

24 April 2015

Principal's Report

Welcome back for the commencement of another wonderful term ahead at Sunnybank State High School. We welcome new students and their families and look forward to investing in the learning journey with you and your child. We also welcome our new staff members, Louise Brier (Master Teacher), Leigh Hapgood (A/HOD Maths), Deirdra Sutton (EALD), Helmut Brodesser (Maths), Kathleen Fredman (English and Humanities), Renee Rutherford (English), Victoria Boulter Groening (Arts) and Suzanne Leonard (Arts). Ulrike Jurgensen is A/HOSES EALD and we welcome back Kelly Niland and Jandy Winterbotham.

Our Priorities

As we enter into another term of school, it's important to remind ourselves of the key priorities for the remainder of the year:

- *Attendance:* every week we speak about the importance of every child attending every lesson, every day to ensure they get the most out of their schooling. We are proud to see our students committing to routinely attending school and lessons on time. Our attendance rate has improved and continues to do so. Our target this term is to achieve, sustain and then beat 93% average daily attendance.
- *Literacy and Numeracy:* it is vital that all students are literate and numerate and equipped with the opportunity to have their learning enriched and supported. We have appointed a team (Master Teacher, Data Coach, Numeracy Coach, and soon a Literacy Coach) to continue to facilitate this strategy across the school and in each classroom.
- *Consistency:* we ask that students consistently approach their learning with a positive mindset and demonstrate our core expectations of respect, responsibility and readiness. As a staff, we are focussing on our consistency to ensure that students have every opportunity to succeed in all of our classrooms. This is through clear learning goals, well-established learning routines and expectations.

Leadership

It was an honour at our first assembly this term to acknowledge our year 7 and 8 student leaders who were elected to these positions by their peers after an extensive process including presenting speeches to their year level. I have confidence they will represent their year level with pride and integrity.

The 2015 student leaders are:

Year 7: Marvin Batac, Jennifer Millington, Douglas Taylor, Monica Vu

Year 8: Sydnie Bailey-Neels, Jacqueline Matauaina, Esma Ozzbek, Isabella Truin



Every student is a role model in our school whereby the actions they take and the decisions they make are very important in their own development and growth as fine ambassadors of our school.

Parent Teacher evening

Our parent teacher evening is scheduled for Tuesday 28 April, 3.00 pm – 7.00 pm in the Library. This is a valuable opportunity for families to connect with teachers to discuss how your child is settling into their subjects and learning. No appointments or pre-bookings are necessary.

My Future, My Plan

This term, we are fortunate to commence a tailored program to support our Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander students that has proven successful in many schools in our region, called My Future, My Plan. The objective of the program is to assist students to transition through years 7 to 9 so that they are ready for success in the senior years of schooling and beyond.

to position them for a thriving career. We are honoured to have Aunty Peggy Tidyman, our Regional Community Education Counsellor, facilitating this strategy.

ANZAC Commemorative Services

We encourage our students' ongoing development through activities and values that promote the principles aligned to our school vision 'many ways to excellence' and those include: students knowing themselves, connecting with others and making a difference in our world. These principles are reinforced through the values of respect, responsibility and readiness. Each one of these concepts is evident in the ANZAC commemorative school-community events, including:

- Our school ANZAC Ceremony, Thursday 23 April
- Our school's World War One Commemorative Exhibition, Thursday 23 April, 2.00 pm -7.00 pm Library
- ANZAC commemoration ceremony, ANZAC Square, Thursday 23 April
- ANZAC march, Saturday 25 April 7.00 am, corner of Turton Street and Station Road (shops), Sunnybank. Look for the Sunnybank SHS Banner.

NAPLAN and QCS Testing

Our year 7 and 9 students have been preparing for their NAPLAN tests through a series of "Booster" activities that are designed to promote literacy and numeracy skill development and improvement. Students sit the NAPLAN test on 12-14 May. It is the intent that all students in these year levels will complete the NAPLAN tests, with the exception of those who have special exemption or those requesting exemption based on religious grounds, of which, must be in consultation with the Principal.

Our year 12 students who are predominantly OP Eligible or wish to improve their rank attended an immersion day on Wednesday this week and QCS practice on Thursday and Friday this week.

Parents and Citizens' Association

Currently our P&C has a vacancy for the position of Treasurer. 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 28 April in the Library. 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.

Ms Tracey Cook, Principal

Please note that all students are expected at school on Monday 27 April, as this is not an ANZAC Day public holiday.

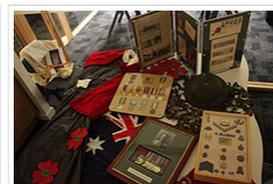
Resource Centre

Welcome to term two. Sunnybank Library continues to be a very busy place with students using the facilities consistently. The new trolley of laptops has been as popular as the first one, with students enjoying the opportunity to work in small groups and pockets within the library with complete access to the school's resources.

With the cooler months coming, our concern is students arriving home after dark. To avoid that happening, the opening hours of the library will change from next week. Opening hours will now be:

Monday: 8.00 am – 4.15 pm
Tuesday: 8.00 am – 4.15 pm
Wednesday: 8.00 am – 4.15 pm
Thursday: 8.00 am – 4.15 pm
Friday: 8.00 am – 4.15 pm

We continue our work on the Library catalogue, improving search terms for students and staff to search the catalogue and find exactly the resources they need. The catalogue can be accessed within the school and from home at <http://sunnybankshs.cmeweb.libcode.com.au/>. Availability of resources is visible from the catalogue. You are also able to place a hold on resources you need. Library staff will remove those items from the shelf and email you when they are available for collection.



The World War I Commemoration Exhibition was held on Thursday 23 April from 2.00 pm to 7.00 pm. There was a terrific turnout and great interest in the artefacts. Mrs Barbara Scott from the Sunnybank District History Group offered memorabilia from her father's time in World War I for display.

Ms Cobb, Teacher/Librarian

Boot Camp 2015

The annual boot camp was once again conducted by the HPE department, and 19 students enjoyed the sun, sea, and sand of Currumundi near Caloundra. We again stayed at the Currumundi Recreational Centre and were fortunate to have fantastic warm weather over the three days. The camp was attended by girls and boys from year 7 through to year 12. A great spirit amongst the students developed throughout the three days and everyone demonstrated resilience, determination, and respect to complete the activities.

The mornings would begin at 5.30 am for a jog along the beach. Unfortunately we could not walk to the beach on the usual track because the bridge was being repaired. Therefore we had to take the long route around which is about a 2 km trip. This wasn't so bad until you added the extra burden of carrying the equipment. Although everyone in the group took this extra challenge on with no complaints.



Over the three days, students were tested both physically and mentally, competing in challenges based around fitness, tactics, and team work. The winning team from each challenge relished in the spoils of victory whilst the last team enjoyed the cleaning duties of the next meal. After all the hard work, students appreciated the swimming opportunities at Currumundi Lake, Dicky's beach, and the swimming pool back at the recreational centre.

The camp is a great opportunity to develop your fitness and experience a sports training camp environment. You don't need to be a sporting superstar to attend; you only require determination to challenge yourself. The dates for Boot Camp 2016 are Monday 21 March to Wednesday 23 March. Please see the HPE department if you are interested in attending for more information.

Mr Parravicini, HPE Teacher

EALD News

At the start of term two, we welcome a number of new students from half a dozen countries, spanning from West Africa to Southern Asia, most of whom made the transition from Milpera State High, their first school after settling in Australia. We are also happy to have on board Ms Deirdra Sutton, who completes the EALD teaching staff during Ms Laraine Goldman's leave for the next four weeks.

Late last term we farewelled Ms Whinham, who worked with us as a much appreciated volunteer. Particularly many of our year 7 EALD students enjoyed having a "familiar face" in the classroom, as Ms Whinham followed them from Sunnybank Primary to Sunnybank High at the start of their high school years.

Volunteering



The EALD department had the good fortune, recently, to have Ms Marjorie Whinham provide support to our year 7 students. She provided great support to our students during term one and was a popular figure and in great demand.

After working for 45 years, Ms Whinham retired last June. For the last fourteen years, she had been teaching English as an Additional Language (EALD) in an international college in a private high school. However, after the initial pleasure of sleeping late in the mornings and after trying painting, cooking and gardening for a while, Ms Whinham soon felt she needed more and really missed helping the students. She got up the courage to go over to the nearby primary school, and volunteered in the EALD section. Ms Whinham absolutely loved working with the primary students. At the end of last year when the year 6s were graduating, and a few were going to Sunnybank High School, she decided to volunteer there just to help them settle in.

Ms Whinham has truly valued the opportunity to work with the students, assisting as a teacher's aide with the year 7 students in Geography and Maths. She's very impressed at the way the students from all over the world have accepted one another but saw that the transition to high school has been a challenge for some students. Ms Whinham says that good organisational skills are essential to cope with high school timetables, but happily can see a gradual improvement as there are considerably less instances. Ms Whinham was very appreciative of Ms Laraine Goldman for giving her the opportunity to work with the marvellous year 7 students at this important time in their lives. She says, "The staff and students have been very friendly and I have enjoyed the experience immensely. I just loving volunteering to help our wonderful young people: it's so rewarding."

Ulrike Jurgensen, A/HOSES, together with EALD staff

Homestays Required for Study Tour

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 (\$254 per week).

Please contact: **Dee Venter 3323 8119**, International Student Coordinator, Cricos Provider Number: 00608A

Annerley Supersized Blue Light Disco

Annerley Blue Light will be holding a Supersized Blue Light Disco at the Penola area, Our Lady's College, 616 Ipswich Road, Annerley, between 4.00 pm and 9.30 pm on Saturday 2 May, for students between the ages of 7 and 14. There will be a live DJ, live rock band, live street theatre, free jumping castle and free amusement rides. The dance is supervised by police. Cost of entry is \$10. For more information, contact Ross on 0498116842.

Upcoming District Sports Trials

Please see the HPE department to nominate if you want to attend these trials.

Monday 4 May	12 years boys and girls Tennis
Monday 11 May	15 years boys and girls Soccer

Important Dates

Advance Notice of Important Dates	
April 25	Anzac Day
April 28	Parent/Teacher Interviews 3.00 pm Library P&C Meeting 7.00 pm Library Senior Graphics Exc to Coochiemudlo
April 30	Yr 11 Biology Excursion – Toohey Forest
May 1	Yr 11 Legal Studies Exc – Youth Parliament Yr 12 Geograpy Exc – West End
May 5	Karawatha District Cross Country (13-19 yrs) Visual Art Trip to GOMA
May 7 & 8	Yr 11 & 12 Hosp/Tourism Exc – Nara Resort
May 8	Yr 11 Legal Studies Exc – USQ Conference
May 11 & 12	Yr 12 GU - Uni Reach – Nathan Campus
May 12 – 14	NAPLAN - Years 7 and 9
May 12	Yr 10 Humanities Exc – McArthur Museum
May 15	Yr 7 Science Exc – Fleays Wildlife Park