Principal’s Message

Welcome to what I’m sure will be another outstanding year at Marsden State High School. A special welcome to all parents and students who are new to our school this year, and thank you for showing the confidence in our school.

Our continued success as a school is in no small part due to the high expectations we continue to support across the school. Our core areas of learning, behaviour, attendance and uniform have once again started the year strongly. It has been pleasing to be in classes where the work is underway and effective at such an early stage of the year. Particularly pleasing is the work within our Yr. 7 area, with students adapting well to the use of the School Binders to support their learning and to help with their organisation for learning.

Our 2016 Year 12 cohort achieved our best ever results upon graduation. The graduating cohort of 307 students were our first group to have all students achieve a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at Marsden SHS. I’ve no doubt this is due to the both the hard work of the students and the excellent structures and support provided by our staff. The implementation of Academic Coaching in the senior years has seen our senior students take ownership of their own learning, with the knowledge of their progress a key component of their progress. I’m also confident our 2017 cohort can continue this success, with our expectation that all Yr. 12 graduates achieve a QCE a realistic and achievable goal for the year.

From a whole school perspective, it was also pleasing to see the significant increase in our students’ results on their end of year reports. In 2016 we had a goal to achieve 85% A-C outcomes on our final report of the year and for the first time in Marsden SHS history our students were able to achieve this. We will continue to push for more classroom learning success in 2017, with a strong focus on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organisation and reading, or WICOR as we are commonly referring to it across our school. These five areas are identified within our successful AVID program that has been introduced in the junior years and will help to assist our students to continue to work towards their learning goals.

This year we have adjusted some of our processes around late to school and late to class. It is an expectation that all students are here at school (or their classroom) on time with all the materials they need for learning. We have introduced warning bells five minutes before lesson start time and processes to inform parents if students are missing valuable class time on a regular basis. We have some outstanding opportunities available for students at Marsden, but for full access to these opportunities we need students here each and every day, and attending all lessons on time and ready to learn.

Our wellbeing eMpower program also enables us to continue to focus on our core values of Pride, Passion and Persistence during the year. We have had a very good start to the year generally, but one of the more pleasing aspects has been the pride our students have demonstrated in our school and the wider community. We are proud of our leading role within our community and the fact that when the school day finishes, our Marsden SHS students continue to act and behave in a manner in which we can all be proud.

Over the coming weeks we have a number of events as we get in to the start of a busy term. Our first P&C Meeting is next Wednesday in our Administration Building, our Yr. 12 students start their Academic Coaching next week (after a well-attended Parent Information session this week), and our Excellence programs begin their work heading in to the various programs…
for the year. Our Parent Meet and Greet for Junior Connect Teachers is also scheduled for Wednesday the 8th of February.

This year we are excited to have partnered with Fizzio for Life to support students in our Sports and Dance Excellence Programs. This means that students and families will have the option to purchase discounted membership packages for use with the Physiotherapist, Exercise Physiologist or Sports Massage Therapist. We will also have a number of days throughout the year where we will have on site assessment for injuries by one of the Fizzio for Life physiotherapists at no cost. More information will be available at our Sports Excellence Parent afternoon on Monday February 20th, but this is part of our focus on increasing the professionalism of our students in excellence programs, and the need to be proactive in preparing for physical activity.

A reminder of our 2017 expectations leading to academic and social success in 2017. The four key areas identified below will be important to ongoing success for all students:

1. Attendance - Students must have a current attendance rate of 92% or above
2. Academic Performance - Students must be on track to gain a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) or Junior Certificate of Education (JCE) where appropriate
3. Behaviour - Students uphold the schools’ Responsible Behaviour Plan
4. Students uphold their student contract requirements

I would once again encourage parents to make use of our school website, Facebook and Twitter accounts to keep up to date with the latest information from our school. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to let us know via email or phone on 3299 0555.

Executive Principal
Andrew Peach

Students Outcome Team

L-R Deputy Principals Kylie Steinhardt, Colin Troyahn and Megan Herbert

The student outcomes team is led by the Deputy Principals of the school and has a strong narrow focus around the outcomes that students achieve and make no apologies for holding the Marsden SHS high expectations for every student to achieve the best possible result they are able to.

Day eight numbers of students which is a benchmark day for all schools has the Marsden SHS enrolment at just over 2000 students across all year levels.

The first weeks have been a very exciting time for staff and students alike. Students being back at school, and new students, all with a strong focus on learning for the future, their own future. Teaching staff are putting the planning of units of learning into place and looking forward to student success.

The Student outcomes team looks forward to a successful year and in a shorter time frame look forward to meeting parents at various days and evenings held across the first term.

The parent teacher sessions on Monday in the second week of term two is another excellent opportunity for engagement with parents and teacher to view progress.

The student outcomes team includes the year level head of Departments:

Mr Curtis, Ms Robinson, Mr Callaghan, Ms Jones, Ms Johns, and Ms Hutchins.

Michelle Hutchins  
Yr. 7 HOD

Uvette Johns  
Yr. 8 HOD

Mel Jones  
Yr. 9 HOD

Joe O’Callaghan  
Yr. 10 HOD

Wloie Robinson  
Yr. 11 HOD

Sean Curtis  
Yr. 12 HOD

L-R Guidance Officers Alastair Wilson Yr.9/10, Carolyn Pagliano Yr.11/12 and Amy Brown Yr.7/8

Assessment Policy @ Marsden State High School

Over the course of the year, your child will be asked to complete a number of assessment items for each of their subjects. This assessment could be in various forms – written exams...
completed in class; assignments; performances; or orals. Some of these assessment items may require additional time to be spend on them at home to complete them to a high standard. In the senior school, this should be expected.

All students will receive a personal assessment planner next week which outlines all assessment items for their first semester of 2017. This will allow your child to be prepared for all of their assessment, and ensure they meet the required deadlines in all of their subjects. If your child appears to be struggling to meet their assessment deadlines there are a number of things that you may be able to assist them with in organising and preparing for upcoming assessment:

- Does your student have a work station that allows them to be free of distraction to complete their homework or assessment?
- Does your child have a personal timetable that schedules in time for completing homework or assessment?
- Does your child have a forward plan that schedules in assessment and monitoring dates to meet their deadlines?

It is also important that your child understands and follows the Marsden State High School Assessment Policy. The details of the assessment policy and frequently asked questions can be found via the following link.


Students Arriving Late

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When a student misses...</th>
<th>That equals.......</th>
<th>Which is.......</th>
<th>Over 13 years of schooling...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly half a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 and a half years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 and a half years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students Arriving Late at School- Applies after 8.35am

- Sign in with Student Foyer staff
- Proceed to class
- Produce sign in slip to teacher

- Students arriving late to school with no parent/guardian provided reason, will be issued with a litter duty detention to be completed that day.
- Students are to have their litter duty signed off by a play-ground duty teacher and they are to drop their signed litter duty slip into the box at I-block for the YEOs to check.
- Failure to comply with Youth Engagement Officer directions to complete detention will result in a referral to the YL HOD.

Learning Curve – Week 1, 2 and 3

Students Arriving Late
Mobile Phone Policy

Marsden has made a change to its mobile phone policy to allow students to use their phones under teacher direction to enhance learning outcomes. Mobile phones and accessories (e.g. headphones) can still not be used during school hours (8.35-2.30pm) unless a teacher has given permission for a student to use their mobile phone during class time for educational purposes. Under these conditions the phone:

- must be switched to silent
- Cannot be used as a communication device unless communicating with a teacher via a school approved email or app when directed to do so by the teacher.
- Cannot be used to record images or video of other people.
- Cannot be charged at school.
- Cannot be used for listening to music or gaming (unless directed by the teacher for educational purposes).

Phones and any accessories are still not allowed to be used at lunch times. Students that breach the policy will have their phone confiscated for the remainder of the school day. For repeated breaches of this policy, students will be dealt with through Level 4 or 5 consequences. See Marsden’s Responsible Behaviour Plan on the school website for a list of level 4 or 5 consequences.

Immunisations program for Year 7 Students

Our school is participating in Queensland Health’s annual School Immunisation Program. All Year 7 students will be offered free vaccinations to protect against human papillomavirus (HPV) and diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (whooping cough).

Consent packs will be distributed to Year 7 students and the signed consent cards returned to the student foyer as soon as possible.

The vaccination team will be visiting the school to give phase 1 of the free vaccinations on 15 March 2017.

For further information about the School Immunisation Program visit the link below or call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84).


Parking at Schools

Parking at schools

Important information for Parents/Careers of Students and other road users

www.logan.qld.gov.au

Parking at school safely

This daily school drop-off peak adds on extra fuel, so it’s important to plan.

- Make sure you park your car in a safe and accessible area.
- Clear the area of obstacles before you enter or leave your car.

Safety tips

- Do not leave your valuable possessions in your car.
- Keep your car door locked at all times.
- Be aware of your surroundings.

Important information

- Do not park your car in a fire lane.
- Do not park in a Restricted Zone.
- Do not park in a Loading Zone.

Parking at school

Parking is available:

- On-site: $2.00 per day
- Off-site: $2.00 per day

Parking in the school

- On-site: $2.00 per day
- Off-site: $2.00 per day

Parking is subject to availability.

Q Parent

To register for Q Parent contact the office or email enquiry@marsdenshs.eq.edu.au to request another invitation.
code. If you have started the process to register with Q Parents and are on the low document list, we will need to see some extra documentation to go ahead and approve your account so you can proceed with using the app. Please bring into the office any of the following (excluding previous documents already provided to Q Parents):

**Additional Identity Documents**

**List 1 Documents**
- Learner’s Licence
- Adult Proof of Age Card
- Working With Children Check Card (Blue Card)
- Queensland Weapons Licence
- Industry Authority Cards issued by TMR

**List 2 Documents (2 docs required)**
- Qld or Aust. Government Staff Identity Card
- Pension Concession Card
- DVA Entitlement Card
- Seniors Health Card
- Health Care Card
- Other Dept. Human Services Financial Entitlement Card
- Student Identity Card issued by an Australian Education institution
- Current Bank Statement showing address
- Current Utilities Notice showing address

If it is inconvenient to come to the school in person we will accept an email with scanned or forwarded documents (minimum 2 of the specified above) to enquiry@marsdenshs.eq.edu.au.

**Parent/Carer Information**

New postal address for the school

All postal correspondence now to:

Marsden State High School  
PO Box 1490  
Browns Plains QLD 4118

**Connect Teachers and Parents Meet and Greet for Year 7 – 9**

**Years 7 - 9 Connect Teachers and Parents Meet and Greet**  
**Week 3**  
**Wednesday 8th of February**  
**2.30 - 4.00 pm**  
**Library**

In Week 3, Wednesday 8th February, 2.30-4.00pm we will be having the Connect Teachers and Parents Meet and Greet Afternoon for Years 7-9.

This will be held in the library.

**Senior Jersey and Jacket Order**

JUST A REMINDER FOR THE FINAL SENIOR JERSEY AND SENIOR JACKET ORDER – THIS IS THE 23RD FEBRUARY.

This is the FINAL order. There will be NO MORE orders after this one. All old school fees must be paid in order to purchase a jersey or jacket. Please make sure you collect a yellow form from Mr Curtis or the payment office.

**Second Hand Uniform Shop**

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP OPENING AT MARSDEN

From next week Marsden will be offering second hand uniform service for all students and parents. Our new S.H.U. (Second Hand Uniform Shop) will be operating out of the room at the front of J block. Uniform items (except shoes) will be available for sale at reduced prices. If you have any outgrown uniform items in good condition, please consider donating them to the shop.
Young People and Going Back to School

Young people can feel a range of emotions when they’re heading back to school, which include feelings of excitement, anticipation and nerves.

Some students can adjust to the changes and settle into things quickly. However, some young people may find this a daunting and challenging time.

There can be a number of reasons why it might be hard to go school: trying to make new friends, pressure to get the best marks, dealing with bullying, or perhaps going through a mental health issue such as anxiety or depression. These worries can make the next few weeks an uncertain time.

Whether you are a young person struggling or a parent with concerns about your child, headspace is here to help.

Advice for parents:

Warning Signs:

Most parents can tell when something is out of the ordinary, but there are also signs that suggest a young person might be experiencing a mental health problem. These are new and noticeable changes in the young person, lasting at least a few weeks, including:

- Not enjoying, or not wanting to be involved in things that they would normally enjoy
- Changes in appetite or sleeping patterns
- Being easily irritated or angry for no reason
- Involving themselves in risky behaviour that they would usually avoid, like taking drugs or drinking too much alcohol
- Seeming unusually stressed, worried, down or crying for no reason
- Expressing negative, distressing, bizarre or unusual thoughts

Tips for parents:

Talk openly and honestly with them, and let them know that you are concerned.
Reassure them that you will be there for them, and ask what they need from you.
Let them know that there is lots of help available.
Help find an appropriate service, such as a headspace centre and support them in attending.
Help them build a support network.
Look after yourself as well. Get some support by talking to someone you trust, and seek professional help for yourself if you need it.

More information

For more tips and information visit the parents section on the website below:

Taken from Headspace website.

By Sarah Mitchell, School Based Youth Health Nurse.
At Marsden SHS every day.

Touch Update

Welcome to our touch excellence students and their families. The touch excellence program is set to expand again in 2017, with record numbers of Open players, and talented younger players filtering into the junior grades. Uniforms are available to purchase from the uniform shop and girls are encouraged to have their shirts, shorts and / or skins purchased by the end of Week 2. Once classes are finalised, all touch players will be invoiced, with all program fees due to be paid by the end of Term 1. Interschool sports trials have already commenced with junors (Tuesday) and seniors (Wednesday) preparing for the commencement of Interschool Sport in Week 4 of Term 1. We are in the process of finalising our #MTC Leaders and Touch Captains for 2017 as well, providing the girls with leadership opportunities within the program. Some calendar dates for upcoming touch excellence events in Semester 1:

Thursday 23rd February – Gold Coast Training Day (all touch excellence students involved)
Thursday 16th March - Logan District Touch Trials 15s and Opens (convened at Marsden SHS by Miss Mulcahy and Miss Ward)
Monday 20th March – Schools Touch League Day 1 (selected under 13s and 15s)
Wednesday 22nd March – Logan District Touch Trials 12s (convened by Miss Quince, Harris Field SS)
Friday 19th May – Schools Touch League Day 2 (selected Under 13s and 15s)
Thursday 25th May - #MTC Cup (primary schools competition hosted and organised by our #MTC Leaders)

Further information regarding these events will be provided closer the dates. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on shamm4@eq.edu.au.

Regards,

Shane Hammond
Touch Excellence Coordinator
**Deadly @ Marsden**

**What’s On… Marsden Dance Academy 2017?**

Do you know what Dance Program or Crew you can be a part of this year in Dance at Marsden? There are lots of opportunities for everyone who loves dance to be involved in performances and competitions throughout the year! Some options for you include Senior MDA Dance Crew, Junior MDA Dance Crew and Jazz/Contemporary Technique Classes. Have a read through the following events and rehearsal times to make sure you don’t miss out!

**Week 3**

- **Senior MDA Dance Crew Audition**
  - Monday 2.45pm-4.30pm
  - Location: N1/3

- **Junior MDA Dance Crew Audition/Rehearsal**
  - Wednesday 2.45pm-4.00pm

- **L.E.G.A.C.Y (Cultural Dance) PRACTICE BEGINS**
  - Thursday 2.45pm-4.00pm
  - Meet @ undercover area near the tuckshop

**Week 4**

- **Senior MDA Dance Crew PRACTICE BEGINS**
  - Monday 2.45pm-4.00pm
  - Location: N1/3

- **Junior MDA Dance Crew PRACTICE BEGINS**
  - Wednesday 2.45pm-4.00pm
  - Location: N1/3

**Dance Academy Curriculum Update**

Did you know that if you are in year 7, 11 and 12 you can ask to be a part of the Dance Academy classes as one of your subjects for the whole year? With a focus on hip hop and performance, 2016 saw the Academy classes performing at a range of shows and competitions throughout the year!

Additional dance sessions available include:

- Tuesday Session 4 for students in year 7-9.
- Wednesday Session 4 for students in year 10-12.

Contact Miss Turnbull on 3299 0555 or email ntturn101@eq.edu.au for more information.

**Year 7 Update**

On Thursday our Year 7 students attended a performance from the contemporary theatre company ‘Shake and Stir’. The performance “Terrotorial” was aimed at helping Year 7 students settle into Marsden.

‘High school. A daunting place. A dog-eat-dog world where each student has to stand up and claim their own piece of the school yard or risk slipping into obscurity. The transition from primary to secondary is often one of the most difficult moments in a young person’s life. Everything changes and teachers, friends and favourite lunch time hang-outs vanish in a flash. In their place are a new clique of friends, a new timetable, new teachers and a whole new set of rules that sometimes have to be learnt the hard way. But this transition can also be a time of new beginnings, new opportunities and life changing experiences.’

**Job World**

Exciting news for Year 10 students – you can now apply for a school based traineeships or apprenticeships (SAT)!

Places were emailed out to Year 10, 11 &12 students this week.

When you do a SAT, you work one day a week & get paid while obtaining a Certificate II or III. This is worth 4 or 8 QCE points too.

Parents – if you would like more information on government subsidies for your business to take on a SAT, please phone 3299 0516 or email hellos1@eq.edu.au

**Helen Close & Jo Legg, Industry Liaison Officers**
**Uniform Shop**

Opening hours have changed for this year and are as follows for 1st term only.

**Monday:** 8.00 am - 11.45 am  
**Tuesday:** 10.45 am - 1.30 pm  
**Thursday:** 12.45 pm - 4 pm

Please check the website for altered hours for 2nd term onwards.

Thank you for your patience as we have been dealing with supplying new uniform items this year and have found ourselves short on some sizes. These have been ordered and will take anywhere from 2 to 8 weeks to arrive in store. I apologise for any inconvenience.

This year, as in the past 3 years, I was open for business for a full 3 weeks prior to school starting and once again most of you left it till the week before and acted surprised to know I had been open earlier. Due to the outcome from this year, next year we are considering trialling a new system whereby we will only open in the first week of Jan by appointment only. If you have any comments or suggestions about this then please come to our next P&C meeting on the 1st Wed at 3.30pm in the admin building ... we would love to have more parental feedback and discussion.

All the best for 2017

*Pauline Pokoina*  
*Uniform Shop Convenor*

**Academic Coaching**

Academic Coaching coming up on Thursday 9TH Feb (YR 12 only)  
Will be held in library.

Students will be advised of times with a slip being given out in connect.

Times will be advertised on notice board outside Y block from Tuesday.