13 September 2013

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

With the close of Term 3 fast approaching, our school community has been a hive of activity. A number of major events occur at this time, both within the school and in the broader community, and students and staff alike have been working consistently and conscientiously to ensuring that all tasks are completed to the best of their abilities.

Nearly 60% of our Year 12 students sat the Queensland Core Skills Test last week (a marked increase on last year’s numbers). This is a gruelling two days of formal testing that directly affects the academic outcomes of our tertiary bound Year 12 students. We are confident that this year’s cohort entered the tests well prepared and hope that their performances reflect both their abilities and their commitment.

The school is in exam mode at present, with senior students engaged in their end of term Block Exams and the Junior Secondary students undertaking their final assessments next week. We wish all our students every success in their exams and presentations. Mid-semester reports will be mailed to parents on Monday 14 October 2013. We encourage parents to contact the school if they have any concerns.

Frau Dalle has been spending much of her time putting the final touches on the upcoming German Trip. Twelve students from Years 9-12 set off on the last day of term for the trip of a lifetime through some truly amazing parts of the world. Mr Christensen will also accompany the group, deepening his love of history through this first hand visit to some famous historical settings. We wish the students and staff involved in this venture a safe and rewarding experience.

In the final week of this term, students from our senior drama classes, under the expert direction of Mr Davenport, will perform Shakespeare’s Macbeth to both student and community audiences. The cast has been rehearsing relentlessly to ensure that their production is truly worthy of this great playwright. Senior English classes will see the play during Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of Week 11 and the community is invited to an evening performance in the Performing Arts theatre at 7.00pm on Saturday 21 September. Please contact the school if you need more information regarding this session.

Finally, it is with a sense of both relief and excitement that we saw the ‘breaking of ground’ at the Trade Training Centre worksite. The excavator rolled in and billowed smoke for the first time. With trees lopped and concrete paths ripped up, the levelling of the site will soon begin in earnest. Our partnership with Flagstone State Community College and Beaudesert State High School will see three high demand certificate courses being delivered for our students from 2014. At Park Ridge, we will be offering Certificate II in Sampling and Measurement, Flagstone will run Certificate II in Electro-technology and Beaudesert Certificate II in Automotive. Students from our partnership schools will be able to access these courses at the host school. All students undertaking these courses will be charges a standard rate, common across all partnership schools. While the completion dates for new buildings at each site will vary, all schools are committed to commencing some level of operation in the coming year. This is an exciting venture that has been years in planning. These facilities and associated courses will add a new dimension to the scope of training and future career pathways available to our students. We will publish more information relating to these offerings in Term 4.

Kind regards
Valerie Hadgelias - Principal

Enrolment Day

Attention all students, and parents of students intending to enrol in Year 8 for 2014.

We are holding enrolment interviews on Monday, 21 October 2013. Bookings are essential so please visit the website https://parkridgeshs.eq.edu.au and follow the links or phone the school on 3380 4111.

*Please note: we require a birth certificate to comply with state legislation
Tax File Numbers for School Leavers

(A letter from the Australian Tax Office)

Thank you for your continued support and giving your students the opportunity to apply for a Tax File Number (TFN) through the TFN Education Program. At this time of year, I am seeking your assistance to encourage potential school leavers to apply for their TFN while they are still at school.

As you know, students leaving early or completing Year 12 may need a TFN for their employment, deferring university fees or applying for Centrelink benefits. It is in the best interests of your students to take advantage of this program now before they leave school. To ensure that students get their TFN before Christmas, completed application forms must be received in the Australian Taxation Office by 22 November 2013.

We greatly appreciate your valuable support and continuing partnership with us in promoting the School TFN Education Program.

Deputy Commissioner of Taxation ATO

Year 11 Practice Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test 1

Thursday and Friday 10 and 11 October 2013

Over the last few weeks our Year 11 students have been preparing for their first practice QCS Test on Thursday and Friday 10 and 11 October 2013. All QCS Students will be issued with the Special Instructions for the Prac QCS next week. All Year 11 students who are eligible for an OP must sit the practice QCS test. A number of OP ineligible Year 11 students will also be sitting the test. Normal classes will be running for all Year 11 students NOT sitting the Prac QCS and they will be required to come to school during the 2 Prac QCS days.

The Prac QCS Test will be conducted over 2 days and will consist of 4 papers. Students will only have one lunch break each day.

Year 11 Prac QCS 1 Program for each day:

Students are required to stay in the SAC for the full period of each part of the QCS Test.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIMES</th>
<th>Thursday / Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.45am</td>
<td>Students assemble outside SAC – follow instructions given in Form &amp; check gear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Students enter SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.05am</td>
<td>Start instructions for Writing Task / Short Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.20am</td>
<td>Start perusal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Start test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30am</td>
<td>Finish test and collect papers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each test requires specific equipment listed below. You need to access and get this gear organised so that you only bring in the equipment permitted for the scheduled test. You are not permitted to borrow or lend equipment during the test.

Equipment for Writing Task (am)
- pens (black ink)
- pencil
- sharpener
- eraser
- correcting fluid/tape
- transparent container for equipment

Equipment for MCQ I and II test (pm)
- 2B pencils,
- sharpener,
- eraser (white gum),
- calculator (approved),
- fluorescent marker,
- ruler
- transparent container for equipment

Equipment for SR test (am)

Essential
- pens (black ink)
- pencil
- protractor
- drawing compass template
- eraser
- coloured pencils
Optional

- ruler
- fluorescent marker
- set square
- correcting fluid/tape
- sharpener

**Lunch – for the QCS group**

**Reminder** - one break only. Order your lunch at the Canteen before school on the days of the practice QCS.

**What do I do if I am sick on the QCS days?**

You must make every effort to do the practice QCS at the scheduled time. If you are sick on the day(s) of the test, you will need to get a doctor’s certificate and bring it to school on your return. If you think a significant event/development which occurs during or shortly before the test will make it extremely difficult/impossible for you to sit the practice QCS Test please contact the school.

For further information you can contact me on 3380-4104.

*Mrs Gena Shvetsoff - HOD Senior Schooling*

**2013 South East Region SAT Awards**

Warner Bros. Movie World came alive on Friday Night 6 September 2013 with the arrival of the South East Region’s top School-Based Apprentices and Trainees (SATs). **Six finalists represented Park Ridge SHS at the awards:** Daniel Hewson, Blake Skennerton, Bejay Sauer, Taylor O’ Brien, Dalton Harrison and Clay Waterman.

2013’s SAT finalists, 39 in all, were selected as the best in their industry from 3,600 SATs students across the region. They travelled with family, friends and school staff from near and far, Boonah to Victoria Point, Marsden to Currumbin to attend and make their mark in history on the night.

**Congratulations to Clay and all the finalists!**

*Mrs Gena Shvetsoff - HOD Senior Schooling*

**Tech News**

**More Acers** have been made available for the take home program. The pro-rata fee is only $100. Please contact Admin to secure yours now!

PH: (07) 3380 4111

**Internet speed increase...**

Our school has now been upgraded to the latest technology. Our internet speed has increased from 4mbps to 20mbps. This means student access to high quality video and audio and other online resources has never been faster!

**ThinkPad L430 Notebook**

The next generation of Technology is on its way. Our school has placed an order for 65 new devices to update our existing fleet.

2013’s Indigenous Regional SAT’s Award Winner is Clay Waterman, a QATSIF Scholarship student and one of Park Ridge SHS’s finest. He is a quiet unassuming young man, until he gets to know you. Clay is an elite athlete who is a role model for Indigenous youth and young boxing fans worldwide. He is currently in Year 12 completing his studies, a school-based Traineeship in a Certificate III in Business through the AES with the Commonwealth Bank as well as training for the next Youth World Amateur Boxing competition, to be held in April 2014. Clay is very well known here and overseas in the Boxing arena. He currently holds the following Boxing titles: At 15 years of age he became Australia’s first World Amateur Boxing Champion for his weight and age. Clay also holds 5 times Australian National Amateur Boxing Champion titles.
Inspections of all 1-to-1 laptops will be taking place at the beginning of Term 4. Any student with a laptop **must** bring it on the following days:
- Year 8 - Thursday Week 1 - 10 October
- Year 9 - Monday Week 2 - 14 October
- Year 10 - Tuesday Week 1 - 8 October (the first day of school)
- Year 11 - Thursday Week 2 - 17 October
- Year 12 - Tuesday Week 2 - 15 October

To avoid any delays in the return of the device, students are encouraged to report damage to the IT technicians as soon as possible. More exciting things are in store, check back next time for “how to back up your device”.

**Mr Ian Sevens and the Tech Department**

**School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships**

**Off Campus courses for 2014**

Is your student in Year 10 or 11? Would they be interested in one of our many off campus courses at Skills Tech or MSIT? If so, they need to be talking to me NOW!

Course information had been handed out to students earlier in the term. Interested students must apply now as these departments have set timelines and will not accept applications next term or in 2014.

**Expressions of Interest close on Monday 16 September.**

**Skills Tech** is running a one-day a week course in Certificate II Electro Technology (a pass in Maths A is required) and Certificate II Furniture making. Applications are now being taken from current Year 11 students.

**Current Year 12 students**

With only 6-7 weeks to go until the real world starts to kick in, students need to be now seeking out employers. **Maxima** have already interviewed for positions with **Logan City Council** and were very impressed with those students they interviewed. **Students must check the vacancy board at the canteen for positions they may be interested in.**

**Employer Feedback**

A concern of many employers is that parents are sourcing positions for their students. Encourage your student to make their own enquiries when job seeking. Employers feel that if a student doesn’t have the initiative to seek employment, then their initiative in the work place will possibly be poor.

All students’ attending interviews are reminded to be prepared with an up to date resume and appropriate interview clothes ready at all times.

- Boy’s attire - a collared, buttoned shirt and tie, black dress pants, with leather shoes (not runners)
- Girl’s attire - skirt and stockings or dress pants with collared blouse with sleeves, plain dress shoes

A first impression goes a long way.

**School based vacancy Year 10**

**Brisbane City Council** is seeking students with a passion and keen interest to learn and work. They have vacancies for an Auto Electrician and a Heavy Vehicle Mechanic at Carina.

**Applications close on September 16, 2013.**

For more information, regarding off campus courses or school based vacancies; students can see me at my window during break times.

**Wendy Howard – Work Education Transition Officer**

**Artwaves**

Students’ art work chosen to exhibit in the Artwaves exhibition at Logan Art Gallery in October.

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**June Greenwood – The Arts Teacher**

**Year 12 Formal**

The Year 12 Formal is quickly approaching and will be held on **Tuesday 12 November 2013.** The Formal Committee has been busy organising details to make this celebratory night very special for students. The chosen venue is very attractive with
ample space for arrivals; a spectacular ballroom and views of Brisbane City at night from the balcony.

As with staging any event, it is difficult to avoid rising costs. Every effort has been made to keep the cost affordable for students. The ticket price includes the cost of the venue, a two course meal and drinks, a DJ and access to a professional photographer on the night. Students will have unlimited access to these photographs online after the event, by use of a password.

Parents or students, whose school accounts are up-to-date, are now able to start making payments towards the Formal ticket. Invitations will be given to students at the beginning of Term 4.

Here are the details:

Date: Tuesday 12 November, 2013
Time: 6.30 – 11.30pm
Pre-Dinner drinks: 6.30pm – 7.15pm at the venue (Parents and friends at their own cost)
Venue: Victoria Park Golf Complex, Herston Rd, Herston.
Ticket Cost: $120

A large number of students have also chosen to have a mobile Photography Booth at the venue for the night. These students have indicated that they are willing to pay an additional $8 separately for the use of this Booth. This cost is separate from the Ticket Cost. These students will receive a bracelet or stamp which allows them access to this facility on the night.

The Ballroom - Victoria Park Golf Complex

If you have any further queries, please contact Miriam Robinson (Year 12 Coordinator) on 3380 4139.

Community News

BRAVE program

Help for Shy or Anxious Teens: Online Treatment for Social Anxiety is now available!

For teenagers with Social Anxiety, school can be an incredibly difficult time. Activities like presenting oral reports, participating in class activities, playing or competing in team sports and joining in with groups at lunch can be extremely anxiety provoking situations. But there is help available... and it’s online!

A team of researchers (BRAVE Team) at Griffith University, University of Southern Queensland, and the University of Queensland are seeking teenagers (13-17 years) suffering from social anxiety; a fear of being negatively judged by others, or extreme shyness.

The BRAVE program aims to help adolescents and their parents learn strategies for managing social anxiety and teach techniques to cope with anxiety-provoking social situations. The treatment program involves 12 online sessions for teens and 7 online sessions for parents, with each session taking approximately an hour to complete. Families are charged a one-off fee of $120 to assist in covering treatment costs. Families will also be asked to complete questionnaires and telephone interviews, but will receive a rebate of $25 in vouchers each time they complete a post-treatment assessment.

For more information, or to register your interest in the program, please visit the BRAVE ONLINE website: www.exp psy.uq.edu.au/socialanxiety . Alternatively, you can contact the BRAVE team on (07) 3735 3312 or Email: brave@psy.uq.edu.au . For further information, pay a visit to our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/braevoranxiety

Facebook Advertisement Teenagers:

Is your teenager having difficulty at school because they are worried about what others will think of them? Do they hate to speak in front of their classmates in fear of embarrassing themselves? Does their extreme shyness interfere with their ability to make friends or attend parties like other teenagers their age? If this sounds like your teenager then help is available!!

An exciting online program targeting child social anxiety has been created by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland, Griffith University and the University of Southern Queensland (Australia). The program is specifically targeted towards adolescents aged between 13 and 17 years who have social anxiety, or are extremely shy. It is an online-program that aims to help both teens and parents learn strategies for managing social anxiety as well as find ways to cope with anxiety-provoking social situations.

Research has found that our online program elicits the same results as face-to-face therapy for children with social phobia, meaning that we have an opportunity to provide effective treatment to families all over Australia and around the world.

If you are interested in participating or registering your teenager, please refer to our website www.exp psy.uq.edu.au/socialanxiety . Alternatively, for more information please feel free to visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/braevoranxiety.

Also, in addition to the teen program, a child version of the program is currently available for children aged 8-12 years old. For more information please refer to the websites above.

Investigators: Prof. Sue Spence, Dr Caroline Donovan & Dr Sonja March
Project Coordinators: Laura Uhlmann Ph: (07) 3735 3312
Gemma Bettens (Ph: (07) 3735 1807)
The BRAVE Team - School of Psychology University of Queensland & Griffith University
Raymont Lodge Residential College United in Spirit

Raymont Lodge Residential College is currently offering accommodation options for tertiary students for 2014. The college provides comfortable and safe services within a supportive Christian environment for tertiary students who are planning to study in the Brisbane area. Facilities include fully furnished single rooms and onsite meals for up to 120 students, internet access, music practice and study rooms, onsite chaplaincy and recreational activities. The college has an active residents’ association providing opportunities to participate in a variety of team sports and social pursuits.

Raymont Lodge is centrally located in Auchenflower just 4kms from the heart of Brisbane city and close to the University of Queensland, the Queensland University of Technology and other tertiary institutions. All public transport is within easy access. For more information visit our website www.raymont.com.au or Phone 3377 9903

An activity of the Uniting Church in Queensland Australia Synod

Southern Stars Baseball Club

Regency Drive, Regents Park

Sign-On

If you would like further information please contact

Kevin – 0439 796386 or Karen – 0421 773768

Email: southernstarsbaseballclub@gmail.com

Logan East Community Neighbourhood Centre

Guys Night Out

Father & son, grandad & grandson, uncle & nephew, mate & mate you are invited to our boy’s night out. This is a fundraiser for our centre and all money raised on the evening will go to the formation of a young men’s group.

Guest Speakers - Ian ‘Watto’ Watson and Dr John Hinwood

‘Watto’ is the Founder of Shed Happens, AFL player & coach, mentor, author of ‘Every Blokes a Champion Even You’ a national speaker with a knack for telling it how it is to be a real bloke.