



Principal's Outlook

Improving Outcomes For Every Student

The *Believe Achieve Succeed* strategy launched last week by the Director General, Ms Rachel Hunter, set the scene for the Heads of Department annual review and planning retreat held last Monday. Our curriculum leaders analysed and evaluated their departments academic and vocational education results as well as recently published year 9 NAPLAN (literacy/numeracy) data to set a clear focus for whole school improvement in 2009.

4 Key Strategies will underpin whole school planning and curriculum implementation:

- An unrelenting focus on leadership, learning and achievement – High Expectations
- Lifting attendance rates – ID Attend, Every day Counts, incentive program
- Explicit teaching to strengthen positive behaviour – “We are Safe, We are Respectful, We are Learners”
- Embedding Social and Emotional Learning into curriculum – skills such as resilience, problem solving and interpersonal communication are critical to improving academic performance and behaviour

I encourage parents to come along to the P&C meetings to further discuss these strategies for 2009. Your input and interest will be greatly appreciated. Next P&C meeting November 12 at 3.45pm.

High Achievement And Great Results

I was notified recently of excellent achievements by 5 year 12 students who received Scholarships and Early Admission to Griffith University in the first round. Congratulations to Stacey Hockley (The Chancellor's Education Cost Scholarship), Archer Mallick (Sir Samuel Griffith Equity Scholarship) and Quinton Andrew, Thomas Loch, Nhat Pham, who will each receive a generous Bursary. We are delighted that working in partnership with Griffith University is resulting in great rewards.

Thank you to Mrs Alison Jordan (Head of Senior Schooling), Mrs Carolyn Thornhill (Vocational Education Coordinator) and Ms Belinda Bayliss (Guidance officer) who have been working with all year 12 students to ensure they are well positioned to take on tertiary study, apprenticeships/ traineeships or transition to work.

A Block Refurbishment Completion

How delighted we all were to return to work after the school holidays and move into the recently refurbished “A Block”. The building is nothing less than fantastic! And teachers and students have pulled together to ensure the transition and move in has been smooth. The building is fully air conditioned, complete with new digital technology including Smartboards, Enterprise Room, Sensory and Mobility Rooms, Outdoor café, Multipurpose Games Room and general teaching areas. Jan Heaton and Donna Niblock are enjoying their new office to welcome parents and visitors.

Congratulations to Ms Jacqueline Craigie (Head of Special Education Services) for her excellent building design and management of the project ensuring contractors deliver on all aspects.

Allison Crane

Every Day Counts At Our School

Our school encourages all parents and members of our community to support the new State Government initiative to improve student attendance.

The new program – **Every Day Counts** – has four key messages:

- all children should be enrolled and attend school on every school day
- schools should monitor and create ways to improve attendance in schools
- attendance is the responsibility of everyone in the community
- children may find themselves in unsafe situations if they choose not to attend or skip school.

While most students attend school consistently, there is a small number of students who are absent from school without an acceptable reason and this may harm their education.

Going shopping, visiting family, staying up late and being tired or extending school holidays are not acceptable reasons to be away from school. Research shows that if your child has a record of good attendance, they are more likely to achieve high results in the future. If your child is away, you need to let the school know the reasons beforehand, or within two days of returning to school.

For more information or if you need support regarding your child's attendance, see our school principal and download the guide for parents at: www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/

See P & C initiative page 3...

Loganlea Students Return Triumphant Champions—We Won!

For the first time Loganlea SHS entered the Holden Maryborough 24hr Technology Challenge. Enormous thanks goes to Koby Morier for supporting this team event and building our bikes 2 weeks prior to the challenge. The team entered had a huge day on Friday packing and setting off for camp at Maryborough SHS. We spent the afternoon setting up camp and preparing for the 24 hour team race. Prior to the race we practised and participated in warm up events. The team consisted of Rhys Sullivan, Scott Pickles, Michael Wilson, Dion Tarver, Rhys Howatson, Cory McDermid, Lawrence Ray, Luke Schmitz, Aarim Jordan and Rohan Hempself-Womersley. After extra welding by two team members Scott Pickles and Michael Wilson and a few minor adjustments we passed the scrutineering of judges and were race compliant.

The team got up at 6am on Saturday to have a practice race. Then both staff and students had an opportunity to rest and set up the pit crew area where we would spend the next 24 hours. The team pitched in for a huge riding effort in the heat from 1pm on Saturday afternoon. We cooked up some pasta to ensure all the riders, pit crew and staff were well sustained. After the fireworks and excitement the exhaustion started to influence performance, so the riders set up their sleeping bags and took turns having a few hours rest. Throughout the evening all the teachers stayed up to support the riders through a tough night. Everyone nibbled on some treats to keep up their energy levels.

By morning all the students had been able to have a sleep and were ready for the home stretch and 1pm finish. After 19

hours we had our first tyre change. We were very lucky to only have made a few very minor repairs throughout the entire race. We escaped with one accident which didn't damage the bike, which was very lucky as other schools had to make some major repairs and at least one rider had a trip to the hospital. By the end of the race we were all exhausted and still had the awards presentation and pack-up. We won our section by 48 laps. This was a great boost in our first year of the competition. Everyone put in a big effort to pack up the gear. We had a safe trip back with many of the riders falling asleep within the first ten minutes of the trip home. Back at school, we unpacked in the rain and sent everyone home for a comfortable nights sleep, back in their own beds.

Melissa Goldie—SEP Teacher



Team effort to win our division



Ms. McConkey, Mr. Riordan & Ms. Goldie



Michael Wilson in the starting Grid



A fresh team before the race



Scott Pickles taking a break



Lawrence Ray making a fast lap



A quick rider change in pit lane

Calendar of Events

Oct	23	Work Ed & BCT—Indy at the Gold Coast
Oct	25	Kingston Dance Performance
Oct	29	Year 11 Hospitality—Merlot Coffee
Oct	29	GOALS—Session 7
Oct	30	RED day at the canteen
Nov	3	Arts Expo
Nov	7	Awards Day
Nov	11	Remembrance Day
Nov	12	GOALS Completion Ceremony, P & C meeting 3.45 pm
Nov	14	Music Twilight Awards
Nov	14	Senior Dance/Drama Excursion
Nov	18	Year 11/12 Peer Power Workshops
Nov	18	Music Day
Nov	19	Year 12 Graduation Ceremony
Nov	20	Yr 12 Bookroom & Library Books must be back before the Senior Formal
Nov	20	Senior Formal
Nov	21	Last Day for Year 12
Nov	28	Years 10/11—Last Day for 2008

Recruiting—Australian Air Force Cadets

Are you a boy/girl who is 13 or about to turn 13 by 31st March 2009?

Are you interested in joining the Australian Air Force Cadets?

Are you interested in Teamwork, Leadership, Flying, Gliding, Abseiling, Firearms Safety Training, Fieldcraft Training, Parachuting, Drill and Ceremonial, Social Events?

Visit us on our next Recruit Information Night or contact us for more information:

Beenleigh State High School, Alamein Street, Beenleigh. Qld. 4207

You should email your interest to admino.266SQN@aafc.org.au

Telephone 0418 287 672

Website <http://www.aafc.org.au/226SQN>

Parade Night Tuesday 1800-2100hrs

The Loganlea State High School P & C Present—"Living With Your Teenager"

Fresh, entertaining insights into the life of your teen and ways to make your life together great!

If you are looking for the best way to keep your kids safe from the big dangers, and confident facing the big issues? Then look to the little, every day things.

Parents who build strong relationships with their kids and are actively involved in their lives give them the best chance of becoming capable, confident and secure adults.

Graham Hyman, Australia's most leading presenter on adolescent issues, will deliver information and ideas that make a difference at the "Living with your teenager" seminar. This insightful seminar will broach subjects including:

- ◆ Ideas to open and build effective communication.
- ◆ Ways to prepare your child for the dangers of modern living.
- ◆ Affirmation of what you are doing right.
- ◆ Challenges about different approaches you might take.
- ◆ Techniques to build resilience and wisdom in your kids.
- ◆ Hope for the future of your children.

Parents and Friends Are Invited To Attend
Living With Your Teenager
Loganlea State High School Hall
6.30pm for a 7pm Start
November 11, 2008
Gold coin donation for BBQ



About the presenter

Graham is one of the most widely respected authorities on adolescent development and parenting teenagers in Australia. He is eagerly sought by schools from both the state and private systems, from the most prestigious schools to the most disadvantaged.

His presentations are hilarious, moving, challenging and incredibly useful. He is amongst the busiest public speakers in Australia today for two reasons: his sessions are always fun and his ideas work.

Please support our P & C executive who understand and also live with the difficulties of being a parent. In the 21st Century remember "There is no manual on how to raise adolescents". We are all looking for the best way to keep our kids safe and confident. All welcome, bring a friend.

P & C Committee

It's not too late for university scholarships

Any year 12 student who is thinking of going to university next year should apply for an equity scholarship, preferably before the end of October.

These scholarships are specifically targeted at students who might struggle with the costs of study; they are available at all universities; there are many thousands available; and there's only one form to fill out (on the QTAC website).

(For example, at QUT alone, there will be about \$9m in scholarships and bursaries for low-income students in 2009, and over the last 2 years, about 80% of scholarship applicants have been successful.)

Go to www.qtac.edu.au and click on the scholarship tab.

It's not too late for the QUT OP bonus

If any year 12 student has QUT listed as one of their choices for next year, they should apply for an OP bonus (of an additional 3 OPs).

Called the Q-Step program, QUT advises that applications are still being taken and that they are keen for you to make contact. Email qstep@qut.com; phone 3138 3731; website – go to www.qut.edu.au and search for "Q-Step".

(Application forms are also available from the Guidance Officer.)

As well as the OP bonus, successful Q-Step applicants are also guaranteed a scholarship at QUT.

Health News - Smoking is a poor Choice

Smoking amongst the population continues to be a huge public health issue and while some have listened to the quit smoking messages and the statistics support this, it is timely to remind everyone of some of the well-known facts about smoking and that three simple measures could save 50 million lives worldwide.

We can save 27 million by putting a ban on all tobacco advertising, strengthening health warnings and make all public

places smoke free.

We can save 7 million by improving access to nicotine replacement therapy.

We can save 16 million by raising tobacco prices by 10%.

If smoking at 15 years of age one can expect to start developing cancer from age 30.

This information is from www.100incontrol.com and www.quitnow.info.au sites.

If you would like to discuss this subject or need information on how to quit smoking then phone me at school or call the Quitline on 131 848.

Christine Mohr
Youth Health Nurse



