Principal’s Report

Club 95

This week saw the launch of our ‘Club 95’. Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated with higher student achievement. This is self-evident, in that it is obvious that students will learn best when they are continuously in class having contact with the curriculum and the support that our teachers provide.

Across all Queensland State Schools, the average rate of attendance is 91%. Our school attendance rate for the last 2 years has risen from 83% in 2011 to 91% in 2013. We can do better in terms of this statistic and thus we can do better in terms of supporting our students in getting the very best education they can. I firmly believe that we are a school that can be better than the state average. In light of this our target for attendance is 95%. This expectation of students having less than 5% absenteeism, equates to no more than 2 ½ days of absence each term.

In our school, 95% attendance will get you into ‘Club 95’. To be in ‘Club 95’, students also need to have any absences explained and a no more than 3 days of lateness to school. As a reward, students in ‘Club 95’ will get to attend ‘Lunch with the Principal’ at the end of each term.

Encourage your child to make sure they are organised around being on time to school and that you are following up on providing the school with a reason for absence, by replying to the text message or sending a note into school.

‘Taking a Stand Together’ on Friday 15 March

Our school is taking part in the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence on Friday 15 March. We encourage students to behave responsibly and safely every day. On Thursday we presented our new group of ‘Bully Busters’ to the whole school. These students play a pivotal role in our award winning program, which provides a highly supportive approach around stamping out bullying.

Also, on Friday we put the spotlight on our anti-bullying strategies by organising for all Year 8’s to participate in a full day of activities, and not their regular classes. This is focussing our students on eliminating bullying from our school.

The big messages you can convey to your child are that children who engage in behaviours where they tease, imitate, make fun of, repeatedly exclude or ignore others, or they say things that offend, humiliate or intimidate are behaving as bullies. Remind them that most bullying involves making hurtful statements or telling lies in an online environment. Also, please reinforce that standing by and allowing it to happen, is in fact participating in bullying yourself.

The Bullying. No way! website has information for parents and students about how we can all help create a supportive school environment free from bullying and harassment. http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/

P&C AGM

At the AGM this week we saw Tracey Spiers re-elected to the position of President. Her re-election comes as no surprise; this represents the confidence that the P&C members have in Tracey and the hard work she continually puts into our school. I wanted to thank the outgoing Secretary, Vivienne Gilbert, and Treasurer, Stacey Fisher, and congratulate Leanne Barnes and Kathy Smith on moving into these roles. Leanne’s move from the Vice President role saw Samantha Duncan stepping into fill this position. Thankyou to all who have put their hand up to take on an executive role on our P&C, and also my thanks to those parents who take the time to come to our meetings each month.

Regards

Nerang State High School Newsletter

Nerang High School Interact Club Report

The Interact club is once again selling the Gold Coast and Brisbane Entertainment books. The Gold Coast book is $55 and contains thousands of dollars of savings. These savings be made by using the two for one or 25% off offers at restaurants or fast food venues. If you have a book then you can also make huge savings by using the on line booking system to book accommodation. (I have found this cheaper than the hotel site). You can google Entertainment Books and find out what they have to offer.

If you would like to purchase the new book (which you can start using after receiving it and is valid until 1st of June 2014) you may purchase on line using the link below. If you would prefer not to use the on line payment service then all you need to do is ring the school or email drae6@eq.edu.au to reserve your book and make payment through the finance window ( Monday, Wednesday or Friday). Please note no payments can be made in the last week of this term.


Books will be available for pick up from the office after the 15th of April (term 2)

The Interact Club receives $11 for each book sold. Last year the Interact Club was able to provide $2500 for new seating for students around the school by using the funds from the sales of the books and money raised from BBQs.

The Interact club is in desperate need of new members. If you have a son or daughter who would like to serve the wider Nerang community and the school community then encourage them to attend our next meeting. We do have some activities outside of school time. The meetings are held every two weeks, generally on a Thursday at lunch time. These meetings are advertised through the daily notices. Or send them to see Ms. Rae in Maths block. Interact offers a huge number of opportunities for your sons or daughters through the link with Rotary.

Thank you for your support.

Ms. Debra Rae

BEACON

Nerang State High School is continuing its partnership with the Beacon Foundation in 2013.

Beacon is a national non-profit organisation and works in more than 130 secondary schools across all Australian states and territories. They believe every young Australian will achieve personal success for themselves and their community.

Beacon has an established track record of motivating students to either stay in school and increase their educational engagement and attainment, or, choose a positive pathway that enables successful transition to employment, further education or training.

Beacon’s programs support young people to develop this focus by harnessing community involvement. It works within schools to ensure young people are either earning or learning at vulnerable transition points in their lives.

The Beacon program has a focus on students in Year 10 and a group of ten students have been chosen and undergone training to be Beacon Student Ambassadors, who will be the driving force of the Beacon Foundation program at school.

Our Ambassadors this year are: Bethany Boland, Bayley Cousins, Connor Crotty, Josh Hita-Clowes, Aria Hoffman, Jaimi Lear, Grant Meadows, Ryley Sami, Emily Steele and Taylor Whitby-Wass.

Our first event is our Business Launch, where members of the local community and business will be invited to the school to understand
more about how they can become involved with our school to help ensure that all young people are either learning or earning.

If you would like more information about The Beacon Foundation or to know more about how you can get involved, please visit the Beacon website www.beaconfoundation.com.au or contact the school on (07) 5503 7888.

YEAR 11 LEGAL STUDIES PRESENTATION – FAMILY LAW

Kathy Atkins, Associate Professor at Bond University and a Lawyer for Jones & Mitchell made an excellent presentation to our Year 11 Legal Studies students on Friday, 1st March, 2013. Kathy spoke about marriage, divorce and nullification which are all topical issues that the students will address in their Family Law research assignment. Kathy also brought us up-to-date with some changes that have been made to the Family Law Act. The presentation was very worthwhile and the students gained a good insight into these different issues. We thank Kathy very much for sharing her knowledge and expertise with us which she does voluntarily. On behalf of myself and the students we are very appreciative of your support for our school. Thanking you very much.

Margaret Harburg
Senior Legal Studies Teacher

Nerang State High School is proud to announce that Year 11 student, Kristin Van Der Lee, is one of three Queensland winners of an Outward Bound Scholarship worth $3 300 to attend their Aspiring Leaders National Summit 2013.

The scholarship includes transport to and from Canberra from the Gold Coast, all transfers, food, accommodation and activities across the 8 day expedition. Through the eight days the young people will be presented with a variety of challenges and opportunities that will help expand their understanding of themselves and what they can achieve.

Throughout the Summit, the young people identify a community project they would like to engage with upon return to their school or community.

We wish Kristin the best of luck with this once in a lifetime experience and congratulate her on being one of three recipients of an Outward Bound Scholarship for 2013.

Jamie Quinn
Year Coordinator

LAPTOPS

Dear Parents/Caregiver,

ACER Computers Australia, the supplier of our students’ take-home laptops, has identified an issue with the Aspire 1830 laptops involving hinges and loosening of screws. The company has arranged for a team of technicians to carry out the necessary repair work at school from Friday 22nd March to Thursday 28th March. The service will be carried out under warranty and will involve no cost to you.

We encourage all students with laptops to take advantage of this opportunity to have repairs made. This offer is open to all students, including those whose laptops are currently not experiencing any of the identified problems.

Repairs involving other matters, such as keyboard damage, hardware failure and damaged LCD screens are outside the scope of this visit. Such repairs will still need to be handled under the standard repair process at the school.

Handover of the Laptop will be in class groups within year levels and Students will be advised of the specific details by their teachers. Due to the volume of work students may be without the laptop for an overnight period.

The schedule of collection is:-
- Year 10 collection on Thursday 21 March (period 4)
- Year 9 collection on Monday 25 March (period 1)
- Year 11 collections on Tuesday 26 March (period 4) and Wednesday 27 March (period 3)

List of items covered:-
- Replacement of 2 x 11mm main screws
- Top Lid, if affected by screws
- LCD Bezel, if affected by screws
- Upper Case Assembly, if affected by screws
- Lower Case Assembly, if affected by screws
- Camera Lens if affected by screws (likely the bezel will need to be adjusted)
- Lock tight LHS and RHS Hinge screw
- Lock tight all remaining screws
- 5 x 5mm screws on bottom plate
- 10 x 4mm on bottom Cover D
- Replace and lock tight any missing screws
- Record condition of the unit for future consideration
- Rubber around LCD Bezel
- Rubber Feet on lower casing assembly
- Chipped Plastic Corners if affected by screws
- Remove any labelling from old/damaged plastics and re-affix to new plastics

Please free to contact the school should you have any queries regarding this opportunity.

Regards,
Scott Ison
Principal

Child & Adolescent Oral Health Service

Gold Coast Hospital & Health Service

Students in grades (10,A,B,C,D) have been provided with an offer of oral health care pack to take home.

The pack includes:
- Child & Adolescent Oral Health Service Brochure
- Examination Card

If your child is enrolled in one of the grades listed above and did not receive an offer of care pack and you 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.

2012 yearbooks are still available for sale,
$10 payment must be made to the finance window then book can be collected from the Bookroom

Bookroom Hours
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:30 - 12.00
12:30 - 2.00

Nerang State High School Newsletter
Community news

The P&C Annual General Meeting was held Tuesday 12th March. Thank you to those who attended.

Our new Executive Committee is –

President – Tracey Spiers
Treasurer – Kathryn Smith
Secretary – Leanne Barnes
Vice-President – Samantha Duncan
QCPCA Rep. – Tracey Spiers

We would like to thank the outgoing Treasurer, Stacey Fisher and Secretary, Vivienne Gilbert for their dedication to our school and their valuable time over the years. We wish them and their families all the best.

We would like to thank Councillor Tracey Gilmore for her attendance and support of the school. Tracey recently donated another $400 to the P&C to enable us to purchase a printer for our volunteers to use. This brings Tracey’s donations total of $1600 to the P&C. Thank You Tracey.

Old Mobile Phones! – we currently have 20 mobiles to donate and our target is 35. Please check your drawers and bring in any unwanted phones to the uniform shop, thanks.

Parent Contributions – Thank you to the families who have paid their $30 Parent Contribution. There are approximately 500 families at Nerang High and if each family donated $30 to the P&C we would raise $15,000 per annum. This is the cost of another bus shelter, more seating and shade around the school or half the cost of the netball court re-surfacing. We could accomplish so much with these funds.

Last year a total of under $3000 was raised. If you have not already donated PLEASE consider doing so. For the students who received a scholarship, the Parent Contribution is not included, so please consider making this donation. Please feel free to contact the P&C on pandc@nerangshs.eq.edu.au or my number is 0412267263

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holidays over the Easter Break!

Regards,

Tracey

WEP Student Exchange Info Night

26 March ‘13 / 7 – 8:30pm
Merrimac State High School
Room: Hospitality Centre
Dunlop Court
Merrimac

Suzie Koenig
School Based Youth Health Nurse
Gold Coast HHS
Mon - Fri. 0800hrs - 1600hrs
(Mon Tues Keebra Park SHS, Thurs Fri Nerang SHS)
Work Mobile: 0432 005 262

RESOURCE CENTRE HOURS

Open daily – from 8am-8.45am
Closed – MT
Open – Lunchtime 1.15pm – 1.45pm.

LIBRARY TEACHER AIDE MRS MARILYN RIVET

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. The school bank details are:

BSB: 064 451
Account: 10003546
Account Name: Nerang State High School

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

Term 1 fees are now overdue. Payment of outstanding fees must be paid prior to the acceptance of monies for other school activities eg: sport, excursions and camps.

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 Centrelink. 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!

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.


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.
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.