10 December 2014

Principal’s Report

2014 has been an amazing year for our school and an incredible month or so in regards to recognising and celebrating student learning and achievement. We amazing and talented students at our school and these events really showcase their abilities and potential.

The response from parents and carers in attending these celebratory events has been wonderful and it is great to see the community come together to support and acknowledge the fantastic achievements of our young people.

The Academic Awards night was held a few weeks ago. Over 800 people attended on the night to see over two hundred student award winners. The major award of the evening was the announcement of the school dux which was awarded to Ben Saljooghi and the Vocational Education Student of the Year was awarded to Cameron Olivieri. Both these young men are outstanding students and role models, thoroughly deserving these prestigious awards. All award recipients should feel justifiably proud of their achievements.

The other major event was the Helensvale High Sports Awards night. Again we journeyed to Metricon Stadium and our teachers, students, parents and friends were treated to a night of sporting greatness with alumni athletes Sally Pearson, Lynsey Armitage-Clarke, Michael Osborne, Michael Shelley and Rory Thompson in attendance. The night illustrated the depth and quality of sporting talent within the school and the quality of our coaches and sporting programs.

Recently our Year 12 students celebrated their last days at Helensvale State High. The major events were the Formal and Graduation Ceremony. Over 1200 people packed the Gold Coast Arts Centre Arts Centre to witness the Year 12 Graduation. A few nights later our students attended our Year 12 Formal at the Gold Coast Convention Centre and our students and parents were treated to the most amazing entrance inside the venue where hundreds lined the red carpet to see our graduates arrive for the Formal. Our Year 12’s had a great night and were exceptionally well behaved.

Our school is going from strength to strength as we work hard to make sure every student can achieve. Our goal is for every student to be connected to our school and to be engaged in a personal learning pathway. We are determined to be a great school as we take our One Student, One Community, Many Futures school mission to another level. Our school culture is about continuous improvement as we strive to be the best school we can be for the students, parents and community we serve. We are also excited to welcome Year 7 students to our Helensvale family in 2015 as we open our new multi-million dollar ‘Discovery Place’ building.

On behalf of the Helensvale State High teachers and support staff I would like to wish all students, parents and carers a safe and happy summer vacation. We hope that you all find time to relax with family and friends. Parents - your support for the school and ongoing interest in the learning progress of your child - our student is very much appreciated. We look forward to 2015 and the beginning of another exciting learning journey for our students, school and community.

Regards

Mark Blackshaw
Executive Principal

PROJECT SAMOA BENEFIT DINNER A MASSIVE SUCCESS

The tiny island of Samoa has all but been destroyed in recent years and its people and infrastructure devastated by powerful cyclones and tsunamis. But a partnership between Helensvale State High School and Surfers Paradise Sunshine Rotary to build a new classroom in Apia for disadvantaged girls in the region will help the Samoan community get back on its feet and continue moving forward. Such a commitment does not come cheaply - $50,000 to build the classroom on the Gold Coast, ship it to Samoa and then construct it there on designated land.

On Tuesday night, the Project Samoa Benefit Dinner was held at the Southport Sharks Function Centre as a fundraiser for this fantastic cause. Organised by the teachers and staff of Helensvale SHS, more than 135 people attended the function, representing the school, local and business communities.

The Benefit was hosted by Ms Liz Cantor from Channel 7, who volunteered her time because she felt so passionately about the cause. Guest speakers on the night were legends from the two major football codes on the Gold Coast – Gary Ablett Jnr from the Suns and Neil Henry from the Titans. Both men volunteered their time and were interviewed by Liz, providing an
informative and entertaining evening. Four Helensvale prefects have been the driving force behind Project Samoa. They are Megan Wykamp, Jessica Wagstaff, Taylah Nicholson and Francesca Spear. Youth Engagement officer Ms Laura Corr Clements has been a key liaison person between the school and Rotary.

Helensvale’s Executive Principal Mr Mark Blackshaw said he was very proud of the work the four students and staff had already done, and that this would be an ongoing commitment and partnership. “As a teacher and Principal, I see first-hand every day the potential, compassion and drive of this generation. I am excited to see this unfold as our student leaders also become our community leaders,” he said.

Mr Blackshaw said it was about the whole school community showing that it cared about what went on in other countries and places. “We care about the plight of these young girls. We care enough to do something to help others so much less fortunate than ourselves. We care enough to get past talking and get down to the doing and make a difference to someone else in our global village.” He said this was not a one-off. All the money raised would go towards the classroom project, but there were already future plans for provision of resources including uniforms, stationery, art supplies as well as sporting and playground equipment.

“We also have plans to offer scholarships to bring two students per year to Australia to study at Helensvale, and to assist community member’s work in our school to develop their skills as teacher aides,” he said.

More than $20,000 was raised on the evening, thanks to the generosity of all the attendees and the many people who donated on the evening and bid for the myriad of auction offerings. Some of the incredible items up for auction included a signed 2010 Qantas Wallabies signed jersey; more than $4000 of packages from Seaworld; Anzac memorabilia and a Black Caviar 25 stamp set framed courtesy of local MP Mr Michael Crandon and well as a 1991 Penfolds Grange Bin 95 worth in excess of $1000.

Fundraising will continue next year until the requisite $50,000 is raised. Donations can be made by contacting the Helensvale SHS Marketing and Promotions officer Ms Allina Leal.

INDUSTRY AT WORK 4 OUR STUDENTS

2014 – Another big year for the Industry Pathways Team – Judy Epps, Nicola Brandis and Paulina Ford

Over 100 Year 12 students worked towards gaining a qualification through a School Based Traineeship, Apprenticeship or External Course through a Registered Training Organisation. Most of these students have gained full time apprenticeships and employment with these employers and others have gained qualifications that will take them into other employment opportunities or into further education at TAFE or University. Congratulations to the Class of 2014 - It has been a pleasure to know I have played an important part in their career pathways - Onwards and Upwards! To Infinity and Beyond!

To all of the employers and trainers of these students and our continuing Year 10 & 11 students – we wish to thank you for your time and support of such a worthwhile program. If you are a business owner and think you could give one of our students industry experience – please contact me (details below). We have assisted another 100 Year 10 and 11 students gain industry experience and employment through the School Based Apprenticeships & Traineeships (SATs) Program. These students will continue with their apprenticeships and traineeships into 2015. This group of students have gained apprenticeships in Building & Construction, Boating, Hairdressing and Bakery industries and traineeships in the Hospitality, Tourism, Business, Childcare and Fitness industries.

The Industry Pathways team not only focus on placement of Apprenticeships and Traineeships, but how to gain the skills to make students better candidates when they apply for these positions. Industry and training bodies such as TAFE Gold Coast, the Housing Industry Association (HIA) and MEGT Apprenticeships Centres have been invited to talk to students interested to gain a better awareness of what is expected of them in the work place and at TAFE. With the help of our Senior Schooling Staff we took 150 Vocational Education students to the Gold Coast Careers Expo at Royal Pines, with students gaining knowledge about future employment and study opportunities. A group of Year 10 students attended a 2 day Work Inspirations workshop with Classic Holidays at their Head Offices in Varsity earlier in the year and many of these students have expressed a keen interest in gaining a career within the Tourism industry – travel, resorts etc.
A highlight of 2014 was the South East Regional SATs Awards. These awards recognise and reward the outstanding achievements of individuals and organisations within the vocational education and training sector who strive for excellence, best practice and innovation. Helensvale SHS students, parents and staff attended the Awards Night at Dreamworld in early September. Nine of our students were representing themselves, their school and their employers in a variety of Industry Categories. These awards recognise secondary school students’ outstanding performance in their participation as a school-based trainee or apprentice.

Ryan Bambury won his category of Automotive for his Apprenticeship in Light Vehicle and Alexander Jeffrey won the Outdoor and Active category for his traineeship in Sports Coaching (Aquatics). Congratulations also to Marney Dalzotto, Margaret Piakura, Brendan Smith, Lachlan Davidson, Jade Sampson, Jai Waterhouse and Taylor Edwards for making it to the finals. There are over 2000 School based apprentices and trainees in our Region and making the final 3 for their industry category is an outstanding effort. Helensvale SHS won the School of the Year and the Staff Member of the Year. These awards recognise, celebrate and reward excellent practice in Queensland state secondary schools in the area of School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SATs), sharing excellent practice across South East Region’s state schooling community and how we promote community and industry awareness of SATs.

Finally in the last few weeks (before and after graduation) we have been able to assist our current Graduates with employment placement. Over 20 local employers approached me with opportunities for our school leavers. They varied from full time apprenticeships/traineeship to sales positions in national companies. Most of these students had completed traineeships or vocational programs offered by Helensvale SHS in their senior years and with the assistance of local businesses, these students now have full time employment and don’t have to worry about competing with the other 1000s of Gold Coast school leavers. This is something I am very aware of – ensuring what we offer to our Industry Pathways students has a direct employment outcome.

If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment please contact me on details below.

Wishing you and your family a safe and Happy Christmas and look forward to assisting HSHS Students in 2015.

Paulina Ford
Industry Liaison Officer
Phone: 55 738 545 Email: pford2@eq.edu.au Twitter: PaulinaFord4

EVOLUTIONS - Year 8 and 9 Art Excellence Art Exhibition

24th November, under a sky of fairy lights, saw Year 8 and 9 Visual Arts Excellence celebrating and reflecting on a years’ worth of achievements. Evolutions is an annual exhibition where students are able to showcase their creativity and commitment to the arts with family, friends and the wider community. It is also a moment to recognise achievements and congratulate students who constantly achieved high grades along with those who have shown initiative and consistency throughout the year. Congratulations to Kimberly Wong who took out the Art Excellence All Rounder award for her enthusiasm and innovative thinking this year. See you there next year where Evolutions will be welcoming year 7 to the Arts community for a bigger and better show. So watch this space!

All Rounder Award
Winner: Kimberly Wong
Shortlist: Eloise Culloty, Kimberly Stratford, Yuanyan Teng and Madison Murphy

Initiative Awards
Year 8
Sophie Randall, Holly Rawlinson, Thomas Isakson, Nick Walters, Alyssa Gill, Annelise Robinson, Chloe Cassidy, James Anthony

Year 9
Yuanyan Teng, Maddison Murphy, Olivia Campbell, Renee Ward, Jayden Kleopa-Mircev, Jay (Yunjae) Kwon

Art Excellence Gold Award
Year 8
Kane Tremling, Eloise Culloty, Kimberly Stratford, Sabrina Feng

Year 9
Nadya De Vos, Keyra Gardiner, Kimberly Wong, Yuanyan Teng, Maddison Murphy

Ms Vaughan and Miss Hoppner

3
STUDENT ABSENCES AND ATTENDANCE MATTERS

STUDENT ABSENCES

Notification of Student absences and late arrivals

Helensvale State High has a dedicated line to receive messages regarding student absences and late arrivals, Please note this line is for SMS only, not voice messages.

Please send an SMS to 0400 191 917 in the following format:

- Students full name.
- Date & duration of absence, or expected time of arrival.
- Reason for absence/lateness.

Please use this as your preferred method of notification and add this number to your contacts. The School will continue to request advice from parents/carers for unexplained absences if you’ve not notified us. Notifying the School will minimise the need for these investigations. Alternatively, you can advise us by email studentabsences@helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Late arrivals

Parents/guardians should advise the school if their student is going to be late, prior to their arrival, by sending an SMS to 0400 191917 or by giving them a note. The student MUST sign in at student services upon arrival at school.

Please note: If the student does not have a note, or we have not received a phone call, they will automatically get a lunch time detention.

Students requiring early pick up

Students should not leave school grounds without first signing out through the Student Services Counter. In the case of an emergency, we need to know the whereabouts of ALL students.

- If you know you have an appointment, please send your child to school with a note. This should be bought to student services before school or during break time to receive a leave request, otherwise the student will not be allowed to leave class.
- If you have an unavoidable last minute appointment or you have an emergency, please phone student services, prior to your arrival to school so we can arrange for the student to be released from class. This MUST happen before 2:30pm. Please note students CANNOT be called up after 2:30pm. This is an attempt to avoid disrupting student learning.
- The student must be collected from student services by a parent/guardian or someone listed as an emergency contact.

Students unwell during school time & medication information

- If a student feels unwell during lesson time, they MUST NOT contact their parent/guardian directly. They must report it to their teacher who will then send them to sick bay.
- The parent/guardian will be contacted to collect their child as a matter of urgency. If we are unable to make contact with the parent/guardian the student will be allowed to rest for 10 minutes.
- Staff are unable to administer any medication without the appropriate doctors medical form being completed. Further information & forms are available from Student Services.
- If your student has a medical condition, it is vital that we have an up to date medical plan from your GP.
- Please make sure your contact details are up to date and your phone is set to receive SMS messages. Our number appears as a private number if you miss our call.

Lost & Found

Please collect lost items & report any missing items at Student Services.

SENIOR BOYS ATHLETICS TEAM

Devan Simpson, Jake Evans, Jesse & Shaun Macdonald, Rohan & Jai Randhawa and Ezekiel Dunrobin have competed in the Australian Schools Knockout Track and Field Finals on the 8th of December in Adelaide.

Thank you to Helensvale Bowls Club for sponsoring this team. The sponsorship recently received from Helensvale Bowls Club has reduced this significant financial burden for our athletes and enabled them to compete at the highest level.

We are overwhelmed by the generosity of Helensvale Bowls Club and the ongoing support that they provide our school and community.

Update of results…HOT OFF THE PRESS:

Great results from National Athletics in Adelaide on the weekend:

- Izzy Leota who won the high jump
- Jess Hughes 3rd in Javelin
- Kayla Cuba 4th in Triple Jump
- Jake Evans 10th in 400m
- Devan Simpson 12th in High Jump

Mrs McKenna and Mr McDonell joined the Boys Knockout team who were the only Gold Coast school and state school in the senior boys competition in all of Australia and placed in the top 6. Great result boys!!
HELENSVALE JETTS OFFER TO HELENSVALE STATE HIGH PARENTS

Please click on the link below to see the special offer JETTS is offering parents of Helensvale State High.

RECOGNISE EVENT

Monday 24 November Helensvale State High students attended a community event to be part of history in the making to learn about the Journey to Recognition. The Journey is an epic relay across the country campaigning for the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution and to ensure there is no place for discrimination in our founding legal document.

For more information of to pledge your support visit http://www.recognise.org.au/thejourney

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>FINANCE</th>
<th>UNIFORM SHOP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 December 2014 to 5 December 2014</td>
<td>Monday Closed</td>
<td>Monday 8 to 12 and 2 to 4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2nd last week of school 2014)</td>
<td>Tuesday 8am to 6pm</td>
<td>Tuesday 8 to 12 and 2 to 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 8am to 1.45pm</td>
<td>Wednesday 8 to 12 and 2 to 4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 8am to 6pm</td>
<td>Thursday 8 to 12 and 2 to 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 8am to 1.45pm</td>
<td>Friday 8 to 12 and 2 to 4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 December 2014 to 12 December 2014</td>
<td>CLOSED ALL WEEK</td>
<td>Monday 8 to 12 and 2 to 4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(final week of school 2014)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 8 to 12 and 2 to 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 8 to 12 and 2 to 4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 8 to 12 and 2 to 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Friday CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 December 2014 to 18 January 2015</td>
<td>CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS VACATION</td>
<td>Monday 8am to 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 8am to 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 8am to 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 8am to 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 8am to 3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 January 2015 to 23 January 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 8am to 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1 week before school returns 2015)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 8am to 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 8am to 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 8am to 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 8am to 3.00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please click on the below link for the Uniform Prices and Uniform Pack price lists for 2015:

Helensvale State High School – 2015

School Hours

Below is new start and finish times for 2015. Start and finish times will remain basically unaltered for 2015, the only exception will be an earlier finishing time on Monday afternoons.

Our start and finish times for 2015 are:

Monday: 8.45 am to 2.20 pm
Tuesday to Friday: 8.45 am to 2.55 pm

On Mondays, our students will still experience a ‘normal’ four period day, with a reconfiguration of the morning tea, lunch and assembly times on the Monday, enabling the earlier finish time.

From 2.20 pm until 4.20 pm each Monday afternoon, our teachers will be at school in formal team meetings organised for the purposes of analysing student learning results and discussing strategies to better meet the needs of each and every student. Our goal is to improve the way we match our teaching strategies to better meet the specific learning needs of all students. This will result in some extra support for some students and extension activities and tasks for others. We believe that all students will benefit from this concerted effort to cater for the specific learning needs of every student, as we fulfil our ‘One Student’ mission.

To accommodate this earlier finish, our students who cannot leave school until 2.55 pm (waiting to catch a bus, etc) will be offered a range of extra-curricular learning activities on every Monday from 2.20 pm to 2.55 pm. The types of extra-curricular activities planned to be on offer each Monday afternoon include:

- study club
- book club
- chess
- physical activity (basketball, soccer, etc)
- Mathematics and English tutorials

The Monday change was recently presented to our P & C Association, meeting with their overwhelming endorsement. If you have any enquiries regarding the changes to start and finish times please email our school administration: admin@helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au