11 August 2015

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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<td>31 July – 11 August</td>
<td>Japanese Students visit</td>
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<td>10 August</td>
<td>EKKA SHOW DAY HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>10 – 14 August</td>
<td>Instrumental Music Camp</td>
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<td>11 August</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>11 August</td>
<td>AFL State Finals</td>
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<td>3-4 September</td>
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Message from the Principal....

With the flu season upon us and the business of the middle of the year, it is easy to fall into poor attendance habits. Ensuring your child is at school is paramount to ensuring they have every opportunity to learn. Now is the time for students to become determined, capitalise on their strengths from semester one and build on areas of weakness. It is important to stay well rested, organised and healthy to work toward a successful outcome for 2015. If you are concerned about the learning journey of your child please do not hesitate to contact us and organise a meeting.

100% Attendance Week

To encourage students to get back on track, if your child has 100% attendance from 11 - 14 August, they will go into a draw for an iPad mini and a number of other exciting prizes.

Enrol your student for 2016 today....

We are now taking enrolments for 2016. Enrolling now will ensure that you have important information and are well prepared for your child’s journey at Park Ridge SHS. As a school we provide an individualised approach to learning and we are committed to providing your child with the best educational program for their needs. Our Junior Secondary Team will be visiting our local primary schools in the next few weeks to outline the programs and opportunities on offer. I encourage you to contact our office if you have any questions or to organise an enrolment meeting.

Excellence is an attitude, not an outcome. We look forward to working with our families in Semester 2.

Sharon Amos – Acting Principal

Critical Thinking in a University Setting

On Thursday 23 July, we were among fifteen lucky Year 11 students, alongside Mrs Munro and Mr Christensen, who went on an excursion to the University of Queensland with five other schools from the Logan District. The trip encouraged and informed students on important and relevant skills that we could apply to our QCS test for next year and taught us to step out of our comfort zone by participating in mixed groups, making new friends by the end of the day.

The day was split up into three sessions and we were divided into five different colour groups. Each session was based on critical thinking and incorporated skills such as clarity, accuracy and precision, as well as relevance and significance. In moving around to different groups and sessions, we gained a fascinating insight into university life, including a graduation ceremony that was taking place on the day. Our final session, while focusing on the importance of breadth, depth and fairness in our responses to sample questions, was particularly complex because we learned that these complex questions incorporated personal values, cultural perspectives and sometimes biased points of view. Throughout all sessions, we interacted with fellow peers, enjoyed healthy snacks and lunches and explored the university’s St. Lucia campus in our spare time.

Overall, the day was a really rewarding experience for us as it helped prepare for the QCS, respond to exams in a more critical way and apply critical thinking to our everyday lives. The day taught us to read between the lines and process information in a critical way. We are so appreciative of the lessons learned and will take a lot from this amazing experience.
fill gaps and entering as many events as possible, showing amazing school spirit.

It was amazing to see our parents coming out to support the students in their achievements for the day. We would also like to take the time to thank the HPE staff for helping on the days.

Ms Danielle Brentnell District Team Manager

From the Arts

On Friday 24 July, our talented instrumental music students performed in front of our largest audience yet. They were joined by Windsor Brass, Yugumbir and Park Ridge State School Senior Bands. The combined schools performance presented a broad range of music offered by the different ensembles, with solos by many of our talented musicians. The energy in the instrumental program is largely due to the hard work of the Instrumental Music teachers and the parent support group that do a lot of work behind the scenes to organise nights like these.

Some of our senior drama students were lucky enough to travel to the “Brisbane Powerhouse Theatre”, at New Farm last Friday 1 August to see the new Australian Play “SLAMMED”. Written by local playwright Steph Brooke Harper the students were treated to a fabulous performance, one which I’m sure will stay with them for a long time to come. Our senior students will be producing a written response, analysing the dramatic elements and conventions found in this groundbreaking new play.

On Monday 3 August our dance troupe made their way to the Logan Entertainment Centre to perform in the Beenleigh Dance Eisteddfod, against many other High Schools from around the region. Students performed very well and were rewarded with several positive comments from the adjudicator. They performed a total of eight routines ranging from Contemporary to Hip Hop to Bollywood.

We are very proud and appreciative of the hard work and dedication the students and Miss Doherty put towards the
Rob Emblen – HOD The Arts

School-based and Off Campus News

Off Campus courses available in 2016

Students in Year 10 or 11 this year who are interested in the construction, plumbing, electrical, automotive engineering, furniture making or any of the wet trades (bricklaying, plastering, painting, tiling) can now register an Expression of Interest for Off Campus courses next year.

These courses are held at Skills Tech, Acacia Ridge on one day a week for 12 months and accrue QCE points as well as a qualification.

Courses being offered are:

- Certificate I Plumbing
- Certificate II Electro-technology
- Certificate II Automotive Cylinder Head Reconditioning (Light Vehicle)
- Certificate II Automotive Cylinder Head recondition (Heavy Vehicle)
- Certificate I Construction
- Certificate I Construction Wet Trades (Bricklaying, plastering, painting, tiling)
- Certificate II Engineering (pathways)
- Certificate II Furniture Making

Please see Mrs Howard at the Office to register your Expression of Interest and for more information. Parents and students must be aware that they are responsible for transport to and from the course at Skills Tech, Acacia Ridge.

NIKITA BERNARD

Year 11 student Nikita Bernard is currently undertaking her Certificate III in Hospitality at a great Turkish Restaurant, Mado at Southbank. I recently had the pleasure of dining at Mado and as it was my first time at a Turkish restaurant, Nikita helped us to choose from the menu and gave us great service.

Staff were full of praise for Nikita on how great and mature she is. Before he knew who I was, the Manager gave me some great feedback. Well done, Nikita.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

One of the best parts of my job is catching up with former students from Park Ridge and seeing where life has taken them.

Recently I took my grandson along to Stefan’s and met up with Heather Cutts who is now a Senior Stylist at Stefan’s Carindale. Heather graduated from Park Ridge State High School in 2009 with an apprenticeship at Stefan’s. Since then she has earned herself trips to Hong Kong and this year went to Hawaii with Stefan’s. Congratulations on your achievements Heather.

Wendy Howard – Work Education Transition Officer

School Nurse

Just a quick reminder this week is Dental health Week!!

I challenge you to all look at the amount of sugary drinks you are consuming and reduce them this week.

1 CAN of coke is almost 10 teaspoons of sugar which is the amount of sugar you should be having over almost 2 days. No wonder dentists are so busy!!

Remember to all students and parents I am here every Tuesday and alternating Wednesdays and Thursdays for help with anything health related. Sexual health, mental health, relationships and personal or family problems etc; you can find me here in U08 and I’m always up for a chat.

Thanks

Hilary Wilson - School Based Youth Health Nurse
Welcome to the 2015 Aviation Careers Expo

The 2015 Aviation Careers Expo is back for its 15th year, offering aspiring aviation professionals the chance to get one step closer to their dream career in the sky! This year Aviation Australia are partnering with Defence Force Recruiting to host the event.

With over 2000 attendees last year, this year’s expo will offer non-stop action, with a unique experience offered to the general public to experience the adrenaline-fuelled world of aviation, including training demonstrations, seminars and a world class static aircraft display.

Aviation enthusiasts will be indulged in a rare and unique opportunity to get up close and personal with some of the most iconic aircraft in both the defence and aviation industries, with over 25 expected to be showcased on the tarmac. For aspiring pilots the sky is the limit, with two 737 simulators operating on the day and ready for take off to a destination of their choice.

With something for everyone, the Aviation Careers Expo is an event not to be missed. Click on the link to register your attendance

http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/expo/