From the Principal

Dear Parents and carers,

ANZAC Ceremony

We held our school ANZAC Ceremony this morning and it was a very moving experience. We were privileged to have as our guest speaker Mr Keith Woods, a former Navy Officer who served for over 20 years. We appreciated hearing his reflections on the meaning behind ANZAC Day. This year we had students from the Australian Air Force Cadets 214 Squadron, the Logan City Community Cadets and the Australian Navy Cadets, TS Walrus, and they made a great contribution to the ceremony. Mr Brian Turner, the Commanding Officer of the Australian Air Force Cadets 214 Squadron, is a great supporter of the school and we appreciated his attendance at the ceremony.

Thank you to all of the teachers and students who worked behind the scenes to organise this important event in our school calendar. Our Student Captains and Vice Captains, as well as a number of members of staff, will represent the school at the ANZAC Day Ceremony at Greenbank RSL tomorrow.

26 April 2013

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 April</td>
<td>Year 8 – 10 Brisbane Lions Cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 April</td>
<td>District Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>Year 7 Leadership Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 – 5 May</td>
<td>Flaming Chalice Volley Tournament</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Teacher Meetings

Thank you to all those parents who came to our Parent -Teacher interviews last night. The evening was very well attended and these meetings certainly help to strengthen the partnership between school and home. If you were unable to attend last night please feel free to contact the school to arrange an alternative time to meet with any of your child’s teachers.

Special Thanks to Our Canteen Ladies

Last weekend there was a break-and-enter in the canteen and significant damage was done. So much damage that the canteen could not operate. We really appreciated the efforts of Ms Belinda Whalin and Ms Sheryl Cooper, in ensuring our students and teachers were able to purchase lunch. Belinda and Sheryl quickly set up shop in one of the Home Economics kitchens, and in no time had things operating very smoothly. Thank you for your flexibility, energy and commitment to our school community.

Our lovely canteen and uniform shop ladies

Our School-wide Positive Behaviour Program – Learning Together

Our Learning Together program has been successfully implemented over the last couple of years. Recent data indicates that there have been very significant reductions in referrals for poor class behaviour. Reductions of 50% or better have been recorded at every year when comparing Term 1 last year with Term 1 2013. The emphasis on recognising positive behaviours, the clarity around our expectations of students, and the ongoing work around fully engaging students in their learning, have all had a very favourable impact.

Our New Chaplain

We welcome Mr Sean Fortescue, our new School Chaplain. Many of you may know Sean through his Chaplaincy at

Mr Kevin Woods
Yugumbir State School and Park Ridge State School. Sean will be with us two days a week, on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Sean has already been working very successfully with a number of students and is a valuable addition to our support team. Parents, as well as students, are encouraged to get in touch with Sean if you would like his assistance. Sean is based in E Block and can be contacted on Ph.: 33804108.

Sean Fortescue School Chaplain

Unexplained Absences

Thank you to all those parents and guardians who contact the school promptly to explain student absences. Reminder letters are regularly sent out when absences remain unexplained. The letters are prepared a day or two before you receive them so please be patient if there is a crossover and you receive a reminder letter just after sending in a note. If this occurs please disregard the reminder letter.

Strict guidelines for medicines in schools

Strict procedures have been developed by the Queensland Government regarding prescription and over-the-counter medication in schools. Our school is committed to working closely with parents and students who need to use medication at school but the following guidelines apply. All parents/caregivers must:

• notify our school in writing of a health condition requiring medication at school
• request in writing if school staff are to administer medication or assist in the management of a health condition
• notify our school in writing of any requests and/or guidelines from medical practitioners including potential side effects or adverse reactions
• provide the medication in the original labelled container to the nominated staff member
• ensure the medication is not out of date and has an original pharmacy label with the students name, dosage and time to be taken
• notify the school in writing when a change of dosage is required. This instruction must be accompanied by a letter from a medical practitioner

• advise our school in writing and collect the medication when it is no longer required at school.

Kind Regards
Valerie Hadgelias
PRINCIPAL

NAPLAN

It is nearly May and this means that the National Assessment Program (NAPLAN) is just around the corner. Between Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th May, all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 throughout Australia will sit a series of tests designed to measure student progress in developing literacy and numeracy skills.

Our new Chaplain, Sean Fortescue will be putting on a BBQ breakfast outside of the SAC, for all Year 9 students on each of the three mornings of the tests.

It is important to emphasise that NAPLAN is not a test of content but rather an opportunity for students to demonstrate skills they have developed over time through engaging with the whole school curriculum. These skills are assessed through five tests:

Reading – multiple choice responses to comprehension questions ranging from simple to more complex

Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) – multiple choice and single answer responses e.g. identify misspelt words and write the correct spelling; insert missing punctuation; identify the specific words as being nouns, verbs, adjectives etc

Writing – students are provided with a topic or theme and asked to write an extended text response

Numeracy (non-calculator) and Numeracy (calculator allowed) – multiple choice and single answer responses covering all aspects of numerical calculation e.g. measurement, percentage, co-ordinates, patterns and algebra. Questions typically range from routine to more complex applications of mathematical knowledge and concepts.

At Park Ridge SHS all teachers assist in developing student skills in literacy and numeracy and prepare them for NAPLAN by familiarising students with the various test formats used as well as sharing test strategies such as eliminating incorrect answers first (multiple choice) or filtering out unnecessary information to work out what the question is really asking.

Parents wishing to know more about NAPLAN and the various test formats are recommended to visit the NAPLAN web site http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/the-tests.html
In addition, our school has been selected to participate in the NAPLAN Equating Study. Equating assessment is a practice test that aids in ensuring that the NAPLAN tests from year to year contains the same degree of difficulty and are marked and scaled accordingly. One of our Year 9 classes will therefore, sit a practice Language Conventions test the week before NAPLAN is scheduled. Participating students should not be concerned but rather consider this an opportunity to engage with the test format and time restraints. This practice test will take place during regular class time and will be held in the Resource Centre.

Sandra Malmstedt
Deputy Principal

G’Day USA 2013

On the morning of the 31st December 2012 a group of twelve brave souls set off from the comfort of their homes to explore the west coast of The United States of America.

The travellers departed Brisbane airport at approximately 10:30am on Monday 31st December and stepped off the plane in Los Angeles at approximately 9:50am on Monday 31st December. Despite being 40 minutes younger, we felt several years older. 14 hours in the close seating of United Airlines, several hours of shuffling through airport terminals and an afternoon of wandering the shops of the Knott’s Berry Farm district while waiting to check into our hotel rooms to shower and change, left our group of 12 a bit on the nose. This earned them the affectionate title of “The Dirty Dozen” (a title which needed explaining to the young ones).

It was non-stop fun from that point. The first night consisted of dinner and a pirate show to celebrate the end of a good year. This was followed by a party and fireworks in the hotel car park with every other Aussie staying in the hotel. The next few days had travellers screaming on the rides at Knott’s Berry Farm, star spotting on Hollywood Boulevard, learning about the Festival of The Dead and outlet shopping malls at San Diego, and bumping shoulders with the celebrities at Disneyland and Universal studios. Yes, Mickey Mouse and Goofy are celebrities.

On Saturday 5th we left the clear blue skies of Los Angeles and headed for Puylulp (pronounced pee-yall-up) to meet our host families. Puylulp lies 45 minutes outside Seattle at the base of the majestic Mt Rainier. Our host school was Emerald Ridge High School and the host students and their families were waiting to welcome us as our bus pulled up at the school’s gymnasium. The travellers spent the weekend hanging out and site seeing with their hosts.

Seattle and its surrounding areas are overcast, gloomy and raining nine months of the year and bleak, freezing and snowing for the other three. We were there for the other three, which was perfect for the day planned for skiing.

Monday was school as normal, American style, 7:45 to 2:30. School was the same, but different. The students arrived at school in the dark, went to class when the bell rang, listened to their teachers and did their work. There were other differences too as well, there was no school uniform; and despite the freezing temperatures, students were slaves to fashion, no matter how cold they were. For me, one of the differences I noticed was that they did not study math in a multiple topic the way we do. They either did a year calculus, geometry or algebra. Imagine doing algebra for a whole year!

Tuesday to Friday was spent sightseeing. This included a day skiing at the Snoqualmie Falls Ski Resort, a visit to the iconic Space Needle and EMP (Experience Music Project) in Seattle. For Jimi Hendrix and Nirvana fans, that was awesome. Thursday was back to Seattle to learn about the Seattle underground and its history, as well as a few hours at the Pike Place Market. Here we had the opportunity to watch the men at the world famous Pike Place Fish Market, throw fish to their customers... really... they threw the fish.

After another weekend with the host families and a second day experiencing life in an American school, we said our goodbyes and boarded a plane on Tuesday morning heading to San Francisco. We started our stay in sunny San Francisco with a march up Lombard Street to see the windiest street in the world. The view overlooking San Francisco Bay, with Alcatraz in the distance, was amazing, that is, once we regained our collective breath and cleared our sweat blurred vision. The hills of San Francisco are really, really steep.

Wednesday we set sail on the “Escape the Rock” Bay Cruise. We travelled around San Francisco Bay learning about past and present San Francisco, climaxing with two laps around Alcatraz Island itself. The stories of the inmates sent shivers up the spine. On our final night in America we were taken to dinner at The Hard Rock Café on Pier 39 in nothing less than a stretch Hummer. The tunes were pumping, the soft drinks were flowing and, despite our exhaustion from a nonstop, action packed 17 days, our spirits were high.

We celebrated two birthdays while we were away, watched one of the group leaders from Lowood propose to his now fiancée while at the ski resort and even saw a romance or two start to blossom. There were opportunities, planned and unplanned to shop, eat foreign and exotic foods and to watch me, Mr Clapham, scream in terror on the roller-coasters. It should be said that the Dirty Dozen from Park Ridge acted with respect and courtesy at all times. They were caring and supportive for those feeling home sick, and frequently engaged in Random Acts of Kindness. They represented our school and Australia with pride.

The group of 12 students who travelled over to the USA in January 2013 had a great time, as did I. I look forward to the next group that go in January of 2015. Keep an ear out for coming news and invitations for expressions of interest this term.

Ian Clapham
Year 10 Coordinator
Cross Country 2013

The school X Country was held on Thursday the 18th April at school. This was a whole school event and it was great to see so many students participating whether they were serious competitors or just walking the course; everyone was actively involved and contributed to a great day. This year all competitors covered a distance of 4 km and we had some great individual results.

This year saw the introduction of staff competing in the race. Mr Brew and Mr Emblem lay down a challenge to each other to train and see who could come out the winner. Mr Brown was a late inclusion in the race. I am pleased to report all teachers finished the 4 km track in a very respectable time. This year Mr Brown finished first with Mr Emblem and Mr Brew closely following behind. It was great to see teachers competing and setting a positive example and embracing the importance of being physically active.

With so many students competing the top 10 positions in each age group were hotly contested as all these students will go onto the district X Country on Tuesday 30th April at Waterford Rugby League Club, Armstrong Road Lognalea.

The House position this year were as follows
1st Grevillia
2nd Banksia
3rd Eucalyptus
4th Waratah

The Results of the top 10 per age group in order were as follows-

U13 Boys: Kurtis Bunney, Aidan Duncan, Clayton Mann, Jaedyn Fisher, Jake Cranson, Ruben Cox, Jaikeb Downie, Caleb Hill, Bryce Taylor, Lachlan Swan.

U13 Girls: Cherayn Cranson, Camyn Newton-Smith, Rhiannon Murphy, Charlotte Holt, Angela Roberts, Nader Mohammed, Paige O'Dwyer, Theresa Torrent, Shayanne Bigham, Jade Dunn.

U14 Boys: Marcus Balint, Nic Stiffel, Obadiah Pewee, Brocke Ruddick, Josh Boyton, Jarred Griffin, Mitchell Lindsay, Dylan Walters-Gray, Benjamin Smith, Cadben Campbell.


U15 Boys: Jonah Martin, Madison Warrington-Smart, Jackson Bearham, Joshua James, Gabriel Martin, Jordan Mills, Callum Matthews, Bryce Brigden, Jake Spary, Hunder Chen.

U15 Girls: Jessica Livsey, Emma Thompson, Chloe Ryder, Heidee Grisbrook, Vanessa Boyd, Morgan Spary, Tasha Valentine, Indy McKenzie, Mikayla Wortel, Brittany Hodgosn.

U16 Boys: Jarrod Fenton, Blake Rhodes, Cameren Steel, Ben Refeld, Joel Forrest, Caleb Martin, Trent Thorburn, Liam Lynch, Dylan Oliver, Jack Smeulders.

U16 Girls: Peta Louise Beardsley, Jade Ransfeld, Stephanie Le, Lega Sulu, Teneeka Kelly, Meg Hall, Moana Takuamo, Sam Shaw, Sui Seuala, Casey Phillips.

U17 Boys: Benjamin Roberts, John Duncan, Thorton Lang, Jacob Smith, Scott Lang, Joshua Goodchild, Braedon Griffiths, Joseph Van Veldhuizen, Jayden Mayer, Rizwan Khalil

17 Girls: Bronte Snowdon, Bridie Andriske, Codie-Lee Page, Taia Stowers, Teigan Archer, Danielle Connor, Michelle Davey, Sarah Nellist, Emily Stubins, Samantha Bray.

U18 Boys: Callum Konrad, Josh Thorburn

U18 Girls: Marrisa Brown, Alisha Buckman

Teachers: Mr Brown, Mr Emblen, Br Brew.

Thank you to all staff that assisted on the day and a special thank you to the HPE Department for their tireless work around making these carnivals such a success. We look forward to some good results at districts and wish all those participating the very best.

Craig McBrien
HOD of HPE

AFL News

As always there is plenty going on with the AFL Academy here at Park Ridge SHS. The end of term one produced some fantastic results not only for individual academy students but also our many teams. The Jonathan Brown Cup team finished their carnival and finished higher than expected, with many schools commenting on the boys marked improvement. We have also had the Youth Girls Cup concluded with some fantastic results. Our Junior Girls Team placed third and our Senior Girls Team emerged state champions.

Our junior and open boys teams have also had their first round of the Brisbane Lions Cup with both sides putting in a fantastic effort. They have definitely made a positive start for the year. Our representative girls Jade, Kiara, Krystal, Moana, Teneeka, Steph, Sui, Peta-Louise and Emily have been training well and
play in the state championships representing the Met West region on the weekend. We also have three representative boys Dylan, Josh and Madison who will be playing for Met West at the end of May.

Finally I would like to make special mention of Jarrod Fenton who has made the Gold Coast Stingrays under 16’s representative team, a fantastic effort! Great start for the year to all of those involved in the AFL Academy!

Acer Laptop Warranty Service

Acer will be coming to PRSHS to complete remediation work for all Education Queensland NSSCF Acer Aspire 1830T Laptops in order to fix identified manufacturing faults with the device. There will be no cost associated for any repairs which result from the manufacturing faults identified in the list below. Acer will be coming to the school to complete these repairs on **Thursday 2 May 2013**. We will be publishing a list detailing the date your student will need to hand their computer in for these repairs. Laptops will be required for 3 days to complete all work and testing. Reminders will be sent to students three (3) days prior to any works through student notices.

This service repair will cover the following:

- Top Lid and LCD Bezel Cover A if affected by screws
- Cover B if affected by screws
- Upper Case Assembly (Cover C) if affected by screws
- Lower Case Assembly (Cover D) if affected by screws
- Camera Lens if affected by screws (likely the bezel will need to be adjusted)
- Lock tight LHS and RHS Hinge screw (removing Cover C)
- Lock tight all remaining screws
- 5 x 5mm screws on bottom plate
- 10 x 4mm on bottom Cover D
- Replace and lock tight any missing screws
- Record condition of the unit for future consideration
- Rubber around LCD Bezel
- Rubber Feet on lower casing assembly
- Chipped Plastic Corners if affected by screws
- Remove any labelling from old/damaged plastics and re-affix to new plastics

The following will not be covered in the warranty service;

- Plastics around corners / hinges bent inwards or broken off which are not relating from the loosening of the screws
- Hardware failures requiring a repair job (follow the current warranty process) ie: faulty HDD, RAM, Software issues etc.

Any repairs that fall outside this scope will fall under the standard Warranty or Non Warranty repair process and the student will need to seek technical service from the school, who will then log a job with Acer service department. This will result in the usual repair costs as outlined in the Student Charter.

If you have any questions please feel free to call **Mr. Ian Sevens** on phone 3380 4111.

**Ian Sevens**

**HOD Information Technology**

Science Camp

An opportunity exists for keen senior science students (years 10-12) to apply for the 2013 **Spark Engineering Camp** – which has been running annually since 2011.

It is a 7-day residential camp being held at the **University of Queensland, St Lucia Campus**. The camp will run from Sunday the 23rd of June to Saturday, the 29th of June (during term break).

This camp is fully sponsored and all successful students will be provided with a full scholarship.

**Who Should Apply**

This camp is not aimed at the “straight-A” students who are already likely to succeed at pursuing tertiary education. This camp is primarily intended:

- To providing an opportunity for interested students to be inspired in the direction of tertiary/further education;
- For students who have a desire to pursue a tertiary degree but struggle to see how they can make it happen.

Interested then:

2. Register your interest with Mr Pearce in O Block to check your eligibility and arrange the school nomination.

The closing date is 3rd May – students will know the outcome of their application by the 10th May.

**QCS call for expression of interest**

Call for Expressions of Interest – 2013 QCS Chief Community Representatives

The Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) has sent out an invitation for expressions of interest for the above positions, QCS Chief Community Representatives. In 2013 the QCS Test will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday 3 – 4 September.
Expression of interest and Application packages are available from the school office. The closing date for applications is Friday 10 May, 2013. Please direct any questions to the Gena Shvetsoff, HOD – Senior Schooling on 33804111.

Science
Be part of the free public GU Discovery lecture series

"Will the pattern of extreme weather events continue??"

Find the answers from Dr Nick Cartright at the Griffith Gold Coast Discovery Lecture - Storm Surges

When? Monday 20 May 6-7pm, Gold Coast Campus
Where? Science and Engineering Building (G39) Lecture Theatre 1.17
Cost? Free
Who can attend? Open to students, teachers and the general public

Register online at http://www.griffith.edu.au/science-aviation/science-on-the-go/news-events

What is Experience Science?

Experience Science provides students in Years 10 - 12 the opportunity to discover how science is applied in industry and everyday life. The event is facilitated by experts from UQ and industry through a series of hands-on, interactive science workshops.

Thousands of students from Queensland and northern New South Wales have attended Experience Science over the past nine years.

Park ridge has been fortunate to secure 50 places in the 2013 program.

When: 12th July 2013 a whole day workshop experience.
Where: University of Queensland – St Lucia
Who: Senior students Years 10 to 12
How much: $13.00
How to apply – see Mr. Pearce or your science teacher and register on line for your workshops.

Library News
Access to online databases which support student research

In addition to using your preferred search engine, valuable sources of information are available via online databases.

Students are able to log in to free, online databases from home and school by using their Logan City Council Library card and/or a State Library of Queensland (SLQ) library card. In addition to an extensive range of other benefits (browse their websites), these free cards enable free access to a wide range of online databases including the Australia/New Zealand Reference Centre, Encyclopaedia Britannica, JSTOR (and many others).

To get a SLQ library card, go to http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/services/join and click on the link for the online registration form. Your card will be posted to you.

Access the links to the SLQ databases by subject area at: http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/students. Log in to the databases using the barcode and surname on your card.

Applications for a Logan City Council Library card can be processed at the circulation desk of any Logan City Council Library. Two pieces of identification (including one with your address on it) are required and applicants under the age of eighteen must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. You can find the library locations here: http://www.logan.qld.gov.au/facilities-and-recreation/libraries/library-locations

Access to the databases is available through the link to Online Learning Tools from the Logan City Council Libraries website at http://catalogue.logan.qld.gov.au/#focus. Log in to your chosen database with your library card number and a PIN (set at the day and month of the cardholder’s birth).

Kerryn Shaw
Teacher Librarian

Woolworths Earn and Learn

A huge thank you to all of the Yugumbir community who collected the many stickers and reward cards for us last year. Through your efforts we were able to gain some fabulous resources for our school. Some of these items we received were reading books, floor puzzles, guitars, drums, percussion instruments, microscopes and other maths and science equipment. All these resources have been placed throughout the school for all year levels to use.

IT’S ON AGAIN!!

From Monday 8th April until Sunday 9th June 2013, when you shop at Woolworths you will be given a Woolworths Earn & Learn Point. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent, excluding cigarettes, liquor and gift cards. Collect these Woolworths Earn & Learn Points and our school will be able to redeem these for educational resources. You can place them into the Woolworths box in the office foyer.

We thank you again for your support and look forward to again gaining some awesome educational resources for our school.

Schoolkids Bonus

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million
families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

Career in medicine

Parents – do you have a student who might be thinking about a career in medicine?

Griffith University invites you to attend their Pathways to Medicine Information Evenings. The evenings will include a presentation about study options and an opportunity to meet Griffith University lecturers and admissions staff

Brisbane - South Bank campus
When: Tuesday 21 May at 6:00 pm for high school students
Venue: Ian Hanger Recital Hall, Queensland Conservatorium, South Bank campus

For further information visit griffith.edu.au/medicine

Labour Day Holiday

Please be advised that Labour Day holiday this year will be 7 October 2013.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Captain Compost will make your garden grow!!

Our Mushroom compost is naturally organic compost suitable for a wide variety of applications including your home gardens.

Bring your trailer along on the first Saturday of every month from 7am – 11am.

Compost Direct Ph. 07 55710465 Website: www.compostdirect.info or email compostdirect@bigpond.com