PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

One Student, One Community, Many Futures Uniform Review

The standard of our school uniform and dress code and how our students wear the uniform is important to all of us. A uniform that is liked and worn well by the students sends a powerful message to the community about our high expectations and what we stand for as a school. We have not comprehensively reviewed our uniform and dress code for over 10 years.

As a result, our school is currently reviewing our school uniform and updating our dress code policy. The review is being undertaken by a sub group of the P & C that includes students, parents and teacher representatives. We recently conducted a student survey and a parent survey will be conducted in the near future.

Our plans are to:

• Complete our uniform review by March 2014
• Finalise new styles and items by April 2014
• Order new stock by end of May 2014
• Begin to sell our new uniform at the beginning of 2015.

It is important to note that 2015 will be a transition year whereby students will be permitted to wear both the existing and new uniform items. Our plan is to have all students in the new uniform at the beginning of 2016. It is recommended that parents purchasing uniforms in the near future take this into consideration.

If you have any enquiries regarding the uniform review or would like to provide feedback, then please contact our Uniform Convenor Sally Todd on 5573 8571 between the hours of 8.00am and 1.45pm.

Final Newsletter

It has been a very busy month or so at our school with many events occurring that celebrate student achievement. The response from parents and carers in attending these events has been wonderful and it is great to see the community come together to support and acknowledge the great 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 200 hundred student award winners. The major award of the evening was the announcement of the school dux which was awarded to Joel McDonald. Joel is an outstanding student and role model and thoroughly deserved this prestigious award. All award recipients should feel proud of their achievements.

The other major event was the Helensvale High Sports Awards night. This year we changed the format and venue and we enjoyed the surrounds of Metricon Stadium. Our teachers, students, parents and friends were treated to a night of sporting celebration and entertainment. We received some really positive feedback regarding our two guest speakers Trevor Hendy (Iron Man Legend) and Andrew Boston (Gold Coast Suns player and ex HSHS student). The night illustrated the depth of sporting talent within the school and the quality of our coaches and sporting programs. A special thank you to Nicole Turgeon for organising the night and leading the HPE faculty and to Sharon Skennar and Mona Williams for leading our sport programs across the school.

Recently our Year 12 students celebrated their last days at Helensvale High. The major events were the Formal and Graduation Ceremony. Over 1200 people packed the Gold Coast Arts Centre to witness the Year 12 Graduation and then hundreds lined the street outside Hotel Q1 in Surfers paradise to see our students arrive for the formal. Our students had a great night and were exceptionally well behaved on the night.

On behalf of the Helensvale SHS teachers and support staff I would like to wish all our students, parents and carers a safe and happy summer vacation. We hope that you all find time to relax with family and friends. 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 2014 and the beginning of another exciting learning journey for our students, school and community.

Mark Blackshaw
Executive Principal

FINANCE AND TEXT HIRE END OF YEAR PROCEDURES

The Finance Office has now closed from Friday 6th December 2013 until Monday 20th January 2014. Payments for Student Resource Scheme and Laptop Program can be made via Internet banking 24 hours a day 7 days a week for your convenience. Use your students EQ ID number as the reference code when making internet payments to ensure funds are directed to the correct student. To receive 2014 resources all 2013 fees need to be paid in full. Payment for 2014 fees are due by 31st January 2014.”
GOOD FOOD AND WINE SHOW 2013 – HELENSVALE STATE HIGH SCHOOL HOSPITALITY STUDENTS

Year 11 and Year 12 Hospitality students participated in the front of house and back of house at the Good Food and Wine Show from the 8 to 10 November, 2013, which was held at the Brisbane Convention and Entertainment Centre. Students worked with celebrity chefs – Matt Moran, Maggie Beer, Matt Golinski, Alastair McLeod, Miguel Maestre and Anna Gare and prepared food for their demonstrations, learnt new skills and exhibited outstanding teamwork, working to strict time constraints and management of resources.

The supervisors were extremely impressed with the students and thought they were apprentice chefs – they could not believe their skill level and dedication for 16 and 17 year old high school students. They represented Helensvale State High School with pride, but also can be proud of themselves.

The supervisors congratulated the students on their leadership, attention to detail, their efficiency, initiative, skills and passion for the Hospitality Industry. They encouraged them for their future careers and were so impressed, they have offered to be referees for their choice of employment.

This was an amazing ‘united’ team performance by Helensvale State High School students at the Good Food and Wine Show. The students enjoyed this experience and appreciated the opportunity to work with celebrity chefs.

Stephanie Wright
HOD – Home Economics

HEALTH LIAISON OFFICER NEWS

As part of my new role to the school as Health Liaison Officer – it has been my job to help enhance the health and wellbeing of students and families. If you didn’t already know, Helensvale SHS over the last year has transformed the library space into SWeLL, which stands for Student Wellbeing e-Learning Lounge. Whilst still being an active library, this space has also been created as a youth and community hub and reflects Helensvale SHS commitment to its mission – One Student, One Community, Many Futures. Here’s an update on what’s been happening here at SWeLL this term:

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training for Parents – this has been a 4 week evening workshop, running on Tuesdays and facilitated by Pam Day from CYMHS / Ed. Link. As well as the learning component, throughout these sessions parents have been able to open up and discuss their own experiences in dealing with mental health issues with their teenagers. This has allowed a real sense of community to be created, with parents feeling supported in knowing that others are going through similar experiences.

Breakfast at SWeLL – As a result of the generosity from Sandy Richie from the Dreamcentre, we have been able to start our free weekly breakfast for students here at SWeLL. Sandy has kindly donated toasters, sandwich presses, bread and cereal and without his assistance this wouldn’t have been possible. Thank you Sandy! Although initially shy, students are now growing in numbers each week and it has been great to get together as a support team, involving the school Chaplains – Long and Todd, Nurse Lisa and myself.

BOOST – Youth Connect Anti-Bullying Program – Emma and Michelle from Youth Connect have been coming in each week on Tuesdays to work with a group of grade 8 girls in an anti-bullying program.

Grade 8 SWeLL Tours - To introduce my Health Liaison Officer role to students we have started SWeLL Tours during PEP classes weekly. The presentation also focuses on teaching students about health & wellbeing and ways they can improve it for themselves as well as activities on deep breathing techniques, finding out what their SWeLL idea is and who they can access in the school for support.

Happiness Day – on the 12th of November we had Happiness Day, organised by a group of grade 10 students who wanted to raise money for a local charity The Rogue & Rouge Foundation. The founder of the charity – Nicole Gibson came along to help the girls on the day, selling ‘happiness cards’ that they had pre-made with positive affirmations. Wesley Mission came also attended to run activities with students, the school Chaplains held a drumming workshop and school nurse a positive affirmation paper chain session!

The Parenting Strategist – Lillian Reekie –hosted a parenting seminar for Helensvale SHS teachers and parents as well as the local community in SWeLL. The event focused on ‘5 easy steps to dealing with challenging children & teenagers’ & we had around 60 people attend. This was a great opportunity for the wider community to see what is happening here at Helensvale SHS & SWeLL. If you would like to get in contact with me next year regarding programs, events or suggestions for the SWeLL space I would love to hear from you. I can be contacted on: how1@eq.edu.au

Hayley Low
Health Liaison Officer

Have a safe and happy school holidays!
PARKWOOD GOLF CLUB

Helensvale State High School is very happy to announce the new partnership with PGA Golf Professional David Louys-Moroney from Parkwood International Golf Club. David conducts both the Elite Performance Centre program (EPC) and the Junior Performance Centre program JPC based at Parkwood International.

This partnership has been introduced to provide a pathway for students interested in Golf to receive sound professional advice to aid them in learning the game of golf or improving their current golfing ability.

PGA Teaching Professional David Louys-Moroney has had 16 years teaching experience and has learnt his trade from some of the best golf teachers in the game. He has lived and worked in 8 different countries holding roles from Senior Instructor, National Development Coach and Golf Academy Director. Prior to returning to the Gold Coast he spent the last 7 years abroad working for the David Leadbetter Golf Academies (DLGA). David Leadbetter is one of the most respected golf coaches in the world and has 25 golf academies worldwide. David’s most recent position with DLGA was the Head Instructor at the Leadbetter Academy in Seoul, South Korea. David taught many touring professionals during his time in South Korea and was the coach to the 2010 Rookie of the Year on the KLPGA Tour. Over the 2010 & 2011 seasons his stable of KLPGA tour players collected 5 KLPGA Tour Titles.

David has returned to the Gold Coast with the ambition of building a young stable of players that will be the future champions of Australian golf. This will take many years of hard work and persistence, but he is prepared to invest the time and energy to fulfil this dream.

One of David’s initiatives to build this stable of young players is to have a credible association with a school that has a quality sports program. David was very attracted to the Helensvale State High School “Excellence in Sport” program and believes golf would be a great inclusion to the current sports within the program.

By joining the HSHS EPC program you will receive:

- 1 X one hour lesson each week with a maximum of 48 lessons per year. Possibility of two hours dependent on numbers.
- Unlimited use of the Parkwood International Golf Club driving range. Maximum of 330 balls per day, 7 days a week.
- Access to the High Performance Short Game Facility at Parkwood International Golf Club.
- Exposure to a High Performance Training environment.
- Constant Skills testing to measure improvement.
- Head Coach David Louys-Moroney will schedule training to help prepare students for relevant junior tournaments.
- Full access of the Parkwood International Golf Course if you decide to take the optional Parkwood International Junior Membership.

- An Australian Golf handicap once you have completed 3 X 18 holes.
- Opportunity to play in the Parkwood International Junior Pennant team against other Gold Coast Clubs.

Cost of the program are as follows:

- Coaching component of the package is $130 per month, priced over a 12 month period.
- Unlimited access to the driving range and short game areas are included in this price.
- Full Junior Membership (17 years of age and under) is $299 per year. This entitles the junior to an AGU handicap and full access to the golf course 7 days per week.

If you are a member of the HSHS golf development squad, then your lessons will be conducted once a week and for a duration of one hour, unless numbers are greater than 3 students, which will warrant the program increasing to two hours per week. Times of these lessons will be organised directly through David and the individuals in the program.

Students or Parents interested at finding out more about the program can contact David directly on 0449582682 or you can email him on davidgolfpro@gmail.com.

BMX RACING GIRLS

Stephanie and Caitlin Grigg have recently competed in two State and Top level BMX racing. Stephanie competed against 17 plus women and achieved 5Q and Caitlin achieved 6Q. The girls then travelled on to Darwin to take on Northern Friends at a state event, racing hard with Caitlin achieving a 2nd podium finish and Stephanie grabbing a 3rd overall. Both girls put in a lot of training over past months as well as doing school work. Keep up the good work girls!
Homestay Families

Helensvale SHS would like to extend an invitation to families residing within the surrounding suburbs of Helensvale SHS to join our successful International Student Homestay Program.

We are looking for expressions of interest from families to provide a caring and supportive home environment for our visiting International Students on short term study tours and for extended stays.

Homestay providers will receive an allowance to cover costs associated with providing:

- Three nutritious meals per day
- Private fully furnished bedroom (desk, wardrobe, good lighting and ventilation)
- Easy access to school

If you are interested please email Narelle Gibson, International Student Program Coordinator: ngibs12@eq.edu.au for more information.

2 Exciting Programs for 2014

Are you up for the Kokoda Challenge?

Applications have opened for the 2014 Kokoda Challenge. The Kokoda Youth program is available to our students motivated to apply and complete the challenge. The challenge involves training for and completing the Gold Coast Kokoda walk and with funds raised a youth group from the Gold Coast visits Papau New Guinea and completes the walk. This is an opportunity open to 16 and 17 year old students who want to develop leadership skills, gain a sense of direction for their future, meet new friends, test your physical limits and, undertake the challenge of a lifetime. For more information please visit http://www.kokodachallenge.com/kokoda-challenge-youth-program or see your Guidance Officer.

What’s the point?

Helensvale state high school is introducing a new well-being program, ‘What’s the point?’ to students aged 14-17 in term 1, 2014. The program will be conducted by The Rogue & Rouge Foundation, over a 9 week commitment, in which students will be asked to attend two after school sessions a week.

The Rogue & Rouge Foundation is a charitable organisation that operates in two main ways. Firstly they are a financial assist fund for young people and their families going through the recovery process of mental health challenges and secondly they work within the education system, conducting programs with students to inspire them to feel empowered and have purpose in life.

The Program

After travelling to 250 schools nationwide, The Rogue & Rouge Foundation identified the key barriers that prevent young people from believing in themselves and their dreams. After putting this research together, it is apparent that a more in-depth program is essential to convey our message in a meaningful and lasting way to the students. Throughout the 9 week program, students will be encouraged to explore ideas about themselves and their community to become curious towards social conditioning and understand the important role they play in our future. Interested students should contact the Guidance Officer for more information about applying.

The Broadbeach Rotary Club and the Christmas Spirit Group – Christmas Markets GC

We would like to invite your students and their families to join us in celebrating Christmas the old fashioned way. Our European-style Christmas markets will excite the senses with gourmet Yuletide treats, festive drinks and the scent of Christmas wafting through the air.

Family entertainment, kids craft activities, free photos with Santa, outdoor Christmas movie and a visit from Lightning McQueen will delight the kids, young and old. Parents can treasure the moment with a family portrait inside a life-size snow globe or just watch their children’s faces light up when they see the 2m inflatable snowman set amongst a rainbow of Christmas lights and decorations.

The evening will allow your students and their families to relax under the stars with the best stress-free Christmas shopping in town! Don’t miss out on this wonderful Christmas event – it only happens once a year!

Where – Broadwater Parklands, Southport
When / Time – 20th – 22nd December 2013 from 4pm until 10pm
Why – To raise funds for Hopewell Children’s Hospice
Cost – Admission is free

Sister School and Samurai Spirit - Japan Trip 2013

On Monday Sept. 23 eighteen HSHS students hopped on a plane with Mr. Boyle and Ms. Lewis to go to Japan and represent Australia at our Sister School, Shiraoka High School, just 40 minutes outside of Tokyo. Arriving at our hotel at 9:30 gave us the chance to experience the nightlights of the big city so we took the train to Shibuya where we saw the huge TV screens on the sides of the buildings with the blare of the commercials echoing off the buildings, reminiscent of a scene out of Blade Runner. We strolled across the Scramble Crosswalk which features in Fast and Furious-Tokyo Drift before heading home at midnight to rest up for a big day the next day.

Day two saw us meandering through narrow streets on our way to Tokyo Tower. From the platform we could see across Tokyo to the skyscrapers that highlight the seven downtowns found in Tokyo. With a population of 33 million in the Metropolitan area it requires more than just one downtown. After the Tokyo Tower it was off to Harajuku to see the pop culture mecca where fashion trends are set then followed by the rest of the world. Jesse forgot to listen to the rendezvous location and was found at an alternate hamburger stand after a 15 minute search.

Up to Asakusa for a visit to the Sensoji Temple where we covered ourselves with healing incense smoke, visited the Big Buddha and were told our fortunes. This was followed by the train trip to Shiraoka HS.
What an experience, nervous Aussies meeting their host families. Handshakes and hugs were exchanged as new friends were made and relief ruled. First day at school started with a stage to the harmony of the school band.

Next, a visit to City Hall to meet the mayor of the city, who expressed his appreciation of our Sister School relationship and looked forward to a long relationship. We had photos in the Mayor’s chair in the council room and felt very important. The second half of the day was spent at a Junior High School where we marched in under an archway of flowers and included meeting the entire school. Cultural exchanges included their presentation of an old fisherman’s dance and our bush dancing for the whole group.

Sayonara Party was a roaring success with certificate presentation, great food, dancing and smiling photos.

We left the school on Monday to start our Bullet Train odyssey. First day, Kyoto, with a visit to the Kiyomizu-dera, Clearwater Temple where we found cleansing and enlightenment through drinking the water spouting from the side of the mountain. Moving on to the Gion District we had a walking tour where our guide explained the life of a Geisha including training and working conditions. Mr. Boyle left his suitcase on the train but this allowed us to test the theory that “Nothing is ever really lost in Japan”. Sure enough, it turned up at a station down the road and we were able to have it delivered the next day!

Tuesday was a day around Kyoto with time at the Nijojo Palace where special “nightingale” floors squeaked if a ninja was sneaking up on the Shogun, the Golden Temple which is covered in gold leaf, and then a visit to the Ryoanji Zen meditation garden to relax.

The next morning was spent on the Bullet Train on the way to Hiroshima. We visited the Atomic Bomb museum and put a small commemorative offering of origami cranes at the children’s monument. Also we stood on the T-bridge that was used as the target for the A-bomb.

After that, it was off to Miyajima Island where we fed tame deer, walked out to the huge orange Torii gate in the bay and pushed coins in the cracks to get the gods to watch over us in our travels.

Thursday saw us moving to Osaka where we dropped our luggage at the Youth Hostel and did a tour of the city. We dropped into ancient Osaka Castle for a look out over the city from the top. Some of the group had photos taken of themselves, dressed as Samurai. We then hopped on the subway to the Dotonbori area where a huge shopping arcade awaited us. We met at the famous Dotonbori Bridge at 6pm and did some karaoke at a nearby studio. The neon lights were blazing as we exited the karaoke studio complimenting the crowded rush of this entertainment district.

Friday saw us at Universal Studios Osaka for a day of great rides and shows. Zombies wandered through the crowds creating that pop-culture atmosphere. The Terminator, Jurassic Park and Back to the Future were some of the rides that delighted us.

At this point, Tim left his bag on the train and Mr. Boyle spent some of the USJ time tracking it down at a station about 2 hours away, giving him some quiet time as he rode down and back to pick it up. Nothing is lost!

On our last day in Japan we visited the Osaka Aquarium. It has one of the largest fish tanks in the world and there are whale sharks swimming leisurely with hundreds of other exotic fish.

After that it was back to the YH to repack our luggage and then off to the airport for our evening flight. The 5 boys who bought decorative samurai swords all managed to get them taken care of nicely by the JET Star staff and we all arrived back on the Gold Coast with personal homestay memories and travel souvenirs with which to delight our families.

An exceptional group of students made for an exceptional trip and all should be commended for their ability to enjoy each other’s company and the culture without any worries for the teachers.

INDUSTRY AT WORK

TRAINEE OF THE MONTH – November

Georgia Fischer has worked at Parkwood International as a school based trainee in Cert III Hospitality for the past 12 months. Georgia excelled in this position and is a cherished and valued member of staff. On completion of this traineeship Georgia was employed as a casual employee. On any regular day Georgia works in the bar and restaurant but on weekends Georgia is integral in the setting up and smooth running of many weddings and formal functions. Georgia hopes to study the Management side of Hospitality on leaving school. We wish her all the best and know whatever she does – she will do with style and finesse.

Georgia applied for a $10000 Scholarship through the Career Training Institute of Australia to commence in February 2014. This scholarship is for a triple diploma in Hospitality, Events and Management. Georgia will be based at the Watermark Hotel in Surfers Paradise and will participate in 2 educational study tours (destinations may include Singapore, Bangkok, Melbourne, or a P&O Cruise) Completing this triple qualification will provide Georgia with valuable experience to work within Queensland’s constantly expanding tourism and hospitality industries. Well done and can’t wait to hear what adventures she encounters along the way.

Gold Coast School of Construction 2014 - Year 11(2013) students to apply

Students have the opportunity to gain a White Card (Work Safely in the Construction Industry), Certificate 1 in Construction and Structured Work Placement hours at the GCSC based at Hutchinson Builder’s modular facility.

Successful students will attend the Yatala construction site 1 day per week for the 2014 year. Both semesters one and two. If you are interested in this program – please see Mrs Ford in SM02 – also email pford2@eq.edu.au a blurb about why you think you should be given this opportunity. Please state all experience you have gained so far – industry and school. Please provide a page of photos of your work (ask your Industrial teacher if you can take some photos in class to send to me)
This is being offered to our current Year 11 (2013) students as they are more likely to obtain employment in the construction industry as they are either in the process or have their licence and a vehicle. The GCSC is now entering into its fourth year of operation with many great employment statistics and awards to report including the 2012 CSQ Award Excellence for a private RTO.

REMEMBER YOU MUST BE ON AN IP OR PP PATHWAY TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM

Paulina Ford
Industry Liaison Officer
pford2@eq.edu.au 55 738 545

YOUTH HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Both Runaway Bay Youth and Upper Coomera Youth are running Holiday Programs. Click on the icons for further information.

2014 SCHOOL BASED VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR YEARS 8 & 10

S A V E R P L U S

Can Saver Plus assist you with education costs if the School Kids Bonus is abolished?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for education costs including uniforms, text books, laptops, sports equipment, music tuition and TAFE or apprenticeship costs. This year, the Benevolent Society celebrates 10 years of empowering Australians to save and build their financial confidence through Saver Plus. Saver Plus is Australia’s largest and longest running financial education and matched savings program, with more than 20,000 participants to date. Saver Plus is a free program that requires participants to set a savings goal, save up to $25 a fortnight and attend financial education workshops. When participants reach their savings goal after 10 months ANZ provides dollar-for-dollar matched funds, up to $500, for the participants nominated educational costs.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

The Benevolent Society delivers the Saver Plus program in the North Gold Coast. To find out more contact your local Saver Plus Worker Sylvia Constantin on 07 5644 9182 or email sylvia.constantin@benevolent.org.au

USE IT BEFORE YOU LOOSE IT!

Even information stored in long-term memory becomes difficult to recall if we don’t use it regularly. The pathways to the information in our brains become faint with disuse. For example, you can probably remember your current phone number. What was your phone number 10 years ago?

This points to a powerful memory technique. To remember something, access it a lot. Read it, write it, speak it, listen to it, apply it – find some way to make contact with the material regularly. Each time you do so, you widen the neural pathway to the material and make it easier to recall the next time.

Another way to contact the material is to teach it. Teaching demands mastery. When you explain the function of the pancreas to a fellow student, you discover quickly whether you really understand the pancreas.

Study groups are especially effective because they put you on.
INDEPENDENCE EXPO
Are you a young person about to leave school, out of home or care, or just need some support on your road to independence? Then this is the expo for you! Click on the icon for further information.

MY FAMILY LAW
My Family Law is a free family law app where you can submit your family law query to a real family lawyer in your State in Australia.

HEADSPACE – GREEN CHRISTMAS

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE
As Marcel Proust, a late 19th century novelist wrote: “the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”. Volunteer to host an international high school student in February 2014 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for one term, one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Spain. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.