26 April 2013

Principal’s Report

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Congratulations to our parents. Our first Parent-Teacher Evening for the year was held on April 18 and the school had more bookings made than anytime in the last 2 years. This is a fantastic indicator of the importance our parents place on strong relationships between school and home. If you were unable to attend on the night and wish to contact your child’s teachers, please do not hesitate to do so.

Anzac Day 2013

This year the 25th of April falls on Thursday and I hope you have the opportunity on the public holiday to attend a dawn service and other commemorative event. On Wednesday 24 April we will hold a special assembly to recognise the men and women who served in our defence forces and take a moment to think about what we all should be truly grateful for. Our message will be that ANZAC day is not to celebrate or glorify war, but rather to remember those who have served our country during conflict and crisis. That it is not a day for honouring war – war is a terrible thing and not something to be honoured. We do however, on ANZAC day, honour all the people of Australia who have been involved in conflict to protect our way of life. We honour the Anzac tradition—the ideals of courage, endurance and mateship, that are still as relevant today as when they were born out of the adversity of the Gallipoli campaign that commenced on the 25th of April 1915.

Winter Uniform

The weather is starting to turn cool and students will be looking for a jumper to wear to school. School jumpers are available at the uniform shop, which is open 8:15am-11:00am each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please plan to buy your jumper before it gets too cold to go without.

Should students need an emergency replacement jumper for a day, for security reasons, “hoodies” are not an acceptable alternative. Students need a note of explanation to be out of uniform, as unfortunately the desire to leave a perfectly good uniform at home is something young people will try. I thank parents for their ongoing support in ensuring that our students are in the required school uniform every day.

Club 95

Just over 200 of our students were particularly pleased to be recognised for meeting our attendance target during Term 1. They received their invitation to a BBQ lunch with the Principal on the last day of term. The addition of Easter eggs was a special treat that all Club 95 members really enjoyed.

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

A number of students missed out on being in Club 95 for Term 1 due to excessive lateness or having absences that were unexplained. 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. Please remember that your response needs to include a reason for the absence to allow us to determine if the absence is legitimate and meets the requirements to be authorised.

Regards,
Scott Ison

SENIOR SCHOOLING DEPARTMENT

QUEENSLAND CORE SKILLS (QCS)

Year 12 students this term will commence their preparation for the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test. This will take place on a Thursday during Period 3. It is compulsory for ALL OP eligible students to participate in ALL QCS preparation sessions. The QCS Test will take place in Term 3 on 3 and 4 September 2013. The QCS Test consists of three parts - Writing Task (WT), two Multiple Choice (MC) test papers and one Short Response (SR) test paper.

Students who are OP ineligible may elect participate in the QCS preparation program and sit the QCS Test to obtain a Tertiary Rank. They require this Tertiary Rank should they choose to further their studies at University or TAFE.

Students who are OP ineligible who elect not to sit the QCS Test will be completing an alternative course of study. This involves students completing a Certificate I in Business and Certificate I in Information, Digital Media and Technology. Both of these courses will attract two credit points each towards your student’s Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). Students who may have already achieved one or two of the above certificates will be given the opportunity to complete competencies from their other VET courses or use the lesson to study and complete assignments from other subjects.

Please be advised that we have scheduled three QCS practice Tests on the following dates: (It is IMPERATIVE that QCS students attend ALL three sessions).

1. Term 2 - Thursday 30 May 2013 – Writing Task
2. Term 3 - Thursday 18 July 2013 - Writing Task and Multiple Choice One
3. Term 3 - Friday 19 July 2013 – Short Response and Multiple Choice Two

THE HONOUR’S LIST

For the first time Nerang SHS is proud to introduce a new initiative called ‘The Honour’s List’. Each term the Top 10-15 students from the Year 11 and 12 Cohort will be recognised for their outstanding achievement towards Academic Excellence. Students will be selected according to their Grade Point Average (GPA). Students will be presented with a certificate on Year level assembly and names will be displayed in our new Parent Foyer and also outside the Resource Centre.

Term One Honour’s List will be announced in Week 3 – so watch this space!

If you have any further questions regarding QCS or any other Senior Schooling matters, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Teng or Mrs Jaram on Ph: 5503 7862 or via email at iteng5@eq.edu.au.

Nothing is impossible, the word itself says ‘I’m possible’!
Audrey Hepburn

REMEMBER EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

Mrs Jodie Teng
HOD Senior Schooling

Our partnership with the Beacon Foundation has enabled one of our Year 11 students, Ella Korman-Mason, to be selected to complete a Certificate III in Hospitality Traineeship at the Crowne Plaza.
Demonstrate how legal skills are put into practice. The complimentary activities including a 'client interview' and a 'mock trial', which will be in all year levels are encouraged to attend after school. There will also be a chance to study law and the diverse career options available on the day. So whether you’re looking for a course, a career, a change of thought or an opportunity to start mastering your career, the Gold Coast Careers Expo is the one and only perfect event for you.

The event will be held at RACV Royal Pines Resort on the Gold Coast. Doors open at 9am and close at 8pm. This is a FREE admission event and there will also be FREE parking available for attendees. All students in all year levels are encouraged to attend after school.

Time for Year 10s to think about Pathways

Year 10 students will have the opportunity to listen to guest speakers from TAFE, Griffith University and Busy at Work (apprenticeship/training/ships organisation). This will be part of the Year 10 care program. Students are encouraged to start making decisions about their career pathways. Do they want to go to university, do they need an OP score at the end of Year 12, are they work ready? Throughout this term students will be guided to begin to find answers to these questions. As the Guidance Officer, I will be talking to Year 10s about the decisions they need to make when selecting subjects/pathways for Year 11.

On July 24th we will be holding a Career Expo and “Moving into Year 11 Information night for all parents/guardians and Year 10 students to attend.

Griffith University Uni Reach

Year 11 and Year 12 students have been invited to participate in the Griffith Uni Reach program. This entailed a one day workshop at school where Griffith University mentors worked with students to discuss goals, pathways, courses and general university experiences. This workshop will be followed by a 2 day on campus experience in May for Year 12 students at Griffith University. Students will get to experience tutorials and lectures in their chosen faculty areas, along with student based activities. When applying to study at Griffith University those students who elected to participate in the Uni Reach program are then given an extra OP point to help gain entry along with extra support at uni for their first 12 months. This is a great opportunity for seniors students to prepare for university and make decisions as to whether studying at university is for them.

2013 Law Experience Day - Register now!

Bond University’s Law Experience is a great program aimed at students who have an interest in legal studies and/or a career in law. The program provides budding lawyers with information on what it takes to study law and the diverse career options available. While on campus students will:

- Find out first-hand what studying law is all about
- Discover special topics in law with our professors and legal specialists
- Engage in legal scenarios in our purpose built moot courtrooms; and
- Enjoy lunch and refreshments with current law students

Activities including a ‘client interview’ and a ‘mock trial’, which will demonstrate how legal skills are put into practice. The complimentary program is open to all high school students with teachers and parents welcome, but places are limited. When: Saturday, 18 May 2013 9.00 am – 3.00 pm

Please See Mrs Riley (Guidance Officer) ASAP to register.

Careers that Shape the World

The University of Queensland are holding a career day on Thursday 11th July from 8.45 to 2.30pm for Year 10, 11 and 12 students. Discover a range of careers available from having a UQ degree, participate in interactive sessions.

Students wanting to attend can register online: uq.edu.au/shapeyourworld or see the Guidance Officer.

DEBATING NEWS

Congratulations to the Junior Debating team who won their debate on Wednesday 27 March. Nerang, who remain undefeated in the competition, defeated St. Michaels, arguing that ‘Privacy is a Privilege not a Right’. This year the Junior Debating team consists of Jade Searchfield, Crystal Woods, Lauren Lawler, Josh Clements, Brittany Hampton and Braydon Douglas-Haumaha. Well done to Jade, Lauren and Crystal (pictured above with Brittany) who brought the win home. The next debate will be held on 8 May at Varsity College. Congratulations girls!

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 can 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 wotif 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).


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 meetings. 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
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. 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 RIVETT

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 and Term 2 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:
3rd and Final Instalment: Due by Friday 14th June 2013
Due dates for Laptop Program (Yrs 9, 10 & 11)
3rd and Final Instalment: Due by Friday 14th June 2013

FINANCE WINDOW
OPEN MONDAY WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
Last day for payments:
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!

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.