22 February 2013

Calendar of Upcoming Events

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From the Principal

We Are Here To Learn

“We are here to learn” is one of our underlying principles and remains our primary focus. For our learning goal to be realised students must come prepared for classes.

Students need to be well organised for their learning. Parents can help out by reinforcing the need to bring all learning materials each day and by checking yourself on the status of your child’s stationery, texts and homework diary.

Some students, especially those in the younger year levels, have trouble organising their workbooks. Workbooks should provide a useful record of their learning and a useful tool to assist with revision for exams. Parents are urged to regularly peruse student’s notebooks to ensure they are on track.

It is absolutely imperative that students are able to access the appropriate textbooks. If parents have opted to be part of the Shared Resource Hire Scheme, please ensure you have entered into a payment plan so the texts and other resources can be distributed to your child. If parents have chosen not to be part of the scheme, the full resource list will need to be purchased.

Parent Forum

Parents are cordially invited to come to a Parent Forum next Tuesday 26 February in the Library from 7 pm-9 pm. The purpose of the forum is to outline our learning agenda and the main goals that underpin our Annual Implementation Plan. We will welcome your feedback and comments about our frameworks.

However, we also want to hear from you about how we can work together to maximise our student outcomes. We are also keen to run some parent workshops about how parents can assist students at home in regards their learning but we want to make sure that we design workshops that will meet your needs. We really value your input and hope you will be able to join us.

P&C Association News

The Annual General Meeting was held last Tuesday evening. I am pleased to announce our executive for 2013:

- Mr Chris Finch, President
- Ms Sharon Amos, Vice President
- Ms Karen Baccon, Treasurer
- Ms Jan Snowdon, Secretary

My thanks to these members for being willing to step up and take on these roles and I look forward to working together throughout 2013.

Special thanks must go to Ms Kathy Sawtell, a Business teacher at our school, who has fulfilled the role of P&C Treasurer for the last six years despite not having her own children attending the school. She has shown great dedication and has done a wonderful job in the Treasurer’s role and we are very much indebted to her.

Parents are very cordially invited to come along to our P&C meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 pm in the staff common room. It is always a pleasant, purposeful meeting and you are very welcome!

Student Absence Phone Line

Parents wishing to phone the school to inform us about a student absence are invited to use the Student Absence phone line. Messages can be left at any time. Ph: 33804160

Kind regards

Valerie Hadgelias - Principal

School Photos

PHOTO DAY Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th February 2013

Silver Rose Photography will be at the school on the above dates to photograph groups and student portraits. To ensure you have no problems with your order please read the school photo envelope carefully.

- EVERY student will have their photo taken, but it is up to parents whether they wish to order photos.
- Your child must return their envelope on PHOTO DAY with payment for orders.
You can make your payment by cash, credit card (Visa or Mastercard), cheque or money order.

Payments are made to Silver Rose Photography NOT the school.

If you have any questions about Photo Day please call Silver Rose Photography on (07) 3262 5788.

Student Achievement

Belated Congratulations to Year 12 student, Bronte Snowdon.

The Griffith University “Science on the GO!” program acknowledges and recognises the achievements of outstanding primary and secondary science students in South East Queensland. In 2012 we nominated Bronte for the “Beverley and Jock McIlwain Award for Excellence in Science” - an award which celebrates students who have contributed in and outside of class taking advantage of curricular and extracurricular opportunities throughout their science studies.

Bronte, now in Year 12 received one of the forty 2012 awards – a modest cash prize and a Griffith University award certificate to celebrate her achievements.

The successful recipients were announced in December last year, too late for the newsletter, however, the science faculty and her school would like to congratulate Bronte on her success and wish her continued success in her final year of study.

David Pearce – A/HOD Science

Playful Rascals Playgroup

Playgroup has commenced for the year and we are happy to have ten smiling faces and their parents attending. If you have small children and would like to participate in our playgroup on Friday mornings, please come along at 9 am to the school and ask for directions to playgroup. If you want more information please call Kay York on 33804117.

Instrumental music rehearsals and tutorials have started please see below for the relevant band and time:

- Junior Concert Band - Friday morning
- Stage Band - Wednesday after school
- String Ensemble - Thursday after school
- Senior concert Band - Tuesday’s after school

Our new parents were welcomed into the program with an information evening on Monday night. Our new woodwind specialist Miss Petah Ritson was introduced to the parents and she is very excited to be part of the dynamic Instrumental Music Hub of our school.

Our talent show rehearsals are in full swing with the night fast approaching. The show is set for Monday 25th March. Tickets will go on sale in the next couple of weeks and can be bought from the payment window. We strongly urge you to pre-pay for your tickets to avoid disappointment at the door as we only have limited seating. Further details will be released as the date approaches.

Dance troupe have also begun rehearsals Monday and Thursday after school. There are many competitions and eisteddfod’s planned for this year. The troupe has grown in numbers and both Mr Hicks and Miss Doherty are choreographing many new routines to showcase at school events this year.

Our Senior and Junior Drama students will have the opportunity to perform for live audiences this year with two One Act plays planned for term 3. We will be calling auditions for roles later this term.

The Arts

2013 is looking to be a very busy year for the Arts Department at Park Ridge State High School. All the planning has finished and the many opportunities offered to our students have begun.
School Swimming Carnival

Last Wednesday we held the annual Park Ridge SHS swimming carnival at the Springwood Aquatic Centre. Over 400 students participated in the day and enjoyed the atmosphere with a sea of green, blue, yellow and red taking over the grandstands. The day began smoothly and this was maintained throughout the day, with the ‘plunges’ being the standout events. There was close competition throughout the day and it really was a case of every swimmer counting for house points. Mr Berry was doing his best to get every student participating and it paid off, with very few races being started without all 8 swimmers present. Meanwhile, Mr Purtle and the music crew had the students dancing the day away behind the grandstand with some Nutbush, Macarena and Gangnam classics. A big thankyou to the HPE department for their efforts in organising the carnival, in particular our carnival convenors Ms Samman and Mrs Donald along with our sports coordinator Ms Caddy and HOD Mr McBrien. We thank all of the teachers who assisted on the day – without your help, these days would not happen.

There were some stand out performers on the day and the Age Champions are:

• 13 years girls – Camryn Newton-Smith
• 13 years boys – Riley Gilchrist
• 14 years girls – Courteney Bromage
• 14 years boys – Alex Sauer
• 15 years girls – Ebony Gunstone
• 15 years boys – Jonah Martin
• 16 years girls – Natalie Hartness
• 16 years boys – Caleb Martin
• Open girls – Bridie Andriske
• Open boys – Blake Skennerton

We congratulate these students on a terrific effort across all four strokes. There was some hot competition and you have done very well to be named Age Champion.

As mentioned earlier, every house point counted with the final tally looking like this:

• 4th on 488 points – Grevillea

Well done Banksia, a great team effort!

This year I would like to take a quick look at which team was the best ‘plungers’ in 2013. The results for the plunge in 2013 stood like this: 4th on 185 points – Waratah, 3rd on 209 points – Eucalyptus, 2nd with 220 points – Grevillea and our best ‘plungers’ in 2013 where Banksia on 236 points. No coincidence that Banksia were our best ‘plungers’ and also overall winners.

To finish off the day we cannot forget to mention the efforts of the teachers in the relays. We were looking low on numbers, however managed to get a team together and in true teacher spirit rose above the pack to win the relay...again! C’mon students we challenge you to beat us next year!

Finally, thanks again to all of the teachers for their tremendous efforts on the day. We look forward to many more swimming carnivals in the future. Good luck to our swimmers who will be representing Park Ridge at districts. Let’s hope we get the trophy!

Jarrod Harvey – HPE Teacher

Rob Emblen – HOD The Arts
Community News

The National Council of Women of Queensland Inc

is proud to launch the

2013 Bursary Program

for female students

Would $1000 help you with your studies?

Do you live in... Ipswich? Cairns? Logan?
Do you want to be a teacher?
Is your home in regional or rural Queensland?
Does a family member have cancer?
Are you transitioning from care to independent living?
Are you over 25 and returning to the workforce?
Are you keen to work in aged care?
Do you have a disability or mental illness?
Do you live in Redcliffe in a sole parent family?

If you answered YES to any of these questions
you may be eligible to apply.
Each of these bursaries has its own criteria.
Tertiary and secondary students should apply.
Go to the NCWQ website www.ncwq.org.au
and follow the links for the bursary information.

Applications open on 18 February and close on 8 April 2013

For further information contact
Avril avrilks@bigpond.com 3886 0045
or Kathy crewe@bigpond.net.au 3408 8456

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