

28 February 2014

## Principal's Report

**Congratulations** to the students who accepted their leadership positions at our assembly on Monday. Year 8 students will select their leaders in a few weeks' time when they know each other better and understand the leadership role in more detail.

### Student Leaders for 2014

Student Name	Position
Joshua Hockey	Year 9 Student Leader
Farhia Mwechiwa	Year 9 Student Leader
Jowel Okeny	Year 9 Student Leader
Sandra Varghese	Year 9 Student Leader
Kiriama Watson	Year 9 Student Leader
Mulan Gesa-Fatafehi	Year 10 Student Leader
Tisiola Mahanga	Year 10 Student Leader
Zuberi Salim	Year 10 Student Leader
Zin Zhong	Year 10 Student Leader
Meleika Gesa-Fatafehi	Year 11 Student Leader
Yohana Kidia	Year 11 Student Leader
Elizabeth Lavaki	Year 11 Student Leader
Garas Lewis	Year 11 Student Leader
Zabihullah Abdullahi	House Captain
Laraib Baig	House Captain
Hubeldin Legese	House Captain
Jaiden Savage	House Captain
Juliet Faeamani	Community Captain
Jasimine Gahungu	Community Captain
Dianne Ventura	Community Captain

Student Name	Position
Sylvia Belleh	Cultural Captain
Jeremy Chai	Cultural Captain
Tina Fonoti-Ariota	Cultural Captain
Grace Ngiam	Cultural Captain
Owen Nguyen	International Captain
Chentelle Mahanga	Vice School Captain
Calvin Lewis	Vice School Captain
Rhyanna McCoombes	School Captain
Joseph Muller	School Captain



### Year 8 Barbecue

Thank you to the parents and staff who attended the year 8 barbecue held last Thursday evening. It was good to have the opportunity to get to know you and share your dreams and goals for our year 8 students.



## Strengthening Discipline in Queensland State Schools

While the majority of students come to school ready to learn, a small percentage do the wrong thing and misbehave which is why the Queensland Government is strengthening discipline in state schools. Please click on the following link to see the fact sheet regarding these changes.

## Great Results Guarantee

Our school will receive \$276,107 under this program to be used to improve student literacy and numeracy in the junior school. Following discussion with staff and the Parents' and Citizens' Association, the major focus areas will be reading and numeracy. The money will be used to engage staff to support the intensive reading and numeracy programs and monitor and improve student attendance, some professional development for staff and an improved monitoring and use of data to support individual student progress.

## The Cybersafety Help Button

Online safety is just a click away with the Cybersafety help button now installed on all school computers throughout the state. The floating icon will be visible on computer desktops and is also available for parents to download to their home computer. It provides students with an easy means of reporting cyberbullying and online concerns. The button is a federal government initiative providing an online hub with 24 hour access to cybersafety help, reporting options, resources and information. <http://education.qld.gov.au/studentservices/behaviour/qsaa/cybersafety-button.html>



## Parents' and Citizens' Association

Many thanks to the parents who attended the monthly meeting last Tuesday evening. The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting commencing at 7.00 pm in the school Library on Tuesday 25 March. This short meeting will be followed by the regular meeting. All are welcome.

**Diane Hicks, Principal**

## Make every day count in 2014

Make 2014 the year when your child doesn't miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren't at school or don't stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. Check out the new Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV.

<http://www.youtube.com/DETEQueensland>

## Humanities, Business and Computer Education

This year, we have had a particularly busy start to the school year, with lots of exciting and worthwhile learning experiences. In particular, our year 12 students are participating in some wonderful programmes and forums. On 14 February, year 12 Accounting students attended an Accounting Forum at QUT – Gardens Point, then, on 18 February three Legal Studies

students represented Sunnybank SHS at the 2014 Schools' Constitutional Convention at Parliament House. Year 12 Legal Studies students were also able to attend the Supreme Court on 21 February and a Legal Studies Conference at USQ – Springfield campus (see Ms Finney's article). In addition, several year 12 Business students have been selected to participate in a business programme being run by Griffith University at both Logan and Nathan campuses. The younger students have not been forgotten; planning is underway to take year 8 History students to the Abbey Museum in March and year 9 History students will attend an ANZAC ceremony at ANZAC Square on 23 April.

Mrs Susan Herron, who has been at Sunnybank SHS since 1987 as HOD Social Sciences, has now taken a well-deserved retirement. The Social Science will now be known as Humanities and this faculty has combined with Business and Computing with Narelle Stable as HOD. We have also welcomed many new students and Ms Noelene Jardine from Nyanda SHS, and Mr Bill McVeigh has also joined the Humanities team this year.

**Ms N Stable**

**HOD – Humanities, Business, Computing and Library**

Welcome to 2014 from the Humanities faculty; we look forward to teaching your child and to a productive year. By now our Humanities students would have been asked by their teachers about their goals for 2014. They would have been reminded that in order to bring the vision of their goal to reality they need a plan. It is not enough to articulate our goals, we need specific strategies to realise them, for instance, there is a need to actively listen in class, to ask for help when we don't understand, to be organised, ready to learn and to submit a draft. Of equal importance is the need to take an exercise break along with making good food choices. Please ask your child to articulate the specific strategies they will use in order to realise their goals because as Thomas Edison put it ... "Vision (goals) without execution is hallucination".

In the Humanities Faculty our goal of curriculum relevance was realized when Ms Finney and the year 12 Legal Studies students attended the Supreme Court in order to experience first-hand the procedures used in trials of indictable offences. Law Court visits are designed to extend and enrich the educational experience for our students, beyond the classroom. These visits offer the students insights into new ways of thinking about the world and challenge them to create and compose responses which require depth of analysis and higher order thinking. According to Psychiatrist, Dr William Glasser, "We learn 80% of what we experience", and for two hours the students experienced the proceedings of actual court cases, observing as they moved between trials and courtrooms.



Continuing to learn via experience, three year 12 Legal Studies students, Ronaldo Alfred, Laraib Baig and Hubeldin Legese, recently attended the 2014 Schools Constitutional Convention at Parliament House. This Convention involved students exploring and becoming better informed about the Australian system of government and how the Australian Constitution provides the framework for our democracy. These three young people were brave enough to put their hands up to attend with Hubeldin, even braver, agreeing to address the Convention. They were well prepared and represented Sunnybank admirably and I thank them for their commitment. I would also like to thank Mrs Hicks for having the insight to encourage us to attend such conferences. As the Minister for Education, The Honourable Mr John-Paul Langbroek MP, pointed out in his opening address, it is such conferences that expand our horizons and give us opportunities to broaden our views.



Later in the semester, the Legal Studies students will participate in Youth Parliament as well as attend a Legal Studies conference at Springfield Campus. Our year 8 History students will participate in a medieval performance, year 9 History students will attend the ANZAC Commemorative Ceremony in ANZAC Square and the year 10 History students will be part of the audience when indigenous performers return to Sunnybank SHS later in the year. Geography students will attend excursions as part of their study while Social and Community Studies students will be visited by a variety of guest speakers. As a result of these experiences, we look forward to a very productive 2014 in the Humanities Department here at Sunnybank SHS.

**Gemma Finney**

## Year 8 Barbeque

Thursday 20 February was a busy afternoon at Sunnybank SHS with the annual year 8 BBQ. Straight after school, the year 8s were busy taking part in their first inter-rollmark challenge for the year. Although it was a hot afternoon, the year 8s got active taking part in touch football and netball. It was a very successful afternoon for 8A who gained 18 points leading 8B on 12 and 8C on 6. It was great to see our year 8s demonstrate teamwork whilst having fun!



Later in the afternoon, our year 8s and parents had a chance to chat over a sausage, popcorn, sweets and coffee. Many thanks to our year 12 student leaders and teachers who helped make the afternoon fun and helped to fill our bellies! Thank you to all the parents who attended the BBQ. We look forward to working with you over the next year in seeing your children excel at Sunnybank SHS.

## Creative and Practical Arts

### New Faces

In 2014, the Creative and Practical Arts faculty warmly welcomes six new additions to our teaching staff. Miss Charmaine Matthews – Music, Ms Heather Ross – Graphics/ITD, Ms Glen Lockington – Music/ESL, Mr Bruce McLaren – ITD, Mr Jacob Elms – ITU and Miss Natasha Rozells – Visual Art. Their arrival heralds the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the faculty and school as a whole, with each of them bringing a wealth of experience, enthusiasm and some great new ideas, beginning with a range of activities conducted during breaks on the first week of school. So, a big welcome from the team at Sunnybank High.



## Amphitheatre

Another exciting addition to the school is the shade sail covering the entire amphitheatre between the Art and Music blocks. This area now has seating for up to fifty people and the sail allows the area to be utilised all year round. Stay tuned for news on musical events and dramatic performances which will be conducted on a regular basis, in the amphitheatre, during breaks in 2014.



## Instrumental Music

Just a reminder, Instrumental Music lessons take place every Thursday in room 803 with Miss Lowe. Lessons are also posted on the music noticeboard outside the block 8 staffroom and also on the door of the Instrumental Music room (803).

Band rehearsals are held every Thursday morning at 7.30 am. It is a requirement of the programme that all continuing students participate – band can often be the most rewarding part of learning an instrument, as you are able to play different kinds of music as part of a team.

There are a number of positions still available for beginning students on flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and tuba. There are also limited positions available for keyboard and piano students as well as those students wishing to learn the drums. Please come and see Miss Lowe next Thursday if you are interested.

Be sure to keep an eye on this newsletter for all upcoming Creative and Practical Arts (C&PA) events and initiatives. It is going to be a huge year and your continued support for the C&PA faculty at Sunnybank is greatly appreciated.

**Kelly Niland, HOD – Creative and Practical Arts**

## Yuriko Sato

Hello. My name is Yuriko Sato. I'm Japanese and I come from Tokyo, Japan. I'm studying English at Sunnybank SHS for one year. When I came here, all students and teachers were very kind and friendly. So I'm very glad to come here. I hope I can learn about Australian culture, as well as make many Australian and International friends. My hobbies are swimming and playing the piano. Feel free to talk to me. I came to Australia on 13 January so I can't speak English well yet. I would like you to teach me English. I want to be a good English speaker and I would like to tell you as much as possible about Japan while studying at Sunnybank SHS. Thank you. (ありがとう)



## Homework Club

'T' is for tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Homework club has stated again and is in the library from 3 pm to 4 pm. This is a great opportunity for middle school students to receive help with any of their subjects, absolutely free of charge. It is not meant to be only for students who are having trouble. If you want to move from a B to A, from a C to B or a D to C come along and get help to do that. All subjects and all grades are welcome.

This year we have been lucky enough to secure the help of external tutors on Tuesday through a government grant. This does depend on student attendance so if you are thinking you might come along, grab some friends and your books, and come in next Tuesday. Our dedicated Sunnybank staff continue to offer Thursday tutoring as well. There is no need to be worried about not understanding a subject or not being able to get help with assignments or homework. Enjoy life and come and get help from our tutors on Tuesday and Thursday in the library from 3 pm to 4 pm.

**Ms Aldridge**

## 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.

## Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admissions Test

Students in years 10, 11 and 12 interested in medicine, dentistry or optometry will need to sit the compulsory UMAT (examination) when applying for one of the above career choices. UMAT preparation course materials are now available and enrolments are already filling up. All details are available via [www.nie.edu.au](http://www.nie.edu.au)

## School Based Youth Health Nurse



My name is Maggie Kerr and I am a registered nurse. I am employed by Queensland Health and work in schools in partnership with Education Queensland.

My role within school primarily involves promoting healthy lifestyles. This covers a wide range of topics including healthy eating and physical activity, puberty, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, relationships, sexual health, mental health, self esteem

and the list goes on. I do this through confidential personal consultations (one on one or in small groups), classroom presentations (per curriculum co-facilitating with teachers) school newsletters, student notices and health promotional activities.

I am not involved with first aid; trained school staff cover this area of health care.

My service can be accessed by students, staff and the wider community i.e parents and caregivers.

Adolescence can be a difficult time not just for the young person but also parents and care givers. If I can be of help please contact me through the school on 3323 8111. I will be at school Mondays, Fridays and some alternate Wednesdays.

**Good health,  
Maggie Kerr, School Based Youth Health Nurse**



## Uniform Shop

Due to unforeseen circumstances, certain sizes of polo shirts are not available (sizes 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16). They are on order, but won't be here until April or May, as milling the material takes three months.

If you have school sport shorts at home, that you have grown out of, could you please donate to the school.

**Thank you,  
Lesley Hall, Uniform Shop Convenor**

## 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

## Foster Carer Information Session

Ever thought about becoming a Foster Carer in your community? As a foster carer you would be required to provide a level of care consistent with the standards outlined in the Child Protection Act 1999. There is an information session on Wednesday 5 March from 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm at the Kyabra Community Association, Kyabra Street, Runcorn. Please RSVP to Donna on 3373 9450 or [donna@kyabra.org](mailto:donna@kyabra.org) by 1 March if you are able to attend.

## Important Dates

Advance Notice of Important Dates	
March 14	Year 8 Abby Museum Excursion
March 21	Harmony Day activities
March 25	P&C Meeting 7.00 pm Library
March 26	Year 7 and 6 Parent Evening
March 28	School Cross Country
April 2-4	Boot Camp