

16 August 2013

## From the Principal Every Day Counts

A number of years ago Park Ridge SHS has put in place a number of measures to address student truancy. One of the measures of this program was the appointment of an Attendance Officer to track student attendance and make prompt contact with parents when issues arose. The school then ensures that appropriate consequences are put in place if students are truanting. We were fortunate to secure the services of Mrs Sam Cross for this role and she has done a great job. This single measure has had an extremely positive effect.

The introduction of text messages to parents when students were absent from school and a computer software package for electronic roll marking also helped us put in place very thorough processes around student attendance.

Over the last couple of years we have forged a strong collaborative relationship with Browns Plains Police and local businesses including the management of the Grand Plaza Shopping Centre at Browns Plains. The effectiveness of this joint effort around student attendance was recently recognised when representatives of each of these groups was asked to address a community meeting of the Barambah Parental and Community Engagement Project at Cherbourg. **I congratulate Sam on her excellent work in supporting our students.**



*Sam Cross (3rd from left) with school and community representatives at Cherbourg*

**Kind regards**

**Valerie Hadgelias - Principal**

## Students' Lost Property

We have quite an accumulation of lost property items in the Resource Room including school clothing etc. Please encourage your child to look through the lost property box to claim any items that may belong to them. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity after 23 August 2013.

## National Assessment Program

The National Assessment Program (NAP) is designed to measure student progress towards the goals outlined in the Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians (2008). Most of us are aware that NAPLAN, annually tests students' progress towards attaining benchmark standards in literacy and numeracy. What is not so commonly known is that the National Assessment Program also periodically assesses Science and Civics and Citizenship.

As agreed, by all States and territories, a randomly selected number of schools and students in Years 6 and 10 are selected to participate in the NAP-CC. This year, 700 schools from across all States and territories and representing all sectors of schooling (State, Catholic and Independent) are required to participate in the NAP-CC in October. Our school is one of the schools that have been selected to participate. Closer to the time, the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) will advise us specifically which students have been chosen to sit the tests. Approximately 20 students will participate.

For the purposes of the National Assessment Program, civics and citizenship refers to the knowledge and understanding, and the attitudes, beliefs and skills associated with the capacity to function as active and informed citizens. The testing will be conducted at school using the school's computer facilities.

The assessment consists of practice questions, a test and a questionnaire. Students will respond on-line to question formats that will include:

- Multiple choice
- True/False
- Short answer

Information gathered from the assessment is pooled and used to gauge whether Australian schooling is supporting the goal of having students become active informed citizens. Whole school or individual student results are not available for publication.

An information brochure for parents and carers will be sent home with participating students when we are notified as to whom has been selected to participate.

**Sandra Malmstedt - HOD Social Science / Teaching and Learning**

## Year 8 Maths Challenge

On Wednesday, 7 August, twelve Year 8 students accepted the challenge to compete in the District Cluster Maths Team Challenge hosted by Yugumbir State School.

The competition consisted of two parts: The Team Event and The Relay Event. The Team Event was 45-minutes long and consisted of twenty very difficult questions. Each team's task was to answer as many questions as possible. In the second part of the competition students were asked to answer questions in rotating pairs. Only two members of the team were allowed to communicate and provide an answer at any one time. Once they finished the second pair had a go. The aim was to answer as many questions as possible within a limited timeframe.

Our team members were:

Team A: Jacob Keiler 8A, Michael Mikhail 8A, Samuel Van Veldhuizen 8E, Mitchel Johns 8F, Ryan Sinclair 8F, Than Nguyen 8A.

Team B: Samantha Nguyen 8A, Hanna Smyth 8A, Grace Yuile 8A, Obadiah Pewee 8E, Breanna Wilken 8D, Riley Gilchrist 8A.

It is my pleasure to announce that our Team B students came second in this competition, but it was only one point difference (84 to 85) between the first and second team.

I would like to congratulate all students who represented our school. Your efforts in preparing for this event are commendable, many having been practicing since late June. It is worth mentioning that all participants used MathsOnLine as a preparation tool.

I also would like to say a big thank you to Ms Wilken and Mr and Mrs Nguyen for their help with transport. We had a great day and are proud to be Math teachers at Park Ridge SHS. Students who accepted the challenge can be justifiably proud of their participation and the result of their efforts.



Students from left: Mikael Mikhail, Ryan Sinclair, Mitchell Johns, Samuel Van Veldhuizen, Grace Yuile, , Breanna Wilken, Samantha Nguyen, Riley Gillchrist, Ms Vishwa, Obadiah Pewee, Jacob Keiler, Than Nguyen, kneeling Hanna Smyth.

**Praveena Vishwa - Senior Maths Teacher**  
**Tomasz Dolecki - A/HOD Mathematics.**

## The Arts News

Park Ridge State High School's dedicated instrumental music ensembles and dance troupe put high level performance skills into action, clearly linking the classroom and the real world.

Our instrumental music students travelled to Mt Tamborine to participate in a week-long camp aimed at honing their already considerable music skills, in preparation for the upcoming performance opportunities later this term. The students used the week to bond and polish the pieces that will be performed.

The dance troupe at Park Ridge SHS is fast growing in popularity, largely due to the dedicated students and teachers that are involved in this school based extra-curricular activity. They are experiencing new found success at the local eisteddfods they have just finished competing in the Beenleigh Dance Eisteddfod and received two highly commended awards from the experienced adjudicator. For any Grade 8's this year's auditions will be held late this term for next year's troupe. Watch out in the notices for dates and times for the auditions.

Our visual Arts department is always looking to provide new and challenging experiences for the students some of their work will be displayed in the Art Waves presentation open to the general public at the Logan Art Gallery. The date and samples of the Art Work will be published in the next newsletter.

We look forward to continuing to showcase the talent that we have at Park Ridge State High School and appreciate the fabulous support "The Arts" receives from the wider community.



**Rob Emblen - HOD The ARTS**

## District Athletics Carnival

On 25th and 30th July, Park Ridge State High School students competed at the Karawatha District Athletics carnival for field and track events. The students should be very proud of the effort they put in to their events and the way they conducted themselves as representatives of the school.

The field events were held at Sunnybank State High School and produced some very good results with many students finishing in the top four for their events. Special mention must go to; **Courtney Bromage, Cody Brown-Te Huia, Zak Gibson, Dylan Hautapu, Kurtis Heffler, Jonah Martin, Camryn Newton-Smith, Kendal Newton-Smith, Jordan Stockman, Tasha Valentine and Clay Waterman** who all placed in the top three in one or more of their events.

The track day was held at QSAC (Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre). Park Ridge produced some excellent results in the track events and as a result led to the school placing fifth overall for the day. This was a good result for the school based on the number of students that we had competing. **Congratulations to Camryn Newton-Smith, who won 13yr girls Age Champion.** Cameron won a handful of events that allowed her to receive this trophy. **Congratulations also Courtney Bromage who produced an outstanding effort to place in the top three for every event on the day and as a result placed second in the overall Age Champion standings by only 2 points.**

A highlight for the day was watching the girls 14 years, 4x100m relay. Because there weren't enough under 14 girls to run this event, two girls from the 13yrs age group offered to run up an age bracket and combined to win the event by a considerable distance. Well done girls!



*The 14 year-old girl's winning relay team: Cherayn Cranson, Camryn Newton-Smith, Courtney Bromage and Abigail Schulz*

We had such an outstanding effort from the students who competed on these two days that we have 29 students who have qualified for the Regional Athletics Carnival to be held over three days from the 27th – 29th August. **Congratulations to all who participated in the carnival!**

After witnessing the competition across the two district days there is a good indication that the talented athletes coming through the ranks at Park Ridge State High School and athletics have a very bright future in the years to come.

**Bryce Lalor – HPE teacher/Team Manager**

## AFL Academy

There has been plenty happening recently here in the AFL Academy. Our junior and senior boys ventured up to Maroochydore to play the highly ranked team from Mountain Creek SHS. This was a terrific community day as our open girls squad also made the trip to play in a practice match. While our teams did not come away with the result we wanted; the effort, commitment and support for one another was outstanding. There were many individual efforts on the day with **Daniel Martinez-Santana** named best on the ground for the juniors, **Bridie Andriskie** for the open girls squad and **John Duncan** for the open boys team.

The girls also competed in the Brisbane Lions Cup regional carnival on Tuesday the 6 August. It was a fantastic day that many of the students had prepared for with training during their own lunch times. The participation of all students was fantastic with Park Ridge fielding two open teams and two junior teams. Students from the AFL leadership group, **Darryn Raw** and **John Duncan**, coached two of the teams and were terrific in their efforts. Overall, it was a fantastic day with Mr McBrien's junior girls' team and the open girls' teams winning their regional titles. They now progress to the next round of competition and a chance to win the state title!



**Derek Berry - AFL Academy Director**

## Chaplaincy News

Sean has been delivering the Chaplaincy service to the school since term two and has been joined by Becky this term. Sean comes to this position with over five years Chaplaincy experience and is available at the school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Becky's experience includes ten years youth work experience together with program development/delivery and is available at the school on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Both Chappy's put on a FREE sausage sizzle every Wednesday morning and welcome all students and staff to drop by for a feed.



For future Chappy's CHAT watch this space.

**Sean & Becky – School Chaplains**

## Health News



I often recommend this site to young people as it encourages positive strategies for maintaining mental health and fitness as well as providing support options for times when they are needed.

I have included some of the images and options from the page to give you an idea of what it offers, if you think it could be helpful for your young person please encourage them to have a look at it.

<p><a href="http://www.biteback.org.au/">http://www.biteback.org.au/</a></p>	
	<p><b>Thank Tank</b> Notice and appreciate the good stuff in life!</p>
<p><b>Snap That!</b> Follow our theme of the week and upload your best snaps!</p>	



### Power Up

Modern meditations to help you tune in chill out and recharge.

### Real Stories

Share the good, the bad, and the ugly



### Mental Fitness

Quizzes and questionnaires to track your mental fitness over time

**Gabrielle Nolan – Youth Health Nurse**

## Community News



### Southern Stars Baseball Club Sign-On

Regency Drive, Regents Park

If you would like further information please contact

**Kevin – 0439 796386 or Karen – 0421 773768**

Email: [southernstarsbaseballclub@gmail.com](mailto:southernstarsbaseballclub@gmail.com)



**PARK RIDGE CRICKET CLUB SIGN-ON:** Players aged from 8–16years are welcomed to join a successful club (for the last 37 years) at Hubner Park, Park Ridge on 24, 25 and 31 Aug from 9am -12 am. Juniors over 16 who would like to play seniors we have three teams. **Call Lewis Mills 0413 656 058.**



Come and join

## **Jimboomba Little Athletics Jimboomba Athletics Centre, Henderson Rd, Jimboomba**

Friday evening competition September to March  
Ages 3-16 years (older athletes can join Jimboomba QA Club)

***Sign on for new season***

***Friday 23rd and 30th August 5:30pm to 7:30pm***

Have fun, learn new skills and improve your personal bests!

Free training!

***For further info call 0403 917097 or visit our website or  
Facebook page***

## **How many apples will you give in 2013?**



QT Mutual Bank's Staffroom for Improvement is back again this year giving our school the chance to win a \$20,000 staffroom makeover.

With the competition kicking off on Wednesday 28th August we are trying to encourage as many staff, parents and friends as possible to vote for our school in the hope of taking out the top honours in 2013.

While the ultimate prize of a \$20,000 staffroom makeover will undoubtedly be appreciated by our school staff, there is also a chance for individual voters to share in a \$5000 prize pool.

QTMB Marketing Manager Chris Moses said although the competition originally started as a way of giving back to teachers, over the years it has grown to be a much bigger community event.

"We've seen the competition gain a life of its own, which is a testament to how much communities want to see their teachers rewarded for everything they do".

To be crowned the 2013 winners we will need as much support as possible so make sure you register for this years competition by visiting [www.staffroomforimprovement.com.au](http://www.staffroomforimprovement.com.au) .