

Newsletter No. 3

Monday 5 March, 2007



Eminent Professor of Education at QUT Guest Speaker at Senior Induction Ceremony

Friday, March 2, saw our Year 12 students formally accept their role as Senior Leaders at our Senior Induction Ceremony. This year our guest of honour was Professor Carmel Diezmann, Professor of Education and Acting Assistant Dean (Research) at Queensland University of Technology. A state school graduate, Carmel initially trained as a primary teacher and worked at a number of Brisbane schools before completing her Masters and PhD in Education. Carmel is responsible for leading and managing the QUT research centre in Education. She is a prolific publisher and has received university, state and national awards for her research and her service to the education profession.

We also welcomed to our school a number of dignitaries, including local State Member for Aspley and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Arts and Training, Ms Bonny Barry, and President of our School P & C Association and Chair of the School Council, Mr Jeff Lurie. We received apologies from local Federal Member for Dickson, Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer, Mr Peter Dutton and Mayor of the Shire of Pine Rivers, Ms Yvonne Chapman.

It was also great to have with us local principals, Mr David Stephenson, Petrie State School, Mr Larry Burke, Kurwongbah State School, Mr Mike Woodward, Bray Park State School and Deputy Principal Ms Toni Allchin, Strathpine West State School.

The Ceremony was chaired by our 2007 School Captains, Megan Goodall and Brendan Lickerman. Student Representative Council Executive Members, Jessica Crowley, Avelima Eliepa, Morgan Reilly and David Bryant and Vice Captains, Jake Dawson and Kimberley Sauer all played a role in conducting the ceremony. In keeping with tradition, we were joined by two of our previous student leaders when our current Year 12s were in Year 8, 2003 School Captain, Mr Nathan Miller and 2003 President of the SRC, Miss Ashleigh Turner.

Our Year 8 students had the opportunity to attend this ceremony and we also especially welcomed the parents and caregivers, grandparents, older siblings etc of our Seniors of 2007.

Congratulations to all Year 12 students who took the pledge to be Seniors for 2007. We look forward to your implementation of the role as leaders and learners in our principal challenge to enrol everyone to achieve the best outcomes for our students.

Congratulations also to the following students who were presented formally with their leadership badges.

School Captains Megan Goodall,
Brendan Lickerman

School Vice Captains Kimberley Sauer,
Jake Dawson

SRC Executive
President Jessica Crowley
Vice President Avelima Eliepa
Secretary Morgan Reilly
Treasurer David Bryant

Music Captains
Concert Band Michael Freeman,

Stage Band

String Ensemble
Dance Captain
Dance Vice Captain

Cassie McMullan
Roslyn Cossins,
Laura Frazer
Keah Woodgate
Lauren Williams
Hailey McKay

House Student Leadership Team:

Pine "Panthers" Nicole Dunne, Michael Fields,
Amy Hartley, Troy Hill,
Candice Luff

Rivers "Rhinos" Paul Muscat, Kelly Napier,
Jaclyn Smith, Lara Tyson,
Jasmine Walker



District Swim Carnival

The District Swim Carnival was recently conducted on Friday, February 16 at Lawnton Pool. As the largest school in the competition and one with a strong history in swimming with our Aquatics Club, Pine Rivers State High School won comfortably on the day.

All Pine Rivers swimmers conducted themselves well, committed to their events and swam hard all day. Many students won multiple events. Standout performances were recorded by Kimberley Sauer Year 12, Katrina Schieber Year 11, Jack Newell and Jasmine Tavella Year 10 and Brenden Hall in Year 9.

Congratulations to the following students who were selected to represent their school and the district at the Regional Swim Carnival:

Year 8

Taylor Cameron	50 backstroke, 50m freestyle, 50m breast stroke
Kevin Lyon	50m freestyle
Rhiannon Richer	50m and 100m breast stroke
Lauren Thompson	50m freestyle and 50m backstroke

Year 9

Amy Corrado	50m freestyle, 50m butterfly, 50m breast stroke
Emma Dunlop	50m backstroke
Brenden Hall	50m backstroke; 50m butterfly and 50m and 100m freestyle
Tiahn Welsh	50m, 100m, 200m freestyle; 50m, 200m butterfly; 50m breast stroke

Year 10

Amelia Gourlay	50m freestyle; 50m butterfly
Jack Newell	50m and 100m backstroke; 50m and 100m butterfly; 50 and 100m freestyle; 200m individual medley
Andrew Quinn	50m and 100m breast stroke
Kimberley Schluter	50 and 100m breast stroke
Jasmin Tavella	50m freestyle, 50m backstroke, 50m butterfly and 50m breast stroke

Year 11

Kirsten Crotty	50m backstroke, 50m butterfly, 50m freestyle, 50m breast stroke
Chris Gerber	50m breast stroke
Katrina Schieber	50m, 100m, 200m backstroke; 50m 100m, 200m freestyle; 50m, 100m butterfly; 50, 100, 200 breast stroke; 200m Individual Medley

Year 12

Michael Fields	50m freestyle; 50m backstroke
Troy Hill	50m breast stroke
Paul Muscat	50m backstroke
Kimberley Sauer	50m, 100m, 200m freestyle; 50m, 100m, 200m butterfly; 50m breast stroke, 50m, 100m backstroke; 200m individual medley
Ebony Smith	50m and 100m freestyle, 50m butterfly, 50m breast stroke



**Pine Rivers State High School
Assists Kirra Surf Life Saving Club to Raise
\$13,000.**

Pine Rivers State High School students have recently been acknowledged by Kirra Surf Life Saving Club Inc for their tremendous efforts to raise funds for the SLSQ Annual Surf Rescue Appeal. Twenty-three students enrolled in our Recreation Certificate course assisted, under the supervision of Head of Department, Mr Ian Roberts, and were great ambassadors for our school. \$13,000 was raised, which will assist in purchasing essential life saving equipment.

Congratulations to: Emily Catlin, Alexandra Dobo, Michael Fields, Candace Green, Amy Hartley, Troy Hill, Kevin Jeffrey, Elisha Lloyd, Selena Long, Tegan Long, Emma McDade, Scott McGrath, Keenan Moy, Fellon Pardoe, Jamie Regan, Krystel Stevenson, Emily Taylor, Lara Tyson, Jazmine Walker, Nicole Wall, Alex Welch, Luke Whittaker, Phillip Wilson.



**Update of Student Details for
Emergency Purposes**

Parents and caregivers are requested to update student details on our data base as a matter of urgency. These include change of home address and phone numbers and work address and contact numbers, as well as additional emergency contact information.

The school requires accurate information in order to manage emergency situations. We also need to be able to contact caregivers promptly to discuss student progress and any relevant issues. Please ask your child to collect a **Change of Details Advice Form** from our office, complete it and return it to the administration.

**International Women's Day
March 8**

**Quilt Raffle to be drawn on
International Women's Day
(IWD)**

The new Year 12 Social Justice Committee have embraced their first challenge of selling raffle tickets to support Ethiopian women in need.

The Quilt of Compassion project was inspired by presentations attended by students on IWD last March. Since then students, staff and community members have been diligently selling raffle tickets for the quilt in the hope of raising \$8000 for the Women's Fistula Hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The beautiful queen-sized quilt is currently on display at Fernwood Gym, Petrie. Tickets are still available from the school office or Social Justice Committee members. The raffle will be drawn on 8th March during events organised by the Social Justice Committee to mark IWD '07.



If you still have raffle booklets and money outstanding, these must be returned urgently to the school office. We thank you for your generous support of this student-driven, and very worthwhile cause.



**Performing Arts
Department**

presents

**The major theatrical
spectacular of 2007**

Musical 2007 Welcome to

**the speakeasy era of gangsters, splurge
guns and Prohibition of**

Bugsy Malone

March 28 30 31

The production is well underway with the student cast including actors, chorus, dancers, musicians. All have their relevant rehearsal times, dates and contracts.

Remaining Rehearsal Dates are:

Sunday March 18, 10am - 4pm;

Wednesday 21 March 9am – 3pm

Your parental support and commitment to these dates are appreciated and integral to the success of this production. Students are to regularly check the master schedule to confirm allocated dates.

Make a date on your calendar – stay tuned for the **Bugsy Malone** spectacular.

**Tickets on sale from March 14 in the
Hall Foyer 1st and 2nd Break.**



**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CAMP
2007**

Instrumental music students began the new school year with a music weekend camp. The focus of this camp was music making and teamwork. It was well attended and provided an excellent opportunity for the new students, our Year 8s, to enter the music program and get to know other students. Conductors, Mr Scott King, Mr Bruce Hamlin and Mr Timo Jarvela, led students through a diverse repertoire designed to enhance the musicianship skills of our Brass, Woodwind, Strings and Percussion students. They were ably assisted by the Music Captains and Section Leaders.

The Camp was very successful with an informal Sunday finale concert well supported and enjoyed by parents. The early signs are that this year promises to be quite an exciting one for our Instrumental Music program. We acknowledge the contribution of our Parent Music Committee (PRIMA) for their assistance behind the scenes. Congratulations to Mr King, Mr Hamlin and Mr Jarvela for all their efforts in providing such a professional musical experience for our students and to all the parents who stayed back to help assemble hall chairs at the end of the concert.

Student music timetables on a rostered basis have now been distributed, as well as Music Handbooks for parents. If more copies are desired, these can be obtained from the Performing Arts Dept.

Ms J Franz, HOD, Performing Arts, Ph 3881 4764.



Music Extension (Performance)

The school offers Music Extension (Performance) to **Year 12** students. This exciting course of study is at a more challenging and exacting level of excellence in music. It leads to the acquisition of significant expertise within a repertoire drawn from Grade 6 to Diploma level.

Students elect to perform on their chosen instrument for solo and ensemble performance. Music students in Year 11 may also choose this subject as preparation for Year 12.

A Year 8 Music Extension course will be offered in Term 3-4. More details will follow mid year.

Instrumental Music Program



All instrumental music students will now have their allocated timetable per term.

Please keep these at home (e.g. side of fridge). The Instrumental Music program caters for brass, woodwind, strings, percussion and guitar. We welcome back Music conductors Mr Scott King (brass/woodwind), Mr Timo Jarvela (strings) and Mr Bruce Hamlin (percussion).

Band rehearsals are as follows:

Concert Band	7:30am Wednesday
Stage Band	7:30am Monday
Wind Ensemble	7.30am Friday
String Ensemble	7:30am Tuesday
Percussion Ensemble	2 nd lunch Wednesday
Jazz Band	1 st lunch Monday

A big welcome to Years 5-7 students from Strathpine State School who join rehearsals with our Wind Ensemble each month as the Middle School Band.



Guitar Tuition

Professional musician, Mr Mitch Reid, extends the music program as our guitar teacher this term. Guitar (classic and acoustic) and bass guitar lessons are available to students at an affordable price in group sessions during school hours. Lessons are structured to suit students from basic skill level to advanced level. Enrolment forms can be collected from the Music Block.

Independent Home Study Policy



All schools have been required to update their homework policy to align with the guidelines in the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, which was passed in the parliament. The following policy was developed by our Teaching and Learning Culture Committee in consultation with students and parents. All students have been informed of our policy.

Independent Home Study Policy Statement of Purpose

Independent home study provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, involve family members in their education and develop skills and behaviours for lifelong learning. The setting of independent home study tasks takes into account the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle, including sufficient time for family, recreation, cultural activities, employment where appropriate, and sleep.

Definition

Independent home study that enhances student learning:

- is purposeful and relevant to the student's needs
- is appropriate to the student's age and course of study
- is appropriate to the capability of the student
- develops the student's independence as a learner
- is varied, challenging and clearly related to class work
- considers the student's other commitments and the need for a balanced lifestyle

Activities that enhance students' learning and develop independence include:

- CONTINUING OR COMPLETING CLASSWORK – doing further work on class activities or assignments. This may also include research.
- REVIEWING AND REFLECTING – reading class notes, thinking about the day's work, noting and learning key facts, terms and concepts.
- COMPLETING SET TASKS – completion of set exercises, tasks or worksheets.
- READING – using text books, library resources, technology, etc.
- WRITING – summaries, paragraphs, essays and other genre / text.
- PRACTISING – completing exercises to improve and consolidate skills.
- RESEARCHING – gaining background information in preparation for class work or assignments.
- EXPERIMENTING – uncovering further findings from a practical activity.
- OBSERVING – seeking ideas and information from television programs, internet, etc.
- MEMORISING – needing to learn new words, spelling, definitions, time, events, facts, formulae, etc to acquire knowledge.
- PREPARING EXHIBITS – collecting and preparing materials for others to view and examine.
- INTERVIEWING – gathering information from others.
- PREPARING – studying and reviewing for assessment activities.
- REVISING – critical reflection and reading of notes to consolidate learning.
- IDENTIFYING – developing self awareness, identifying areas of weakness or difficulty to seek clarification and assistance from teachers.
- DISCUSSING – talking about particular topics to consolidate learning and consider other viewpoints.

Time guidelines

The amount of time spent on independent home study is influenced by the individual student's strengths, abilities and needs, year level, course of study, and assessment load. It is recommended that students in Years 8 and 9 spend on average no more than five hours per week on independent home study. Students in Years 10 – 12 should consider their course of study, aspirations for the future, and other commitments when determining an independent study plan. Year 10 is a transition year and all students should be increasing the amount of time spent on independent home study in preparation for Years 11 and 12. To achieve solid results in the senior years, we recommend that students spend at least 2 hours per week on each Authority subject. Students working to achieve VET competencies may also need to make a substantial commitment of time to complete all required work.

In accordance with Item 22 of the Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2000, if a student fails to complete set independent home study, the principal or a teacher may detain the student. This could be:

- up to 20 minutes during a school break, or
- up to 30 minutes after the school program for the day is finished, with 24 hours notice given to parents / caregivers.

Responsibilities:

Teachers

Teachers should help students establish a routine of regular, independent study by:

- clearly communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations of independent home study
- setting specific independent home study tasks on a regular basis
- ensuring students use the Student Diary provided to record independent home study tasks, requirements and expectations

- regularly checking independent work completed at home and providing timely and useful feedback
- providing tasks that are varied, challenging, directly related to class work and appropriate to students' learning needs and abilities
- explicitly teaching strategies to develop organisational and time-management skills and providing opportunities to practise these strategies through independent home study tasks
- considering other academic and personal development activities (school based or external) in which students could be engaged
- discussing with parents / caregivers any developing issues concerning their child's independent home study habits and suggesting strategies for them to assist with their child's independent home study

Students

Students should take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's independent home study policy
- discussing their independent home study tasks, requirements and expectations with their parents / caregivers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of independent home study tasks and requirements within set time frames
- thoughtfully responding to comments and suggestions made by their teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- seeking teacher assistance with assignments well before due date
- organising their time to effectively manage school requirements, home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment.

Parents/Caregivers

Parents / caregivers should help their children to develop independent learning skills by:

- actively supporting the school's independent home study policy
- providing their child with a regular time and place for quiet, independent home study
- monitoring their child's academic progress
- regularly monitoring their child's independent home study plan and checking their child's Student Diary
- maintaining open communication with their child's teachers
- communicating with teachers if there are exceptional circumstances affecting the completion of set work or assignments
- showing an interest in their child's learning and development

P&C NEWS

Thanks to **Birch, Carroll & Coyle** the lucky winners of the **Movie Pass competition** are displayed on the Student noticeboard outside Admin. Congratulations to all our winners. You and a friend get to see a movie of your choice before April 30. **Please collect and sign for your pass from the Student Counter in the office.**

While on the subject we received a very healthy cheque from Birch, Carroll & Coyle for \$3078.50 last week, as a result of the 50c commission on every movie admission during 2006. What a great surprise with very little effort! P&C will approach the SRC for some suggestions as to how that money could be best

spent to benefit students. Watch out for your new **High School Movie card for 2007**, coming soon.

**AGM P & C Association
on Wednesday March 28
at 7.30pm in the
Staff Common Room.
All are welcome.**

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS:

Looking for a spare uniform to get you to the end of the week? NOW is the time to call into the shop to find a secondhand uniform bargain. All uniforms have been sorted and most sizes are available.

TUCKSHOP TIDBITS:

With little response to our last newsletter, Tuckshop finds itself desperate for helpers on Wednesdays and Fridays. We all have busy lives with many juggling work and home commitments, but many who have joined the Tuckshop roster have made lasting friendships and are able to keep in touch with what happens at school. With just a few more volunteers we can avoid having to pay extra staff for those days and so boost the profits which ultimately benefit the school.

Why not bring a friend? Please call Lewella or Anne – 3881 4738 or 3205 2794.



Dates to Remember

Mon 5	Year 8.09 Moreton Island Year 11 CRC Pool Life Guard Camp 1
Tue 6	Summer Sport Trials (Day 2)
Wed 7	Year 8 (except 8.9) Immunisation 1st Hep B
Thu 8	Tutor Training International Women's Day
Fri 9	Yr 11 Doorway to Construction Presentation
Mon 12	Year 8.02 Moreton Island Camp Year 11 CRC Pool Life Guard Camp 2
Tue 13	Year 8 & 9 Big 8 Rugby League Excursion Year 12 GEG Excursion Regional Sport Trials Day SRC Meeting D Block Dining Room - (1 st Break) Old Arts Council Period 1 (Hall)
Wed 14	Student Leaders M/Tea Healthy Schools Committee SEU 2 nd Lunch Year 12 Hospitality and Year 12 Hospitality Practices Excursion Year 8.9 Immunisation 1st Help B
Thu 15	Tutor Training