9 November 2015

Principal’s Message

Congratulations to the Arts Department for another outstanding Arts Showcase on Friday night. It was great to see the pride the students, staff and families took in the achievements on display, and we couldn’t ask for a more professional production. Well done to all involved.

Friday November 6 we have our 2016 School Captain Interviews at the Bankwest offices in Brisbane. Six students have been shortlisted following the assessment day at Griffith University, the student speeches, and the student and staff votes. Our 2016 School Captains will be announced at our Excellence Awards Evening on November 11th.

On Tuesday we had five Principals from China visiting the school. The group visited classes during the day and were particularly interested in our Vocational Education programs and structures. They are part of a growing group of international visitors to our school, with a number of guests eager to learn from the success of our school.

This week we also welcome Jay Laloobhai into our school to conduct a School Audit. This audit will look at all of our operations across the school since our last School Audit which was held in February 2012.

Wednesday November 4 was our annual Sports Awards Night, and it provided us an opportunity to look back on what has been another successful year of Sport at Marsden SHS. Keep an eye out in our next Newsletter for details and pictures of a great night.

Last Thursday our students performed at the annual Spark it Up night at the Logan Entertainment Centre. With great support from our Youth Support Coordinator Sera our students choreographed, trained and prepared their own performances to once again demonstrate the great talent we have at our school.

A reminder our school is one of a number of schools with an Enrolment Management Plan. This means that our first priority is to cater for students within the Education Department’s specified catchment area. We do have places for students outside of our catchment area if they are accepted into our specialists programs (in Academics and Sport), or if there is space to do so. Students outside of our catchment area can be placed on a waitlist for consideration through the enrolment process. In 2016 there will be two dates where enrolment numbers will be reviewed, with waitlisted students considered for entry to Marsden State High School. These dates are the 1st of December and the 27th of January (Day 1, 2016). If you require further information regarding the Enrolment Management Plan I would encourage you to visit the Department of Education website.

Please also note that the Minister for Education has announced that the commencement date for Term 1, 2016 has changed. The first day of Term 1 will now start on Wednesday 27 January 2016, after the Australia Day public holiday.

Andrew Peach
Executive Principal

Health Inspiration Day

This month year 10 students Sarona Talalelei and Faithful Maara Timoti attended a Health Inspiration Day held at Clive Burdeau aged Care Services. Health Inspiration days consist of health and community service career presentations, career centred activities and include tours of the host venues. These days are specifically tailored towards students who have a keen interest in studying health and wish to continue further study in nursing. Students gain a valuable insight into the various careers on offer within the industry that is caring for our community.
Deadly @ Marsden

Exciting things are happening at Deadly @ Marsden! We are lucky enough to have been donated materials from Baulderwall constructions to create a Yarning Circle- which will be used as an outdoor learning space for any classes to use at their will. This space is still currently under construction near X block but when complete will boast a calm and serene outdoor cultural sharing and learning place with local native plants. We look forward to putting it to good use in 2016!

Yearbook

Year 12’s time is running out to order your 2015 yearbook. Don’t miss this great momento of your final year at Marsden.

Complete and return the following form to the payment office

University Excursion

On Wednesday 28th October, 6 year 9 students were given the opportunity to explore university life at an excursion to QUT. After a quick introduction in a lecture room that “looks just like the ones in the movies”, the students split up and were able to explore topics that were of interest to them. They were given practical tasks including making 3D images of peoples feet, producing laws to contain a smallpox outbreak, and a marshmallow challenge. They then completed a tour around the campus. The students were extremely well behaved, were polite and respectful, and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the day.

Well done to the students for upholding Marsden’s values while out in the community.

Greenpeace & Social Media – 10 History

The unit that we have been looking at this term is: The Globalising World: The Environment (1960s – present). We have been looking at various environmental disasters and the effects they have had on our world. Last week we studied the Greenpeace Movement. This meant looking at the History of Greenpeace – who they are and what their mission is. We studied how Greenpeace uses social media to raise awareness. The first part of our lesson was looking at Greenpeace Victories. A competition was had to come up with the #mostcreativehashtag. The photos show how creative some of our students were.

The second part of the lesson had the class creating an 80 – 100 word “facebook” post about climate change. Each group had to write from the perspective of Greenpeace. After the posts were put up on our “wall”, the class went around and commented on the various posts giving their own opinions. Social media is an important platform for environmental groups, protestors and petitions to create awareness, which is why these lessons have looked at this.

Year 11 and 12 Block Exams and VET Catch-up Sessions

Term four block exams for Year 11 and 12 students are fast approaching! Term four block exams will run as follows:

- Year 12 exam block – week 6 (9th -13th November)
- Year 11 exam block – week 7 (16th -20th November)

*All Year 11 QCS students will be also be sitting practice tests on Friday 13th November.

There are two (2) exam sessions each day of exam block:

- 8.20am – 10.45am
- 11.25pm – 2.15pm

Year 11 and 12 students are only required to attend exam sessions in which they have an exam. Students undertaking a VET subject are only required to attend in their scheduled sessions IF they have not completed all set work or if they have not demonstrated competency in the applicable competencies. If students are on track with all VET course requirements they are not required to attend school. If students are unable to attend for just their sessions due to transport, they may sign in at the library to undertake silent study.

The truancy follow-up process for exam block is as follows:
1. Exam rolls are marked on ID attend in the first 20 minutes of the exam. Rolls will be marked on ID attend by the chief exam supervisor.

2. Senior Schooling Engagement Officer (Mr John Cluley) will call home on the day of the exam to investigate absenteeism. If the absence is approvable (medical or extenuating circumstance) Mr Cluley will note this on a Oneschool contact referral and include the Curriculum HOD and teacher for exam rescheduling. If the absence is approved as medical, a medical certificate must be provided.

3. If the absence is unapproved, the Engagement Officer will give a verbal warning of the stages of cancellation process. He will then record the contact on Oneschool and refer the respective Head of Year for a detention to be issued. The Curriculum HOD and class teacher will also be included in this contact referral as the exam will still need to be rescheduled.

All rooms for the exams and VET catch-up sessions will be displayed at student reception each day. Below you will find the student pamphlet and the exam schedule which has already been given to students. If you have any questions about block exams please contact Ms Megan Herbert – Senior Schooling Deputy Principal.

We wish all our Year 11 and 12 students the very best of luck in their impending exams.

Job News!

The following students have signed on for traineeships over the past month:

- Montana Hester – Certificate III in Business
- Shania Haim - Certificate III in Sport & Recreation
- Cody Walker - Certificate III in Sport & Recreation
- Ethan Johnston - Certificate III in Sport & Recreation
- Natalie Gilchrist - Certificate III in Sport & Recreation
- George Law - Certificate III in Sport & Recreation
- Christopher McDonald Certificate III in Cabinet Making
- Tarnika Van Der Steen – Certificate III in Hospitality
- Daniella Eichner- Certificate III in Business
- Marynati Faatuga Moe- Certificate III in Business

Senior MCT Update

Congratulations to our National Champions, the Senior MCT Dance Crew, for winning the ‘High School Hip hop and Jazz Category’ at Dancelife Unite National Competition! After a whirlwind term of performances and fundraising efforts, the group worked extremely hard to pull together a breath-taking performance in front of a national audience. Not only did the group place first in their section, they were also the ‘Highest Scoring High School Dance Troupe’ with a score of 97/100.

A trip like this would not be possible without the organisation and commitment of both parents and teachers. On behalf of the students, we would like to thank Miss Turnbull, Miss Fallon, Miss Johnston and Miss Higgins for all of their hardwork and support in both organising and giving up their holidays to come on the trip. We would also like to thank all of the individuals, companies and organisations who donated financially or by providing any goods or services towards the trip.

Every dollar helped in the effort to reduce the cost of the trip and make it possible for every student to attend.

We look forward to the continued success of MCT in 2016.
**Captains and Junior Leaders High Tea**

MCT Dance Crew was proudly supported by:

- Pam Parker
- Phil Pigeon
- Cameron Dick
- Jim Chalmers
- Mad Dance House
- Subway Marsden
- Kidi Kingdom (Waterford West)
- And many others!

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**Defence Information Sessions in November**

The following information sessions will be held at Defence Force Recruiting, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane CBD. To RSVP, call 13 19 01 or email cptqld@df.com.au.

**Australian Defence Force (ADF) Careers Information Session** – This session will introduce you to the more than 250 jobs available with the ADF. It will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday 4 November 2015.

**Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) Information Session** – Information about studying and living at ADFA will be the focus of this session. It will be held at 6 pm on Monday 16 November 2015.

**Australian Defence Force (ADF) Trade Careers Information Session** - The ADF is now recruiting for a wide range of trade and apprenticeship positions for the Navy, Army and Air Force. This session will provide information about these positions and give students and parents an opportunity to have their questions answered. It will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday 18 November 2015.

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**Receiving your Year 12 results**

Year 12 students will receive their Senior Education Profile (SEP) from the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) in the mail from Friday 18 December 2015. The Senior Education Profile will be made up of one or more of the following documents (depending on your eligibility).

- Queensland Certificate of Education
- Tertiary Entrance Statement (OP and FPs)
- Senior Statement
- Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement.

All results contributing to the Queensland Certificate of Education and OPs and FPs will be available in your Learning Account on the Student Connect website at https://studentconnect.qsa.qld.edu.au from 9 am on Saturday 19 December 2015. You need your Learner Unique Identifier (LUI) and password (initially the day and month of birth) to log in and check your results. You will be able to access your results more quickly if you have previously accessed your Learning Account. Find out more about the SEP at https://studentconnect.qca.qld.edu.au/12615.html.

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**R4Respect**

R4Respect is a proactive youth-led strategy which promotes respectful and non-violent relationships among young people in Logan and its surrounds. The focus is to prevent anti-social behaviour and violence before it occurs.

One of our Year 12 Students Abak Deng has been doing some great work with the R4Respect program.

To read Abak’s story follow the link below


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**Excellence Awards Evening**

Excellence Awards Evening
Wednesday 11th November
Logan Entertainment Centre commencing at 6:30pm

Invitations went out to award winners last week
RSVPs due by Wednesday 4th November

Free tickets for family members must be obtained from Logan Entertainment Centre online through the following link:

http://goo.gl/mlpiRV

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**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 https://qparents.qld.edu.au/

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

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.

Dates to Remember

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