**Principal’s Message**

Over the school holidays I had the opportunity to visit schools in China as a guest of Education Queensland International and QUT’s Confucius Institute. The trip enabled me to see both the difference and similarities across our two systems, while also experiencing the outstanding hospitality of our Chinese hosts. While there were a number of areas where the schools were very similar to our system, there were also a number of elements that I think would struggle to be implemented in Australia (I don’t think staff or students would be keen to start at 7.20am and finish at 9.00pm each day). I was also lucky enough to be able to spend time in Mrs Ding’s Year 8 Chinese class last term in preparation for the trip. It was great to see the engagement of students (and enthusiasm of Mrs Ding) in our Chinese class and I look forward to future opportunities for our staff and students through the ongoing contact we have with international schools.

Over the September school holidays, 160 high-achieving Year 11 students from across Queensland attended the QUT Vice-Chancellor’s Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) camp. Two Marsden State High School students, Jessica Loweke and Alosina Lealaitafea, were part of the 2015 cohort and represented our school with great pride.

The annual STEM camp provides these high-achieving students an opportunity to spend a full week in QUT’s state of the art facilities and work alongside leading researchers and academics. More than 320 students from across Queensland applied to the 2015 camp, which is fully-funded by QUT at no cost to successful applicants. The 160 accepted students were from 108 different schools and included 80 regional and coastal students from as far as Trinity Beach, Cairns and 80 local Brisbane students. Jessica has written a report of the camp for our Newsletter, and a reminder that the VC STEM camp will be held again next year in the second week of the September school holidays when a fresh group of STEM enthusiasts will engage in a variety of projects aimed at inspiring them to become the world’s future problem-solvers. So, 2015 Grade 10 students – get ready!

In what was an exceptionally busy holiday period for Marsden State High School, our MCT Dance Crew were crowned National Champions at the Dancelife Championships in Sydney. Congratulations to the hardworking students (and parents and staff) who helped to ensure this happened through their dedication and commitment through Term 3. As a school community the support for the group has been outstanding, with the Facebook post on our school page being seen by approximately 26 000 people. Thank you to Miss Turnbull for her work in helping to ensure the success of the team, and to Miss Fallon and Ms Johnson for their commitment to the team.

Our Basketball teams also had a busy holiday break, with the Open Boys team being crowned State Champions at the Queensland Schools Championships. The boys were undefeated during the championships and special mention must go to coach Mr Smith for his work in helping to prepare the team and Mr Proctor for his ongoing dedication to the Basketball Excellence Program at Marsden SHS.

Our Touch Excellence Program also had great success at their recent All School’s Carnival. The 13 Years Girls were outstanding in reaching the Grand Final, while the Open Boys also made the Finals series after a strong showing over the qualifying stages. The All Schools Carnival is the biggest schools touch carnival in the world with over 360 teams and more than 3500 students involved. Congratulations to the 13 Years Girls coach Ms Mulcahy, our dedicated coaching team of Mrs Curtis and Mr Hammond and Touch Excellence Co-ordinator Miss Ward for their excellent work with our students.

One of the pleasing outcomes from the success of our MCT Dance Crew, our Basketball Excellence teams and our Touch Excellence teams has been the positive feedback regarding the behaviour and attitude of our students. Whilst successful outcomes are always a good measure of performance, the fact I have received multiple messages about the mature and respectful manner our students have gone about their work reinforces the fact that our staff and students are on the right track with the dedication they show to the work.

A reminder that our 2016 Enrolment processes are well underway. Our next Enrolment Night for 2016 Yr 7 students will be held from 4pm to 6pm on the 21st October in X Block, with our Transition Day on the 1st of December from 9am to 1.45pm.
Finally, this term will provide a great chance to celebrate the success of 2015, with a particular focus on our Graduating Yr 12 cohort. As a school we place great emphasis on ensuring our students are well supported in reaching their academic goals, and term four provides a great opportunity to finish the year successfully. I look forward to our upcoming Excellence Awards Night, Sports Awards, Graduation and Senior Formal, and have no doubt our students are working hard to participate in these great events.

Andrew Peach
Executive Principal

Qparents is here

Our school now has QParents. Parents should have received an invitation email or letter by now and it’s great to see that so many parents have registered already.

If you have not received an invitation, please advise us immediately.

Over time, QParents will become an integral part of how we communicate with parents. Get on board now to enjoy the ease and convenience that QParents offers.

Senior Indigenous Students

The start of term brings a lot of excitement for senior indigenous students. We have already attended Deadly Futures Careers Expo in week 1 and Students for Success Indigenous University Experience Program in week 2, with both events running a wonderful success.

At Deadly futures year 10, 11 and 12 indigenous students spent the day networking and liaising with industry professionals and training providers. This event allowed students the opportunity to explore their options gain a broader understanding of their future planning opportunities. The event also had focus on culture and sharing of culture, some of our more talented senior boys jumped up to shake a leg and made Marsden SHS very proud.

Students for Success Indigenous University Experience Program was held over two days where senior school participants learnt what to expect at university, about what support is available to them, and they got the opportunity to experience university life with a taste test tour of three of the Griffith University campuses. All students benefitted from the event and gained some wonderful career advice.

Science day

Year 11 Science in Practice students presenting science demonstrations to students at a Science day held at Waterford West SS in the last week of Term 3.

The students involved were, James Isbel, Eleanor Mika, Jake Robinson, Cameron Power.

Touch Excellence Dominates All Schools

The All Schools Championships was held from Wednesday 7th to Sunday 11th October with over 1300 games being played over the 5 day tournament. The Marsden SHS teams did extremely well with the Open Boys and 13 Girls making the Finals series on Sunday. Unfortunately, the Open Boys were knocked out in the Top 16 play offs, but the 13 Girls continued to win games and progress. It was a big day for the girls, playing four games on the final day. The girls played extremely well, and with only 45 minutes to recover from their semi-final before heading into the Grand Final, they pushed hard but unfortunately went down to Chancellor. The 13 Girls Marsden SHS Touch Excellence team finished 2nd in Queensland.

Congratulations to everyone involved! A special mention goes out to Sara Curtis (Open Girls coach), Shane Hammond (Open Boys coach), Rebecca Ward (15 Girls coach) and Megan Mulcahy (13 Girls coach) for their commitment and effort over the past year. These coaches trained their teams numerous times per week, giving up their time to ensure their teams were prepared for the tournament. Thank you to our referees Kitia Strong and Randall Arnold for representing our school extremely well throughout the tournament.

Please congratulate the following students from the 13 Girls team if you see them around the school:

Josephine Lifu-Bray
Kiara Sellers
Indee Brown
Angie Wells
Keisharn Hala
Tahmika Tomorae
Stacey Jane Dudley
Hazel Dudley
Pare Tapsell
Keilee Joseph
Mary Nanai
Courtney Lockwood
Janeita Pokipoki

A big thank you to Jacob from Struddys, Bec Ward from the Touch Program and Michelle and the P&C for for getting behind a great cause in sponsoring the boys with hats for All Schools to promote their #MTC ‘mates talk change’ campaign around promoting good mental health. The hats provided the boys with an excellent opportunity to talk about changing the stigma
around mental health. They will be launching their campaign at the upcoming Sports Awards evening.

Queensland Basketball Championships

The biggest weekend on the Basketball Excellence calendar is the Queensland Schools State Championships with over 100 schools competing. Marsden had the opportunity to send 24 students and six staff to represent the school at the Queensland Basketball State Championships.

The tournament was a huge success with both teams greatly surpassing expectations. It took 9 months of hard work, but the end result was very worthwhile. I was impressed with the pride, effort, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship shown by every single Marsden student throughout the entire tournament.

The girls had an incredible tournament. With half the team grade 9 or younger this was meant to be a rebuilding year, a year for developing players. Instead the girls nearly won their pool, and advanced to play for the top eight in the tournament. Facing tough opposition the girls secured 6th place losing only two games the whole tournament. An outstanding overall achievement! Hopefully with some age, experience, and growth we can go even better in 2016.

The girls were led by graduating Seniors Shelby Morrison and Emily Hodgson. Shelby, the team captain, led by example throughout the tournament. She was the fifth highest scoring player in the tournament, but more important than her offense was her aggressive defence constantly sacrificing her body to make a key play and doing everything she could to help the team. Emily worked so hard all tournament, despite only have one healthy ankle, which by the final game could do no more, a real gutsy effort. Girls after 4 and 3 years respectively of representing Marsden at the highest level you will be missed next year.

The year 11’s of Rachael Pau, Marynati Faatuga, Mary Pulu, and Corilee Pita contributed aggressive defence and a key scoring punch. Rachael was a rock in the middle, scoring rebounding and defending, she did it all. Marynati provided a constant source of energy, challenging the opposition on both the offensive and defensive end. While Mary and Corilee both provided outstanding defence and very timely offence. It will be up to you ladies to lead us next year.

Our future looks strong with the year 9’s Tere Ben and Mikayla Laloli and the year 7’s Lyvant’E Su’Emai, Grace Po Ching, Aaria Tapsell and Leec Ikita. Leec and Tere stepped up huge in the tournament with both finishing the tournament as starters. Grace and Lyvant’E showed age, size and experience did not matter as they battled in the paint against girls 5 and 6 years older with incredible guts and tenacity. While Aaria and Mikayla both continued to develop throughout the tournament, adding energy and enthusiasm whenever they took the court. This group is going to be a formidable team for years to come!

IF the girls team success was incredible then the boys was truly spectacular, the boys were undefeated all tournament long and came away with Victory in the gold medal game. A truly awesome job boys!

Marsden was led by four key players. Tournament MVP Romaine Tavete did everything a coach could ask for, played incredible defence, rebounded, ran the floor, and lead the team in scoring in the final. Paul Toalpeai led the team in scoring throughout the tournament scoring over 21 points per game. Clayton Po Ching struggled early with foul trouble but by semi-finals and finals played nearly every minute, giving the team incredible efforts on every single play and outstanding individual defence. Jalen Tangitii-Turner was the only team member to play every minute of the final, his speed, leadership, and relentless attacking meant the opposition never had a chance to recover from the Marsden onslaught.

Travis Muavae seemed to find a real groove on offense, especially on the fast break, always challenging any defenders too lazy to get back on defence and finding ways to score key points. Jayden Newton always offered a steadying presence when on the court he was definition of a team player throughout the tournament.

While the future looks very bright for the boys as well, especially considering both Josh Hunt and Hunter Fogarty are only year 9. Both plays developed very well over the course of the tournament, struggling at times against their much older opposition but never for lack of effort, they are the future of this team and I can’t wait to see them develop even more over the next year.

The success of both teams could not have been accomplished without all the efforts of the basketball staff through the tournament and throughout the year. Thanks for all the after school practices, the early mornings and late afternoons, the discussions of support and encouragement and everything else you do that I could not possibly fit into one article.

Thanks to Brendan Growden, Deymion Spiros, and Mitchell Thomas for all your efforts in developing the future basketballers that will represent Marsden in the years to come in your excellence classes. Thanks to Roni Hippolite and Andre Clark for your tireless hours managing the teams from 7:30 in the morning to 10 at night, helping in more ways than I can possibly count. To Clayton Smith and Sarah Cames for all the hours spent planning, running practices and doing everything a coach can to help our student athletes.

I would also like to thank our sponsors, Dan from Marsden Subway, Struddys Sports and the Marsden P&C, without your financial support competing at the state championships would be nothing more than a dream.

From myself and all the members of the Marsden Basketball Excellence Program - Congratulations to all our athletes, you really represented Marsden with Pride and Enthusiasm all weekend long!

Mr Geoff Procter
Basketball Coordinator
Magpies and Makos Cup

On Wednesday 14 October, close to 200 Primary school students from around Logan participated in the Magpies and Makos Cup – a Primary school rugby league carnival played at Marsden SHS and run primarily by the senior rugby league students and assisted by the rugby league staff. Some outstanding rugby league was played and Marsden SHS was promoted in a very positive light with a number of students from the Primary schools convinced to attend our school next year based on their experience on this day. I will leave the congratulations to the students and staff who helped organise the event to one of the Primary school teachers who asked me to pass on the following message:

“Just wanted to say thanks for putting on the tournament again. It is always well run and a pleasure to participate in. Our students look forward to attending each year and always have a great time. A big thank you as well to all the student referees and helpers who did a great job and were very supportive.”

Well done to all involved.

Kevin Stephensen
Senior Rugby League Coordinator

QUT STEM camp 2015

Jessica Loweke, attendee of the QUT STEM camp 2015

What we did throughout the week

The week consisted of a wide variety of different learning opportunities, including:

- Lectures
- Interactive scenario teamwork competition (Health fusion challenge)
- Project work
- Science show
- Social dinner with the Vice Chancellor
- Movie night in the Cube

The project groups

- 3D printing body parts (Biology, Medical Physics, Mathematics, Engineering) My Group
- Robotic surgeons (Maths, Engineering)
- Sourcing solar (Physics, Engineering)
- A sensitive investigation (Chemistry)
- Catch me if you can (Math Engineering)
- A cold case (Forensic sciences, Chemistry)
- Crops of the future (Biology, Chemistry)
- Engineering enirofuels (Biology, Chemistry, Math, Engineering)
- Fruitful robotic horticulture (Engineering, Maths)
- Encapsulating precision (Medical chemistry, Maths)

A summary of 3D printing

In the near future, custom functional replacement body parts will be ‘3D printed’ to the specific needs of the patient and use their own cells. Revolutionising clinical treatment of serious injury, trauma, and organ replacement.

3D models of the required organ or tissue will be produced using advanced computer algorithms and be based on CT or MRI scans of the patient. Next-generation polymer/bio-ink 3D printers will make mechanically robust replacement parts layer-by-layer; carefully placing cells into the required locations within a micro-fibre polymer scaffold. The completed tissue or organ construct will then be surgically placed into the patient, restoring function.

The research team introduced us students to advanced 3D MRI imaging techniques and developed morphologically accurate 3D models of hypothetical replacement tissue constructs. We then designed optimal internal micro-architectures of biodegradable polymer scaffolds to support and guide tissue growth.

We then make a real, physical model of our designs in QUT’s Biofabrication labs and imaged using 3D micro-computed tomography. Lastly, we were introduced to a wide range of tissue and cell characterisation techniques in the histology lab at the QUT Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation.

Overall, this camp was highly educational, interesting and a great learning experience as it featured a wide variety of different hands on activities and academic lectures conducted by members of the current biofabrication research team and world renowned experts of different areas of STEM. I would highly recommend taking part in this great opportunity that can lead to careers of STEM in the future.
Congratulations to Taylor Coward!

Congratulations to Taylor Coward who has been selected in the Australian 16 Girl's Futsal Team. Her performance at the National Futsal Championships was exceptional and has been offered a position on the team, to travel to USA, to take part in the USA Nationals in July 2016. What an amazing achievement and opportunity. Well done Taylor!

In Term 3, the EAL/D students participated in a variety of engaging learning experiences. As part of NAIDOC Week, the EALD and Indigenous students took part in an Art workshop and created beautiful artworks together, which was a wonderful example of cross-cultural collaboration. The EAL/D class went on an excursion to the Planetarium where they learned about the Solar System as part of their Science unit, and they also visited the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Garden and Lookout. The students were involved in the ongoing garden development, incorporating literacy and numeracy skills from Maths, Science, English and Geography. For National Science Week, Mr Peach visited the class and gave an interesting presentation to the class.

Ms Lisa Mahoney Beltran, Ms Robyn Luscombe, Ms Eula Arthur and Ms Desiree Arthur would like to acknowledge the great efforts, enthusiasm, passion to learn and hard work of the students in Term 3.

ARTS SHOWCASE 2015

After months of preparation, Arts Showcase is finally here! TICKETS ARE SELLING FAST!

On Friday 30th October, Marsden State High School will present its annual Arts Showcase for the 8th year running. This year, Arts Showcase will be themed, “It’s a Small World” and will take us on a trip across the world! Showcase will again be held at Logan Entertainment Centre and include Drama, Music, Dance, Visual Arts, Media, as well as this year’s addition of cheerleading. Visual Arts will begin at 6pm, with the show running from 7 – 10pm. Tickets are on sale NOW! Adults and children can purchase their tickets online through the Logan Entertainment Centre website.
Have you experienced difficult circumstances during Year 11/12 that have negatively affected your final results?

(For example, long term or recurrent illness or disability where School based Special Provisions has not been able to provide sufficient compensation for your circumstances)

If so, please read on:

**Educational Access Scheme**

**Reminder for Year 12 students and parents:**

**Financial Assistance & Scholarships**

**Have you experienced difficult circumstances during Year 11/12 that have negatively affected your final results?**

If so, please read on:

QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme (EAS) is one of the ways in which tertiary institutions help applicants who have experienced difficult circumstances that have negatively impacted on their studies. This form of special consideration (EAS) has been explained in several Year 12 briefings and in the recent Term 4 letter to parents. All students were given an EAS brochure with their QTAC Guide early in Term 3. If you are eligible for EAS, you may get bonus ranks that improve your chances of getting a QTAC offer. An application for EAS should be considered if you have experienced circumstances that have affected your ability to achieve to your full potential.

There are five categories of EAS:

- Financial Hardship
- Home Environment and Responsibilities
- English Language Difficulty
- Personal Illness and Disability
- Educational Disruption

**To apply for EAS:**

1. After indicating your intention to apply for EAS in your online QTAC application, print off the relevant EAS cover sheet. A cover sheet is a form that you fill out and attach to your supporting documentation.
2. Cover sheets (and further information) for the relevant category can also be obtained here: qtac.edu.au/applications/application-resources/assistance-schemes/educational-access-scheme
3. Collect and prepare required documentation - EAS is an evidence-based scheme and it is your responsibility to provide the supporting documentation to ensure that your EAS application is assessed.
4. Complete the form with a clear summary of your circumstances and how your study was affected, as appropriate for any category under which you are applying.
5. You may wish to consult Ms Bothma, School Counsellor or your Head of House for assistance with this part of the application, as appropriate.
6. If applying for the Educational Disruption, Personal Illness and Disability or English Language Difficulty categories, you need to have the School fill out a section of the cover sheet. Bring this page to me for completion as soon as possible and before the end of Term 4.

**NOTE:**

Monday 30 November 2015 is the final date for submission of EAS applications and all supporting documentation to QTAC for the January 2016 offer round.

**BHP Billiton Tertiary Scholarships**

The BMA Community Scholarship Program and the BMA Indigenous Scholarship Program were developed in partnership with CQUniversity to address skill shortages in the Bowen Basin region. While the key study areas for these scholarships includes medical science and nursing, allied health, business and education, applications are encouraged from prospective students wishing to study in any area which is not mining or engineering related. The scholarship value is approximately $20,000. Applications close on 1 November 2015. Visit https://www.cqu.edu.au/courses-and-programs/scholarships for details.

**Charlie Bell Scholarship for Future Leaders**

This scholarship is offered by McDonalds. The scholarship provides up to $15,000 towards 2016 tuition fees. Employees and non-employees of McDonalds can apply for this scholarship. Applications close on Monday 2 November 2015. For more information and to apply, https://mcdonalds.com.au/charlie-bell-scholarship.

**Endeavour College of Natural Health’s School Leaver Scholarship Program**

This scholarship program is for secondary school leavers seeking a career in the natural health and wellness sector. Full year scholarships for tuition fees are offered for the B Health Science programs in Naturopathy, Nutritional and Dietetic Medicine, Acupuncture, Myotherapy, and the online B Complementary Medicine. Applications close on 30 November 2015. Visit http://www.endeavour.edu.au/scholarships for more information.

**Engineering scholarship at CQUniversity Bundaberg**

The Bundaberg Regional Council will be providing one scholarship to the value of $19,200 to assist a student undertaking full-time study in 2016 in the B Engineering Co-Op (Civil Program) or B Engineering Co-Op / Diploma of Professional Practice (Engineering) Course at CQUniversity Bundaberg Campus. See https://www.cqu.edu.au/courses-
and programs/scholarships/offerings/bundaberg-regional-council and http://www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/employment/1st-year-engineering-scholarship-cquni-bundaberg-06-10-15 for information. Interested students should ring the Bundaberg Regional Council to acquire the application date as there seems to be some confusion about this date on the websites.

Law relocation scholarships at the University of Tasmania (UTAS)

The UTAS Faculty of Law is offering $5,000 relocation scholarships to all eligible interstate students who choose to study law at UTAS commencing in Semester 1 2016. There is no requirement to complete an application for these scholarships. However, up until 31 October 2015, students are encouraged to apply online so that they can simultaneously apply for any other relevant scholarships. After 31 October 2015, eligible students will be automatically assessed for this scholarship during the university admission process. For more information, visit http://info.scholarships.utas.edu.au/AwardDetails.aspx?AwardId=532.

Miscellaneous scholarships at the Queensland University of Technology’s (QUT)

The Laurie Cowed Indigenous Scholarship – QUT’s Business School, through the Cowed Foundation, will offer this scholarship in 2016. Through this scholarship, a female Indigenous Australian will be provided with financial support to commence or continue their studies at QUT. Applications close on 1 December 2015. See https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships/scholarships-and-prizes/laurie-cowed-indigenous-scholarships-for-business-students for details.

Tim Fairfax AC Learning Potential Fund Scholarship – This scholarship is open to current and future domestic undergraduate students from regional, rural or remote areas who are struggling financially. Applicants can apply by 6 November to know the outcome by late December 2015 or apply by 5 February 2016 to know the outcome by early March 2016. Details can be accessed at https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships/scholarships-and-prizes/tim-fairfax-ac-learning-potential-fund-scholarships.

Law Founders’ Scholarship - This is available to first-year undergraduate law students who face financial hardship. Recipients of this scholarship receive approximately $10,000 towards the cost of their studies and a professional and/or academic mentor. The application closing date is 7 March 2016. See https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships/scholarships-and-prizes/qut-faculty-of-law-founders-scholarship for details.

SAE Creative Media Institute scholarships

SAE offers a Creative Media Scholarship and a Creative Indigenous Scholarship to outstanding creative media applicants. SAE scholarships are awarded to recognise creative talent coupled with academic excellence and outstanding leadership. Applications for the 2016 scholarships close on Friday 18 December 2015. SAE offers degree, diploma and certificate courses in the fields of Animation, Audio, Design, Film, Games, and Web and Mobile. For more information and to download the application form, visit http://sae.edu.au/admissions/scholarships.

Selected scholarship application due dates for October 2015

12 - Peggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme application due date http://www.acn.edu.au/phms
30 - Vision Australia Further Education Bursaries application due date http://www.visionaustralia.org/living-with-low-vision/learning-to-live-independently/further-education-support/vision-australia-further-education-bursary
30 - University of Southern Queensland Chancellors Scholarships application due date http://www.usq.edu.au/scholarships/usq/chancellor
30 - University of Southern Queensland Residential College Scholarships application due date http://www.usq.edu.au/scholarships/usq/usq-rural-residential
30 - University of Southern Queensland Elite Athletes Bursary application due date http://www.usq.edu.au/scholarships/usq/elite-athlete
31 - University of Queensland academic scholarships applications due date http://scholarships.uq.edu.au/
31 - Australian Veterans’ Children Assistance Trust (AVCAT) Scholarships and Bursaries applications due date http://www.avcat.org.au/
31 - University of Queensland (UQ) Sporting Scholarships applications close https://www.uqsport.com.au/content/uq-sporting-scholarships
31 – TAFE Queensland scholarship applications close http://scholarships.tafeqld.edu.au/#/qa_201

YOUR TEENAGER AND MENTAL HEALTH

A teenage mental health assessment is when a health professional tries to understand how your child’s mental health is affecting his/her quality of life. If you think your child has mental health issues, assessment is one step towards getting help and treatment if needed.

What is a teenage mental health assessment?

‘Assessment’ is just another word for an appointment, consultation or interview – or series of appointments – with a health professional such as a doctor, psychologist or counsellor.

A teenage mental health assessment is about your child and the health professional developing a good relationship, and the professional getting a good understanding of how your child sees the world and the problems he’s having.
Why your child might need a teenage mental health assessment

It’s not always easy to tell the difference between normal teenage worry or moodiness and more serious mental health issues.

Most normal teenage irritability, arguing and moodiness come and go quickly. But when they persist for 2-3 weeks or are very intense for even shorter periods, it can be a sign that it’s more than just worry or feeling down.

If your child doesn’t want to see friends, or is spending most of the time by herself, it’s a sign that you need to take action.

Also if your child stops doing things he usually enjoys, isn’t doing so well at school or is taking more risks than usual, this could be a sign that he’s feeling very anxious, depressed or stressed and might be helped by having a mental health assessment.

The best place to start is your GP, who will either be able to help you directly or refer your child to another professional.

Seeing your child alone

The professional will usually want to speak with your child alone, for all or part of the mental health assessment.

Being alone with the professional can help your child talk openly about his worries. If you’re there, he might feel embarrassed about speaking openly, or might not want to talk about sensitive or private issues.

Teenage mental health issues

A teenage mental health assessment will start with the least sensitive issues – for example, home, school, interests and friendships. Then it will move on to more sensitive areas, such as sexuality and drug use. It will also cover more serious mental health issues like anxiety, depression and self-harm.

After a teenage mental health assessment

At the end of a teenage mental health assessment, the professional will give you an opinion about what the issues and problems are and suggest a treatment plan. The professional will also say if your child has an emergency that needs immediate action.

Although you might want to know what has happened and what was said at the mental health assessment, your child might need some time before he talks about things with you. He might decide not to share what happens at his mental health appointments. This can be hard, but it’s your child’s right.

Children 12 years and older

From the age of 12 years, children think more deeply about things and begin to question authority. Your child makes up his own mind about issues.

At 12-15 years, he/she can understand consequences better, thinks about right and wrong, starts to develop his/her own identity and thinks about what he/she wants from life. He/she thinks about other people’s points of view, but is still strongly influenced by peers.

So when you talk about the appointment, you could:

- reassure your child that there’s nothing wrong with visiting a mental health professional
- talk about what he can expect to get out of going
- talk about confidentiality and privacy
- talk or give him information about different kinds of services – such as counselling, seeing a psychologist or going to his GP – and explain briefly what the different health professionals do
- let him know that you’ll go by yourself even if he doesn’t want to, because you think it’s important for your family to get some help
- tell him you’re happy to go with him and that you’ll also respect his privacy.

If you approach teenage mental health issues with kindness, openness, hopefulness, tolerance, confidentiality and encouragement, it helps your child to accept help.

REFERENCE

Read this article in full at the link below
http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/teenage_mental_health_assessment.html

You or your child may also choose to discuss concerns about mental health with the guidance officer or youth health nurse.

Sarah Mitchell
YOUTH HEALTH NURSE

Junior Secondary Dance

Junior Secondary Disco. Thursday 22nd October. 6-9pm N Block

Must have 85% Attendance
No suspensions or planning room for Term 4

$5 Entry – including
- Sausage + bread
- Soft Drink
- Glow stick
Krank holiday programs

Krank holiday programs for 12-17 year olds. Free and low cost activities.


REPORTING YOUR STUDENT’S ABSENT

As you know, it is a legal requirement for your child to attend school regularly. It is part of your obligation as a parent at Marsden SHS to ensure that you advise the school when and why your child is absent or late and to complete an exemption form for absences longer than 10 days. You should also ensure that your student comes to school in full school uniform, with the equipment they need to engage in active learning.

There are many ways you can advise the school of your child’s absence – the easiest is to phone our dedicated absence line on 3299 0555 and press 0. Alternatively, you can email us at parents@marsdenshs.eq.edu.au. We would also encourage you to register for QParents where you are able to enter detailed information regarding your student’s absence, as well as check invoice and payment details, make online payments, check and print school reports and assessment, timetables and class times. To register for QParents visit http://qparents.qld.edu.au/

Please remember that ‘every day counts’ – we cannot educate your children if they are not at school.

MARSDEN PARENT THE WINNER OF AN iPhone 6 THANKS TO QPARENTS

Congratulations to Year 7 parent, Kelly-Sue Wood for winning the QParents competition. Simply by registering for QParents Kelly-Sue has won an iPhone 6!

Kelly-Sue, like many of our parents, is enjoying the convenience of the QParents app through the web and his/her iPhone, with both providing secure access to school report cards, timetables, invoices, online payments and more.

If you have received your invitation to QParents but haven’t registered yet, make sure you register today to stay connected with our school and receive the latest information on your child’s educational journey.

qparents.qld.edu.au – your child’s educational journey in your hands.

SKOOLBAG NO LONGER AVAILABLE FOR MARSDEN INFORMATION

For those parents who access school information via the Skoolbag App, please be advised that we are no longer subscribing to Skoolbag and you are now able to download the QSchools App via our website at http://www.marsdenshs.eq.edu.au/

SENIOR JERSEYS FOR YEAR 12’s 2016

Year 11 parents please be advised that your student will not be permitted to place an order for a 2016 Senior Jersey unless all outstanding school fees have been paid. There will be no payment plans available. We will be taking orders for the jerseys before the end of 2015 or very early 2016 to ensure delivery early in the year. They will be priced at approx. $75. These jerseys are very popular amongst our Year 12 cohort so please ensure your child doesn’t miss out due to outstanding fees.

@ MARSDEN WE RECYCLE

The MAD team at Marsden is made up of a group of student leaders from all year levels that work on projects in and out of the school to improve the lives of our cohort both at school and in the wider community.

One of the projects that the MAD team has been working on this year is the introduction of a school wide recycling program. We have introduced green (general waste) and red (recycling only) bins to encourage students to sort their rubbish and send less to landfill. They have also installed paper boxes into each classroom. Congratulations to the MAD team and the wider student body for proactively working to reduce the footprint of our school.
EXCELLENCE GROUP PHOTOS

Friday, 23 October will be the inaugural photo day for our Excellence Program groups at Marsden. All Sports Excellence Teams, Leadership Groups, ELP Classes, and Performance groups will be photographed. These photos will then be available for parents to purchase online from AdvancedLife Photography. More details of how to order these very special photos will be made available following the photo day. Please ensure that if your child is part of one of these Excellence Programs they are prepared with the appropriate uniform on the day. Please see the timetable attached for approx. times for each group.

TIMETABLE FOR EXCELLENCE PROGRAM PHOTOS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>No. of students</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Co-ordinator</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>8.30</td>
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<td>Emily Dunbarry</td>
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<td>Emily Dunbarry</td>
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<td>Emily Dunbarry</td>
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</table>

2016 Year 7 Students

**Enrolment Now Open**

$50 credit if student is enrolled by the end of term 4 2013 & pay the Full Student Resource Scheme between 17th January - 26th February 2016!

**Enrolment for Year 7 Students in 2016**

**Key Dates**

**Excellence Programs**

If your child has been selected in an Excellence Program you MUST secure your position by completing the enrolment form and make a deposit of $50.00 (Sports Excellence Only) before Friday 6th November 2015. Failure to complete the above requirements will lead to your child’s position being offered to another student.

**Term 4 – 21st October 2015**

**Yr. 6 Subject Showcase and Enrolment**
- At X Block
  - 4.00pm - 6.00pm

**Term 4 – 1st December 2015**

**Yr. 6 Transition Open Day**
- Meet under X Block
- Outline of 2016 First Day Procedures
- Marsden SHS Expectations
- Team Building Activities
  - 9.00am - 1.45pm

**Dates to Remember**

- **Thursday 22nd October** Junior Secondary Dance
- **Friday 23rd October** Excellence program photos
- **18th September – 24th October** Art Waves 2015
- **Thursday 29th October** Spark it up
- **Friday 30th October** MSHS Arts Showcase ‘Small World’
- **Monday 26th – Wednesday 28th October** ELP Camp
- **Tuesday 17th November** Year 12 Formal
- **Wednesday 25th November** Year 10 Semi-Formal