



Subscribe to Online Newsletter! <http://parkridgeshs.schoolzineneletters.com/subscribe>

17 February 2015

## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Park Ridge SHS: Expert Teachers: Confident Learners

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back the members of our school community for 2015.

This year we are continuing our focus on the learning environment and providing strong individualised opportunities for students to grow their potential and deepen their skills and understanding.

We are committed to raising expectations and valuing every learning day through a strong focus on; attendance, being on time to every class, having the right learning tools and being dressed for the professional learning day. We are also committed to providing a safe and supportive community environment through using supportive language, caring for each other and working consistently together.

### Our School Values:

We are here to learn!

We are here to do what is right!

We are here to work together!

### JS@PR. What's happening in our Junior Secondary School?

It has been a delight to welcome our new year 7 & 8 students this year, along with some very experienced Year 7 teachers who have joined our team. Walking into the junior secondary classrooms it is exciting to see a range of innovative and engaging approaches with students focused and determined to do their best.

At Park Ridge SHS our JS@PR students are immersed in our JS Signature practices that provide a very individual learning approach with strong feedback to both students and parents about where the student is in the learning. We are committed to a 'no- hands -up approach" that ensures that every student is provided with opportunities to problem solve and be involved in learning discussions.

Our Junior Secondary 'Meet the Parents' sausage sizzle was a wonderful opportunity to talk to our new families and to focus

together on the key initiatives for the Junior Secondary school this year. I would like to thank the tireless efforts of our Deputy Principal Mr Stuart Douglas and our newly appointed Acting HOD of Junior Secondary, Ms Karina Cole, for the work they invested in assuring the afternoon went well.

### Swimming Carnival

Last Wednesday our students and staff attended our annual swimming carnival. Students competed across all age levels with many of our students going through to the district championships. Both the swimmers and the students who supported the day as spectators, represented our school with pride and respect and a great day was had by all. We appreciate the efforts of our HPE department, along with our teachers who worked hard to ensure a very successful day for all.

### Student Senior Leadership

The Park Ridge SHS Student Senior Leadership Team went to camp on February 15 and 16 at Mt Tamborine. This is a time for our leadership team to build strong relationships and strategically plan for strong directions for the school in 2015. The team has 48 leaders across a range of areas, and we are very fortunate to have a very dedicated team this year. The leadership program not only develops the abilities of our students to collaboratively plan and drive essential initiative in our school, but also provides our students with a strong base for leadership responsibilities and approaches when they leave our school environment.

### Parent and Citizen Association

Tonight, February 17, is our first P&C for 2015. This is an opportunity for our parents and wider community to be a vital part of the decision making process in our school. We would like to extend an invitation to all of our parents and guardians to join us this year. We meet at 6:30pm in the conference room in the administrative building at Park Ridge SHS.

As a school community we are excited about the current directions we are taking to ensure that each and every one of our students are provided with a successful and engaging educational journey this year. We look forward to the possibilities that this year will bring to strengthen that vision.

**Sharon Amos - Acting Principal**

## MATHS NEWS

In 2015 Park Ridge SHS is once again using Maths Online to support the learning of all math classes from Year 7 to Year 12 Math C.



**Maths Online has been proven to raise student grades fast.**

- Students have the freedom to study without stress at home in their own time
- Students can learn Maths at their own pace - it's much easier.
- Students can pause, rewind or repeat a lesson until they really get it.
- Students will be more confident in class.
- Catch up on lessons missed or concepts the student didn't fully understand.
- Students can preview lessons at home before they see them at school.
- Gain understanding and confidence especially in areas where students struggled before.
- Complete worksheets and interactive questions to test student understanding.
- Students can access their results so that progress can easily be seen.
- Parents can engage with their children mathematically by watching animated instructions to help understand what students are learning in Maths.
- Above all, this really does work!

Your child's teacher will provide them with a login name and password. All they need do is go to [www.mathsonline.com.au](http://www.mathsonline.com.au) and log in. Teachers will set homework and additional extension activities. Students may also choose to find their own maths topics on which to work. Teachers and parents can monitor student progress and effort. Parent involvement and encouragement in the use of Maths Online is beneficial to student progress.

Math is a skill and like any skill, the only way to get better is through practice. Maths Online offers your child the opportunity to practice and enhance their skills, to better prepare them for academic success in the future.

The program will work on computers and most devices. If you have any questions please contact the either myself or your child's math teacher.

**Ian Clapham – Head of Department for Maths**

## FROM THE ARTS

Park Ridge State High School is preparing for a very exciting year in Arts and Culture. We continue to expand our music program with new ensembles being introduced to the weekly rehearsal calendar. Our dance troupe will meet twice a week with its increased numbers as well. All these are designed to provide our students with every possible opportunity to develop, to perform and to excel.

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

- Junior stage band – Tuesday Morning
- Stage Band - Tuesday afternoon
- Senior Concert Band - Wednesday afternoon
- Chamber Strings – Wednesday afternoon
- Junior Concert Band - Thursday morning
- String Ensemble - Thursday afternoon

Our new parents were welcomed into the program with an information evening on Monday 9th February and the junior music students will be enjoying a two day intensive workshop focusing on their chosen instruments. This workshop has been developed as a way of immersing the junior students into the program, enabling them to form bonds with the senior cohort and establishing some repertoire for them to perfect.

Our **Talent Show** will run as normal, rehearsals are in full swing with auditions fast approaching. The show is set for Friday 1st May. Tickets will go on sale in the next few weeks and can be bought from the Cashier's 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.

I wish everyone a fantastic beginning to the school year and I hope to see great involvement from our students and families in Arts and Culture in 2015. If anyone would like to contact me at any time this year regarding your son or daughter and their involvement in the extra-curricular activities, please feel free to contact me:

**Mr Rob Emblen** on **3800 4112** or email [rembl1@eq.edu.au](mailto:rembl1@eq.edu.au) .

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.



**Mr Rob Emblen - Head of Department The Arts**

## PLAYFUL RASCALS PLAYGROUP

The Year 12 Early Childhood class have been busy organising new and exciting activities for the 2015 Playgroup year. The students have been studying how children learn through play and identifying the focus areas of development for each activity. We also have some new themes to explore this year including 'At the Zoo', 'Under the Sea' and 'At the Circus'.

If you are a parent or carer who is looking to spend some fun and educational time with your child on a Wednesday morning, then Playful Rascals is the place for you. Come along

and enjoy the exciting activities such as play dough, painting, craft, storytelling and music. Playgroup runs on a Wednesday morning from 10:05-12:30 during the school term. The cost is \$3.00 per family each week and there is also an annual playgroup QLD fee.

If this sounds like something you and your child would enjoy, please contact **Mrs Alyssa Thompson - Early Childhood Teacher on 33804111** or e-mail [anorm41@eq.edu.au](mailto:anorm41@eq.edu.au).

**Mrs Alyssa Thompson - Early Childhood Teacher**

**PLAYFUL RASCALS**

**PLAYGROUP**

Come and join in the fun at Playful Rascals Playgroup. Held at Park Ridge State High School, the Playgroup is run by the year 12 Early Childhood class as part of their practical classwork. The students organise crafts, outdoor play, singing and story-telling for the children to enjoy.

**Playgroup resumes - Wednesday the 18th of February**





**Day:** Wednesday mornings (during the school term only)

**Time:** 10:05 am – 12:25pm

**Address:** Playgroup Room  
Park Ridge State High School  
Lancewood Street  
Park Ridge

**Cost:** \$3:00 per week and annual Playgroup QLD membership fee

**Contact:** Alyssa Thompson 07 3380 4111 or [anorm41@eq.edu.au](mailto:anorm41@eq.edu.au)

## Hello from our New School Nurse

Hello – my name is **Jennifer McKinnon** and I am the **School Based Youth Health Nurse** at Park Ridge State High School.

I do health promotional activities in the school and curriculum based classroom presentations for all year levels. I will be available for individual consultations with students every **Monday and Tuesday 8am-3.30pm and every second Wednesday 8am-3.30pm** to talk about anything that affects health and wellbeing. This covers a broad range of issues such as nutrition and exercise, mental health, sexual health and drug & alcohol concerns. All consultations are voluntary, confidential and free. Parents and other members of the Park Ridge school community are also very welcome to contact me during these hours if there are issues of a health nature with students that you would like to discuss, or for general information. Please call me directly on **3380 4172**

**Jennifer McKinnon – School Nurse**

## AFL Academy

It has been a wonderful start to the year for the AFL Academy. We have newly formed classes with our first ever Year 7 Academy class as well as extra girls and senior classes. Fitness

testing has been the priority early on and while not all students were happy with their results, some have come back fit and ready to go for the big year ahead. **Bailey Forge** ran an outstanding 14.1 on the beep test while close behind him was **Tai Waterman** on 13.7. Great work boys!

Our attention now turns to the Jonathan Brown Cup next week for the Year 7 and 8 boys. It will be their first chance to represent the Academy and I know they have been training hard to prepare. Good luck to the boys and **Mr Ashenden** and **Mr Boon** who will be coaching them.

**Derek Berry- Director of AFL**

## New Tabaco Legislation in Schools

### School information

The Queensland Government has passed amendments to the *Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act (1998)*, banning the use of smoking products, including tobacco and electronic cigarettes, in all enclosed and outdoor areas at state and non-state schools in Queensland—including primary, secondary and special education facilities—and for five metres beyond the boundary of school land.

The new laws take effect from 1 January 2015.

These laws offer further protection to the Queensland public—and in particular, children and young adults—from exposure to harmful environmental tobacco smoke.

Children's health is particularly affected by environmental tobacco smoke, with exposure increasing the risk of ear infections, respiratory illness and asthma.

The new laws apply at all times—during and after school hours, on weekends and during school holidays.

The five metre 'no smoking' buffer will ensure that smokers extinguish their smoking products well before they approach school land.

Smoking in motor vehicles where children under the age of 16 are present has been banned in Queensland since January 2010.

### School land is defined as:

- Land on which a state school provides education programs under the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*.
- Land on which a non-state school provides primary education, secondary education or special education under the *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2001*.
- Land on which a state or non-state school provides other educational facilities, instruction or activities, for example sport grounds. This includes land that is owned or leased by the school.

### Five metre buffer includes:

A five metre no-smoking area around the perimeter of the school, beyond the school land boundary; including all structures in this area, such as bus shelters and car parks.

### **Five meter buffer excludes:**

- Residential and business premises that share a boundary with the school grounds; meaning that if the land shares a boundary with a residential or business premises, the five meter buffer **does not** extend into this land.

### **Further information**

For information about Queensland's tobacco laws, contact 13 QGOV (13 74 68) or visit [www.qld.gov.au](http://www.qld.gov.au)

For information or support to quit smoking, call Quitline 13 QUIT (13 7848) or talk with your general practitioner or pharmacist.

## **Community News**

### **Park Ridge Cricket**

Park Ridge Cricket is looking for U16 Players to join our club. Train Tuesday night 6-7.30pm, Sunday is game day from 2-4.30pm in a T20 Competition.

Any players interested please contact Lewis Mills on 0413 656 058.

### **PARK RIDGE FOOTBALL CLUB SIGN ON 2015**

Hubner Park, Hubner Road, Park Ridge

#### **Self registration via My Football Club**

(you will still need to confirm with the Club before you are fully registered)

**Sign on:** Information and confirmation of registration  
Every Training Night: 6pm to 8pm

**Enquires to** Lenette 0427 301 319 or Mick 0411 864 937  
[mick@parkridgesoccer.net](mailto:mick@parkridgesoccer.net)

### **Teviot Downs Soccer Club**

Teviot Downs Soccer Club is still seeking under 12,13 & 14 boys and girls to fill vacant positions in their teams. Please contact Linda Perry at [registrar@tdsc.org.au](mailto:registrar@tdsc.org.au) or phone 0412683502 if you are interested in playing.