lesley Andrews
Principal

Curriculum Head of Department's Message



The School Athletics Carnival was held on the last day of Term 2. The Spartans had won the Swimming and the Cross Country Carnivals this year but the Warriors were keen to stop their clean sweep. Both teams looked eager to get started with the march past motivating both students and staff. Throughout the day there was fantastic participation. Often the hill was bare as students were all involved in events or cheering on their mates. In the end, only 218 points separated the two teams. The Warriors were victorious, winning 2359 points to 2141 points.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the day and thank you to all staff and students who helped with setting up and packing up.

Age Champions for 2014 were:

13 Years - Katelyn Peacock, Jonathan Harwood and Nicholas Long;

14 Years - Jamie Ross and Simon Edwards;

15 Years - Emily Bielenberg, Heidi McPhee and Jacob Blunt;

16 Years - Shannon Cossor and Tyson Janke;

Open – Zoey Waldron and Josh Smith.



Nick Stead
Curriculum HOD

Urban Art

The Year 9 Art students created the most incredible urban art works in Eagle St for their Art practical assessment. Each group of students used interesting design, colour and texture to create pieces that stood out from the pavement and made their mark. Urban Art can encompass many different mediums and chalk art is one of the most popular, but also most difficult.

Miss Ho, Art Teacher and the students would like to thank those parents, friends and members of the public who came down to the Youth Centre and supported the project.



Guidance Officer's Message



Early Sibling Relationships Influence Adult Behaviour

The relationship we have with our siblings has a considerable influence on our social and emotional development as adults. Siblings are closer to the social environments that children find themselves in during the majority of their day. It is important for older siblings to be encouraged to befriend, and be a good role model for their younger siblings.

Parents teach skills, model and supervise appropriate behaviour, but siblings can be better role models of more informal behaviours – how to act at school or on the street, or, most important, how to act cool around friends. Siblings are “agents of socialisation”. For example, a female teen is at higher risk for getting pregnant if her older sister was a

teenage mother. In order to maximize an older sibling's positive influence, one of the most important things parents can do is to help foster a supportive relationship between the siblings from the very beginning. If kids start off their relationship with a sibling on a positive note, it's more likely to continue positively over time. It's not all that important whether you're spaced closer together or farther apart, or if you have a brother or a sister.

It's important for parents to encourage siblings to be engaged with one another and develop a relationship where there is mutual respect, cooperation and the ability to manage problems. Parents who have children who are spaced closely together in age may not see much of a need to have children over to play once a week because their children are already having significant social experiences within the family unit.

Not all of the implications of sibling influence are known, but research shows that growing up in a family where there is another child makes it a very different environment socially, cognitively and emotionally. Children learn things through growing up with other children in the house, just as they learn things growing up in a more adult-oriented environment if they're a single child.

Happy Parenting!

Tony Sinclair
Guidance Officer

Important Notices:

P & C Meetings

The next P & C meeting will be held on **Monday 28 July at 7.00 pm** in the Library. Everyone is welcome to come along.