

Newsletter No. 8

Monday 25 May, 2009



Triennial School Review Update

The focus areas for our Triennial School Review being conducted this year are as follows:

- Quality of teaching
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Integration of information communication technologies
- Behaviour management
- Engagement of students with curriculum
- Year 12 student results and destinations
- Positive relationships with community

Our School Council is reviewing the feedback that we have received from students, staff and parents and caregivers and shaping recommendations for action to form the basis for our Strategic Plan for 2010 – 2012. This will be the main agenda item for the meeting next week on Monday June 1.

Thanks to those parents/caregivers who invested two hours with external facilitator, Ms Irene Buhaj, at the end of last term to provide some valuable insights. Thanks to parents/caregivers who have completed the parent survey to date. This is still available for completion if you have not already done so. In addition, parents/caregivers are welcome to make submissions to the School Council by the end of this week for consideration at their meeting next Monday. These should take the form of answers to the three key questions in reference to the above focus areas.

- What are we doing well?
- What is not working?
- What are suggested actions for improvement?

The four Student Focus Groups facilitated by Ms Buhaj provided a mass of information on the topics of 'quality teaching' and 'behaviour management' to support our review. The students involved from Year 10 and Year 12 took their task very seriously and the collated data has been presented by Ms Buhaj to the staff. This has also been provided to the Student Representative Council. Students have been invited also through the SRC to present any additional submissions to our School Council.

Staff have been involved in the review from the beginning of the year with the cross-faculty discussions on student free day and the faculty reviews which have culminated in separate reports to the School Council. Further debate at our Leadership Team meetings has been informed by the learning from the recent District Leaders' Conference. Internationally recognised experts such as Professor Allan Luke, Dr Shanton Chang and Ms Avril Henry provided invaluable insights for a large audience of educators including 11 of our staff leaders, which will assist us in our ongoing challenge to engage the new generation in learning to equip them for a global society.



Pine Rivers State High School Hospitality Team Does School Proud at Coffee Club Strathpine

Coffee Club Strathpine is conducting for the second year the Secondary Schools Hospitality Competition. Four schools are competing this year. The first heat involved teams from Pine Rivers State High School and Clontarf State High School preparing and serving splendid meals to two tables of six official guests. These included the local State Member for Pine Rivers, Ms Carolyn Male, the local Federal Member for Dickson, Mr Peter Dutton, and the Mayor of Moreton Regional Council, Mr Alan Sutherland, and Mrs Sutherland and Inspector Russell Miller, Petrie Police.

Congratulations to our team who did our school proud with a menu of:

- Macadamia Crusted Barramundi
- Sweet Potato Rosti
- Baby Spinach
- Lemon Myrtle Dressing
- Garnish: Sweet Potato and Beetroot Chips

Mystery Dessert:

- Caramelised Banana Pancakes with strawberries and cream.

Thanks to the staff who supported the students in their endeavours, including Mrs Deb Mawston and mentors Ms Sandra Crawford and son Mr Andrew Crawford (chef).

Pine Rivers State High School would like to publicly express our appreciation to Craig Pratt and Bek Ivkovich of Coffee Club, Strathpine, the Judges including Justin McCormick and Adam Fackl, the Sponsors Moreton Bay Regional Council, The Flour Shop, Westfield Strathpine and Coffee Club Strathpine who have provided financial assistance for this great initiative in training.



State Education Week Sunday May 30 – Saturday June 6

Each year, State Education Week is celebrated about this time in order to promote pride in the achievement of the students and our schools in the public education system.

In our school, there are a number of activities planned to highlight the diverse opportunities provided for our students from Year 8 to 12. These include an invitation to parents and caregivers to attend a Special Assembly on Friday, June 5 to visit classrooms in the morning and stay for morning tea.

PROGRAM

Monday June 1	6:30pm School Council meeting Analysis of Recommendations for Triennial School Review
Tuesday, June 2	Metropolitan North Regional Cross Country Trials 6:30pm Year 12 Music Extension Concert 7pm Aquatics Club meeting
Wednesda y June 3	Non Uniform Day
Friday, June 5	Special Education Week Assembly 8:40am – 9:20am Senior 9:25am – 10:05 am Junior Open Day 8:40am – 11:50am



Invitation to Stringfest

Come along to a wonderful evening of musical entertainment provided by our string ensemble

on
Tuesday 26 May
at
6:30pm

in the Auditorium

We will be joined by other ensembles from St Paul's College and Narangba State School (supper provided)



Pine Rivers High BOOKFEST 22 August 2009

Donate your unwanted Books, DVDs, CDs, Games, Magazines and help raise funds for Pine Rivers State High School.

Your donation is greatly appreciated. Please take your books to the Print Room "J" Block. For more information phone Sharlene on 0417 708 654. Organised by PRIMA (Pine Rivers Instrumental Music Parent Group), money raised goes to purchase music instruments.

SPORT

School Cross Country

Fifty-four students competed recently in our School Cross Country event, which was conducted at Pine Rivers Park. All students put in a great effort and twenty-four have been selected across all age groups to compete at the next level. this will involve representation of our school at the Metropolitan North Regional Cross Country Trials to take place on Tuesday June 2 at St Paul's School, Bald Hills.

Congratulations to all students who participated. The House competition resulted in Rivers Rhinos being declared Champion House with 167 points with Pine Panthers being awarded 120 points.

Cross Country Age Champions for 2009 were as follows:

13 yrs	Ben Tesch, Amy Hersant
14 yrs	Jesse Osborne, Chloe Crotty
15 yrs	Cameron Cleland, Rhiannon Richer
16 yrs	Jason McDermott, Simone Spencer
17 yrs	James MacIntyre, Samantha Tesch



Year 11 Student Named in Australian Team for Toyoto World Junior Golf Championships

Congratulations to Cameron Smith of Year 11 who has recently been touted in the press including radio as being the up and coming young star of Golf. Cameron has been named in the Australian team to contest the Toyota World Junior Championships in Japan.

Cameron came second to the reigning Queensland Amateur champion in the Queensland Amateur Title at Nudgee recently with some impressive play.



Year 8 Student Wins Major Championship Awards in Cricket

Congratulations to Jack Perrett of Year 8 who has become the toast of the Bald Hills Lawnton Cricket Club recently. Jack who is the captain of the U13 team won the batting, bowling and all-rounder titles for his club. He also won two out of the 3 club championship awards for bowling and as an all-rounder, which is unprecedented for a young man of his age.



Enhancement of Facilities with Painting Program 2009

The appearance of our school buildings has been enhanced this year with significant funding being provided to paint facilities. The following have been included in this program: Science block, Music block, A block, Manual Arts B7, Pool Grandstand, Pool Amenities block, Pool Pump shed, Library Bag Racks and J block. This additional funding has been appreciated.



Year 11 and 12 Block Exams and Requirements for Completion of Assessment

Year 11 and 12 students will commence Block Exams in three weeks, commencing on Monday June 15 and continuing until Tuesday June 23. The normal program will then resume on Wednesday June 24 and students will be required to attend for the final three days of Term 2.

There are different arrangements for attendance during the block exam time. Generally, Senior students will only be required to be in attendance for their timetabled exams or other assessment tasks. This enables them to undertake quiet study at home between scheduled exams.

Students need to ensure that they are working to achieve a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). Therefore, all students who study VET will be required to be at school for the entire time to complete VET competencies if these have not been completed. In addition, students who have not completed assignments or other previously set assessment tasks in other subjects, must attend school during the 'block exam' time to complete these requirements.

Any absence from an exam or 'completion of requirements' periods must be explained in writing. A medical certificate is required where illness is claimed.

Students are reminded that they must be in full school uniform whilst sitting scheduled block exams or 'completion of requirements' periods at school.



Have your say on the Queensland Education Performance Review

Parents, caregivers and other members of our school community are encouraged to provide feedback on Professor Geoff Masters' recommendations for improving education outcomes in Queensland's primary schools.

His final report, *A Shared Challenge: Improving Literacy, Numeracy and Science Learning in Queensland Primary Schools*, was presented to the Premier of Queensland Anna Bligh and Education and Training Minister Geoff Wilson on 1 May.

Professor Masters' report contains five key recommendations to improve the performance of Queensland primary schools in literacy, numeracy and science.

They are:

1. That all aspiring primary teachers be required to demonstrate through test performances, as a condition of registration, that they meet threshold levels of knowledge about the teaching of literacy, numeracy and science and have sound levels of content knowledge in these areas.
2. That the Queensland Government introduces a new structure and program of advanced professional learning in literacy, numeracy and science for primary school teachers.
3. That additional funding be made available for the advanced training and employment of a number of 'specialist' literacy, numeracy and science teachers to work in schools (and/or district offices) most in need of support.
4. That standard science tests be introduced at Years 4, 6, 8 and 10 for school use in identifying students who are not meeting year-level expectations and for monitoring student progress over time.
5. That the Queensland Government initiates an expert review of international best practice in school leadership development with a view to introducing a new structure and program of advanced professional learning for primary school leaders focused on effective strategies for driving improved school performances in literacy, numeracy and science.

You can read the final report and have your say on the recommendations by visiting the Queensland Education Performance Review website at www.education.qld.gov.au/mastersreview

The consultation period closes on Friday 29 May.



From the Guidance Office Understanding the Adolescent in your house

Anyone who has a child will one day have an adolescent and for some parents with good memories this might be a little scary. The best advice for parents of adolescents, you will be surprised to know, is the same for parents of newborns:

Enjoy your child! Love your child!

This time in a child (and parent's) life is about change and discovery. The reality is that despite

the challenges, most adolescents thrive and survive the teen years while managing to maintain a healthy relationship with their families. As kids grow they gradually demand more independence, and parents must **gradually** grant it. Even as adolescents pursue independence and want to spend more time with their peers they still want to know they have mum and/or dad there for them, as well as a safe home base to retreat to. When kids feel connected to their parent/s, they are less likely to partake in risky behaviours, and more likely to emerge healthier and more secure.

Here are 5 keys to raising teens:

- Love and connect with them – these 2 factors needs to be practised from birth, but while they change don't let your love for them change.
- Monitor and observe – know where they are, what they are doing, who they are with (early practice of this makes it easier to perform).
- Guide but limit – loosen up when you know they are ready for it but don't let go.
- Model and consult – talk to them, ask their advice, include them, help them through tough times by showing them how to problem solve.
- Provide assistance and advocate – although they want to be independent in many respects they also need you to help them to reach their goals.

Remember: *Parents are the most important adult in adolescents' lives. Adolescents crave their parent's love, respect, dependability and guidance. By being there for your child he/she will have a greater chance of becoming a physically, mentally, and emotionally healthy adult AND your good example will live on when they have their children.* Adapted from 'Healthy Teens, Body and Soul, A Parent's Complete Guide' by Marks, A & Rothbart, B. 2003

Future Pathways and Careers

The 2009 Careers Expo was held at Pine Rivers State High School on **May 20**. Exhibitors included all the major Universities, Brisbane North Institute of TAFE, QANTM, MEGT, Endeavour College of Natural Health, SAE, Hospitality Training Association, Australian Training Company, All Trades Qld, Busy@Work, Queensland Police Recruiting, and the Institute of Chartered Accountants.



REMINDER
Family Portrait Day
Saturday 13 June 2009

All bookings to Miss Helen Guilfoyle on
3881 4792 as soon as possible.

Cost: \$15 per sitting (as per paperwork sent home previously)



Non – Uniform Day Wednesday June 3, 2009

The Student Representative Council is conducting a non-uniform day on Wednesday June 3, 2009 in order to raise funds.

Students who choose not to wear full school uniform will contribute a gold coin donation for the privilege.

A high standard of dress is required as usual on these occasions. This is stated clearly in the School Responsible Behaviour Plan booklet for all school community members, which was distributed to students to take home at the beginning of 2009.

These standards include the following:

- Dress must not cause offence or embarrassment to members of the school community. Normal school rules apply to the wearing of jewellery, make-up and footwear.
- All skirts or dresses must be of a suitable length so as not to cause offence.
- Inappropriate slogans should not appear on clothing.
- No bare midriffs, singlets, halter neck tops or dresses, or strapless tops may be worn.



TUCKSHOP NEWS:

Parents, we realise not everyone can donate time to the tuckshop, so another way you could help is to donate some grocery items. Any donations will be gratefully accepted and will assist in keeping our expenses down and create more profit for our school. Please consider donating any of the following items:

Tomato Sauce, Paper towels, Low Fat Mayonnaise, Tuna 95g, Tinned corn kernels, Tinned peas, Tinned sliced Beetroot, Tinned Pineapple Pieces, Croutons, Long Grain Rice, Pasta (elbows or bows), Tinned Apple, Ground Cinnamon, Mixed Spice, Keens Curry Powder, Tinned Tomatoes Crushed, Alfoil, Cling Wrap, Washing Up Detergent, Washing Up Gloves, Chux.

STUDENTS, WOULD YOU LIKE TO WIN AN IPOD!!!

The tuckshop is running a competition for **one lucky student to win an IPOD!!!!** All you have to do is bring along a donation from the list above, place your name and class on a ticket and go into the draw. Tickets are available from the convenors only when you present your grocery item. **The more donations you make, the more times you can enter, the better chance you have of winning.** The competition will run for the remainder of Term 2 and through Term 3. The winner being drawn at the end of Term 3.

Everyone seems to be enjoying the new menu items, don't forget to give us feedback on your preferences.

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers, the roster for the next fortnight as follows:

May

Tues 26 Ros H, Julie Mc
Wed 27 Christie G, can you help today??
Thurs 28 Lexie Mac, Julie Mc
Fri 29 Raye Mac, can you help today??

June

Mon 1 Josie H
Tues 2 Melissa F, Julie Mc
Wed 3 Lexie Mac, David E
Thurs 4 Ros H, Ursula Mc, Julie Mc
Fri 5 Julie Mc
Mon 8 Josie H

Extra Volunteers are needed most days so why not call in and meet the tuckshop staff, stay for a while and provide some much needed assistance. Why not come with a friend, please don't leave it to the next person.



P&C NEWS:

The next meeting will be Wednesday May 27 at 7.30pm in the staffroom of the Admin building. All are welcome. Come along to find out first-hand about life in High School and ask questions directly to the Principal or other staff.



UNIFORM SHOP NEWS:

Cheques for secondhand uniform reimbursements have been issued recently. To assist with our bookkeeping we ask that these cheques be banked as soon as possible. All enquiries to the Uniform shop, Ph. 32052794, 8.30 – 11.30am, **closed Wednesdays.**

DATES TO REMEMBER	
Tue 26	Years 8.6 and 8.11 Camp to Maroon Dam Drama Camp 25/5 – 26/5 SRC Exec Meeting MMC 1 st Break
Wed 27	Year 12 SOS Excursion SEC meeting dining room M/Tea P & C meeting 7:30pm
Thu 28	Year 11 /2 Music theatre Excursion 6pm School Council 6:30pm
Fri 29	Year 12 Road Accident Awareness Program 90mins
JUNE	
Mon 1	School Council
Tue 2	Met North Regional Cross Country Year 12 MUX Concert 6:30pm
Wed 3	Non Uniform Day Student Leaders M/Tea Aquatics Club meeting
Mon 8	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

COMMUNITY NEWS

TEN PIN BOWLING FUNDRAISER

Strathpine Hyperbowl is holding a Disco Bowling Fun Night on Friday June 12 to raise money for their Junior Tenpin Bowling Team to attend the 2010 Nationals in Werribee.

Cost is \$20 per person and this includes bowling, finger food and drink. There will be raffles and prizes throughout the evening to be won. Start time is 7:30pm.

Bookings are essential and can be made by phoning the bowl on 3205 4033.

Students from Pine Rivers State High School are: Jarrod Ludlow, Zac Kemp, Cameron Cleland, Madeline Kemp and Josh Kemp.