**Principal’s Report**

**Assessment Schedules**

Assessment Schedules will be published to students this week. These are individual for each student, showing the due dates for all assessment this semester. You will be able to work with your child in using this information to plan for assessment. Planning to complete assignments over a number of afternoons / evenings and weekends is imperative.

We ask that students use their Assessment Schedule to firstly record the due dates for each assessment item in their Student Diary. The next step is for students to then write into their diary the times they plan to use to prepare for the completion of each assessment item. Students can plan for the workload relating to tests by writing revision times for each test. Students need to write revision on the night before the test. They then write in further revision times for 3 of the 5 nights prior to this date. For assignments, students are to write the assignment name in their dairy on each night that they will be working on it between the date given and the due date. In general, they need to build a minimum of 5 times when the assignment will be worked on.

Ask your child to show you that they have done this planning in their diary. Then take the Assessment Schedule and display in a prominent place, so you can consistently refer to it and give reminders about due dates for assignments and preparing for tests.

**‘Every student, Every Lesson, Every day’**

We are committed to providing the best educational experiences for our students every lesson. The attendance of students every day, unless circumstances prevent this, is a requirement. A key role parents play in education is to ensure students are in attendance and prepared for learning. Please understand that only legitimate medical or emergency circumstances can be excused as reasons non-attendance on any day. Parents must provide a reason for an absence within a timely period. For those students who are absent, we send a text message to parents each morning and expect either a note the next day or a return text that gives a reason for this absence.

One of the major focus areas for our school this year is student attendance. Our target is to match the average attendance rate of schools across the state. Therefore our aim is for all students to have a minimum of 90% attendance. This means students should have by this stage of the year accrued no more than 2 days of absence from school.

**Get Started vouchers to help children get active**

Get Started is a new State Government funding program offering up to $150 per student towards sport club registration or membership fees to help families who can’t afford to sign their child up and encourage other children who would improve their social connections or health to get involved. Children with a parent or guardian who holds a Health Care or Pension Concession Card and submit a form will qualify, while other families will also need to submit recommendations from two referral agents with their application. Details are available from the Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing’s Get in the Game website. ([http://www.nprs.qld.gov.au/funding/getinthegame/referral-agents.html](http://www.nprs.qld.gov.au/funding/getinthegame/referral-agents.html)).

The first funding round opened on 15 January 2013 with vouchers distributed on a first-come, first-served basis until the allocation is exhausted or closes on 15 April 2013. A second round will open on 15 July 2013.

**HOME ECONOMICS HAPPENINGS**

We welcome our new year 8 students to the school. Classes complete a one semester program of study in Home Economics and at present, nutrition is the focus of study. Students have prepared and sampled recipes using fruit and vegetables, followed by muffin production.

Year 9 Home Economics students start the year with a study of textiles. Students have just completed the sewing of a Bag Bag for storage of recycled shopping bags. Some great designs were achieved.

Year 10 Catering students have been learning knife skills, using precision cutting techniques in class. They are about to taste the benefits of this work when class teacher, Mrs Maslen, combines their produce to make a great meal.

This year 10 group, along with Ms Dearlove’s senior Hospitality students, worked for the recent Investiture Ceremony. Food for the occasion were made in class but students also volunteered their time to assist at the morning tea. Congratulations on a fine effort!!

Lastly, I would like to introduce myself to the school community. My name is Mrs Kym Whyte. I have taken on the role of Head of Department Home Economics/Visual Arts while Mrs Bowers is on leave. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns in relation to your student and their work.

Mrs Kym Whyte

**HOD Home Economics/Visual Arts**

**Year 11 and 12 Authority Art Excursion to GOMA**

As part of the authority art subject Visual Art, students are required to not only produce works of art based on a particular concept, but also critically analyse and appreciate artworks. On a visit to GOMA (Gallery of Modern Art) in Brisbane year 11 and 12 students had the opportunity to view the 7th Asia Pacific Contemporary Art exhibition. This exhibition is the only major exhibition series in the world to focus exclusively on the contemporary art of Asia, the Pacific and Australia. TheAPT7 marks the twentieth anniversary of the APT, and presents an opportunity for artists to reflect on the extraordinary transformations that have occurred in Australia, Asia and the Pacific over the past two decades.

With key themes including transforming landscapes, varied engagements with the city, and the adaptability of local cultures in today’s globalized world, year 11 students were asked as part of their written task to critique an artwork. Whilst year 12 students were asked to view and critique works where personal experiences and ideologies are of importance. Both year 11 and 12 Visual Art students enjoyed the visit to the gallery and gained a true appreciation for the visual arts.

Mrs Carrara

**Visual Art Teacher**
SCHOOLS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION 2013

Congratulations to Nathan Griffiths and Jake Hashin-Jones for their participation in the Convention. Nathan presented a speech to the Convention outlining his arguments in the affirmative addressing the theme of the Convention Program “How should the Australian Constitution recognise Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait peoples as Australia’s first peoples?” He did an excellent presentation. The Convention’s aim is to education senior secondary students about the Australian Constitution and how it guides our democracy. Importantly it also provides students with a rare opportunity and a chance to develop their Leadership and public speaking skills. Students network with other aspirational students and community leaders. Students will hear keynote speakers and participate in debates and plebiscites. The value of this opportunity cannot be overstated, as students were exposed to a wide range of events and personalities within the political and legal fields.

THANK YOU NATHAN AND JAKE FOR BEING EXCELLENT ROLE MODELS AND REPRESnetING NERANG SO WELL.

Margaret Harburg
Legal Studies Senior Teacher
21 February 2013

Events

Our Investiture Assembly allows our school community to welcome our new leaders to their roles. This event was held on the 14th of February. Congratulations to our School Captains, Vice Captains, Prefects, Sports Captains and Student Council Leaders. We look forward to seeing your fantastic work in 2013. Special thanks to our Home Economics Department for catering for the event and to Mrs Berryman for organising the Assembly.

‘Shave For A Cure’ will be held on Friday the 8th of March and we’re hoping to raise lots of money for this very worthy cause. Mr McFarlane has bravely volunteered to have his legs waxed!!! As well as this, Mr Pow will be having his head totally shaved along with two year 8 and two year 9 students. One of these courageous individuals is a girl! To make a donation go to the Shave For A Cure website and search for the person you wish to make the donation for. If you require further information please contact Mr Pow at the school.

The 2013 Musical is well under way with rehearsals occurring every Monday and Thursday evening. We have a cast of around 100 students from a variety of year levels involved with an additional 20 doing our sets and promotional material. Tickets will go on sale in early June and we look forward to seeing you there!

Nerang State High School Newsletter
**Due Dates for Resource Scheme Instalments:**

- **2nd Instalment:** Due by Friday 22nd March 2013
- **3rd and Final Instalment:** Due by Friday 14th June 2013

**Due dates for Laptop Program (Yrs 9, 10 & 11)**

- **2nd Instalment:** Due by Friday 22nd March 2013
- **3rd and Final Instalment:** Due by Friday 14th June 2013

**FINANCE WINDOW**

Please make note of the following dates for the closure of the Finance Window. No monies will be accepted in the last week of Term 1, 2 and 3 and the last two weeks of Term 4. This allows for the End of Term financial procedures to be processed.

**Last day for payments:**
- Term 1 - Friday 22nd March 2013
- Term 2 - Friday 14th June 2013
- Term 3 - Friday 13th September 2013
- Term 4 - Friday 29th November 2013

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: Mrs Lowe on 5503 7888

**NEW OR CHANGED CONTACT DETAILS**

To ensure good school communication if you have moved or simply changed your contact details please supply us with your correct contact details. We are wishing to further improve school communication and would appreciate your email address to be included as well.

Please print this page and complete the tear off section and return to our Administration Office or email our office staff on info@nerangshs.eq.edu.au to ensure your details are current and correct.

Thank you!

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**Go card makes travelling to school easy**

Did you know that if your son or daughter uses a Translink go card to travel to school they save at least 30 per cent on the cost of a single concession paper ticket, which is half of an adult’s fare? What’s more families can register the card so the balance can be protected if the card is lost or stolen. Registering the card also allows families to top-up online or over the phone. They can also set up auto top-up so students will always have funds on their card.


**At Nerang Tennis we are a non for profit club and we are organising a COME N TRY DAY.**

**COME N TRY**
FREE TENNIS COACHING
Saturday 9th March
Nerang Tennis Club
8.30am to 9.30am Adults- Mum’s and Dad’s
9.30am- 11am Kids
Racquets supplied
Call 0411154353 or 0488696939