2 June 2014

Principal’s Report

Exam Block

The end of semester exam block is scheduled for the week of 16-20 June (Week 9 of this term). Year 11 and 12 students are required to attend for all relevant scheduled assessment during this week. An examination roster will be made available shortly. If students have no overdue assessment work then they will be required to attend school only during those times when they have a scheduled exam. This provides students with extra time to do exam preparation at home. The Library will be available for quiet, individual, independent study.

If students have not submitted all assessment by Monday 9th June (start of Week 8) they will be required to attend school every day of the exam week, until all outstanding work has been satisfactorily completed. Students will attend for the whole day and will be required to bring all necessary resources to complete the tasks (subject teachers will not necessarily be available for assistance at these times). It is a school expectation that students attend every day until all the assessment is completed.

Given that completion of assessment is a basic requirement of showing engagement in the program of learning, failure to attend school and complete all assessment during this time will result in students being required to meet with the Principal and show cause as to why their enrolment should not be cancelled. The completion of senior assessment is high stakes, so please ensure you are supporting your child in completing all requirements of their assessment program so that they do not end up being required to leave Nerang State High School.

Nominate as a Queensland Youth Strategy Ambassador

The Queensland Government is seeking young ambassadors for the six areas of connection in the Queensland Youth Strategy:

- Family, friends and social networks
- Education, training and employment
- Health and wellbeing
- Volunteering and participation
- Supports and services
- Arts and culture.

The six selected ambassadors (aged 12–21) will each receive a $1000 bursary for personal or professional development, and be supported to attend a personal development workshop in Brisbane. The ambassadors will help connect government and young people to share their views and ideas in the area of connection they are chosen to represent.

Young people can nominate themselves or be nominated by someone else before 2 June. Further information and online nominations are available at the Queensland Youth Strategy Ambassadors Website.


Flying Start

With Year 7 joining high school next year, what will Junior Secondary look like?

In 2007 the Prep year was introduced to Primary School and the school entry age was raised by six months. The final step in bringing Queensland in-line with other states is the movement of Year 7 to High School. More than half the students in Year 7 next year will be turning 13 and educators agree that these young teenagers are ready for greater independence and the depth of learning that high schools provide. Also, the Prep year, by 2015 our Year 7 students will be in their eighth year of school and this is the right year for High School to begin. Also, since 2012 we have adopted the new Australian Curriculum for English, Maths, Science and History. In 2014 and 2015 HPE, Humanities, LOTE, Technology and The Arts will be introduced. Being at High School will mean our Year 7 students will have access to the specialist resources they need for these subjects.

The fundamental change in our school is the formation of the Junior Secondary School for our Year 8 and 9 students. Next year will see the addition of Year 7 to this group. Our distinct Junior Secondary school, encompassing Year 7, 8 and 9, will provide challenging educational offerings that engage young adolescents, while giving them a sense of belonging and support through the changes they face.

Six principles that underpin our Junior Secondary school are:

1. Distinct identity

Junior Secondary students will be encouraged and supported to develop their own group identity within
the wider high school. This will involve dedicated school areas and specific Junior Secondary events.

2. Quality teaching

Teachers working with students in the Junior Secondary years are building the skills they need through additional professional development, so they can support young teens through these crucial early High School years. Some teachers from local primary schools will choose to move to Junior Secondary at Nerang State High School, and existing secondary teachers may specialise in Junior Secondary.

3. Student wellbeing

We will meet the social and emotional needs of our Junior Secondary students with a strong focus on Pastoral Care. For example, we will provide a home room to support students as they adjust to new routines and greater academic demands. We will provide specific programs to develop the skills our students will need as they enter High School and transition through the Junior Secondary school.

4. Parent and community involvement

We want parents to stay connected with their students' learning when they enter high school. Parent involvement in assemblies, special events, award ceremonies and leadership presentations will be welcomed.

5. Leadership

We have implemented leadership roles for our students in Years 8 and 9 this year. Dedicated teachers experienced with teaching young adolescents will lead Junior Secondary. Our team of teachers will be led by our HOD Junior Secondary and his dedicated team of Year Coordinators, and of course our administration team.

6. Local decision-making

The needs of each school community will influence how Junior Secondary is implemented in our school. We are looking for parents to continue to have a say in the way we do business in Junior Secondary.

Regards,
Scott Ison

The dates for our sporting events this year are:

- 11th June - X-Over Finals
- 31st July - Athletics field events (PE staff out all day)
- 1st Aug - School Athletics Carnival

Our school calendar is on our website with all the major events for the year loaded into it.

https://nerangshs.eq.edu.au/Calendarandnews/Eventscalendar/Pages/Eventscalendar.aspx

YEAR 12 BOND MOOT COMPETITION - 2014

Zac Maher, Senior Counsel, Kristin Van Der Lee, Junior Counsel, and Claudia Trinder, Instructing Solicitor, participated in the Annual Bond Moot Competition on Thursday, 1st May 2014, with many other schools in the region. The mooting problem was a negligence case where the Council was sued for failing to provide a safe environment for a Community Picnic organised by the Council by the Appellant. Nerang represented the Council as the Respondent and put forward a strong legal argument in favour of the Council.

Zac, Kristin and Claudia did an excellent presentation and were commended by the Judge for their clarity in their presentation and for applying all the correct legal protocol that is very important in a moot. The Judge also congratulated the students on establishing good dialogue with the bench.

We thank Bond University for providing our students with such a positive learning environment in a legal context.

Margaret Harburg
Senior Business/Legal Teacher
2 May 2014

Investing in Your Future Seminar

Bond University’s Manager for Schools and Community, Tom Betts would like to invite students from Nerang State High School to attend the Bond University Investing in Your Future - Information Seminar.

This seminar is free of charge, and gives your Year 12 students and their families the chance to learn more about:

- Fast-tracking success at Bond
- Bond University Scholarships
- Fees and costs
- FEE-HELP loan

Date: Monday, June 23, 2014
Time: 6:00pm – 8:30pm
Location: Bond University Princeton Room, University Drive, Robina

Drinks and light refreshments will be served at this event.
**Bookroom Hours**
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:30 - 12.00
12:30 - 2.00

**Suzie Koenig**
School Based Youth Health Nurse
Gold Coast HHS
Mon - Fri. 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
(Mon Tues Keebra Park SHS, Thurs Fri Nerang SHS)
Work Mobile: 0432 005 262

**RESOURCE CENTRE HOURS**
Open daily – from 8am-8.45am
Open Morning Tea – 10.15am – 10.45am
Open – Lunchtime 1.15pm – 1.45pm.

**LIBRARY TEACHER AIDE MRS MARILYN RIVETT**

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**FINANCE NEWS**

The Finance Window is open to accept payments on Monday, Wednesday and Friday only from 8.00am to 2.00pm. Finance will not accept payments from students during class time. Students are to make their payments before school or during the two lunch breaks.

Payments can be made by Cash, Cheque, Eftpos or via the Internet. Internet payments can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Please ensure the correct Student ID number (which is on student statements and timetable) is used if paying via the Internet so the payment is processed against the correct student.

Remember to make any Internet payments for excursions and camps 2 days prior to the due date to allow for the processing of the payment.

**STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME FEES**

Second instalment of school fees are now 10 weeks overdue with the third instalment of school fees due on the 13th June.

Payment of outstanding fees must be paid prior to the acceptance of monies for other school activities eg: sport, excursions and camps.

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**FINANCE WINDOW**
**OPEN MONDAY WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY**

Remember Internet Payments can be made 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

*Payment Options are available, including Centrepay. Please direct any queries to our Finance Officer: Ms Lowe on 5503 7804*

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**Child & Adolescent Oral Health Service**
Gold Coast Hospital & Health Service

Students in grades (8,9,10) have been provided with an offer of oral health care examination card to take home. Dental appointments will be made at William Duncan SS. Parking is on Alexander Drive. Please do not park inside school gates.

If your child is enrolled in one of the grades listed above or are new to the school and did not receive an examination card and would like to arrange for your child to receive oral health care please contact the Oral Health Call Centre 1300 300 850. Monday to Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm Excluding Public Holidays.

If your child requires disability access please identify this requirement with the Call Centre Operator.

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**English Department**

**The Write Stuff Writing Competition**

The school will be holding a short story competition for all year levels: The Write Stuff. Entries close on the 26th June at 9.00am. Entries to be handed to Ms. Bell in M Block and a digital copy sent to Ms. Bell at cbell37@eq.edu.au. Juniors Year 8 and 9 (600 -1000 words), Year 10 (600-1200 words), Year 11 and 12 (600-1500 words). Only one entry per student. No late entries will be considered. See your English teacher for an entry form. Great prizes to be won by each year level.

*Cathi Bell*  
*English HOD*