

2 May 2014

Principal's Report

Welcome back for the commencement of another great term at Sunnybank High.

ANZAC Day Friday 25 April

We encourage our student development through the activities and values that promote students to know themselves, connect with others and make a difference in our world. These principles are reinforced through the values of respect, responsibility and readiness. Every one of these concepts is evident in the ANZAC spirit.

Our students attended the student commemoration ceremony in ANZAC Square in the city on Wednesday 23 April.



Students conducted our annual school ANZAC assembly where we had a guest speaker, Mr Bill Davis from the Sunnybank Sub Branch RSL, who addressed our assembly on the importance of mateship during the war and in our community today. Student art work and music played a significant part in our assembly and we thank our music and art students and teachers for sharing their talents on this day. There was also the opportunity for students to see photographs of Gallipoli today from Ms Gibson's recent visit to Gallipoli.



Thank you to those students and parents who supported the local ceremony conducted at our local Sunnybank RSL centre last week. We were all proud of our student leaders and students who joined with staff and other members of our local community to commemorate this significant day in our history.

Parents and Citizens Association

Currently our P&C has a vacancy for the positions of Treasurer and Minutes Secretary. If you have the skills and interest in undertaking these honorary positions, please telephone Catherine Pound (3323 8111) and discuss how you can help. All positions are supported with clear guidelines provided by the state wide P&C association and school staff if necessary. The next P&C meeting is 7.00 pm on Tuesday 27 May. As the meeting is held in the Library your secondary age students are welcome to come along and use the Library for their homework and study while the meeting is in progress.

Chaplain's Commissioning

On 1 April, Chaplain "Johno" was commissioned into his position as the school Chaplain for Sunnybank State High School. This was the opportunity for our school and community to officially recognise his important role in our school and on our Student Services team. John's supervisor from Scripture Union, Troy Wilson, our local Chaplaincy Consultative Committee Chair, Pastor Geoff Blight and John's supervisor in our school, Guidance Officer Maggie Sardie, all spoke of John's positive work in our school to date and his important support for all students. Student representatives from each year level then proudly spoke of how he had already made a difference through a variety of programs and kind acts that he has demonstrated with students throughout the school.



Pastor Geoff Blight, John Filewood, Troy Wilson

Parent Teacher evening

At parent teacher evening this week, student progress was discussed with parents. If you were unable to attend this evening and wish to discuss your student's progress please contact the school office.

Enrolments for 2015 are now being undertaken

Enrolments for students entering years 7 and 8 in 2015 have commenced. Please contact the school to make an enrolment appointment with a member of administration. We invite all prospective parents to visit our school and see how we can work with you to help your child achieve their dreams.

Brisbane City Council - Homeless Connect

Homeless Connect brings together business and community groups on one day to give free services to the homeless or those at risk. The project has helped more than 12,000 people since Brisbane City Council held the first Homeless Connect in Australia in November 2006. Services provided on the day include access to: medical care, legal advice, accommodation referral information, personal grooming items, clothes and food.



Our school is again supporting this worthwhile cause. Please donate non perishables (toothpaste, soap, deodorants, canned food), bedding and clothes (adult sizes) for our student leaders to collect for the Homeless Connect event at the RNA showgrounds on 28 May. Some of our junior school leaders will be taking the collected materials, working alongside other members of the public for this activity, and will be delivering and assisting in the set up on 27 May. Materials need to be at the school by Thursday 8 May.

Year 8 Leaders

Congratulations to our year 8 leaders for 2014 – Zoe Spitaleri, Tamera Tanoa, Thiyasha Kaushal and Maddison Holden. The students received their leadership badges at our school assembly on Monday. Well done students.



Congratulations



Congratulations to one of our student leaders and community captain, Jasimine Gahungu, on her recent nomination for an encouragement award through Young African Australian Star Awards. Jasimine reached the finals. Well done Jasimine.

Amphitheatre

A wonderful addition to our school facilities is the recently installed amphitheatre shade area. The amphitheatre is not a new facility but the area had limited use without the shade structure over it. On the last day of term one, after the staff breakfast, the area was officially "opened" and it is pleasing to see that the area is now regularly used at lunchtime for presentations and a range of outdoor teaching activities. Thanks to our Business Services Manager, Margaret Richter, who oversaw the management of this project.



Diane Hicks, Principal

Junior Secondary 2015 Parent Information Evening

To inform parents of current year 6 and 7 students about the transition to high school, Sunnybank SHS conducted a parent evening on Wednesday 26 March in the school library to which we welcomed many future parents. The evening began

with a warm welcome by the Principal, Mrs Diane Hicks, and was followed by a very comprehensive outline of Sunnybank State High's junior school philosophy delivered by the Deputy Principal for Junior Secondary, Mr David Becker. Mr Becker outlined the policies and procedures which will be in place to facilitate a smooth transition for the year 6 and 7 students who will form part of our school community next year. The evening concluded with a question and answers session and was well received by the parents. Overall the evening proved to be a very rewarding experience for all who attended. To secure your child's place at Sunnybank SHS, please make contact with the school office on 3323 8111 for an enrolment interview.

Boot Camp 2014

The year long preparation ended in another successful camp at Currimundi Recreation Centre near Caloundra. Twenty lucky students enjoyed the beautiful setting of Currimundi Lake and we were fortunate with the weather - it felt like summer was back.

As usual, we had an extremely tight schedule packed with challenging activities. Over three days, students were tested physically and mentally competing in four challenges based around fitness games and team work. Students got familiar with early morning wake ups, tons of sand and painful sensations in their muscles. After all the hard work, students enjoyed relaxing in the ocean or late afternoon swims in the pool.



The least popular word was "TIRED". If you want to know why, you have to sign up for the next camp. It is expected to be four days long. The extra time will be filled with fun activities to allow students to have more rest in between the challenges.

The dates for Boot Camp 2015 are 30 March to 2 April. It is expected to cost around \$195. Payments can be made any time throughout the year. Students attending Running Club in the morning are eligible for discount.

Cross Country

The school cross country race was held on Tuesday 1 April. Congratulations to the following age champions:

- 13 boys** – Osman Legese, 13 girls – Joyce Gale
- 14 boys** – Samuel Gebretensay, 14 girls – Anastasia Chistiakoff
- 15 boys** – Ashraf Legese, 15 girls – Linda Leeweah
- 16 boys** – Zuberi Salim, 16 girls – Azure Ronan

Open boys – Hubeldin Legese, **Open girls** – Teneika Hobson



Special Education Program

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT DATA COLLECTION

Schools across Australia are taking part in a new national data collection on school students with disability. All Australian governments have agreed to this. Better information about school students with disability will help teachers, principals and education authorities to support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

Why is this data being collected?

The information provided through this new national data collection will help to put the right supports in place for students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without a disability.

What are schools required to do?

By law, schools are required to make reasonable adjustments where needed to assist students with disability. These responsibilities are outlined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. This means that schools need to talk to the student and/or their parent/carer about reasonable adjustments.

What information will be collected?

Your child's school will collect and report information every year about:

- the level of adjustment provided
- the number of students who receive each level of adjustment
- where known, the student's broad type of disability.

How will my child's privacy be protected?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all children and their families is very important. With the new data collection, this will be done in the following way:

- When the information is reported from 2016 onwards, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.

Can I decide whether my child's information is included in the national data collection?

It's your decision about whether you want your child's information to be included in the national reporting or not. Your school will tell you what you need to do if you don't want to have your child's information included in the national data collection.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

The Special Education Program (SEP) has grown this year with new staff and students joining our team. We welcome Narelle Cripps and Glen Lockington to our teaching team, joining Wendy Hall, Karen Roberts and Lynda Patterson. Karen Chataway, Nicole Perrucci and Helena Rosenlund are joined by Sharon Brady-Wall and Gloria Spratt on our support team. We have also farewelled Karen Berger who was successful in winning the position of School Transition Officer, and whilst she is now a visiting teacher, she is still based at Sunnybank SHS. Craig Ludlow has also moved within the school to work with the EALD (English as an Additional Language/Dialect) team. New initiatives and ongoing dynamic programs are operating again this year.

Year 10 Initiatives

The year 10 students are undertaking a course focussing on school ground improvements. The aim is to provide opportunities to practise leadership skills, improve communication and teamwork skills while learning life skills. Ms Hall is leading her team to make physical improvements around the school, including painting benches and identifying areas for improvements, with their most challenging project being the revitalisation of the rainforest area on the corner of Boorman and Turton Streets. This involves the weeding and replanting of ferns and other plants, watering gardens and general maintenance of the area.



Community Initiatives

The Community Links program (commenced in 2012) involving the Sunnybank RSL has been revived this year with students preparing morning tea and supporting celebrations regularly. Paige Roskam, Dallas Van Zyderveld and Sean Van De Pol contribute to this mutually beneficial program.

Literacy and Numeracy Short Courses Term One

This initiative allows students to gain the required credit to access the Queensland Certificate of Education, whilst providing an interesting and practical course focusing on the literacy and numeracy skills needed for life after school.

Students are studying both the Literacy Short Course and the Numeracy Short Course, combining these skills in their Community Access excursion each Friday. Karen Roberts and Lynda Patterson are working with students on this program. In term one, students worked on determining the best value when purchasing items and calculating change when paying cash. In term two, students will be budgeting for an extended holiday and interviewing a variety of people who work in a range of different employment situations with the view to understanding the demands of these jobs. Another focus this term will also be completing the often challenging forms that are necessary in everyday life.



Study Support Classes

Again this year most students supported by the SEP have three lessons per week dedicated to completing homework and assignments and preparing for tests and exams. Close liaison means students can be up to date with all work requirements and should be achieving at least a 'C' in their mainstream classes. Modification of classwork and assessment items is also often managed through this process.

Parent Information Afternoons

We conducted a parent information afternoon in week four, term one, and plan on another this term. Students presented their recent projects, showing powerpoint presentations and explaining events and achievements. The teachers also explained the courses they were conducting and the goals that were being targeted. Afternoon tea was provided and parents, students and staff chatted into the afternoon. Details about the next parent information afternoon will be sent out later in the term. We look forward to celebrating your student's achievements with you.

The key to success for all students is consistent communication between home and school, with mutual respect ensuring the best outcomes for all. We look forward to continuing building relationships with our new families and extending our already established ones.

Kym Everett, Head of Special Education Services

LOTE Chinese

Year 8 students of Chinese were given the chance to have fun learning Chinese cultural performances after doing well in their term one Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking assessments.



Resource Centre

Homework Club

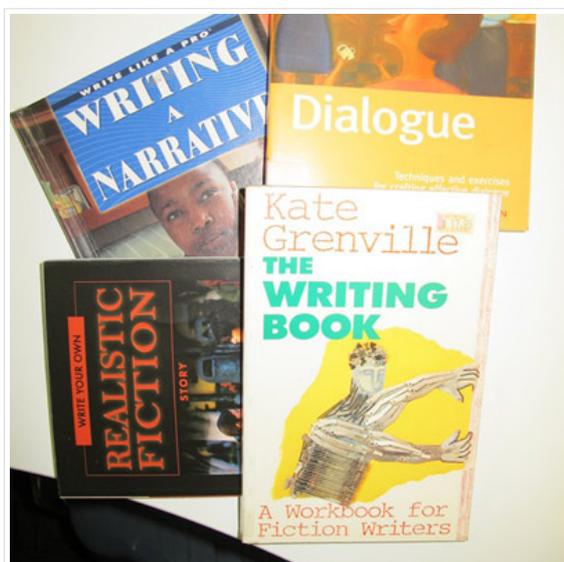
Homework club continues in the library this term on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm. External tutors attend on Tuesdays to help students with their homework. The library is open every day from 8.00 am til late (often after 5.00 pm) so there are plenty of opportunities for students to work on their homework and assignments.

QCS students

If you're planning to write a short story for your writing task, come to the short story workshops on Tuesday afternoons. There are a lot of things you can prepare for before the QCS test.

Book reviews

Year 8 reading extension students have begun writing reviews of books they've read. Watch this space for the next one to be published.



Help Wanted!

We're planning interactive displays in the library for the World War I Commemoration (2014-2018). We want to have one major display each term, focusing on different aspects of the First World War. For example, one term, we might focus on the food eaten by ANZACs, another term we might look at tanks or planes. You can be involved for one display or more than one throughout the project. If you're interested in being involved in planning and building displays, contact Ms Cobb in the library. Our first display will be in term three to coincide with the one hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the war, in August.

Ms Cobb, Teacher/Librarian

Club Red



**Australian
Red Cross**

On Friday 14 March, we attended the Red Cross training day for Club Red ambassadors. The training provided was very inspirational and motivational. We learnt that it only takes a few minutes to donate blood, the whole procedure takes about an hour including paperwork, and that each

blood donation can save three lives. Also, we found out that one in three people will need to use a blood product in their lives but only one in twenty-seven people actually donate.

The school is participating in the Club Red program again this year and there will be a number of opportunities for students to make a donation. The details of these opportunities, in May, August and November, will be advertised within the school. So if you are able to, visit www.donateblood.com.au for information and please consider making a donation, because you will be a hero to three people.

**Meleika Gesa-Fatafehi and Elizabeth Lavaki,
Sunnybank SHS Club Red Ambassadors 2014**

QCS Test 2014

Opportunity for a Paid Position

The QCS Test is scheduled for Tuesday 2 September and Wednesday 3 September 2014. Preparation lessons and activities are well underway and will continue until the test.

All OP eligible students in year 12 are required to sit the QCS Test and participate in preparation for it if they wish to be awarded an OP. Non OP students may choose to sit the test or not. Those who have opted to sit the test are currently participating in QCS Test preparation.

To maintain accountability, security and proper conduct of the test, the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) appoints members of the community to carry out duties on their behalf. Consequently, members of the Sunnybank SHS community are invited to apply for the positions of chief community representative (two positions available). These are paid positions.

If you are interested in nominating for these positions, please contact Tania Williams, Deputy Principal and Chief Supervisor for the test, by email at twill455@eq.edu.au or by phone on 3323 8111 for application forms. All paperwork must be completed by Friday 16 May.

Further detail of the role and duties of community representatives including application forms is on the QSA website www.qsa.gov.edu.au (follow the links to Senior Secondary ► Secondary QCS Test ► Administration).

**Tania Williams,
Deputy Principal**

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.

Park Ridge Transit School Changes

Park Ridge Transit school bus routes have now been updated for 2014. School run changes will affect services 6024 and 6037. The start and arrival times to school will be changed from 5 May 2014. Please check Bus Qld website for full details of changes – www.busqld.com.au. Go to School Services on the home page and check under Park Ridge - Summary of Changes. Alternatively contact Park Ridge Transit on 3802 1233.

ANZAC Day - Lost Service Medals

A set of medals was lost at the Sunnybank and District Community Commemoration Service on Friday 25 April, between the corner of Turton Street and Station Road, via the Sunnybank RSL club, and the car park behind the Oasis shops.

The WWII medals are engraved 426069 and the post WWII medals are engraved 018001 in addition to the name 'Ellis'. The bar included the 1939-45 Star, the Pacific Star, the Defence Medal 1939-45, the War Medal, the Australian Service Medal, the Reserve Forces Decoration, the National Medal, the Australian Defence Medal, the Air Efficiency Award and the Cadet Forces Medal.

The medals are of great importance to the family and a reward is offered.

Please contact the school office (3323 8111) if you have any information about the lost medals.

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

Community Notices

WEP STUDENT EXCHANGE

Depart on an adventure of a lifetime!

Choose from over twenty countries around the world to complement your secondary studies with an international, cultural exchange experience. You will be invited by a welcoming, volunteer host family to live and learn like a local teenager, attend school overseas and make new friends. You



will return more mature, independent, goal-oriented and with memories and skills for life.

Early Bird Special – Save \$500!

WEP is currently offering early bird discounts for programs starting in January 2015 to any of the following countries: Brazil, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Norway, Thailand or the USA. Application deadline is 30 May 2014.

Find Out More!

Request an information pack: visit www.wep.org.au, phone 1300 884 733 or email info@wep.org.au. The next information session is at the Gold Coast - Merrimac State High, Dunlop Court, Mermaid Waters, on Wednesday 7 May from 7.00 pm to 8.30 pm.

COME AND PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE

Brothers St Brendans JRLC,
Kookaburra Park, Beaudesert Road, Rocklea

Rugby league is the greatest game of all because it develops character and team spirit like no other game. Our club provides a supportive environment where players and parents or caregivers can enjoy the game of rugby league. We are celebrating 60 years in 2014 and would love for you to join us on this special occasion. We have excellent coaches, junior coaching clinics, great club spirit, team photos, first class facilities and an end of season trip for under 6s – 12s.



For more information please contact our registrar Kerrie Whiteman on 0410 813 474.

MT GRAVATT BLUE LIGHT DANCE PARTY

Mount Gravatt Blue Light is holding the next Blue Light Dance Party at 7.00 pm on Friday 2 May, at Mt Gravatt PCYC, 90 Klumpp Road, Upper Mt Gravatt (next to the Hibiscus Centre). The dance is for children aged between 7 and 14 years of age. The dance finishes at 9.30 pm and cost of entry is \$7. Lucky door prizes to be won. The dance is fully supervised by police officers and current blue card holders.

ARE YOU A PARENT OF A CHILD WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES?

Every day, thousands of Australian children suffer the effects of type 1 diabetes and families struggle with illness management and children's behavioural and emotional adjustment.

Positive Parenting for Healthy Living is an adaptation of the successful Triple P - Positive Parenting Program offering practical ideas and support for parents of children with type 1 diabetes. This innovative group program is designed to help parents manage their child's illness, assist children in coping with their illness and emotions, and prevent and manage difficult child behaviour.

Over the next few months and for a limited time only, parents of 2 to 10 year old children with type 1 diabetes are able to access Positive Parenting for Healthy Living Triple P as part of a University of Queensland research project. Parents will be

able to attend the program free of charge, and will be asked to complete two sets of assessment measures (questionnaire and family observation) over a six month period, as part of the study.

For more information, contact Aditi Lohan on (07) 3346 7689, email diabetes.healthyliving@uq.edu.au or visit <https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/t1diabetes>

AUSTRALIAN FITNESS AND MARTIAL ARTS

The Australian Fitness and Martial Arts Club is starting new Kids Karate beginners classes for children from four years and up (and parents) at St Bernard's Primary school and Clairvaux Mackillop College. For more information, call Sensei Andy on 0403 358 397, Christine on 0400 179 960 or visit the website www.afmaclub.com.au

Important Dates

ADVANCE NOTICE OF IMPORTANT DATES	
May 5	Yr 12 Geography excursion
May 6	District Cross Country
May 9	Yr 11 Biology Excursion
May 13 – 15	NAPLAN Test
May 22	Immunisations Yr 10 Boys & Yr 8s
May 23	Yr 11 & 12 Biology Excursion
May 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• P&C Meeting 7.00 pm Library• Regional Cross Country