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14 November 2013

From the Principal

Dear parents and Carers,

Term 4 is always a busy time but it also quite a happy time when we celebrate the work our teachers and students have undertaken throughout the year.

The **Year 12 Formal** was held on Tuesday 12 November at Victoria Park Golf Club at Herston. This beautiful venue was a perfect backdrop for our Year 12 students who transformed into such glamorous young ladies and handsome young men. It was a lovely opportunity for proud parents to join in the festivities at the pre-dinner drinks. Our thanks to Ms Robinson and the formal committee for organising such a special event.

Another important event is the **Annual Sports Awards** presentation where the excellent achievements of so many students are on show. Once again this year our HPE staff organised a great evening. Students were recognised for their athletic skills, their determination and commitment to various teams, their willingness to participate and to "have a go" to support the school. Coaches were acknowledged for their dedication in helping students achieve to their potential and of course it is all underpinned by the parents who support the students in all their endeavours. The Sports Awards Evening also offers an opportunity to thank local businesses and community members who work hard to support our students in various activities. It was a great event reflecting the strength of our school community.

Another of the recent highlights of the school's calendar was the final celebration of our **Instrumental Music department at the Annual Concert**. We marvel at the talent of many of our students in this area of the curriculum. A huge thank you goes to the staff, the students and their families as well as to the members of the Music Parent Support Group for all the extra time and effort they have put in throughout the year.

Our Academic Awards Evening will be held on Thursday evening, 14 November. This is always a wonderful highlight each year where we celebrate the outstanding achievement and persistent effort of so many of our students.

Message of Farewell to the Year 12 Class of 2013

This time of year is always a bittersweet time as we see lead up to the Year 12 Graduation on Friday on 15 November.

The completion of five years of secondary education is quite a milestone for these young people. Many of our graduating students have made an enormous contribution to our school

over the last five years. It has been our pleasure and our privilege to have helped to guide them through these years, through their triumphs and their mistakes. While it is hard to say goodbye, I have no doubt that they are well equipped to face life's challenges. We wish them well.

Quadrennial School Review

Thank you to all of the students, parents and staff who have contributed to our Quadrennial School Review. Whether it was through attending forums and discussion groups or through completing surveys your input has been very helpful. The extensive review process has led to some valuable insights and allowed us to shape the School Strategic Plan for the next four years. That document is nearing completion and we look forward to launching the Plan early in the new school year.

Kind regards

Valerie Hadgelias - Principal

Proposed Changes to the Take-home Laptop Program in 2014

Due to changes to the Federal Government funding of the take-home laptop scheme, a review is deemed necessary to ascertain as to how the scheme will operate in 2014. Information has been posted on the school's website for parents and guardians to submit an expression of interest if they would support a take-home program in 2014. These expressions of interests must be returned to the Administration Officer no later than November 25, 2013.

Year 12 Formal

Victoria Park Golfing Complex provided an excellent venue for the Year 12 Formal on Tuesday night. Students arrived in various forms of transport to a crowd of parents, friends and teachers who witnessed the special event.

Parents and friends were able to meet and mingle with students in the Grand Marquee for Pre-Dinner drinks and also on the Terrace where Formal Photographs were taken with family and friends.

The evening's entertainment in the Ballroom provided students with a night-to-remember. Students were able to enjoy formal photographs with their friends, dance and sing to the music of the DJ, and share an endless amount of fun and images in the Photo Booth.

The students are to be congratulated on the way they behaved and their positive and fun-loving approach to having a good time and sharing a memorable event with their friends.

A special thank you must go to all parents and friends who have been a great support to your children in the lead up to this event.

Formal Photo Downloads

Students will be able to download their photos from the photographer's website:

www.eventphotography.com/formals

The password was given to students earlier in the week.

Students will have free, unlimited download access to the photographs. The photos will be uploaded approximately 48-72 hours after the formal is held. The Copyright of all images is assigned to the client (student) so you may use these images at your own discretion.

Mrs Robinson
Year 12 Coordinator

News from Hospitality Department

Term 4 is always busy in the Hospitality department, and this year has been no different. So far in our 5 short weeks back at school we have catered for a number of events, with students putting in many hours of planning and preparation so ensure their events are successful. One event in particular both students and teachers look forward to. This is our annual Melbourne Cup Buffet lunch. Our Year 12 students set themselves high expectations for this event, and the feedback from teachers who attended said they crossed the finish line in exemplary style! This year we catered for 40 guests (not an easy task for a Buffet style meal), and our selections included rich, authentic curry, delicious triple choc trifle and a range of fruity mocktails. Comments such as *"It was absolutely amazing."* (Sam Cross) and *"Thank you so much for the awesome and delicious lunch. The students did a fab job and were very professional and well-presented."* (Annie Gentles) were emailed me to the next day. The Year 12 Hospitality classes of 2013 should be congratulated on their amazing job.



Year 12 Students serving Mocktails

Year 11's have also been keeping busy this term, with one of their functions being the annual Indigenous morning tea, to recognise and celebrate our Indigenous students. The students from Miss Norman's class thoughtfully selected traditional Australian flavours and recipes to design a scrumptious spread, which was thoroughly enjoyed by students who attended. Appreciation needs to go out to Miss Norman and Mrs Rai, who regularly give up spare time to make these events happen.

Many thanks also to the dedicated students of Hospitality. Without your interest in the subject, the school would be a lot less tasty place.



Some of the wonderful food that our Year 11 students prepared for our Indigenous Students

Mrs Maxwell
Acting HOD Home Economics/Business

End of Year Processes

Year 10 and 11 students have already received a clearance letter advising them of their accounts that are still outstanding for 2013 as well as previous years accounts and resources that are loaned out in their name. Year 8 and 9 students will receive their letter in the first week of December. It would be appreciated if these accounts are finalised for the year and that the resources including laptops and textbooks are returned to the school as soon as the student has finished with them for the year.

Students with accounts outstanding and unreturned items will have their Annual School Magazine withheld until such items are returned and all accounts are finalised. Unfortunately, students with accounts and resources outstanding will not be permitted to join the Shared Resources Hiring Scheme in 2014 and therefore will need to individually purchase all books, resources and consumable items they may require for their units of study. This list can be obtained from the Administration Office.

To assist with the finalisation of student accounts the cash collection window will open 5 days per week until the 6 December. The cash collection window will be closed in the last week of the school year. Parents/caregivers can however make their payments by a variety of options including internet banking, credit card, debit card or cash.

University of Queensland Research

Researchers from the University of Queensland are conducting research into parenting of children with type 1 diabetes. We are seeking parents of children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes to participate. Participation in this project will involve completing a survey and attending a focus group, which takes approximately two hours.

The focus group includes questions on child behaviours, diabetes management tasks which parents of children with type 1 diabetes experience difficulty with, strategies parents use to manage child misbehaviour, how parents think and feel about parenting a child with type 1 diabetes and their preferences for assessing services to assist in dealing with these behaviours and tasks.

If you are interested in participating in this research or would like further information please email clin.roslyn.pay@uq.edu.au

School Canteen/Uniform Shop Vacancy

An exciting opportunity exists for a highly motivated individual to work in the school canteen and/or uniform shop on a casual basis. All training provided. The position will commence at the beginning of 2014 and the person will be employed by the Park Ridge State High School P&C. Details of the vacancy can be obtained from the school administration office. Please forward completed applications to prshspandc@outlook.com.au attention to President P&C. Applications close on Friday 22 November 2013.

Become a Volunteer Host Family – it's Fun!

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in January 2014. Students from Switzerland, Finland, the Netherlands, Brazil, Italy, Japan and Thailand are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family.



"Another excellent experience for the family! We learned a lot about Italy. Virginia was very helpful and cooperative at home. It is a wonderful thing to give people new experience. Virginia had never eaten mango, been to ten pin bowling or held a crocodile or koala. This is the part I enjoy most about the exchange experience. Virginia will never forget Australia."
- Susan and Anthony, host parents of Virginia (Italy)

It's easier than you think and a fantastic experience for all!

Find out more!

To help you make this important decision, contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.

Sylvia Kelly - Manager Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733 Email: wep@wep.org.au Online: www.wep.org.au

Christmas Hamper Appeal

The Logan East Community Centre is currently collecting for its annual Hamper Appeal.

Any donations of non-perishable in-date food items, new toys and gift cards can be brought to the centre between 9am - 4pm Monday to Thursday and 9am -12noon on Fridays. **Donations are required by 12.00pm on 13th December to allow for packing and distribution.** The centre is located on the corner of Cinderella Drive & Vanessa Blvd Springwood. Hampers are distributed to families living in the local community who need a helping hand. **For more information please call 3808 4529.**

Aviation Australia Opens its Doors!

Come along to our Open Night on Wednesday 27 November commencing at 6.00pm.



The Open Night offers students and parents the opportunity to tour our training facilities based at Brisbane Airport and find out first-hand, how to become an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer or Flight Attendant. Our training centres' house the most advanced training equipment including real aircraft, fully equipped workshops, cabin simulators, evacuation slides, pool for water safety drills, and excellent student amenities. You will also have the chance to meet our team of instructors who are available to answer any of your questions. To register your interest email: aero.info@aviationaustralia.aero or contact our Sales Team on 07 3860 0900.