9 May 2013

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 – 9 May</td>
<td>German Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 – 17 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 – 17 May</td>
<td>Year 11 Biology Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 May</td>
<td>Brisbane Dance Eisteddfod</td>
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From the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

P&C Donation

On behalf of our school community I wish to thank the members of the P&C Association for the donation of $20,000 to further the teaching and learning opportunities available to our students. The P&C is committed to ensuring that funds raised through the canteen and uniform shop are invested in the school for the benefit of the current students. Thank you to the members of the P&C for their ongoing efforts on behalf of our school.

Student Data Review

Over the last couple of weeks teachers have been reviewing student achievement data and attendance data. Substantive conversations have been happening in faculties to analyse not only how students progressed in term 1 but to also set targets for classes and individual students. Of course, it is important not to make hasty assumptions and to seek a range of data on which to make decisions. It is my expectation that teachers will give students quality feedback on how they are going and what they need to do to improve.

Our 2013 target is an 85% pass rate across all subject areas. Already we have exceeded that goal in a number of subject areas. Another target is 100% submission rate for all assessment items. We are not quite there yet but certainly have witnessed a significant improvement in submission rates over the last two years and are firmly focused on that 100% target.

The link between student achievement and attendance can’t be overestimated. If a student is absent at a rate of one day a fortnight over the course of their schooling they will have missed the equivalent of one year! It is a sobering thought. We are presently looking at ways to recognise and encourage high levels of attendance because we really do believe that excellent attendance makes a huge difference to student success.

NAPLAN

Like schools nationwide, our Year 9 students will participate in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) next week.

Students in Year 9 will be assessed in the areas of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. Within the Numeracy domain Year 7 and 9 students will undertake a calculator-allowed test, followed by a non-calculator test.

Our teachers have been working hard over many months to ensure students feel confident and well prepared.

We expect that the test results will be sent to our school in September this year, and an individual NAPLAN report for each student will be sent home. These confidential reports will show your child’s results against key national information in each year level.

Our school will use the information in a number of ways, primarily to better identify students requiring additional support, and to identify strengths and improvement areas in teaching programs.

While the NAPLAN report is an important measure of how all students are performing, it is important to remember that it is only one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process. It does not replace the more extensive and informed judgements made by our highly skilled and experienced teachers.

It is important that students receive ongoing support at home throughout the year in developing literacy and numeracy skills.

For tips and information please visit www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map

For information about NAPLAN tests please visit www.naplan.edu.au

Kind regards

Valerie Hadgelias - PRINCIPAL
teachers and can be confident that there will be no surprises with regard to test formats and processes.

On the three mornings of the test, Year 9 students will operate on slightly different “bell” times to the rest of the school. Our Chaplain, Shaun Fortescue will be putting on a BBQ breakfast outside of the SAC each morning of the tests (for Year 9 students only).

Students will assemble in Form lines at 8.50am and prepare to enter the SAC.

At 10.25am Year 9 students will have a 30 minute supervised break. Students are strongly advised to bring their own lunch that day, however, if they need to purchase from the canteen, they will need to have placed their order at the canteen before 8.50am.

From Period 3 onwards each day Year 9 students will resume their normal timetable

Parents can assist their children by ensuring that they get a good night’s sleep prior to each of the test days and checking that they have the required equipment:

- 2 Pencils (no pacers)
- Eraser
- Sharpener
- Scientific calculator all in a clear plastic clip seal bag or A4 clear plastic sleeve.

We do recommend that phones, iPods and other electronic equipment and valuables are left at home as students will not be permitted to take anything into the testing centre other than the equipment listed above.

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

Each afternoon of the NAPLAN tests, our Year 8 students will undertake similar practice tests to familiarise them with the testing process at Park Ridge SHS and more importantly to provide teachers with diagnostic information that they will use to plan future lessons.

_Sandra Malmstedt_  
_Deputy Principal_

**District Cross Country 2013**

On Tuesday 30th of May, approximately sixty students set off to represent our school at the Waterford Rugby League Club. Everybody tried their hardest and represented our school with pride. Overall our school placed fifth with the girls placing fourth and the boys placing fifth out of all the other schools. There were a number of students who made the top ten, who are now representing the Karawatha district at Regional Cross Country in Ipswich on the 28th of May. The Park Ridge High Cross Country team would like to thank the teachers who were there to support us; Mr McBrien, Mr Brown, Mrs Caddy, Mrs Maxwell and Ms Mascali. Good luck to the all of the runners competing at regionals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 Year Boys</td>
<td>Kurtis Bunney</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aidan Duncan</td>
<td>7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Year Girls</td>
<td>Cherayn Crandson</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Camryn Newton-Smith</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Year Girls</td>
<td>Courtney Bromage</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Year Boys</td>
<td>Jonah Martin</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Year Girls</td>
<td>Emma Thompson</td>
<td>10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Year Boys</td>
<td>Blake Rhodes</td>
<td>7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Year Girls</td>
<td>Peta-Louise Beardsley</td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Year Boys</td>
<td>Benjamin Roberts</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Year Girls</td>
<td>Bronte Snowdon</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridie Andriske</td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Year Boys</td>
<td>Callum Konrad</td>
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Film and Television
Trip to Bond University – Future Filmmakers Program.

Students from Year 12 Film and Television class took a trip to Bond University on Friday the 19th April 2013 to engage with the Future Film Makers Program. This program was part of the Gold Coast Film Festival (GCFF) and was for secondary school students to experience first-hand the stories and practices of working professionals in the industry. The students of Park Ridge SHS represented the school exceptionally well as they participated in the Questions and Answer session with these masters of industry, exhibiting a high level maturity and knowledge in the field.

The first session was with the renowned script writer Tod Farmer who is responsible for several quintessential films from the horror film genre. He has penned films such as ‘My Bloody Valentine’ and ‘Drive Angry’ with massive box office success. The audience was then treated to a short film from students of Bond University.

Before lunch we had the pleasure of a meet and greet with three acclaimed American actors, Tony Tod, Noah Hathaway and James Duval from films such as Candyman, Neverending Story and Independence Day. This was an incredible opportunity for our students to ask questions and hear responses from internationally recognised professionals in the film industry.

The day finished with a talk by Director Darren Paul Fisher from London, UK. He spoke about some strategies of how to make it in the industry and how he started as a humble university graduate and has made a successful career following one simple rule…”Keep the people you are talking to interested”.

This was one of the best school excursions I have been involved with. The proximity to professionals in the industry was incredible and the format and overall running of the day was superb. The students that participated deserve a special thankyou as their behaviour was exemplary.

Michael Hicks
Film and Television Teacher

Turf Grant

Last year Park Ridge State High School applied and won a grant for turf with Landcare Australia and Turfing Australia. Students who are currently undertaking their Certificate II in Horticulture decided to build a “Cooch Couch”. There were 6 stages to building a Cooch Couch:

Stage 1: Win the Grant
- The design and location of our ‘cooch couch’.

Stage 2: The Frame
- The frame was recycled from an old set of port racks.

Stage 3: Stage Preparation
- Workplace health and safety

Stage 4: Burying the frame
- Cardboard was stapled to the lower front and upper front of the couch to keep the soil in place
Stage 5: Laying the turf

- The frame was filled with 3 ½ cubic meters of soil
- By shaping the soil it forms the shape of the couch
- The soil holds the turf in place

Stage 6: The finished product

Kylie Young  
Horticultural/Science Teacher

Emergency Contacts

Could you please check at the school office and ensure that we have correct names and phone numbers of any emergency contacts if we are unable to contact you.

In emergencies, I’m sure you would understand the situation we are placed in if we do not have correct contact details.

Please be aware if the school needs to contact you, our phone number may appear as ‘private number’.

Students Late to School

Students who arrive at school after 9.10am are to report to the school office prior to going to class. Thanks to those many parents & students who already cooperate in this regard. We are concerned that there may be students arriving late for school unbeknown to parents and administration.

*The first two hours of the school day is “prime teaching time”, it would be appreciated if students could be here on time to commence the school day.*

Trespassers

If you spot any trespassers or anyone who is attempting to steal or damage school property, please phone either:
Parents, please advise your children they are not to be in the school grounds especially on weekends because if there is a break-in or property is damaged, any names provided to us will be forwarded to the Police for their attention and any subsequent action.

**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

**Uniform Shop News**

Newly released unisex microfibre short are now available from the uniform shop for only $22!

- Three pockets (one zip pocket)
- double stitched hem
- elastic waist with draw cord on inside
- PRSHS embroidered on lower left leg

There is a large range of sizes available ranging from Kids size 8 – 16 and Adults size Small – 3XL

Uniform Shop hours are:

- Tuesday: 8:00am – 10:00am
- Wednesday: 8:00am – 10:00am
- Thursday: 1:00pm – 4:30pm

***Please be advised that the uniform shop will be closed Thursday 30 May and Thursday 6 May***

**Science News**

**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.

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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.

**David Pearce**

**HOD Science**

**Indigenous Study Sessions**

Need help with assignments?
Want some extra tutoring in a subject area?
Bring along your own work
Friends are welcome...

**When:**
- Tuesday 3:15pm – 4:15pm
- Thursday 8:00am – 8:50am

**Where:**
- U01 (Ms Cole’s Classroom)

**Laptops will be available to use!**

**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