6 May 2013

Principal’s Report

NAPLAN Tests

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008. On Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May, our Year 9 students will undertake the 2013 NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children. An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued through the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. More information is available at www.nap.edu.au.

Parents can best support their children in this testing by reinforcing the message that while this testing is important, it is not the only tests student will do and we only expect that they will try their hardest. It is important to also ensure students are not feeling overwhelmed or overly anxious about the tests.

Can you also take the time to ensure your son/daughter has the correct equipment for the test to give them the best possible outcome.

Resource Scheme

Payments for the term 2 instalment of the Resource Scheme were due to the school on 19 April and unfortunately we are unable to accept payments for excursions and school activities whilst the Resource Scheme is in arrears. Letters and statements were sent home with Report Cards at the end of Term 1. If you have any questions in relation to your statement, please do not hesitate to contact Cheryl in the Finance Office. Please ensure that if you are on a part payment plan that your payments are up to date, as we are unable to accept payments for new activities unless payments are made on the due dates. Payment plans are available to all families who require assistance in paying their school fees in smaller, manageable amounts.

Club 95

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.

Last Term 211 of our students were particularly pleased to be recognised for meeting our attendance target during Term 1. For this term 56% of students are currently on track to be in Club 95. Of the remaining students, the majority have an issue with ensuring they have explained their absences. If all absences were explained, the number of students who would be on track to be in Club 95 would rise to 87% of our school population.

Please ensure 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.

Higher attendance equals higher student achievement.

Regard,
Scott Ison

YEAR 11 LEGAL STUDIES

LECTURE PRESENTATION BY SENIOR TEACHING FELLOW – IAN STEVENS FROM BOND UNIVERSITY

We wish to thank Ian Stevens for coming to the school and presenting a very interesting topic to our Year 11 Legal Studies students which forms part of their curriculum study. He addressed the topic “What is mine is mine: Unless it is yours without me knowing”. This topic raised many interesting questions and discussions from the students. Ian was able to assist the students in their understanding of how the various legal concepts and principles apply to the old concept that “finders is keepers”. There have been a number of precedent cases handed down by the courts in relation to this issue and the students had the opportunity to get a better understanding of the judgments made in terms of the facts and points of law considered. We are very appreciative of the learning experience gained from Ian Stevens’ presentation.

M Harburg
Legal Studies Teacher

Year 12 Information

Welcome to Term 2! We have had a lot happening with Year 12’s in the first couple of weeks…

We have had the distribution of our Senior Jersey - they look fantastic and the students are really happy with them. It is school policy that students wear a school shirt. We are finding that some senior are not wearing a school shirt underneath their Jersey. The Jersey is an optional item and we require students to wear their appropriate school shirt underneath the Jersey. It is still really quite warm at the moment so if a student is too hot wearing both tops perhaps wait to wear the Jersey when the temperature cools down a bit more.

Cadbury chocolates have arrived!! The student cohort in conjunction with the Student Council are fundraising for the Year 12 Formal. Sale of these chocolates contributes to reducing the cost of the Year 12 Formal ticket. We have a range of delicious Cadbury Chocolates available...
including Boost, Cherry Ripe, Freddo Frogs, Dairy Milk, Timeout, Crunchie all for $1 each. There are still boxes available to be sold-
students get in quick! Please see finance office for collection of boxes and returning of monies. Remember each student is responsible for their allocated box. Please support our students fundraising ventures.

Academic progress. All year 12’s are now aware of the efforts need to be made to either maintain their high level of achievement or work harder to improve academic performance. We would appreciate parental support in their child’s endeavour to succeed and leave Nerang State High School with the best possible qualifications. All students are now participating in the QCS preparation program or gaining a VET Certificate. It is vital that all students attend and make the most of these opportunities provided.

I wish the students good luck for Term 2 and I will leave you with a wise quote from Colin Powell: “There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure”.

Sonia Donnelly
HPE Teacher & Year 12 Co-ordinator

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 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

The Animal Welfare League

Are desperate for blankets, sheets and towels, if you have of these items to spare can you please drop them into the School and Ms Jackson will deliver them to Animal Welfare Thankyou

Guidance Corner

Bond University scholarship applications are now OPEN. Scholarships are open online at www.bond.edu.au/apply. A list of all scholarships available this year, including the eligibility criteria for each can be found at www.bond.edu.au/scholarships.

Scholarship applications close JULY 31, 2013.

Do you or someone you know need support?

RECONNECT Gold Coast

Reconnect helps young people (12 to 18 year olds) living on the Gold Coast between Miami and Helensvale who are at risk of homelessness. Reconnect encourages these young people to become more involved with their family, work, education, training and the community. This is achieved through a program of meditation, case management and practical support for the whole family. Within this, the Restart Program provides an alternative education program for young people (15 - 17 year olds) not enrolled at school. For more information phone Reconnect on (07) 5500 0374.

Kids Help Line

Kids Helpline is Australia’s only free, private and confidential, telephone and online counselling service specifically for young people aged between 5 and 25. Need to talk? Kids Helpline counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Nothing is too big or too small to call us about, and we will always listen and try to understand. If you need to talk to someone now, the fastest way is to call the Kids Helpline phone number and speak with a counsellor. PHONE 1800 55 1800

If you’re not sure about talking to someone on the phone, or can’t get to a phone, you can use our web or email counselling. www.kidshelpline.com.au

We will be holding our breakfast Business Launch on May 15 from 7.00am to 8.00 am.

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in supporting the school and the Beacon Foundation in encouraging students in positive future pathways, please contact the school on 5503 7888.

Thanks

Gordana Jaram

Bookroom Hours

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

Suze 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-6.45am
Closed – MT
Open – Lunchtime 1.15pm – 1.45pm.

LIBRARY TEACHER AIDE MRS MARYLIN 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 & 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 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 7804

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.


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

Students in grades (9,10,8A,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.

Live well with asthma

Are you or someone you care for living well with asthma? If you:
- Wake up coughing, wheezing or breathless
- Struggle to keep up with normal activity
- Use your blue reliever puffer more than three times a week
- Are unsure about the way your medications can work for you

These are all signs your asthma is not well controlled or signs you are not living well with asthma.

If your asthma is limiting your quality of life, Asthma Foundation Queensland invites you to join us for a free one hour Live Well with Asthma workshop. To register please call Asthma Assist on 1800 645 130 or visit http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/QLD/Courses_for_the_community.aspx

Where: Helensvale Community Centre, 31 Discovery Dr, Helensvale

When: Tuesday 21st May 2013

Time: 10:30am – 11:30am

[Image of Asthma Foundation Queensland flyer]