27 May 2015

Principal’s Message

Congratulations to the students we recently recognised at our Celebrating Success Parades. Both the Junior and Senior Parades were extremely well attended by parents and families and it was pleasing to see such a good turn out to celebrate the hard work of our students from Term 1. It was also pleasing to see the work of our Year Level Advocates in running the Parades.

Well done also to our Year 7 and Year 9 for the way they approached the recent NAPLAN Days. Thank you also to the students and staff who helped to co-ordinate the breakfasts on each morning. Our Youth Support Coordinators Tristan and Sera did a great job in helping to ensure our students were well supported each morning and I know our teaching staff also worked hard to ensure our students were well prepared, well informed and able to give their best in each assessment.

It was pleasing during the last week to receive two letters congratulating our students for their performance in various settings during the term. The first was from one of our guests at the ANZAC Ceremonies who congratulated our students for helping him to realise that the youth of today are responsible, respectful leaders. Dr Peter Darben also took the time to congratulate the students from the school for their engagement at the Translational Research Institute. Our students were able to undertake advanced work in the high tech laboratory, and our students did a great job in promoting the high expectations and performance of Marsden State High School.

Well done to Leelana Fabila-Hicks who has just been accepted into the 2015 Harry Messel International Science School. Leelana will join 140 students from around the world for a two week full residential program of talks by world-renowned scientists, laboratory tours and hands on activities at the University of Sydney. This is a highly competitive selection process and we are very excited for Leelana. Well done.

Next week we also have four of our Year 10 students attending the QUT Wonders of Science Event. This is another outstanding opportunity for some of our highest performing students and I’ve no doubt they will do the school proud.

With our increase in student numbers in 2015 it is important to remind all students and families about safety on the way to and from school. Whilst the majority of our students are meeting our high expectations within the wider community, we have had a recent letter informing us of some unsafe behaviour on the roads around our school. All students need to ensure they are staying on the footpaths around our school and crossing at and with the lights.

Our Academic Coach started this week with our Senior Students. This new initiative is aimed at helping to ensure each student is well aware of their progress towards a QCE and if appropriate their optimal OP score. A designated staff member will continue to work with this student until graduation to help develop strategies leading to academic success. A special thanks to our Senior Schooling team who have been working overtime to ensure our staff and students are well informed and our processes are set up to assist our students to the best of our ability.

Keep an eye out for more information about next week’s special Free Dress Day organised by our School Captains. The day will have a Football Theme to coincide with the first State of Origin game so I’m looking forward to seeing many Queensland supporters showing their true colours.

Next Friday we will be hosting our second Marsden Apprenticeship Program (MAP) Industry Symposium. After the success of the first event I’ve no doubt this will be another great day for our school.

Finally, we are in the process of reviewing our new Timetable structure at Marsden SHS and looking for feedback from our parent group. We have a short survey to provide an opportunity for parents to contribute to the discussion available at this link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDY2252

The survey is brief (and should not take too much time), but does also have the opportunity to provide more detailed responses in the free text section if required.

Andrew Peach
Executive Principal
Senior Schooling Update

Academic Coaching

We are pleased to announce a new initiative being launched at Marsden State High School to support the academic achievement of our senior students. This term, Marsden State High School will begin a program of Academic Coaching for Year 12 students. From term three onwards, all Year 11 students will participate.

Academic Coaching at Marsden State High School aims to:

1. Ensure students are on the right academic pathway
2. Improve opportunities for students to openly discuss their academic performance
3. Build student confidence and a positive attitude towards improved learning outcomes
4. Provide students with informative data to assist them in achieving their academic or learning goals
5. Motivate and engage students in a process which maximises their potential so that they can achieve the best possible academic outcomes
6. Ensure that every student attains a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)
7. Ensure that students transition into a successful and relevant pathway after school

How does it work?

Students will be assigned an Academic Coach to monitor and support their academic progress this year. The Academic Coaching team will consist of dedicated Marsden State High School teaching staff including members of the Leadership Team. Each coach will work one on one with each student providing individualised feedback sessions that will build on each student’s personal strengths and areas for improvement whilst at the same time providing a realistic picture of how each student is tracking at that point in time.

Senior Student Leadership

Over the last three weeks, a group of successful applicants have participated in the FOCUS leadership program for young women. This is a program where students are paired with executive mentors and participate in work-shops at Price-waterhouse-coopers on Eagle Street Pier in Brisbane City. Congratulations to these students on being selected to participate in this fantastic program.

Engaging in the Curriculum

A restaurant review lesson in Year 12 English. Thanks Mrs Naidu!

Year 12 Students NOT on track to gain their QCE:

Our goal within Senior Schooling at Marsden SHS is to ensure every student maximises their future potential by exiting with a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) or Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA). If students are not on track to attain their QCE or their attendance is not in the green zone (above 85%) they will not be invited to attend the 2015 formal. All Year 12 students are aware of this and have been reminded of this at regular intervals. If you have any queries about QCE attainment or attendance tracking, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Megan Herbert – Senior Schooling Deputy Principal, Ms Kylie Steinhardt – Year 12 Senior Schooling Head of Department or Mr Sean Curtis – Year 11 Senior Schooling Head of Department.

Year 12 Biology Excursion
On Wednesday 29th April, a group of year 12 Biology students attended UQ’s Integrated Pathology Learning Centre (IPLC) at Herston and undertook activities involving pathology case studies, disease prevention & health promotion. After the morning workshop at IPLC, the students travelled to the Translational Research Institute (TRI) at Princess Alexandra Hospital, Woolloongabba to celebrate the International Day of Immunology 2015 and to participate in laboratory investigations. The highlight of the visit to TRI was attending a lecture on disease outbreak by cancer scientist, co-creator of the cervical cancer vaccine and 2006 Australian of the year, Professor Ian Frazer.

**Yolla Atmeh**  
**Biology Teacher**

Four year 11 Legal Studies students participated in the Youth Parliament held at Parliament House in Brisbane on Friday 1 May 2015.

The Youth Parliament was chaired by the Speaker of the Queensland Parliament along with other state Members of Parliament. Jericho-Jay Haylo (Attorney General), Isabella Heather (Member for Daintree) Neomai Malu (Member for Fitzroy) and Michelle Aziz (Member for Endeavour) introduced and debated a Bill for an Act to improve gender equity in Queensland, and to amend the Queensland Electoral Act 1992, the Payroll Tax Act 1971 and the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005.

The students did a wonderful job in representing the Marsden State High School community.

**Tony Le Couteur**  
**Senior Teacher – Humanities**

**ORIGIN ENERGY UNCOVERED**

On Thursday May 14, our Year 10 students, Adam Cue, James Godfrey, Liam Bryant and Jack Honey explored the offices of Origin Energy in Milton. Different employers from the company, told their ‘work journey stories’ to students from Marsden, Beenleigh and Springwood SHS.

They were impressed with the speakers who came from all different areas within the company like Matthew - Indigenous Advisor and Trainer, Kate - Pipeline Engineer, Altarf & Brent – IT, Kate – Communication Manager and Louise – Data and Document Manager.

The boys said this is what they all got out of the day:

- **Liam** - there are LOTS of different jobs out there and it’s time to start exploring
- **Adam** - there are opportunities
- **Jack** - You don’t always get what you want at the beginning but it can take you to more interesting, better places than you imagined
- **James** - You may not get the job you want at first, but the different pathways can lead to a perfect job.

It was a great motivational day and we were treated to a slap up lunch and morning tea as well!

**THE WORKERS:**

Recently, the following students have signed on for apprenticeships and traineeships:

- Daniella Eichner - Certificate III in Business
- Mitchell Peace - Certificate III in Hospitality
- Ned Hartz - Certificate III in Sport & Recreation
- Mathew Cogill - Cert III in Carpentry
- Courtney Johnson - Certificate III in Hospitality
- Cameron Andersen - Certificate III in Automotive Drivetrain Technology
- Nathan Bennett - Certificate III in Retail Operations
- Talysha Pedler - Certificate III in Retail Operations
- Phoebe Clark - Certificate III in Business
- Cody Watson - Certificate III in Tiling
- Che Palfreyman - Certificate III in Business
- Drew Clayton - Certificate III in Education Support
It should be noted that Cameron Anderson is the first ever Queensland (probably Australia, possibly the world) school based apprentice for Automotive Drivetrain Technology!

Well done all you amazing people!

Mrs Close
Industry Liaison Officer

Early Departures & Absences – Please notify us

Just a reminder to parents that apart from a family emergency, no student will be permitted to leave the school without prior written notice, so please ensure you provide a note or an email to advise us if your child will be leaving school early. The ladies in Student Foyer will then call you to confirm that they have received your notice. If your child will be away from school, please phone the attendance line on 3299 0555 then press ‘1’ to report your student absent or you can email to parents@mardsdenshs.eq.edu.au before 8am.

BACK TO SCHOOL 2016

Whilst starting back at school can be an exciting time, for many families it can be a struggle financially. Factor in the costs of keeping the kids entertained over the school holidays, Christmas, uniforms, shoes etc, and it can be a difficult time of year to find the money to cover all their back to school requirements.

You may not be aware that Schoolstuff.com.au has a solution for the ‘Back to School Blues’ by offering an easy Layby service. Simply contact one of our staff on (07)3391 7000 or email enquiries@schoolstuff.com.au and we can help you through setting up easy weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments to suit your circumstances. And remember, the sooner you start, the more credit you will accumulate to cover the cost of your booklist(s), so contact us today.

Careers, Universities and Pathways

Competitions

Fancy yourself as a filmmaker, animator or video game maker?

Registrations are now open for the 2015 Screen It competition. Screen It is Australia’s national moving image competition for school-aged students. This year the theme is ‘Change’. Entries close on 21 September 2015. For details, visit http://www.acmi.net.au/screenit.aspx. Talk to one of the school guidance officers about entering this competition.

Junior Authors Short Story Writing Contest

This international competition invites young authors up to 21 years of age to submit a story of up to 1,000 words. The competition has six categories based on age. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2015. Visit the website at http://laurathomascommunications.com/juniorauthorscontest/ for details.

My Story My Content short film competition

This competition is open to primary and secondary students. The theme for this year is ‘Movies Matter’. The short film can be of any genre (i.e. documentary, drama, horror, musical, sci-fi, etc.). Entries may be live-action, animation or a combination of both. Students may enter individually, in groups, as a class or as a whole school. Entries close on 10 August 2015. Find out more at http://mystorymycontent.com/.

Young Australian Art Awards

Students from primary and secondary schools are invited to participate in this competition. There are five art categories - Indigenous, drawing, painting, computer art and photography. The first step is to register and activate your login account. You then have until 2 October 2015 to prepare and upload your art work. Details about the competition can be found at http://www.youngatart.com.au/index.php.

Bond film competition

Bond University’s annual film competition, BUFTA, has opened for 2015. The competition gives Year 11 and 12 students a chance to win a full tuition scholarship to study the B Film and Television at Bond University. Aspiring film and television students are invited to enter short films of up to 10 minutes in length in a variety of categories including animation, comedy, documentary, drama, experimental and music video. The competition closing date is 7 October 2015. For more information, visit the BUFTA website at http://www.bufta.com.au/.

International Poetry Competition


The Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize

This competition, administered by the University of Southern Queensland, is open to established and emerging Australian poets. It closes on 29 May 2015. Visit http://www.usq.edu.au/bela/school-of-arts-and-communication/bruce-dawe-poetry-prize for more information.

COURSE AND INSTITUTION UPDATES

Accredited Psychology courses in Australia

To be eligible for registration as a psychologist in Australia, you must complete courses which are accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) and approved by the Psychology Board of Australia. You can access a list of accredited courses on the APAC website at https://www.psychologycouncil.org.au/ (click on ‘Search for courses in Australasia’ on the left hand menu).

Australian Catholic University (ACU) bonus points’ schemes

ACU has a number of bonus points’ schemes. Through these schemes eligible applicants are given bonus points when they apply through QTAC. ACU bonus points’ schemes include:
Subject bonus – under this scheme, applicants can be given up to five bonus points depending on their results in Year 12 subjects relevant to the course they are applying for. These bonus points are allocated automatically when applying through QTAC.

ACU Access – under the Schools Relationships Bonus, Campus Bonus and Regional Schools Bonus, applicants may receive up to five bonus points automatically through QTAC depending on their geographic location or school relationship with ACU.

Education Access Scheme – this is a QTAC scheme, which allocates bonus ranks based on educational disadvantage. Applicants apply for this scheme as part of their QTAC application.

Elite Athlete Bonus – under this scheme applicants who have demonstrated an elite level of sporting achievement can receive up to five bonus points. Applicants apply directly to ACU for this scheme.

Further information about these schemes can be found at https://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/alternative_entry/accessacu.

Elite Athlete Entry Schemes for students applying to university

Elite athlete programs recognise sporting excellence. Successful applicants have usually competed at state, national or international level in their chosen sport. While many universities are recognised as ‘Elite Athlete Friendly’ institutions and offer sports scholarships, the following universities offer entry bonuses to elite athletes.

- Australian Catholic University’s Elite Athlete Program http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/alternative_entry/elite_athlete_program
- Queensland University of Technology’s Elite Athlete Entry Program https://www.qut.edu.au/special-entry
- Griffith University’s Griffith Sports College http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffith-sports-college
- University of the Sunshine Coast’s Elite Athlete Bonus http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/how-do-i-apply/entry-pathways/access-usc-bonus-scheme

Events at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ)

Head Start Information Evening at the Fraser Coast Campus – Head Start is a program that provides senior students with an opportunity to experience university study while still at school. The information evening will be held on 19 May 2015. See https://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/event-search for more information.

Head Start Information Evening in Maryborough – This event will be held from 6 – 7.30 pm on Wednesday 20 May 2015. Visit https://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/event-search for details.

Study Options Evening at the Ipswich Campus – Explore the campus and study options available at this evening to be held from 5 – 7 pm on Thursday 21 May 2015. Find out more at https://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/event-search.

Life at USQ - Follow student blogs at https://usqedu.wordpress.com/ to learn about life as a student at USQ.

Experience QUT for international high school students

Year 12 international students interested in studying at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) are invited to attend this event from 10 am – 2.30 pm on 18 June 2015 at the Gardens Point campus. During the day you will experience interactive workshops, mock lectures, and tour the Gardens Point and Kelvin Grove campuses. Visit https://www.qut.edu.au/international/news/news?news-id=87575 for more information and to register to win an iPad Air 2.

News and reminders from Griffith University

Pathways to Medicine information evenings - Find out about how to gain entry to the Griffith medical course at these evenings to be held on 19 May 2015 at the South Bank campus and on 20 May 2015 at the Gold Coast campus. For details and registration go to http://www.griffith.edu.au/events/information-evenings.

Application for Audition forms for music courses at the Queensland Conservatorium – These forms must be lodged with the Conservatorium by 17 August 2015, in addition to lodging an application with QTAC by 30 September 2015. Visit http://www.griffith.edu.au/ (click on ‘Future Students’/’Degree finder’/’Music’/the course you are applying for).

Popular Music Experience Day - This program will be offered on 15, 16, 22 and 23 July 2015 at Griffith’s Gold Coast campus. Students can explore the B Popular Music degree program and participate in activities and talks with current students. Visit http://www.griffith.edu.au/music/popular-music/high-school-and-community-programs/school-experience-day for details and to view a video about the experience day. Interested students should contact their music teacher or guidance officer/counsellor about attending the event.

Musical theatre audition workshop - This workshop will be of interest to students in Years 11 and 12 who want to develop their audition skills for entry to Griffith’s Queensland Conservatorium Musical Theatre program. The workshop will be held from 6 - 10 July 2015. Visit http://www.griffith.edu.au/music/open-conservatorium/high-school-and-community-programs for more information and to register.

Tertiary preparation workshop for music students - This workshop is designed to prepare students for the theoretical and practical aspects of the music audition process. The workshop is from 29 June – 3 July 2015. For more information and to apply, go to http://www.griffith.edu.au/music/open-conservatorium/tertiary-preparation-workshop.

Griffith University Early Start to Tertiary Studies (GUESTS) - Students wishing to study a subject in Semester two through the GUEST program are required to apply by 30 May 2015.

**Meeting the Authority English prerequisite for Year 12s with a completed diploma** - In the past, Year 12 students could use the completion of a diploma to meet the Authority English prerequisite for Griffith courses. From 2015, Year 12 students who complete a diploma at school will still have to obtain a minimum of Sound Achievement in Authority English to meet this prerequisite.

**Cap on bonus ranks for entry to Griffith** - Students can obtain bonus ranks through a number of schemes when applying for courses at Griffith, e.g. Year 12 Subject Bonus Scheme. Regional preference schemes, QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme, the GUESTS program. However a cap of 10 bonus ranks is applied.

### NIDA short courses

The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) offers short courses in Brisbane during term time and school holidays. Visit [https://www.open.nida.edu.au/](https://www.open.nida.edu.au/) for a list of courses. Term courses, for all ages, start in May. These are popular courses that full up fast.

### Pathways to Art and Fashion at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

QUT Precincts will host free panel discussions for students in Years 10 – 12 who are interested in a career in visual art and/or fashion. The panels are made up of QUT graduates and lecturers who are available to answer questions. In 2015 the program will be taken on tour. Sessions will be held in the following locations:

- Pathways to Art - Redcliffe City Art Gallery, Tuesday 21 July, 6 pm
- Pathways to Art - Caboolture Regional Gallery, Wednesday 22 July, 6 pm
- Pathways to Art - Pine Rivers Regional Gallery, Thursday 23 July, 6 pm
- Pathways to Art - QUT Kelvin Grove Campus, Wednesday 5 August, 6 pm
- Pathways to Fashion - The Shed 2 (Z5-101), QUT Creative Industries Precinct, Kelvin Grove, Wednesday 19 August, 6 pm.


### Short courses at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

QUT Creative Industries offers short courses throughout the year. The courses are usually held in the evening or on weekends. The following courses may be of interest to Year 11 and 12 students. These courses commence in June 2015.

- Learn basic photography skills
- Beginning acting
- Fashion illustration for beginners
- Public speaking: making meaningful messages


### Study in Canada Night

The High Commission of Canada (Canberra) invites interested students, parents, teachers and career counsellors to a ‘Study in Canada’ information session. This event will be held from 3.30 – 5.30 pm on Thursday 4 June 2015 at the Theatrette, St Peters Lutheran College, 66 Harts Road, Indooroopilly. Please register for the presentation by 21 May 2015 at [https://eventbrite.com/event/16670540034/](https://eventbrite.com/event/16670540034/) You can read about some of the highlights of studying in Canada at [https://international.gc.ca](https://international.gc.ca) (click on ‘English’ and scroll down to ‘Study in Canada’). For more information about the information session, email studyincanada@international.gc.ca.

### The QIBT pathway to Griffith University

The Queensland Institute of Business and Technology (QIBT) offers full-fee diploma and associate degree courses that provide an alternative pathway into Griffith University undergraduate degrees. QIBT diploma courses are equivalent to the first year of a Griffith bachelor degree. QIBT has campuses in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast. Fields of study include:

- Commerce
- Biosciences
- Criminology and criminal justice
- Engineering
- Graphic design
- Hotel management
- Information technology
- Health sciences
- Health care
- Media and communication.

QIBT students can access financial assistance through FEE-HELP. Find out more about QIBT and its courses at [http://www.qibt.qld.edu.au/](http://www.qibt.qld.edu.au/).

### University experience at CQUniversity

Year 12 students are invited to this free, one day, on-campus event. It will be held on Friday 22 May 2015 at CQUniversity Bundaberg, CQUniversity Mackay Ooralea, and CQUniversity Rockhampton North. At the event, students can explore the campuses and their options for 2016. Registration forms can be downloaded at [https://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar](https://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar) (click on ‘University experience’).

### University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) events


Parent Information Evening – This event will be held on Thursday 2 July 2015 at the Sippy Downs campus. Register your attendance at http://www.usc.edu.au/connect/schools-and-parents.

Updates from the University of Queensland (UQ)
‘Taste of …’ at UQ’s School of Languages and Cultures – This program for students in Years 11 and 12 provides an insight into studying a language at university. In May there will be ‘Taste of’ events for Chinese, German and Japanese languages. View more information at http://languages-cultural.uq.edu.au/ (click on ‘Taste of…’ in the Events section). Talk to your language teacher about attending these events.

Inspire U Health Sciences Camp for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students - This free five-day residential camp to be held 28 June – 3 July 2015 is an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Years 11 and 12 to experience life on campus at UQ and find out more about health sciences. Applications are now open and will close on 5 June 2015. Visit http://www.atsis.uq.edu.au/inspireu-health for details.

2015 Young ICT Explorers: Register now - Young ICT Explorers is a free school technology challenge for Year 3 – 12 students. It’s an opportunity for students to create and showcase innovative information and communications technology related projects. Find out more at http://www.youngictexplorers.net.au/. The registration deadline is 26 June 2015.

Interaction Design Exhibit – This exhibition will be held on Wednesday 3 June 2015 at The Edge, State Library of Queensland, Brisbane. It will give you the opportunity to meet the new generation of interaction designers and discover the latest computing projects from UQ’s Multimedia and Interaction Design students. School groups and the public are invited to attend. Read about it at http://www.itee.uq.edu.au/interaction-design.

Pharmacy Experience Day – This event will be held on Sunday 23 August 2015 at UQ’s Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence (PACE) at Woolloongabba. On the day you will experience a day in the life of a UQ Pharmacy student, participate in hands-on activities, explore the centre and meet staff and current students. Find out more and register to attend at http://www.uq.edu.au/pharmacy/begin-your-career.

Ultimate Guide to Health Jobs - This is one of the resources on the UQ Health website. Other resources include ‘2016 Health Study Guide’, ‘Subject Selection: 6 steps to getting subject selection right’ and ‘School vs uni’. These resources can be accessed from http://health.uq.edu.au/undergraduate.

**QTAC AND TERTIARY ENTRY**

**Online resources for Year 12 parents**

Transitioning from high school to university can be a challenging journey for students and their parents. Several universities provide resources for parents to support them and their children through the transition. Some examples are:

- Australian Catholic University - ‘Parents’ information' https://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/future_students/parents_information
- Griffith University - ‘Parents' http://www.griffith.edu.au/future-students/parents?s=hp&p=gnav
- Queensland University of Technology - ‘Are you the parent of a school student’ https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/are-you-the-parent-of-a-school-student

**Year 12 post school folder**

Year 12 students are strongly advised to start a folder of information they will need later in the year and early next year. Keep this folder in your room at home and add to it during the year. Items that could be placed in this folder include:

- LUI and password for your Learning Account so you can access your Year 12 results early. You will also be required to know your LUI to complete your QTAC application.
- Tax File Number (TFN), which you will need to apply for a HELP loan next year. You also need a TFN if you want to be paid for a full-time or part-time job.
- The QTAC Guide, which you will receive in June
- Course, job and tertiary entry information you gather at career markets/expos, institution open days, TSXPO, etc.
- The list of courses you are considering (if you haven’t a clue, make an appointment to see your guidance counsellor/officer ASAP)
- Handouts on tertiary entry you are given at Year 12 assemblies, expos and lunchtime talks
- Information about available scholarships and tips for applying
- Additional qualifications you might wish to submit as part of your QTAC application
- Any other information related to your plans for 2016.

**STUDY TIPS**

**Expert tips on how to excel in Years 11 and 12**

The ‘What degree? Which university?’ website suggests that the following are expert tips to help you achieve your best in Years 11 and 12:

- Establish goals
- Use to-do lists
• Motivate yourself
• Take breaks
• Ask questions
• Do practice questions
• Use weekends effectively
• Listen in class
• Look after yourself.