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6 February 2014

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

12 February	Swimming Carnival
26 – 27 February	School Photos
12 March	Year 8 & 10 Immunisations
4 April	Last Day of Term 1

From The Principal

Dear Parent and Carers,

It is my pleasure to welcome all of our families to 2014 at Park Ridge State High School.

A special welcome is extended to students, parents and carers who are new to our school. I look forward to meeting you as the year progresses and hope that you will become actively involved in our school community.

The school has settled quickly and we have had a smooth start to year. My thanks to the Deputy Principals, Heads of Department, Year Coordinators and office staff for all their work in preparing for the new school year

Our enrolments have been higher than expected but hopefully this will soon settle. As a consequence of the fine-tuning that is needed as the enrolments become clear, a few timetable changes may need to occur. These changes will be determined as soon as possible in an effort to minimise any disruption.

Key whole school targets for 2014 include:

- 95% Attendance Rate for all students
- 100% submission of assessment items
- 10% increase in pass rates across each curriculum area
- 15% increase in number of students achieving at A and B levels

High Expectations of Both Students and Teachers

The excellent results in our Teaching and Learning Audit in September last year reflected the **great work of our teachers** who are dedicated to maximising student learning outcomes.

They will continue to focus in 2014 on high levels of student engagement, the expansion of innovative digital learning and on sharing expert practice through systematic coaching and mentoring.

The key responsibility of every teacher is quality teaching and learning every lesson.

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, our whole school **Teaching and Learning Framework – PRSHS Learning Design**, is being embedded throughout the school. It incorporates a strong focus on:

- Explicit instruction so that students are fully aware of the learning goals and what they need to do to succeed and crucial skills are unpacked and developed
- Strengthening student engagement in the learning and providing opportunities for students to practice and hone skills,
- Providing constant feedback to students so that they know where they are in the learning and what they need to do to improve,
- Differentiating the teaching and learning process to address the needs of individuals and groups of students
- Ensuring higher order thinking skills are incorporated in the learning to challenge and extend our young people.

The key responsibility of our students is to fully engage in their learning every lesson; in doing so they maximise their future opportunities through strong social and academic learning outcomes.

Students need to:

- attend school regularly,
- be on time to classes
- come ready to learn with all necessary equipment
- complete all homework and assessment
- participate fully in learning experiences and extra-curricular activities
- set individual learning goals and regularly reflect on their progress towards those goals
- actively contribute to a productive, dynamic and respectful learning environment.

Our **Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students** is designed to facilitate high standards of behaviour so that the learning and the teaching in our school can proceed without disruption

and our students can participate positively within our school community.

To foster a healthy and productive environment for every member of our community, our Code of Conduct (Learning Together Framework) has been collaboratively designed to focus on our key expectations:

We are here to learn

We are here to what is right

We are here to work together

The **Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students** is on our website and you would have received a copy on enrolment.

I have included the full version of the **Code of Conduct** and our **Learning Together Matrix** with this newsletter to ensure our whole school community has a shared understanding of our expectations.

The Education (Strengthening Discipline in State Schools) Amendment Bill 2013 was recently passed by the State Government. It provides more flexibility and autonomy around discipline decisions and bolsters the grounds for suspension and exclusion.

Changes include:

- Providing a wider range of strategies for dealing with misbehaviour;
- Providing for these strategies to be employed outside school hours;
- Expanding the number and variety of grounds for suspension and exclusion;
- Increasing the length of non-appealable suspensions to 10 days;

Our **Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students** will soon be adjusted to reflect these changes and a fact sheet detailing the changes will be sent to parents very soon.

Bullying – No Way!

It doesn't matter whether it's physical, psychological or even cyber. Bullying is a concern that our school takes very seriously.

Park Ridge State High School has a strong emphasis on whole school anti-bullying programs. Proactive programs have been incorporated into the curriculum in Years 8 to 10. A Safe Supportive School Group has been set up to case manage specific incidents.

All students have a right to a learning environment free from bullying and harassment of any kind, including racial, religious, and physical and sexual harassment. Bullying and harassment are regarded as serious breaches of the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students and may lead to exclusion.

All reports of bullying are systematically documented in an incident report which also records intervention and outcomes. This is aimed at ensuring that all reported incidents are fully investigated.

However, it is imperative that students who are feeling bullied tell someone. We are unable to take action if we are not made aware of a situation.

While students can report their concerns to any member of staff, Form teachers are a daily point of contact for students in years 8 to 10 and ENT teachers in years 11 and 12. Year Coordinators, the Guidance Officer, School Health Nurse, Youth Support Coordinator and year level Deputy Principals are all available to assist students in this area.

Parents are urged to contact the school if you have any concerns.

To assist parents and students in reporting incidents of bullying a dedicated email address has been set up so families can make report incidents at any time of day or night. The email address is report.bullying@parkridgeshs.eq.edu.au The emails will go directly to the principal and deputy principals.

Dress Code

As you are aware our school has a clearly outlined **Dress Code**. It is very pleasing to see how the vast majority of students are wearing the uniform correctly and I thank parents for ensuring students are properly equipped for school.

The uniform requirements are set out in the School Organiser. If your student is telling you that variations are acceptable and "everybody does it" it would be wise to phone one of the Deputy Principals to clarify the issue.

Shared Resource Hire Scheme

Thank you to the many parents who have already made payment to the **Shared Resource Hire Scheme** for 2012. Your prompt payment is appreciated. Families who are experiencing financial difficulties are urged to contact the Business Service Manager, Ms Cheryl Clegg, to set up a time payment arrangement.

Student Attendance

One of our priorities for 2014 is to maximise the level of student attendance. The link between student attendance, participation in lessons and improved educational outcomes is obvious to all. **Every student, Every lesson, Every Day** is a mantra you may hear often and it underpins our determination that learning is our core business and that we have high expectations of students.

A reminder that all **student absences from school**, including late arrivals and early departures must be explained by a parental note to the form teacher or a phone call to the school office. All students' absences that have not been explained by a note or phone call from parents are recorded as unexplained absences and will appear on student reports.

We will continue our practice of sending **text messages to parents'** mobile phones when a student is marked absent on the roll. Parents are requested to respond to the text message to explain the student's absence. Please be aware that if a student has come late to school and not followed the correct procedure of signing in at the office, a text message will be generated.

Our P&C Association Needs Support!

The P&C Association is a group of volunteers who offer their services to support our school. They are a vital part of our school community and contribute both to the welfare of students and the educational services provided at school.

Our P&C Association manages the Canteen and the Uniform shop. Conveners are employed for the day-to-day operations but the P&C oversees all policies and procedures.

The P&C Association meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm in the Admin Block. Meetings are concluded no later than 8:00 pm. The Annual General Meeting will be held on February 18.

All parents are cordially invited to come along. It is a great opportunity to really get to know staff and other parents and to contribute to school decision making.

Students do not have permission to visit the shopping centre on the eastern side of the highway.

Since the introduction of the Healthy Schools Program for school canteens there has been an increase in students buying junk food at the shops prior to school. This practice is clearly unhealthy but it is also a safety issue when the shops are located across the busy Mt Lindesay Highway.

We do not give permission for students to leave the school to go to the shops at any time during the day, including before and after school. The school's policy on this issue is made very clear to students on Year level Assemblies and through student notices.

If you have any questions about school policies or procedures please don't hesitate to contact the school office on ph. 33804111.

I look forward to a very productive and successful 2014 school year.

Kind regards

Valerie Hadgelias
Principal

Term Dates for 2014

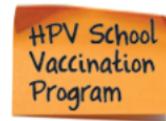
Term 1:	28 January – 4 April
Term 2:	22 April – 27 June
Term 3:	14 July – 19 September
Term 4:	7 October – 12 December

Swimming Carnival

It is that time of year again when we are all preparing for the swimming carnival. **It will be held on Wednesday 12th February at the Hibiscus Sports Complex, Klump Road, Upper Mount Gravatt.** The cost will be \$10 which includes entry to the pool and bus fee. Students attending are encouraged to wear their house colours to support their house. The Carnival is for competitors and non-competitors with some novelty events during the day so all students have an opportunity to get in the water. Students are advised to bring a

packed lunch, sunscreen, towel, water bottle etc. There will be a canteen facility available on the day. **Permission notes and payment need to be returned by Friday 7th February**

HPV School Vaccination Program



Vaccination clinics for Year 8 and Year 10 Students coming soon....

This year all **Year 8 and 10** students are eligible to receive free vaccinations as part of Queensland Health's annual School Based Vaccination Program.

Year 8 students are being offered vaccination to protect against:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Whooping Cough)
- Chickenpox
- Human Papillomavirus

Year 10 students are being offered vaccination to protect against:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Whooping Cough)
- Human Papillomavirus

The vaccinations will be conducted by a team of registered nurses specially trained in immunisation.

A consent form for each vaccine offered will be given to your child to bring home. Please note that no child will be vaccinated without parental consent. Please read the information carefully, sign the consent form irrespective of whether you wish your child to be vaccinated or not and return the consent form to the school as soon as possible.

Phase one for the immunisation program is scheduled for **12 March 2014**.

Parents are encouraged to ensure their children have breakfast on the morning of the vaccination.

For more information about this program please contact either your local **Public Health Unit or Logan City Council's Immunisation Unit** on **3412 5397** or immunisation@logan.qld.gov.au

IGNITE, IMEX and Year 11 and 12 laptop collection

Laptops are ready for **collection** on a **Monday, Wednesday and Friday** (these are the days that the laptop tech is at school) before school and during break times. You may collect your laptop from the **Tech room in Q-block**. Please note that it will take most students at least a day to have all of their paperwork processed so please try to bring the paperwork and your payment in ASAP.

Finally, please be advised that laptops are not available for collection from the Resource Centre. If you have any issues or concerns, please contact Mr. Thompson in O-block staffroom via phone 3380 4111 or email jthom814@eq.edu.au .

IGNITE Year 8-10 Wednesday Mentoring Program

Last year a number of students were invited to attend a mentoring program. This optional program is currently scheduled to take the place of Wednesday afternoon sport/lifeskills.

A permission note and more information will be sent out soon.

Dental Van News

The school dental van has extended their stay in the school until the Easter holidays. They will be sending home consent forms to students in Year 8, 9 and 10 in the coming weeks.

School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships

Welcome back to 2014!

It is pleasing to have had many parents and students already contact me about the various options that our program at Park Ridge State High School offers students.

Students who have enrolled at MSIT start their off campus courses.

Our Skills Tech students will be commencing next week.

Currently we have approximately 40 students attending an "off campus" course at MSIT or Skills Tech Campus and 13 School Based Trainee/Apprentices.

Congratulations to the following students who signed a School Based Apprenticeship of the school holidays:

- Rochelle Gough- Stephan Hairdressing
- Robert Pryer – All Trades Queensland
- Jade Frost Stoddarts – Engineering

Where are they Now

One of the biggest thrills a teacher can have is a visit from a past student. This week I was very proud, as I'm sure Mr Thompson (IT Teacher) was to have **Tyler Hansen** pop in on his RDO. Tyler graduated Year 12 last year, but not before securing a Full Time Traineeship, Cert 111 IT with Logan City Council (through Maxima). He absolutely loves it. Tyler has been given the responsibility of rolling out the new Windows 7 program on all of Logan City Councils computers and laptops. He may also have the opportunity to study a Diploma in IT through Logan City Council. Tyler came back to say "Thank you" for giving him the opportunity. Staff at Park Ridge work with students to provide as many opportunities as we can. However not all students take up the opportunity. As I said to Tyler, we showed him the pathway, he was the one who chose to make a go of it and impressed the employer. Therefore he was the one that gained the Traineeship through his dedication and commitment. Congratulations Tyler we are very proud of your achievements.

Also congratulations to **Samantha Bray** who graduated Year 12 last year. Sam studied Certificate III in Health Services at TAFE and was nominated for TAFE Student of the Year by Park Ridge State High. A very excited Samantha rang me last

week to say she had been advised she was one of the finalists in Queensland for TAFE Student of the Year. We wish her luck. Sam has now been given direct entry to TAFE to do her Diploma in Nursing.

Work Experience

Students in Year 11 and 12 have the opportunity to go off campus for 1 week, being the last week of term 2, 23rd to the 27th June and/or last week of term 3, 15th to the 19th September.

Employers seem reluctant to employ or even interview a student for a School Based or Full time position unless they have had work experience in that industry.

A student who may want to become an apprentice mechanic needs to have work experience in that area, prior to applying for a position. Work Experience has several advantages. It provides an opportunity for students to sample an industry they believe they are interested in working. If a student does not know what they are interested in, or has several thoughts such as maybe hairdressing, maybe child care, then they can try both and eliminate what they don't like. It's ok to try a work placement and decide it's not what they want. A work placement also provides a valuable section to their resume. It provides real life experience to a student and an insight into what to expect when they do leave school. Some placements have led to the student being offered a school based or a full time apprenticeship.

Over the next few weeks Year 11 and 12 students will be provided an opportunity to seek out employers they believe they would like to do work experience with. Students will have paperwork to complete after they have approached an employer. It's **VITAL** that students source their own placement, and make the most of their work experience. A regular complaint I receive from employers is the parent contacting the employer and therefore they believe if the student isn't committed enough to ring then the employer doesn't believe they would be committed enough in his business. Students need to be genuinely interested in doing work experience.

Dress code:

- Dress appropriate for that industry
- No phones, iPod etc.
- Being on time, not a clock watcher
- Prepare to do any task asked.

Please talk to your student about work experience. They have so much to gain and nothing to lose.

CURRENT VACANCY

Year 12 students

School based office administration - Certificate III Business with a local company in Hillcrest. Students who are interested should see me with their resume as soon as possible.

Wendy Howard

Work Education Transition Officer

New Child Dental Benefits Scheme

The new Federal Government's Child Dental Benefit Scheme commences on 1st January 2014. The Child Dental Benefit Scheme will provide eligible children with up to \$1000 in benefits for basic dental services, capped over two consecutive calendar years. A child is eligible for the CDBS if he or she is aged between 2 and 17 years for at least one day in the calendar year, is eligible for Medicare and receives or is part of a family receiving, a relevant Australian government payment such as Family Tax Benefit Part A.

Pathway into Griffith University Health Degree Programs

Griffith Biology provides an option for Year 11 and 12 students to commence a Griffith University course while studying Biology at their senior secondary school. This is a great opportunity to see what university can be like and successful completion of the course offers numerous benefits.

What is Griffith Biology for Year 11/12?

Griffith Biology is a two-year part-time university course which builds on participating schools' Senior Biology courses.

This course incorporates learning activities and experiences (e.g. tutorials and lectures) which value add to the existing secondary school subject and enables students to experience an integrated university course whilst completing their senior studies.

Benefits of successfully completing Griffith Biology

Certificate of Completion

Queensland students will receive a statement of their grades achieved on their Queensland Certificate of Education recorded as 2 units of Advanced Study.

Guaranteed Admission into selected health degree programs subject to:

University Credit (10 credit points of unspecified credit in place of a free-choice elective that will count towards the requirements of the following health degree programs)

For more information about this exciting program please see **Mr Bradford** in **O Block**,

Ross Bradford
Head of Department Science

Art News

2014 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.

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

- Junior Concert Band - Thursday morning
- Stage Band - Wednesday after school
- String Ensemble - Thursday after school
- Senior concert Band - Tuesday after school.



Our new parents will be welcomed into the program with an information evening on Monday 10th February.

Our talent show will run as normal at the end of term 1, rehearsals are in full swing with the night fast approaching. The show is set for Tuesday 1st April. Tickets will go on sale in the next few weeks and can be bought from the cash collection 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. There are many competitions and eisteddfod's planned for this year. The troupe has grown in numbers and Miss Doherty is choreographing many new routines to showcase at school events this year.

Park Ridge is presenting "43rd STREET", a full scale musical on Friday 13th and Saturday the 14th of June this year. The students have been cast and rehearsals have begun for the exciting venture.



As this is an expensive venture for the school to undertake I will be seeking sponsorship from local business and community to also contribute to the cost of costumes, sets and equipment. If you are aware of any business that would like to get involved please ask them to contact me. Mr Rob Emblen on 3800 4112 or email rembl1@eq.edu.au. We will have different categories of sponsorship.

- Level 1: One only - Major Sponsor - \$2000
Full naming rights "Name of the business – presents 43rd STREET"
10 Free tickets to the show valued at \$150
Business name, logo and communication details appearing prominently on all documentation – Newsletters, Local Paper, Program, Posters, Web Site, Interviews, etc.
- Level 2: Multiple opportunities - \$120
5 Free tickets to the show valued at \$75
Business name appearing on all documentation – Newsletters, Local Paper, Program, Posters, Web Site, Interviews, etc.

- Level 3: Multiple opportunities - \$50
2 Free tickets to the show valued at \$30
Your name appearing in the program as a supporter of "The Arts at Park Ridge".

We look forward to showcasing the talent that we have at Park Ridge State High School and appreciate the fabulous support "The Arts" receives from the wider community.

Rob Emblen
Head of Department The Arts



Year 11 and 12 Students Career Options

University of Queensland are running a special free Career That Shape the World Day for high school students on Wednesday 23 April at the Lt Lucia Campus.

UQ looks forward to welcoming students to their beautiful campus, and to delivering an event which will provide countless opportunities for students to learn, discover and engage.

If you are interested in going to this day as an individual (there is no school group going), register online at uq.edu.au/shapeyourworld. Complimentary morning and afternoon tea will be provided but you need to take your own lunch or buy it there.

Registrations close Friday 18 April, but places are limited so book early. If you have any questions about the day, email shapeyourworld@uq.edu.au

COMMUNITY NEWS



Browns Plains Rugby League Football Club
Grosvenor Park
5-55 Berkley Drive
Browns Plains



SIGN ON

1st & 2nd February, 2014
10am to 2pm

Juniors: Under 6 to Under 18
Seniors: Opens & Masters

Returning players need to contact the Club for new Junior League re-registering procedures

New and transferring Junior Players require a Birth Certificate or Passport
Under 6 Players must turn 5 before they can play

For further information phone -
Belinda: 0434 638 010
Beverley: 0406 746 191



Come Join Our Friendly Family Orientated Club

TEVIOT DOWNS SOCCER CLUB

SIGN ON 2014



Tuesday 4th & Thursday 6th

4.30pm til 6pm

Argyle Road, Greenbank

Free 8 week pre-season training program run by TOTAL FOOTBALL ACADEMY

PINK PANTHERS ALL GIRLS TEAM U14-15

REGISTER ONLINE & PAY AT FIRST TRAINING

Visit our website

www.tdsc.org.au

For Further Inquiries Contact

Registrar LINDA : 0412663502



Can Saver Plus assist you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Uani Edwards, your local Saver Plus Worker:

(07) 3441 3023 / 0431 076 012

or uani.edwards@benevolent.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in Logan by The Benevolent Society.
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.