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**01 November 2012**

31 Oct – 2 Nov	AFL CAMP
7 Nov	Sports Awards Evening
8 Nov	Instrumental Music Awards Evening
9 Nov	Parent Forum 10.30am
10 Nov (Sat.)	Dance Night
12 Nov	Annual Awards Evening
13 Nov	Year 12 Formal 7pm
16 Nov	Year 12 Graduation Ceremony
20 November	P&C Meeting
26-30 Nov	Year 8 - 11 Assessment Week
30 Nov	LAST DAY - Year 10 and 11

**From the Principal**

**Our Policy on Student Misconduct Involving Drugs**

You may have read the recent article in the Jimboomba Times on Wednesday, October 31, 2012 on student misconduct involving drugs in local schools. There is no doubt that drug use is a serious societal problem and unfortunately, no community is immune. All schools, private and state, have to be vigilant and proactive around this issue. It is very hard to compare schools data from one year to the next and to make assumptions that drug misconduct has increased or decreased. A single incident could involve a number of students or just one individual. Furthermore, no matter how vigilant the school is, not all instances may be detected.

Our school-wide Positive Behaviour Program focuses on 3 key principles: “We are here to Learn”, “We are here to do what is Right”, “We are here to work Together”. These principles have become well embedded in our school and the vast majority of our students won’t tolerate the unlawful, unsafe and anti-social behaviour of misconduct involving drugs in our school community.

At Park Ridge State High School we work hard to keep our school drug free. If ever we have any suspicions, or hear rumours, we inform parents straight away so they may be vigilant and are able to take whatever actions they see fit. We also work closely with our local police officers and immediately pass on any concerns.

Our Life-skills program, our Enterprise Program in the senior school and our HPE curriculum all have units dealing with drug education. We endeavour to develop students’ skills in making appropriate choices and developing self-protective behaviours. These curriculum programs are supported by a range of other activities developed by our Youth Health Nurse and our Year Co-ordinators that occur throughout the year.

If students do bring drugs to school we have a very cut and dried approach. We will not tolerate it and a recommendation of exclusion would be the natural consequence.

**Celebrations of Student Success**

These next few weeks are a busy and exciting time as we celebrate the fantastic efforts and achievements of our students. Please try to join us at our Academic Awards Night, The Sports Awards Evening, The Instrumental Music Awards and our Dance Night or our Year 12 Graduation ceremony. It is only fitting that we come together as a community to recognise our wonderful students.

**Parent Forum**

Next Friday 9 November at 10:30 am we are holding a forum for interested parents. The forum will be held in the staff Common Room. We are hoping to get your views on a range of issues, to take the opportunity to explain some initiatives planned for 2013 and address any questions or concerns you may have. We are fortunate to have one of our Hospitality classes catering for the event. They are catering for 50 people so please come along and support them. We would really like to see you there so if you have a spare couple of hours, please spend it with us! To assist with catering, please phone 3380 4111.

*Valerie Hadgelias - Principal*

**End of Year Processes**

Over the next few weeks, your student will receive a clearance letter advising them of the accounts that are still outstanding for 2012 and previous years as well as resources that are loaned out in your student’s name. For students to receive their annual school magazine, the following timelines apply for the finalisation of accounts for 2012;

- **Year 12** students are required to have their accounts paid **in full and all resources** returned by Friday 9 November.
- **Year 10 and 11** students – all resources returned and accounts finalised by Friday 23 November
- **Year 8 and 9** students – all resources returned and accounts finalised by Friday 7 December

To aid with your student receiving his/her resources in a timely manner in 2013, it would be appreciated if these accounts are finalised for the year and that the resources and textbooks are returned to the school as soon as the student has finished with them for the year. Unfortunately, students with accounts and resources outstanding will not be permitted to join the Shared Resources Hiring Scheme in 2013 and therefore will need to individually purchase all books, resources and consumable items they may require for their units of study. A list of these items can be obtained from the School Administration Office.

To assist with the finalisation of student accounts the cash collection window will open 5 days per week from 12 November to 7 December, 2012. However **the cash collection window will be closed the last week of the school year**. Parents/caregivers can make their payments by a variety of options including internet banking, credit card, debit card or cash.

## Second Hand Uniforms

In these hard economic times, the school encounters many families who find it difficult to purchase school uniforms for their children. To assist these families, it would be appreciated if you have any uniforms that your child has grown out of and you are not intending to sell, to please consider donating these items to the school.

## RSPCA

A group of students in 12A have been organising a collection of donated items for the RSPCA. Please donate cat, dog, kitten and puppy food as well as clean blankets and bedding. They can be left for collection at Administration any school day until 5th November. Thank you!

## Senior School Formal

Friday 2 November is the last day for all formal payments to be made. Students must have their school fees up to date **before they can make payment. If paying by internet or direct deposit, this needs to be paid by Thursday 1 November so that the school has your payment by Friday.** The cost is \$93.50 per student. Please check with Mrs Farrell at the cash collection window first to see if you have any credits on the system that you can use first and then pay the balance as when you leave the school it will be quite a while before we can arrange for any refunds to be made to you. QATSIF students must go to the cash collection window and advise Mrs Farrell if they are attending by Friday 2 November.

## Lost Property

If your child has lost items of clothing etc. through the school year, there is a great possibility that it has been handed into the Textbook Hire Room Lost Property Box. Can you please encourage your student to check with Mrs Nichols before 7 December for their lost items. After this date, all remaining items will be either dumped or donated to a local charity.

*Cheryl Clegg – Business Services Manager*

## Sports News

It's that time of year again and the Park Ridge Annual Sports Awards Evening is almost here. On **Wednesday 7th November at Logan West Community Centre**, our school will be celebrating the sporting achievements of our students. **Our special guest this year is Mr Jeff Horn, 2012 Australian Boxing Olympian.** The evening will commence at **6.45 pm** and will conclude at 9.00pm followed by light refreshments. Family and friends are more than welcome to attend.

Tickets can only be purchased from the cash collection window for \$5.00; tickets cannot be purchased on the night. Students receiving an award will be given a complimentary ticket.

Students are required to wear full school uniform; any student not in the correct uniform will not receive their sport award (this includes the correct footwear).

*Kirsty Caddy - Sport Coordinator*

## Sporting Achievement

After competing in the Men's and Mixed Nationals teams for Queensland in April, Year 12 student **Josh Sciberras**, was selected to play in the Under-19 Men's Australian netball team, to compete in the 2012 Trans Tasman Cup in October. The cup series has four teams from each country competing; Under-19 Men's, Under-23 Men's, Open Men's and Open Mixed. The teams consisted of players selected from mostly Victoria, NSW and Queensland. As the ladies that compete for Australia are called the 'Diamonds', the mens and mixed teams are called the 'Sonix'. The teams departed Australia on Saturday 6th October from the various cities and met in Auckland New Zealand to begin competition on Monday 8th October. It was a series of three games, in which the best of three would win the cup. Josh was the starting Centre for his team and

they won their first game by 31 points. On Thursday, the second game was won by the Aussie boys by 35 points and the final game played on Saturday 13th, was won again by a resounding 52 points. All four teams from Australia won their series 3 - 0. Josh was the second youngest to compete in this competition. Well done, Joshua!



*Josh in action during the Queensland Nationals Tournament.*

## Community News

**Have your Say about School Chaplaincy! Check out the opportunity to vote on the school's website.**

## Park Ridge Cricket Club

We are needing U16 players to play in MSW U16 competition, interested players can contact Lewis Mills on 0413 656 058

**Contact: Lewis Mills Ph. 0413 656 058 (Mob)**

## Logan Library Community Benefit BOOK SALE

**Logan West Library downstairs – Sat. 3rd November 2012 – 9am to 2pm**

*Nothing priced over \$2, all children's books are 50c each. Bring along a bag for your purchases.*

The proceeds from this Book Sale are going to the Australian Breastfeeding Association.

We hope to see you there!

## Career Keys

**Commencing in February 2013 Career Keys will be delivering the following courses in MARSDEN**

- Cert. III Education Support ( Teacher Aide)
- Cert III Aged care and Disability (Double)

These **Nationally Recognised Courses** run from 9am – 2.30pm, 1-2 days per week.

**NO** training during school holidays. All courses also have an additional industry placement.

Phone Career Keys on 3200 2700 or email [enquiries@careerkeys.com.au](mailto:enquiries@careerkeys.com.au) for an enrolment pack.

**Taking Enrolments NOW – Limited places.**

**Price increase coming in 2013, enrol before December 15 to get 2012 prices.**