



14 - 30 Lancewood St
Park Ridge 4125 QLD

Website: <https://parkridgeshs.eq.edu.au>
Email: info@parkridgeshs.eq.edu.au
Phone: (07) 3380 4111
Fax: (07) 3380 4100

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31 March 2015

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

2 April	Interim reports posted home
2 April	Last day of Term 1
20 April	Term 2 commence – All students
25 April	ANZAC Day

From the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a very busy time for our school, with many reasons to celebrate the successes of our students and staff this term.

Our strong focus on attendance has ensured our school has met the average of 92% this term overall. One of the greatest gains in providing students with the opportunity to work at their full potential is a high level of attendance at school, for every school day, and for every lesson. Students feel more confident and less stressed when they have uninterrupted learning time, providing them with the opportunity to stay focused, organised and meet reasonable timelines. This also supports them to build good attendance habits for work and further study beyond the school environment.

This term, as a school, we have incorporated positive postcards home to students who have demonstrated our core values of learning, doing the right thing and working together, through our Learning Together package. This process allows for a closer connection with our families in the recognition of our students who are behaving well. Early next term we will celebrate every student who has achieved an A for effort and behaviour across 5 of their 6 subjects, and students will have the opportunity to win a voucher. A number of students will also be chosen for our first recognition breakfast and have the opportunity to invite a family member.

There have been many opportunities for our students to represent our school through specialty events, excursions and gala days. It was wonderful to see a number of our student's take a very important leadership role in hosting our Japanese students guest two weeks ago. It was also exciting to see the calibre of talent on display through our Instrumental Music Department. The Music Concert on Friday Night was

spectacular across all the ensembles and demonstrated the commitment of these students to excellence. I would also like to thank the staff that gave of their time and energy for all these events, without their support and dedication our students would not have these important opportunities.

Finally I would like to thank our parents and families for their ongoing support. Helping us to set high expectations for your child is at the heart of developing resilient, hard-working young citizens of tomorrow.

I wish our students, staff and families a very happy and safe Easter break and look forward to seeing you all in the new term.

Kind Regards

Sharon Amos- PRINCIPAL

Japanese Visit from Takefu High School, Fukui Prefecture, Japan

Park Ridge State High School had the opportunity to welcome a group of high school students from Japan for a two day visit on the 16 and 17 of March.

The group arrived on Monday morning with smiling faces and were soon introduced to their Park Ridge High buddies who showed them around the school. In light of the recent earthquake and tsunami in Japan, the students were keen to show their buddies their research about atomic energy and they managed to spark up some interesting conversations about earthquakes and tsunamis as well as the use of alternative energy here in Australia. They also participated in an experiment with Mr Bradford and his Science class where they measured the power of wind energy.

After a welcome morning tea, the Japanese students participated in some AFL training with the Park Ridge AFL excellence program students. After lunch they split into two groups; one made cookies in Hospitality with Mrs Thompson and the other went with their buddies to their own class.

Tuesday was another jam packed day for the Japanese students. They started with Art with Mrs Greenwood who helped them make a jigsaw puzzle mural. Each student could paint a piece and when put together formed a giant mural. This was followed by another split lesson where one group went to Hospitality to help Mrs Rai's Hospitality class make some food for the market stall.

After morning tea, the students were treated to a musical presentation hosted by Mr Purtle and Mr Biggs and acts from our talented singers and musicians. The Japanese students also got a chance to sing their school song for their buddies.

For lunch they had Subway, pizza and sushi. Presentations were made, certificates were handed out and gifts were exchanged with a few farewell tears followed by the final lesson of the day, Dance with Mrs Doherty. It was a great way to finish off a fun filled two days and we look forward to hosting another group in term 3.

A special thanks to all the buddies who displayed exemplary behaviour and outstanding hospitality



Pak Agus and Frau Dalle - Language teachers

AFL Academy News

Johnathon Brown Cup

On Friday 20 March, our Year 7 & 8 boys from the AFL Academy journeyed to Yeronga to take part in the annual Johnathon Brown Cup.

With first up match ups against perennial heavyweights Helensvale and PBC, the draw was unfavourable to both teams. After a slow start which resulted in losses to an impressive Helensvale team, both Mr Boon & Mr Ashenden's team showed great improvement in the PBC games.

With players beginning to grasp the fundamentals; ball movement and manning up were impressive, with Mr Ashenden's team going down on the last kick of the day.

Ethan Lennon and Stirling Mitchell starred as Mr. Boon's team jumped out of the blocks against Narangba in front of a large crowd on the main oval, all of the players rose to the occasion as the team romped away with a solid victory.

The momentum continued into Mr. Ashenden's team next match. They dominated from start to finish, well led by Jack Joyce-Armstrong and Austin Tarry. An inspirational physical cameo from equipment manager Brandon Haynes was a highlight of a dominant performance.

Finishing the day off on a positive note, Nate Colenso and Brandon Holamatu showed the skills and experience gained from playing in the Junior Boys team, combining well to run away with a wire to wire win over Sandgate.

The second week of the JB Cup is this Friday (27th March). If the boys can continue with the effort and application shown as the day progressed on Friday, they can have more success.

Mr Ashenden - Health and Physical Education Teacher

Round 1 Star Cup

On the 10 March our open girls, open boys and junior boys had their first game of the year. We travelled to Alexander Hills AFL Club, to play against our rivals Victoria Point State High School.

The open girls played the first game of the day, and came out firing. They set a strong tone for the other teams and had the first win, with a final score of 32-7. The girls totally dominated from start to finish. While we would like to give an individual mention, it was truly an outstanding team performance. Everyone gave a tremendous effort!

The next game was played by the junior boys, who were well led by **Riley Greene**. They also came out with an emphatic win of 88-1. **Dylan Schoemaker** and **Layton Reid** played exceptionally well and showed outstanding courage. A trademark of any Park Ridge Academy team.

The final game was the open boys. They started off strong kicking several goals in the first quarter. The boys played consistently well throughout the entire match, with a special mention to **Alex Sauer** and **Elijah Morgan** who really stepped up for the team. The final score was 45-9.

On behalf of the open girls and boys, we would like to congratulate the Year 10's and Year 11's playing in their first game in the open teams, we couldn't be more proud of the effort and determination.

Emma Thompson, Sarah Shuttlewood, Josh James and Jarrod Fenton -AFL Captains

Science News

How to do Science homework?

As a student it is important that you develop real understanding (i.e. transferring knowledge from short to long term memory) of the topics that you have studied in class. One way of achieving this is by engaging in regular study at home i.e. Homework.

When completing homework you should:

- **Revise the work introduced in class.** Revision involves more than just reading the material, it involves note-taking and testing yourself.
 - **Note-taking** may be in the form of bullet-points, diagrams, or summaries. It is important when note-taking that you look for main ideas and then write the notes in your own words.
 - To **test your understanding** complete the revision questions in your textbook or on worksheets (re-do the questions if they have already been completed in class).
- **Review the work completed in class.** It is important that you go back to any questions or tasks that you had difficulty with in class and try to identify where you went wrong. If you are still experiencing difficulty it is important that you approach your teacher and ask for their help.
- **Work on assessment tasks** (assignments and test preparation). For homework, make sure you put some extra effort into your assessment tasks and don't just try to rely on completing or preparing for

assessment during school time. Time spent working on assessment at home usually results on a higher grade.

- **Complete set homework tasks.** Your teacher may assign you a specific task to complete for homework. Tasks such as these are often checked by the teacher in the next lesson.
- **Extend your knowledge / skills.** Ask your teacher what you have to do to receive a higher grade on future assessment tasks. Apply this feedback when completing your homework. Further extend yourself by doing additional research on the topic you are currently learning about at school. Conduct your research using your textbook, the internet or books from a library.

For homework to be effective you should:

- have a regular routine and time
- develop a weekly homework planner
- have an area where you can learn without unnecessary distractions
- have a short break every 45 - 60 minutes
- follow up on comments made by teachers
- organise your time to manage your participation in physical, recreational and cultural activities, home obligations and part-time employment.

How much time should you devote to your Science homework?

- Year 7 could be up to but generally not more than 1 hour per week.
- Years 8, 9 and Year 10 could be up to but generally not more than 1½ hours per week.
- In the Senior Phase (Years 11 and 12) the amount of time devoted to homework will vary according to the student's learning needs. Homework could be up to but generally not more than 2 hours per science subject per week.

How parents can help their students with their homework:

- helping them to complete tasks by discussing key questions or directing them to resources
- encouraging them to organise their time and take responsibility for their learning
- encouraging them to read and to take an interest in and discuss current local, national and international events
- helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games, playing sport and engaging in other recreational activities
- contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework.

Mr Bradford – Head of Department Science

Community News

Come and Join the Fun These School Holidays with Football Mad & Complete Sports Conditioning!



Two Day Soccer Camp or Two Day Netball Camp

When: 7th & 8th April, 2015

Time: 830am-3pm **Where:** St Augustine's College

Cost: \$150 **Augustine Heights**

Coaches Current NPL and Representative (Former International) Level, Age/Ability Appropriate Coaching



Book NOW!

davidlawrencefitness.com.au

0404 082 770

david@davidlawrencefitness.com.au