

14 February 2014

Principal's Report

How you can help your student settle into the new year.

We often have parents ask how they can help their student settle in to the new school year.

I have included some suggestions regarding the use of the Student Diary which is aimed at assisting students to be organised and in control of their own learning.

The following are some tried and proven "musts" for efficient use of the diary:

- Students and their planner must be inseparable partners at school and be brought home each night.
- In every class, all work set and the date that it is due should be recorded. This must be done immediately their teacher tells them - don't wait till afterwards, it's too easy to forget.
- They should write in it all tasks set and when they are due on the yearly planner on pages 12 and 13.
- After school, before they leave for home each night, they should look at the home learning that is to be undertaken and ensure they are clear on what they need to do.
- If there is little home learning students should look ahead in their planner for what is coming up, and make an early start especially on assignments and by reading ahead.
- Students may start revising for any upcoming tests or do extra study to add to their depth of their understanding and knowledge.
- That night or before students leave for school the next morning, they should check what is coming up for the day and ensure all their preparations are ready and they have the correct books and gear for sport or music.
- Each Sunday evening students should spend a short time planning their upcoming week ensuring work that is due is ready. This puts them in control and reduces their anxiety.

Learning to use the Student Diary is a lifelong skill for independent and lifelong learning. Should you have any queries or concerns regarding your son's/daughter's progress, please do not hesitate to contact the Year Level Coordinator or Deputy Principal for their year.

"After effort, comes success". Anon

Year 8 BBQ

Thank you to the parents and staff who have returned their forms indicating intention to attend the year 8 barbecue next Thursday evening 20 February. We are looking forward to the opportunity to get to know you and share your dreams and goals for our year 8 students.

New Tartan Tracks

Recently our school has benefited from a grant secured through our partnership with Sunnybank Little Athletics association. The grant was used to upgrade our tartan jump tracks which are used by the school, Sunnybank Little Athletics Club and students in our wider sporting district of Karawatha. Our school thanks Isabel Green and the Sunnybank Little Athletics and the work they undertook to secure the grant.



P&C 2014

Your Parents' and Citizens' Association provides a valuable parent perspective and endorsement of school administration and policies. The P&C operates the school tuckshop and uniform shop. Finances created from the operation of the uniform shop and tuckshop are returned to the school to assist in the operations of the school. Some of the office bearers no longer have students at the school but continue to support the school. It would be fantastic to see more parents supporting their P&C even if able to attend some of the meetings held

on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is 25 February commencing at 7.00 pm in the school Library. Younger children are welcome to come to the library to do their homework while the meeting is in progress. The meetings are always completed by 9.00 pm at the latest.

Photo Catch Up

Students who were not enrolled at the school in 2013 will have their school photos taken on Monday 24 February. Please ensure that your student is in full school formal uniform. These photos are used for the student cards.

Great Results Guarantee

Our school has received additional funding from the Great Results Guarantee and we need to decide how we can use this money to better support our students and improve their outcomes. We are now working to develop our own Great Results Guarantee with evidence-based strategies and actions to improve literacy and numeracy. Read more about the guarantee at www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee.

If you have an idea on a way to support our students to learn more or if you would like to take part in the discussion please get in touch.

Diane Hicks, Principal

News from the English as an Additional Language/Dialect Program

Sunnybank High School welcomed twenty-eight new EALD (English as an Additional Language /Dialect) students at the start of 2014. Thirteen of these students have enrolled in year 8 from local primary schools or Milpera English Language Preparation Centre. Our new EALD students are from a range of language and cultural backgrounds. They come from Vietnam, Thailand, Philippines, China, Somalia, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and many other countries and are very excited to be starting their secondary education at Sunnybank High School.



EALD teachers Mrs Goldman and Mrs Jurgensen with some of our new year 8 students.

**Mrs Laraine Goldman,
Head of Special Education Services (EALD) Program**

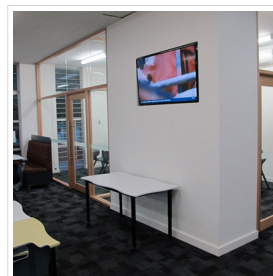
Resource Centre

The beginning of 2014 has again brought changes to the Library and Resource Centre. Further renovations mean that Sunnyschool, the school's text book hire collection, has moved into the Library. Sunnyschool is now situated near room 608.



Mrs Webb in the new Sunnyschool room.

Students now have access to two small group meeting rooms. The rooms can be booked by students wanting a quiet place to work alone or in a small group before and after school and during breaks. See Library staff to book the space.



Meeting Rooms

The news now plays in Area A during lunch breaks so students can keep up with current affairs.

February 14 is Library Lovers' Day and St Valentine's Day.

We're doing a group *speed-dating-with-books* activity. Choose a book you'd like to borrow from the collection, based on the trailer. Book trailers will be showing on the TV in Area A during the lunch breaks. We'll also be doing *Blind-Date-with-a-Book*. The only information you get is the genre. Take a chance; try something different.

What else is happening?

We're publishing a student anthology of poetry and short stories again this year. *Get involved! Become a published author!* Workshops on short story writing and poetry writing will begin soon. The program will be announced in student notices. Year 12 QCS students who are intending to write a short story for their writing task would benefit from these workshops.

Ms Cobb, Teacher/Librarian

Enrolling Now

Year 7 students transitioning to High School in 2015

Education is the key to increasing opportunities for students and from 2015 year 7 will become the first year of High School for Queensland students. This will bring Queensland in line with most other States and Territories in Australia.

By 2015, as a result of the introduction of Prep in 2007, our year 7 students will be in their eighth year of schooling and more than half will be turning thirteen years. As thirteen year olds, these teenagers are ready for the exciting academic, emotional and social challenges of High School.

Sunnybank State High School has been planning for this transition by upgrading facilities, conducting staff Professional Development and providing support programs such as the appointment of Ms Gemma Finney as the Junior School Transition Officer. Ms Finney will work closely with the Deputy Principal for the Junior Secondary School, Mr David Becker, and the Principal, Mrs Diane Hicks, so that students will enjoy a smooth transition into High School in 2015.



Ms Gemma Finney

Mr David Becker

There will be a strong focus on providing pastoral care for our transitioning students and parents will be encouraged to continue their keen involvement in their child's education into their Junior Secondary years. Sunnybank SHS is therefore ready to begin to take enrolments from current year 6 and 7 students who will transition into year 7 and 8 in 2015.

To secure your child's place at Sunnybank, please make contact with the school office (3323 8111) for an enrolment interview.

Swimming Carnival

This year's Swimming Carnival was held on Monday 10 February at Dunlop Pool at Corinda. It was fantastic to see the year 8 students take to the water in supporting their House and, once again, the year 12 students lead the way with the most number of competitors of any grade.

There were some exciting races and excellent times with standout performances from Yuri Sato and Staci Crisp. Age Champions for this year are: Jeric Mortera, Waynee Knight, Dallas Van Zyderveld, Anna Bektasovski, Stanwyn Kereopa, Shakeel Abdurhman, Staci Crisp and Yuri Sato.

House Points were as follows:

Arinya – 184
Balcara – 263
Coolaroo – 276
Doolamai - 292

Bonus points were awarded to Arinya (Tia Tearoit) and Coolaroo (Dianne Ventura) for demonstrating great House Spirit.

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

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

Immunisation Schedule for 2014

SCHOOL TERMS	VACCINE	DOSE	YEAR LEVELS
TERM 1	CHICKENPOX	1 OF 1	All year 8 students
	HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS	1 OF 3	All year 8 students and year 10 male students
TERM 2	BOOSTRIX	1 OF 1	All year 8 students and all year 10 students
	HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS	2 OF 3	All year 8 students and year 10 male students
TERM 4	HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS	3 OF 3	All year 8 students and year 10 male students

Bus Information

A reminder that children from the Acacia Ridge or surrounding areas can catch the District Route 867 in the afternoon to go back to Acacia Ridge. They can transfer at Elizabeth Street to catch other services for surrounding areas.

Also, it may be easier for people to find their travel arrangements by using Google Maps. This has all the information needed for passengers on buses and trains to find out how to get from one area to another using public transport.

For more information:

Katherine Collins, School Liaison Officer,
Willawong Bus Depot
Katherine.Collins@brisbane.qld.gov.au

Kyabra Limited Hours Child Care

Would your 2 to 5 year old child benefit from a small, high quality, learning environment? Kyabra Limited Hours Child Care could offer you this.

Our centre employs fully trained early childhood professionals, school based trainees and volunteers who all contribute to running our unique centre. We currently have limited vacancies on Thursday and Friday.

Please contact Pat on 3344 1488 for further information or drop into Kyabra Limited Hours Child Care Centre any day between 9 am and 1 pm. Phone number: 3344 1488. Address: Corner Gager Street and Lister Street, Sunnybank 4109.

World Education Program (WEP)

World Education Program (WEP) offer high school exchange to more than 20 countries across the world. The opportunity to apply for exchange is open to all students regardless of whether they have studied a foreign language or not.

Benefits of going on exchange with WEP:

- WEP guarantee the students their country of choice and program duration.
- WEP are able to accept and place all students who meet the selection criteria.
- Most non English speaking countries do not require prior language learning.
- Japan, China, Switzerland and France do require two years prior language learning.
- It is not a competition for places on the program.
- WEP is a registered student exchange organisation, meeting the State Government registration standards in QLD.

Students may register for a free information pack via our website <http://wep.org.au/info/contact> .

Free information evenings are held throughout the year for interested students and their parents. Details can be found at <http://wep.org.au/info/information-evenings> .

Confident Kids Program

Give your child the best start in 2014! Confident Kids is a fun, interactive group program for children aged 5 to 14 years, designed to boost confidence, emotional resilience, social skills and brain power. Children learn simple strategies to reduce worries, anxiety, self-doubt or negative thinking so they can achieve their full potential. The Confident Kids program provides children with self-esteem tools to keep confidence steady and strong throughout their life!

Program includes parent support and workshop, facilitated by experienced psychologists who are passionate about helping children be all they can be. Places are limited, so hurry.

Groups are held at the Positive Families clinic at Paddington. Medicare and Private Health fund rebates apply. For more details, visit www.confidentkidsandteens.com.au , email info@positivefamilies.com.au , or phone 3368 1307 for an Information Pack.

MiYoga Program

Does an eight week mindfulness yoga program, "MiYoga", enhance cognitive function such as attention, physical strength and fitness, behaviour and emotional control in children with diplegia and hemiplegia? MiYoga incorporates a family centered approach to therapy by inviting a caregiver to participate alongside their child. We will also want to see if MiYoga can relieve caregiver stress and improve parent/child relationship.

Looking for: Children with diplegia or hemiplegia cerebral palsy, aged from 6 to 16 years, who can walk independently or with a gait aid (GMFCS I-II) and one of their caregivers.

For more information:

- Catherine Mak (Psychologist and Yoga Teacher), e.c.mak@uq.edu.au , 3646 5539 or 3646 5361
- Dr Koa Whittingham (Clinical and Developmental Psychologist), e.koawhittingham@uq.edu.au , 3646 5539

Important Dates

Advance Notice of Important Dates	
February 19	District Swimming Carnival
February 20	Vaccinations Year 8 BBQ
February 24	Whole School Photos Senior Leader Induction
February 25	P&C Meeting 7.00 pm Library
February 26	Regional Swimming Carnival Interschool sport commences