

Newsletter No. 5

Monday 30 March, 2009



BURGERTOWN

*33 years of non-stop musical theatre.....Our tradition of wonderful musical theatre lives on...in this delicious new musical comedy...and an Australian Premiere
...Burgertown*

BurgerTown is delightfully set in the Windy City of Chicago. This is the hilarious story of Danny O'Reilly, a timid fry cook who accidentally invents the hottest new craze in the fast-food world, the Triangle Burger, and takes the humble BurgerTown restaurant from its lowly place beneath the tracks to soaring new heights. In this modern day musical, our shy hero encounters bad guys, big business and burgers. He struggles to hold onto his sanity as he chases his dreams for success, romance and a fast-food fortune. Join us for one of the funniest and most entertaining shows you'll see all year.

Performances
7:00 pm

Graham Sprott Hall (enter via Ash Court)
Wednesday April 1, Friday April 3,
Saturday April 4

Tickets: Adults \$13 Concession \$9

Tickets are available online at the school website through www.trybooking.com (credit card required) or phone the school on 3881 4704 to book. Students may pay at the office and take their receipt to J12 during ticket collection times. Tickets also available at the Hall Box Office on the nights of performance. Hope to see you all there.

Early Release Option

Please Note: All students involved in the musical will be able to leave school Thursday period 4 (Access) April 2 to rest between performances. Students have been given early release notes to get signed off by parents/caregivers. Any remaining students will continue to be supervised by Performing Arts teachers at school.

Autumn Chamber Music Concert Brightens Up the Night



On the evening of Tuesday March 17, the Instrumental Music students presented the annual Autumn Chamber Music Concert in the Auditorium.



The entertaining concert featured a number of talented students involved in the school's Strings and Woodwind programmes. The String Ensemble opened with a selection of bright orchestral pieces conducted by Mr Timo Jarvela. This was followed by smaller ensembles and soloists.

Congratulations and thanks to all musicians who performed, accompanist Mrs Delyth Boyd and their teachers Mr Jarvela and Mr King for their efforts in making the evening such a success.



Pine Rivers Instrumental Music Association Executive 2009

Congratulations to the following who were elected to the 2009 executive of the PRIMA Committee which is a sub committee of the P & C Association.

President Mary O'Brien
Vice President Gay Easlea
Secretaries Delyth Boyd, Cheryl Bernardos
Treasurers Michelle Hamlin, Shelley Hall
Catering Team Yoka Dolman, Kym Robinson,
Bronwyn Dunseath, Lorraine Kachel

We thank the outgoing executive president Christine Robinson for her valuable contribution over the years and the efforts of all the members of the 2008 PRIMA for their tremendous work over the last 12 months.



Dux of School Presented Vice Chancellor Scholarship at QUT

The presentation of the prestigious QUT Vice-Chancellor Scholarship was recently conducted. Dux of School 2008, Melissa Treadwell, was one of the recipients. The scholarship is worth \$24,000 and pays for tuition fees for the duration of Melissa's studies.



Extensive Upgrade of Facilities at Pine Rivers State High School

We have recently been informed of our school's success with our submission for State Schools of Tomorrow (SSOT) funding to enhance our school facilities. This was in Round Two of the State Government Classroom Renewal Program. We will receive a major upgrade to our school library valued at \$656,357 approximately and an upgrade of three classrooms to modern digital learning areas in A block estimated to cost \$300,000.

In addition to this State Government funding, our school has recently submitted for three projects to establish external learning areas / shade structures to the value of \$200,000 from the Federal Government's Building Education Revolution (BER) funding.

These projects include an extension of the current amphitheatre protected area with a free standing steel shelter 10m x 9m within the amphitheatre perimeter, a steel structure to the north and western end of our cybercafé at the end of D block

and a free standing steel shelter 12 x 26m with a dome shaped roof between the Library and J block.



Presentation of Rats of Tobruk Award

The Rats of Tobruk Award is a perpetual trophy presented annually to the student who attains the top academic result over two semesters of Year 10 History. This award was instigated many years ago by the Queensland Rats of Tobruk Association as part of their efforts to encourage the study of Australia's historical involvement in conflicts as a means of learning valuable lessons from the past.

Last year this was a very well contested award as there were many great results from the cohort of Year 10 History students. Congratulations to Emma Dunlop now in Year 11 who was presented with this award at a recent assembly.



Social Science

In continuing our strong tradition of involvement in the South East Queensland Zone Schools Constitutional Convention, two of our students participated in the 2009 convention on Thursday February 19 and two students participated in the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island convention on Friday February 20.

The question under debate this year was 'Australia Republic – to be or not to be?'

Both conventions were held in the Undumbi Room, Parliament House with a number of high profile guests and students from a wide range of state and private schools from throughout SE Qld.



Our speakers this year were Emma Dunlop and Waveney Yasso who both spoke extremely well on the topic. They were supported by Josh Smith and Kira Coleman respectively and all four

students represented our school very ably at this worthwhile forum. Both conventions were an enjoyable experience, while allowing the students to gain a greater appreciation of the political and legal structures and processes of our nation.



Well done and congratulations for representing Pine Rivers in such a positive manner go to Emma Dunlop, Josh Smith, Waveney Yasso and Kira Coleman all of Year 11.



Parent Teacher Survey

Thanks are extended to those parents or caregivers who have taken the opportunity to complete the recent satisfaction surveys at our Parent Teacher Reporting evenings.

Those who didn't get time to complete the survey at that time or who couldn't make it to the formal reporting event are encouraged to complete the survey and have it returned to our school office as soon as possible.



2009 Pierre De Coubertin Award

Nominations are being called from students in Years 10 – 12 for consideration for our school's Awardee for the 2009 Pierre de Coubertin Award.

About the Awards

The acknowledged founder of the modern Olympics, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, was convinced that participation in physical activity played a significant role in developing the individual.

The Awards are designed to recognise students who demonstrate initiative, teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play through participation in a variety of sports in the competitive arena. These qualities are consistent with the fundamental aims of the Olympic Movement. The Awards provide our school with the opportunity to acknowledge our Award recipient.

The Pierre de Coubertin Awards strongly support physical education and sport in schools and promote a commitment to positive values. They aim to recognise good sportsmanship and not just elite performance.

Eligibility

Students eligible for the Award must:

- NOT have received the Pierre de Coubertin Award on a previous occasion;
- be enrolled in either Year 10, 11 or 12 in 2009; and
- meet the criteria for the Award.

(Students must be in either Year 11 or 12 to be eligible to attend the International Pierre de Coubertin Youth Forum.)

Criteria

Sport Participation

At some stage during Years 8 – 12, the Award recipient must have represented the school, district or region as a participant in at least three sports in the competitive arena, demonstrating initiative, teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play. One of those sports must be on the current Olympic program.

Literary or Artistic Work

The Award recipient must submit an original piece of literary OR artistic work, which illustrates their appreciation of the Olympic Movement. *(The Australian Olympic Committee and the Department of Education & Training reserve the right to utilise any submitted artwork in official Olympic promotions.)*

Literary or Artistic works can include, but are not limited to, songs, poems, paintings or video footage of creative presentations.

Literary works should be a maximum of 250 words typed on an A4 size page. Artistic works should be a maximum A2 size or equivalent in a 3D context.

This year, student nominees in Year 11 or Year 12 have the opportunity to apply to be selected for the International Pierre de Coubertin Youth Forum to be held in Ancient Olympia, Greece.

For further details and a nomination form, please contact Mr Roberts or Ms Jacobsen from the Phys Ed staffroom. Final date for nominations is Friday, April 24.



Anzac Day Observance Friday April 24 School Contingent to March Saturday April 25

Our school will observe Anzac Day at a short but important ceremony on Friday, April 24,

commencing at 8:55am. This will be organised by our Year 12 Social Justice Committee.

We will invite also our students to march with our school contingent on Anzac Day, Saturday April 25, at the Pine Rivers District march to the Norths Leagues and Services Club, Kallangur. The Year 12 Social Justice Committee expects that we will have a strong response from our students to show our respect for those who have given their lives for the freedom we enjoy in this country.

Students participating in the march on Anzac Day will be required to be at the Kallangur KFC at 8am in full formal uniform. We will march to the Norths Leagues and Services Club, Kallangur in a quiet and respectful manner, led by our student leaders. The parade finishes at 9:30am approximately and students can then be collected or they may stay for the service, which finishes at 10:30am approximately.

Also, our Year 10 History students will be attending the Commemorative Student Anzac Day Service on Thursday April 23 in Brisbane.



Queensland Core Skills Test Preparation

In Term 3, many of our Year 12 students will sit for the Queensland Core Skills Test (QCS). This test, together with school results, will be used by the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) to determine individual student Overall Positions (OPs) and Field Positions (FPs). These results are then used to determine entrance to University. For many students, the QCS test will be the most important exam for which they will ever sit.

The test is conducted over two days, September 1 and September 2. All OP eligible students **MUST** sit for the test. Non OP eligible students may sit for the test if they wish.

The 49 common core curriculum elements (CCEs) tested in the QCS test are embedded in the curriculum of the Authority subjects. These have been made explicit by the subject teacher over the two years of study. In addition, Pine Rivers State High School provides an additional comprehensive QCS preparation program, which begins in Term 4, Year 11.

This program will resume with a practice QCS test the first week of Term on Wednesday April 22 for all Year 12 students who are eligible for an OP and those who are ineligible who wish to sit for the test. Those who don't wish to sit must provide for Mr Cutler, Head of Senior Schooling, an **Application for Exemption** form signed by their parents to this effect. The preparation program continues in access, which has commenced with feedback for students on their practice test. It is imperative that all students attend and participate in these Thursday sessions to maximise their preparation for the tests.

Continuing Preparation for Year 9 NAPLAN Tests



On Thursday April 23, which is in the first week of Term 2, all Year 9 students will have a "formal" practice under full test conditions in the hall in readiness for the Year 9 NAPLAN test. All students have been

exposed already to all sections of the 2008 Year 9 NAPLAN test in a systematic manner over a designated 3 week period across all curriculum areas. This process has occurred with subject teachers assisted with detailed scripts prepared by our curriculum experts in the areas of literacy and numeracy. All areas, writing, reading, language conventions, numeracy using calculators and numeracy without calculators have been covered. All Year 9 teachers are expected to continue to make explicit the literary and numeracy components of their subject area, with reference to the NAPLAN test.

The Year 9 NAPLAN test will take place on May 12, 13 and 14.

A reminder to all students and parents that NAPLAN test materials can be accessed on the QSA website on

www.qsa.qld.edu.au/assessment/1449.html.

Students can access the literacy tasks through our school website through 'Literacy on Line'.

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News from the Maths Department:
"Nobody whoever gave their best regretted it" – George Hallas

MathsOnline - a review: Many parents will have by now seen stories about the fast food giant McDonalds providing free maths tutoring online. This is available at <http://www.mathsonline.com.au> and the program is accessible to all schools and students.

The topics covered in our Years 8-10 are covered by the MathsOnline tutorials while nearly all topics in Years 11 and 12 are covered. These tutorials are all about the basic knowledge and skills of the topics and so provide students with the opportunity to revise, catch up on work due to absences from school or to have the topic explained by someone other than their teacher. In this role the program does a fairly decent job. The explanation of each topic is comprehensive, but I found the delivery to be bland and at times the narration to be annoying.

Queensland maths courses also require students to demonstrate thinking and reasoning, communication, reflection and the ability to problem-solve. MathsOnline does not cater for these requirements.

In general, I believe the program could assist students in their learning of maths, especially those who may have missed some of the early groundwork of a topic. It is therefore well worth investigating by parents and students whether this program is of some use to them.

A concern I do have however, is that parents and students, when registering, are required to give their home address and phone number as well as their email address. I could not find a statement anywhere that this information wouldn't be used for (say) other commercial purposes.

Mr Mal Hartwig, HOD, Mathematics



From the School Nurse

Head Lice

Head lice can be a problem for some families. Here are a few facts to help everyone understand how to detect and treat head lice.

Head Lice

- Head lice are a small wingless, egg laying insect found on human heads, they don't fly and they don't jump.
- Head lice live on the hair and feed by sucking blood from the scalp
- They are the size of a sesame seed or pin head.
- Not everyone who has head lice will scratch their heads.
- Live eggs are less than 1.5cm from the scalp and are attached firmly to the hair shaft.

The most effective way to detect head lice;

- Apply sufficient white conditioner to dry hair to completely cover the scalp and hair from roots to tips
- Use an ordinary comb to untangle hair
- Use head lice comb (metal is preferred) to comb small sections of the hair
- After each stroke wipe the comb onto a white tissue and check for head lice.
- Systematically comb the whole head checking for lice.
- Put all tissues in a plastic bag and dispose of in rubbish.

Treatment

- Non insecticidal treatment using white conditioner and combing can be used every two days until no lice are found for 10 consecutive days.
- There are four different types of insecticide treatments.
- Use as directed by manufacturer ; however you must treat once then treat again in 7-10 days
- If lice are found after 3 weeks of chemical treatment change to a product which has a different active ingredient.

No treatment kills the eggs (nits)

Prevention

- Avoid head to head contact
- Keep long hair tied back
- Don't share brushes, combs or pillows
- Pillow cases of an infected person should be washed daily on hot cycle, or hot ironed or hot dryer

For more information check out the Queensland

Health Website
www.health.qld.gov.au



TUCKSHOP NEWS:

The new Winter menu items have been very popular including Chop Suey and Beef Chow Mein. We also need to thank the Year 12 Students from the *Events Committee* for their contributions of Shepherd's Pie and Chicken, Vegetable & Pasta bake that they have been preparing during their Thursday afternoon *access* time. Watch for more in the daily notices.

We have given away a number of prizes in the Slush-puppy competition lately including a skateboard, hats and numerous free slushies. Don't forget to check your cups for a lucky code. Thank you to the students who have been assisting with the operation of the Slush-puppy machine at lunch times.

We need to advise that there will be some price increases in the hot meal sales at the start of Term 2. All \$3 meals will be increased to \$3.50 to cover costs of fresh food ingredients.

The roster for the rest of term and back to school:

- March** Tues 31 Julie Mc
- April**
- Wed 1 Lexie Mac, David E
- Thurs 2 Ros H, Ursula Mc

- Fri 3 Julie Mc
- Mon 6 Josie (am only)
- Tues 7 Melissa F, Julie Mc
- Wed 8 Lexie Mac
- Thurs 9 Jenny K
- Fri 10 **GOOD FRIDAY–School Holidays**

Back to school

- Tues 21 Cazna S (am only), Jo A, Julie Mc
- Wed 22 Christie G
- Thurs 23 Lexie Mac
- Fri 24 Ray Mac, Julie Mc

Thank you to Jan – our emergency volunteer – who helped out this month.

LOST PROPERTY claims can be made at the Uniform shop on Fridays and at the office every other day. **All lost property is donated to a charity at the end of term.** School uniform items are donated to the 2ndhand uniform shop.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS:

A good supply of **2ndhand winterwear** is available as well as the discontinued nylon jackets (sizes 10,12,14 only) @ \$25ea and matching nylon pants (sizes XS,S,M,L) @ \$15ea. Some fleecy tops (sizes 10-12) and pants (sizes 10,12, 18-22) that have been on the shelf for some time need to be cleared @\$10ea. Don't forget our regular shop hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

8.30 – 11.30am

CLOSED WEDNESDAYS

DATES TO REMEMBER	
Mon 30	YR 8 CAMP POSTPONED TO 6/4/09 Kirra SLSQ Camp (all week) Musical Dress/Tech Rehearsal 5-9pm QSSS Swimming Reps only
Tue 31	SRC Executive Meeting MMC 1 st Break Musical Matinee (Primary Schools)
April Wed 1	SRC Meeting Dining Room (Morning Tea) 7pm Musical - Opening Night Aquatics Club Meeting
Fri 3	Musical Presentation Assembly 7:00pm Musical
Sat 4	7:00pm Musical – Finale
Mon 6	Year 8.9 & 8.12 Camp (4 days) Maroon Outdoor Education Centre, Maroon Dam Year 12 Biology Camp (4 days)
Wed 8	Student Leaders M/Tea Dining Room 7:00pm Yr 12 CRC Northwest Island Parent Information Night
Fri 10	Good Friday
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	
FRIDAY 10 APRIL – MON 20 APRIL (INCLUSIVE)	
Mon 20	Year 8.3 & 8.11 Moreton Island Camp
Tue 21	ALL STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL 7:30pm PRIMA meeting MGM Message U implementation

COMMUNITY NEWS

RIVERS BAPTIST CHURCH SOCCER PLAYER VACANCIES

- Under 9 Born 2000 - 6 places
- Under 11 Born 1998 - 4 places
- Under 13 Born 1996 - 4 places
- Under 14 Born 1995 - 4 places

All games are on the Northside of Brisbane.

For More Info - <http://www.riversbaptist.com/soccer> ,
 soccer@riversbaptist.com or 0402 423 444

Student Exchange Australia, a not-for-profit organisation which is registered with all state and territory departments of education, is pleased to extend an invitation for Pine Rivers State High School students to

attend an information evening in Brisbane on Wednesday, April 8 at the Watermark Hotel, 551 Wickham Terrace, Spring Hill, Brisbane. The session starts at 7:30pm. Further details are available in the newsletter notice which can be downloaded in either [Word](#) format or in [PDF](#) format.

The evening gives students and families the opportunity to learn more about becoming an exchange student and the various scholarship options that are available

