From the Principal

Celebrations of Student Success

This time of year is always a busy and exciting time as we celebrate the fantastic efforts and achievements of our students. Last Friday I had the privilege of attending the Instrumental Music Awards Evening and it was fantastic. I hope you can join us at our Academic Awards Evening and the Sports Awards Evening next week. It is only fitting that we come together as a community to recognise our wonderful students.

Our preparations for Year 7 and 8 in 2015 continue. We are working on developing appropriate transition activities, personal development programs and learning programs. We are excited to be doing this important work. We are presently undertaking a recruitment process for a Head of Department, Junior Secondary for 2015.

Our Year 12 students will finish school on November 21 and some students start to feel mixed feelings about the end of school. Many say they can’t wait but emotions run high as the realisation of the end of school becomes a reality.

The Year 12 Formal is being held on Monday 17 November at Event Moda Portside. It promises to be a lovely evening. It is a great opportunity for parents and students to celebrate the finish of school and for staff to farewell them.

The final farewell to Year 12’s happens at the Graduation on Friday morning, 21 November. This is a bitter-sweet occasion when we farewell students who have made a wonderful contribution to our school community over the last five years. We will miss them! However, it is an exciting time as these fine young people step in to the future; a future filled with opportunity and promise. Our best wishes go with each and every student of the graduating class of 2014.

Student pranking cannot be tolerated. Despite all the efforts to afford students the opportunity to celebrate the end of school positively, some students feel that pranking is somehow okay. On occasion, we have been disappointed when a few students cause damage and disruption to the school in the last days of Year 12. It leaves a poor taste in the mouths of grounds staff, cleaners and teachers who have put so much effort into creating a positive environment. Year 12 students are asked to remain respectful and celebrate the end of Year 12 in a positive way.

Kind Regards
Valerie Hadgelias - PRINCIPAL

Year 12 Final Week Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17th Nov.</td>
<td>Pre - Formal</td>
<td>Attendance not required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18th Nov.</td>
<td>Post - Formal</td>
<td>Attendance not required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19th Nov.</td>
<td>9am – 11am Red Frogs Safe Holiday Workshop and BBQ 6.30pm Sports Awards Evening</td>
<td>All must Attend Only students involved in Awards evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 20th Nov.</td>
<td>6.30pm Academic Awards Evening</td>
<td>Only students involved in Awards evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21st Nov.</td>
<td>9am – 11.30 am Graduation Day</td>
<td>All must Attend</td>
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Final End of Year Procedures

With the last day of school for 2014 fast approaching, I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/caregivers and students to finalise their accounts and return all resources including books, laptops, musical instruments etc. Students who have any resources and accounts outstanding may not be permitted to participate in the Shared Resources Hiring Scheme or the One-to-One Laptop Scheme in 2015. The school magazine, which will be issued to Year 10 and 11s on Thursday 27 November and the Year 8 and 9’s on Friday 5 December, is also be withheld until accounts are finalised and all resources are returned to the school.

Students will be issued with a letter detailing what resources and accounts are outstanding. The cash collection window is open from Monday to Friday 8.00am to 12.00pm until Friday 5 December, 2014. Please be aware that NO PAYMENTS CAN BE RECEIVED OR PROCESSED AFTER THIS DATE. Payments may be made by the following options:

PAYING BY INTERNET BANKING: Direct Payment into School Bank Account (Please arrange this with your bank with the following details)
- School’s Bank Account Name is PARK RIDGE STATE HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL A/C
- BSB Number is 064-159 (Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Acacia Ridge)
- Account Number is 1000 0178

Please record STUDENT’S NAME in the details section so that your payment can be recorded correctly

PAYING BY PHONE: Payment by Credit Card Only
- Call the School on 3380 4111, Monday, to Friday between the hours of 8:00am and 12.00pm
- Please have this account and your credit card details with you when you call
- Accepted cards are VISA, Bankcard, MasterCard

PAYING BY MAIL: Payment by Credit Card Only
- Credit Card details completed on Payment Section
- Post to PARK RIDGE STATE HIGH SCHOOL, PO Box 893, PARK RIDGE Q 4125

PAYING IN PERSON: Payment by Credit Card, Debit Card, Cash only
- Payment can be made at the School Office, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 8.00am and 12.00pm
- EFTPOS facilities are available
- Credit Cards, Debit Cards (EFTPOS) and Cash are accepted

REMEMBRANCE DAY

The school honoured Remembrance Day this year as a community. Both teachers and students paid their respect in a whole school assembly on 11 November 2014. The service was a fitting tribute to the soldiers who have fought for our country. An overview of the assembly was as follows.

Cadet March, National Anthem, Acknowledgement of Country, Significance of Remembrance Day (School Captains), Poem – In Flanders Fields (School Vice Captains), Soldiers March Video, Power point of fallen, Last Post, 11.00am – Minute Silence, Awakening.

The student leadership team also sold poppies on the day and students and teachers bought a poppy to show their support. As school community we raised over $307 with all funds going to the RSL. (Returned Serviceman League)

Craig McBrien – HOD Health and Physical Education

FROM THE ARTS

On Saturday 1 November, Park Ridge State High School sent a team of over 50 students to the Suncorp Piazza at Southbank Parklands to compete in the premiere Hip Hop competition in Queensland. There were many other teams there from around Brisbane. The students choreographed much of the piece themselves and were assisted by some members of AOB, a professional Hip Hop Crew. They were also supported tirelessly by Ms Doherty. The students competed very well and did the school proud. They performed a high energy routine full of the latest flavour of steps extremely well. Ms Doherty was very proud of her dance students and the commitment they showed during the rehearsal process. Ms Doherty said it was a massive team effort.

Last Friday night, 7 November, the last Instrumental Music night for 2014 occurred in the Performing Arts building. The night was a huge success and showcased the fabulous musical talent we have here at Park Ridge. Our instrumental teachers Mr Purtle, Mr Fordor, Miss Ritzon and Mr Jenkins all conducted their respective bands with flair and the students responded to produce high quality entertainment. The venue was sold out and the audience left at the conclusion of the evening with the satisfaction that they had experienced a fabulous night’s entertainment. The popularity of these concerts is growing to such an extent that more nights like these will be on offer next year. Do yourself a favour and don’t miss out.
Exciting News from the English Department

Many people would be aware that the Australian author, Richard Flanagan, recently won the prestigious, Man Booker Prize for Fiction. However, what you may not realise, is that Park Ridge State High School also has its own budding authors. These talented English students composed short stories for the national Australian Write4Fun competition and their narratives were selected for publication in an upcoming book called The Text Generation. Congratulations to our successful writers: Heavenleigh Ayaad, Rebecca Durrant, Dylan McNamara, Claudia Melissari and Annika Grieve.

Who knows, today Write4Fun, tomorrow the Pulitzer!

Home Economics Update

It has been a busy and exciting term in the Home Economics Department.

Year 10 Food Studies students started the term with a group assignment where they had to organise and prepare a High Tea. Some of the standout dishes were smoked salmon blini, a watermelon frappe and strawberry mille feuille.

The Year 12 Hospitality class HST122A hosted a buffet lunch to celebrate the Melbourne Cup. On the menu was a roasted vegetable quiche, home-style lasagne, a variety of salads and hummingbird cake for dessert. Teachers and admin wore their fanciest fascinators and hats and competed in Fashions on the Field, with Mrs Armstrong taking out first place.
On Friday the 7 November, Year 12 Hospitality class HST122B ran a circus themed fundraiser to raise money for the Bravehearts’ Charity. Students prepared traditional circus style food including Dagwood dogs, toffee apples, giant freckles, rainbow cupcakes and spiders. In the sideshow alley the basketball shoot out was a popular attraction with ‘Pop a Balloon’ coming a close second. Students raised $300 for Bravehearts’ Charity, which is an awesome effort.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish the Year 12 Hospitality, Early Childhood and Home Economics’ students all the best for their future endeavours. It has been a great year and you will be missed.

AFL News

On 28 October, the AFL students finished the season with a novelty game against Beaudesert State High School at our school oval after school. The senior girls and senior boys’ team played an impressive game with teams coming out with nail biting wins. There were many great individual efforts however a special mention goes to Jorja Kelly for her outstanding goal scoring and Jarrod Fenton, Joshua Commons and Jordan Bonney for their hard work on the field. The great community support really inspired the players and both teams were happy to score wins in front of our loyal crowd. The helpers also did a fantastic job and we would like to thank them all for helping to make these days possible. The night was a really exceptional outcome and it showed great signs for next year.

We all look forward to a successful year in AFL in 2015 and are excited about our future

Jonah Martin and Nic Stiffel – Sports Leaders

Engineering Cadetship

Are you completing Year 12 in 2014, keen to do an Engineering degree but concerned about the costs? Our cadetship program will provide you with practical experience and a wage while you study! For more information click on the link below.

Airline Academy of Australia

An extraordinary aircraft maintenance engineering apprenticeship is in you reach! For more information click on the link below.

Community News

Karawatha State Forest

Since September, Brisbane City Council (BCC) fire trained staff and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services have responded to five arson events in Karawatha Forest. These responding fire staff are all at risk whilst trying to extinguish these bush fires. Park users in the reserve at the time of these fires are also at risk.

Karawatha Forest is a BCC managed bushland area approximately 900ha in size, located within the suburbs of Stretton, Karawatha, Berrinba and Drewvale. The forest borders Logan and is enjoyed by Logan and Brisbane residents alike. Residential properties, schools, churches and aged care facilities are direct neighbours of Karawatha Forest. All of these bushland neighbours are at risk by bush fires lit by arsonists.

Karawatha Forest contains over 320 native plant species and is an important refuge for over 200 species of wildlife including the highest diversity of frog species in Brisbane and a number of rare and threatened species. These animals are the silent victims of arson. Habitat trees are commonly lost after bushfires lit by arsonists.

BCC is working with Queensland Police Service and Crime Stoppers to apprehend people lighting fires in the reserve. If park users see people lighting fires they are urged to report it to ‘000’ (‘112’ from mobile phone) and then to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Importantly, if they come across an unmanned fire in the reserve they need to report it to ‘000’.

Swimming in the unused quarry at Karawatha Forest is an offence. The quarry area is dangerous due to unstable cliffs, submerged hazards and unknown water quality. Over the coming months Queensland Police will be conducting random visits to the quarry to remove unauthorised
swimmers and visitors that have breached the quarry fencing. Surveillance cameras will also be used throughout Karawatha Forest to monitor any illegal activities.

For further information on Karawatha Forest, contact Brisbane City Council on (07) 3403 8888

Anyone with information which could assist with this matter should contact Crime Stoppers anonymously via 1800 333 000 or crimestoppers.com.au 24hrs a day.

Crime Stoppers is a registered charity and community volunteer organisation working in partnership with the Queensland Police Service.

For all non-urgent police reporting or general police inquiries contact Policelink on 131 444 or Policelink.qld.gov.au 24hrs a day.