

31 January 2014

Principal's Report

Welcome back for 2014. Our school year has begun well and students have settled into their classes with very positive behaviours. Staff are supporting them to set their goals high for success this year. Each student has been issued with their Student Diary and should be using it to assist them in time management as well as taking note of the helpful advice contained within it to support them to achieve their goals for 2014. If there are concerns regarding any issues for your student, please contact the school at your earliest convenience.

The **Resource Hire Scheme payments** for 2014 are now due. Students will be issued with their text books when parents have made their payments for the Resource Hire Scheme. There is a 5% discount if payment is made before 21 February. For student success, it is vital that all students have their text books, and other materials made available to them, when resource scheme payments are received by the school. A number of payment options can be negotiated through meeting with the Business Services Manager, Mrs Richter. Outstanding accounts from previous years must be paid prior to students undertaking any extra-curricular activities.

School **assemblies are held on Mondays** and it is expected that students are in full formal uniform on Mondays. These occasions often involve invited guests. Formal uniform should be worn on all days when students do not have physical education classes. Details regarding uniform requirements are in the Student Diary.

School times

A reminder that students should be at school by 8.30 am in readiness for roll mark and classes. School concludes at 2.45 pm except for Wednesday when it concludes at 2.35 pm.

Student Success

During the holidays, one of our year eleven students, Meleika Gesa-Fatafehi, attended a holiday study program for indigenous students at the University of Newcastle. Meleika will be sharing her enthusiasm and experiences for the program with other students in the coming weeks. Well done Meleika.



Graduate news

66.6% of our 2013 graduates who were eligible for an OP achieved an OP1-15 and 95% of our students attained a QCE, VET qualification and/or QCIA. This was a great effort and we are proud of our 2013 students.

Staff News

A very warm welcome to all our new staff. This year the following staff have joined us:

Sharon Brady-Wall – Teacher Aide SEP
Mark Corben – Maths and Science
Narelle Cripps – Special Ed and Hospitality
Jacob Elms – Manual Arts
Noelene Jardine – Social Science and English
Kath Laverty – English and Social Science
Ken Lee – Maths and Science
Glen Lockington – Music
Bruce McLaren – Industrial Technology
Bill McVeigh – Social Science and English
Charmaine Matthews – Music
Leslea Miller – Social Science and Japanese
Heather Ross – Industrial Technology
Natasha Rozells – Art
Gloria Spratt – Teacher Aide SEP
Margaret Trent – Hospitality
Tia Viney – Maths and Science
Mark Voigt – Guidance Officer
Elizabeth Von Rurik – Maths and Science

Mark Voigt will work on Wednesdays as an addition to our Guidance Officer allocation and support Maggie Sardie who is at the school all other days.

International Student Program

Students new to our program for 2014 include:

Christina Hu (Brazil), Nina Mai (Vietnam), Tina Tran (Vietnam), Rex Yang (China), Yuriko Sato (Japan), Vu Bao Gia Nguyen (Vietnam), Savador Tamayo Solis Jr (Malaysia), Chelsea Talin James (PNG) and Aram Muhmed (Libya). It is wonderful to have you join our program and we wish you every success in your studies and your time in Australia.



Heads of Department/Heads of Special Education Units

Heads of Department are not only part of the support structure for students but are curriculum leaders also. The Heads are student managers as well as the first port of call regarding their subject areas. The Heads are:



*Jandy Winterbotham
English and LOTE*



*Narelle Stable
Humanities and Business*



*Deirdre Aldridge
Science*



*Robyn Pedler
Senior Schooling,
Home Ec and HPE*



*Kerry Schloss
Mathematics and Data*



*Kym Everett
Head of Special
Education Program*



*Kelly Niland
Performing and
Practical Arts*



*Laraine Goldman
Head of Intensive English
Language Unit*

Year Coordinators

Year Coordinators play a key role in overseeing the social and emotional support for students. They oversee a range of programs and parents and caregivers are encouraged to contact them regarding any issues involving their student.



*James Elcock
Year 12*



*David Magoffin
Year 11*



*Wendy Hall
Year 10*



*Erin Garbutt
Year 9*



*Rosy Kalamafoni
Year 8*



*Julie Drury
Senior School Transition*



*Gemma Finney
Junior School Transition*

A **School Calendar** has been distributed to the students, detailing important events during the school year.

I look forward to working with each of you in supporting your young person's education for 2014.

Diane Hicks, Principal

P&C Association

A warm welcome to Sunnybank State High School from the school Parents' and Citizens' Association. We would love you to join us at our meetings on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Our first meeting will be on Tuesday 25 February. The meetings are held in the Library and commence at 7.00 pm

Catherine Pound, P&C President

Positive Reward's Day - 29 November 2013

Forty-six students chose the Movie Trip for the Positive Reward's Trip last year. The students had the option to view *The Smurfs 2* or *The Hunger Games* (with parental permission). The students piled into their designated cinema with boxes of fresh popcorn and cool drinks. They all had a great time relaxing in the air con on what proved to be a very hot day. Once back at school, they enjoyed a wide selection of pizza, freshly baked cakes and a cool drink. The rest of the afternoon was spent playing cards and board games with their friends. All the students reported that they had a fantastic day.

Over fifty students boarded the bus for the Positive Reward's Wet'n'Wild Trip. The students gathered on Gager Street, excited and ready to soak up the sun! Although the day was a hot and steamy 34 degrees, students and staff were content to jump in and out of the pools, slides and spas. Swimming all day is hard work but luckily our resident chefs, Mrs Cox and Mrs Chataway, made sure we stocked up on sausages to charge up our energy levels. Another great day at Wet'n'Wild was had by all students and staff. Congratulations to the students who attended on being nominated by your teachers and representing Sunnybank SHS so responsibly!



Year 9 Drama – Boy Overboard

On Friday 6 December, the year 9 Drama class presented Patricia Cornelius' play *Boy Overboard*, which was adapted for the stage from Morris Gleitzman's best-selling novel. *Boy Overboard* depicts a deeply human side of the 'asylum seekers' issue by following the journey of Jamal and Bibi from Afghanistan to Australia. Based on real life events, this is a moving play about young people overcoming the confusion of war, politics and the search for a safe haven.

In preparation, the year the 9s presented a dress rehearsal on the Thursday afternoon for the year 6 and 7 students from Sunnybank State School and their fellow year 9 peers. They received glowing reviews that helped build their confidence for the night performance with family and friends. Prepared, though nervous, our year 9 students took the stage on the Friday night and shone! The quality of performance and professionalism was noted by many parents and teachers in the audience.

The year 9 Drama class have worked hard throughout term 4 to put together our interpretation of the play and well known novel. Over the course of the term, students have come to not only develop the skills of page to stage but develop more understanding and empathy for the deeply human side of the 'asylum seekers' issue.



LOTE Chinese

Today (31 January 2014) is the first day of the Chinese New Year of the Horse. Students of Chinese have learnt about the culture and have prepared red packets and red scrolls with well-wishing scripts to celebrate the Chinese New year. Come and visit the Chinese room in block 1 (upstairs) to share their enthusiasm to wish all of you good health [????], good luck [????] and great success [????] in the Year of the Horse.



Some Chinese New Year facts:

- Clean your house from top to bottom and pay off all debts before New Year.
- Decorate your home with red scrolls with well wishing scripts.
- Make sure the barrel of rice is full at New Year to ensure prosperity in the year to come.
- Wear new clothes and ensure you are polite to others on the first days of the New Year.
- Refrain from uttering words relating to misfortune during New Year as this may bring bad luck for the year to come.
- Celebrate New Year with a family dinner. Traditional dishes include dumplings, uncut noodles (a symbol of longevity) and fish and chicken (symbols of prosperity).

- Pay New Year well-wishing visits to friends and relatives.
- Give younger members of the family and unmarried people red packets ('lucky money') to pass on prosperity.
- People born in the Year of the Horse are talented, kind, animated and energetic. They are popular among friends and are active at work.
- 2014 is the year of the Wooden Horse. Wooden Horses are strong and stable and have a better ability to make decisions. Excellent at interacting with others, they are successful personally and professionally.

Newsletter Advertising

Sunnybank State High School would love to show support to our parent community and the businesses they own by allowing them to advertise/sponsor our new eNewsletter. For more information, please contact Schoolzine - 1300 795 503.

Student Resource Scheme

The Sunnybank SHS Resource Scheme ensures all students have the necessary resources for their education. As well as financial savings, this scheme saves the need to shop for and find books and other required resources. The P & C Committee agreed and endorsed the fee of \$385 which includes a Technology charge of \$45 which will contribute to maintaining our IT resources to a very high standard.

The Resource Scheme for 2014 can be collected from the School office and there will be a 5% discount if there are three or more students in the family or payment is made by 21 February.

For financial hardship special arrangements can be made, please contact the Business Services Manager on 3323 8110; all discussions will be confidential.

Margaret Richter
Business Services Manager

50th Anniversary Books and Memorabilia for Sale

50th Anniversary Golden Jubilee Book

The book details Sunnybank High's history as well as staff and student photos, and 'new faces' and events for each year. The cost is \$65.



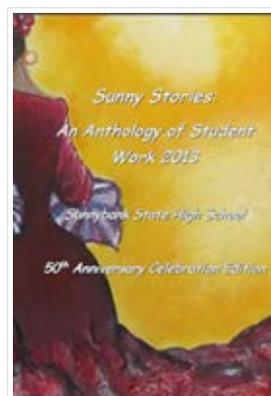
Memorabilia

Pencil, ruler, sharpener and eraser set - \$4
Coffee mug - \$10
Wine glass - \$10
Pen - \$2.50



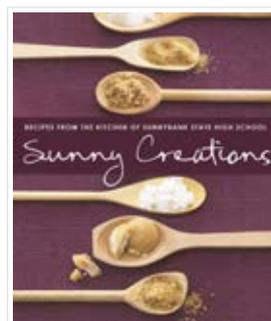
Sunny Stories 2013

An anthology of student work in 2013 - \$10



Sunny Creations Cookbook

A collection of recipes that have been tried and tested over many years in our very own school kitchen - \$15



Homestays Required

Are you looking for the opportunity to share your home, our unique Queensland lifestyle, our variety of food and customs?

Consider becoming a Homestay provider for **Sunnybank High School's International Student Program!**

We are looking for friendly and reliable providers who are able to offer a safe and caring family atmosphere, treat the student as a family member, speak English as their first language, encourage English conversation and be located within easy reach of the school.

You will need a spare private bedroom with wardrobe, student desk and lamp and to provide nutritious meals and snacks each day. Also, you will need a Commission for Children and Young People check (Blue Card) and will receive financial reimbursement (\$245 per week).

Please contact: **Catherine Pound 3323 8119**, International Student Coordinator, Cricos Provider Number: 00608A

Queensland Rail – Your Safety and Security

With new train services and timetables in place from 20 January, Queensland Rail is urging families and students to consider their safety and to be aware and stay alert by following these simple rules:

- Pay attention to all signs and signals
- Never enter a level crossing if the red lights are flashing and pedestrian gates/boom gates are closing or closed.
- Always look out for the second train
- Avoid distractions from music players and smart phones
- When you are on the platform, stand behind the yellow line and wait until the train has completely stopped before boarding
- If riding a bike, walk it across the tracks when crossing at a marked level crossing
- Keep yourself and your mates safe by not taking shortcuts and unnecessary risks around tracks

Trains can weigh upwards of 10,000 tonnes and can take up to 2 km to stop. Disobeying level crossing signals or trespassing on railway property is not only dangerous, but illegal and you could receive a fine.

Queensland Rail is asking parents and schools to discuss this important safety information with their students, empowering them to Be Railsmart.

Further information can be found at: queenslandrail.com.au/railsmart

Community Notices

Greater Brisbane Junior Tennis

Greater Brisbane Junior Tennis (GBJT) conducts weekly Tennis Fixtures at the Queensland Tennis Centre, Tennyson and The University of Queensland for children up to 18 years of age. Grading day for new players is to be held on Sunday 9 February at the Queensland Tennis Centre, Tennyson, from 3 pm to 5 pm.

Further information is available at www.gbjt.org.au or by phoning Mrs Peta Davis on 3374 0516.

Coopers Plains Dental Group

The new Federal Government's Child Dental Benefits Scheme commenced 1 January 2014. This scheme provides eligible children with up to \$1,000 in benefits for basic dental services, capped over two consecutive calendar years. A child is eligible

for the CDBS if he or she is aged between 2 to 17 years for at least one day in the calendar year, is eligible for Medicare and receives, or is part of a family receiving, a relevant Australian government payment such as Family Tax Benefit Part A.

The Coopers Plains Dental Group will be participating in the new CDBS and has made the decision to offer bulk billing under this scheme which means there will be no out of pocket expenses for families who qualify.

Our practice is located at 52 Henley Street, Coopers Plains (phone 3345 1099). For more information, visit our website at www.cpdental.com.au

Saints Netball MacGregor

Sign on days 2014

Saturday 1 February, 8.00 am – 10.00 am, at MacGregor Club House, Granadilla Street.

Thursday 6 February, 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm, at Our Lady of Lourdes School, Shearwin Street.

For more information, email saintsnetballsbank@hotmail.com, or web www.saints.macgregor.netball.asn.au

Australian Fitness and Martial Arts

The Australian Fitness and Martial Arts Club has Karate classes for all ages at Mt Gravatt, Cannon Hill, Norman Park and Manly West. For more information, contact Sensei Andy on 0403 358 397, Christine on 0400 179 960 or visit the website www.afmaclub.com.au.

Brothers St Brendans Junior Rugby League Club

Sign on for 2014

Saturday 1 February, 9.00 am – 11.00 am, at Kookaburra Park, Beaudesert Rd, Rocklea.

For more information, phone Tai Ellery (Coaching Director) 0408 180 439.

Kuraby Farmers Markets



Important Dates

Advance Notice of Important Dates	
February 10	School Swimming Carnival – Nomination only
February 19	District Swimming Carnival
February 20	Vaccinations Year 8 & Year 10 Year 8 BBQ
February 24	Whole School Photos
February 26	Regional Swimming Carnival Interschool sport commences