



CENTENARY
STATE HIGH SCHOOL



CENTENARY
Chronicle

Achieve more than you thought was possible

Volume 11 No 3
30 March 2009

What's On 2009

Monday, 30 March 2009

District Trials for Sports: 18 Basketball, 19 Orienteering (Week Long)
EAC Excursion
SCRAM Yr 9 Sign On

Tuesday, 31 March 2009

SCRAM Yr 8 Sign On
District Finals Day: Summer Sports (Yrs 8 & 9)

Wednesday, 1 April 2009

Australian Geography Competition

Thursday, 2 April 2009

SCRAM Yr 10 Sign On
QUT Extreme Science Van - Chemistry Workshop (CHM111A)
QUT Extreme Science Van - Chemistry Workshop (CHM111B)
State Swimming Carnival
Yrs 10 & 12 Tourism: Overseas Destinations Expo

Friday, 3 April 2009

Schools Futsal Championships Grand Final
Girls AFL One Night Competition Girls (Yrs 8 & 9)
State Swimming Carnival
Chaplaincy Instrumental Music/Choral Groups Visit to Sinnamon Village

Monday, 6 April 2009

Law Courts Excursion (Yr 11)

Tuesday, 7 April 2009

Brisbane City Council Hepatitis B and HPV DOSE 1 (CPAC) (Yr 8)

Wednesday, 8 April 2009

Parent Teacher Night (Yrs 8-12)

Thursday, 9 April 2009

AFL John Brown Cup Girls Competition (Yr 8)
Legal Studies Excursion (Yr 11)
School Finishes for Easter Break

Friday, 10 April 2009

GOOD FRIDAY

Saturday, 11 April 2009

EASTER SATURDAY

Sunday, 12 April 2009

EASTER SUNDAY

Monday, 20 April 2009

PUPIL FREE DAY
Musical Rehearsal (CPAC)

Tuesday, 21 April 2009

Term 2 Commences
Monday Timetable
ANZAC Day Assembly

Wednesday, 22 April 2009

SCRAM Meet and Greet
P&C Meeting

Thursday, 23 April 2009

QCS Mighty Minds QCS Test Preparation (Yr 12)

Friday, 24 April 2009

QCS Mighty Minds QCS Test Preparation (Yr 12)

Saturday, 25 April 2009

Musical Bump In

Sunday, 26 April 2009

Musical Bump In

Monday, 27 April 2009

Musical Tech Run
Griffith University Talk

Tuesday, 28 April 2009

Centenary SHS & Chamber of Commerce Trade Show
Ipswich Rugby League 9 Wk Comp Commences (Yrs 8-Open)
Yrs 8 & 9 Parent Information Night "Literacy, Numeracy, NAPLAN & QCATS"

Met West Regional Cluster Day #3

Physics Bridges Excursion (Yr 11)

Musical Tech Run

Wednesday, 29 April 2009

Musical Dress Rehearsal 1

Thursday, 30 April 2009

School Cross Country Carnival

Musical Dress Rehearsal 2

Centenary SHS Hurting Game (Yr 8)

Friday, 1 May 2009

Musical Performance (7pm)

EAC Excursion

Saturday, 2 May 2009

Musical Performances (2pm & 7pm)

Reminder!

Is your student not attending school today?

Please phone through to the

Student Absentee Line



3373 4503

Contact Details:

1 Moolanda Street, JINDALEE

PO Box 321 MT OMMANEY Q 4074

Phone: (07) 3373 4555 * Fax: (07) 3373 4500

Email: admin@centenaryshs.eq.edu.au

Web: www.centenaryshs.eq.edu.au

April 22

**P&C Meeting
7:30 PM
Resource Centre**

SCHOOL EXECUTIVE REPORT

Principal:

John Brew

jbrew10@eq.edu.au

Deputy Principals

Julie Hammer (Years 9 & 12)

jhamm26@eq.edu.au

Sallyann Griffith: (Year 10)

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Business Services Manager:

Charmaine Macaulay

cmaca5@eq.edu.au

Ann-Marie Kelly (Years 8 & 11)

akell20@eq.edu.au

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Year 8 Survey Results

An integral component of the school's planning and accountability processes is the surveying of stakeholders. The recent return of Year 8 Parent Surveys has proved to be most informative.

Parents were randomly contacted by the school and asked to rate the school across a number of areas.

The responses indicate a strong support for the school's policies although we accept our need to strive for continuous improvement. The Homework response is both interesting and challenging with strong responses at opposing ends of the continuum. Across the school we need to be fair and reasonable in the quantity of homework issued as well as ensuring that tasks are valid and supportive of classroom learning.

The survey indicates overwhelming support for the school's uniform standards. The enforcement of the school's policy takes up a significant component of time in administration. Knowing that our actions are in line with community expectations is reassuring.

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

On May 12, 13 and 14, our Year 9 students will sit the 2009 National Assessment. The tests in Writing, Reading, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar and Numeracy measure the achievements of all students against national minimum standards.

At Centenary SHS we have imbedded the skills tested in NAPLAN in our school curriculum. In additional preparation, all Year 9 students will sit practice tests over the next week. Feedback will subsequently be provided to our students.

The obvious benefit of the testing program is that it provides evidence of where our students sit in regard to national means and minimum standards. Additionally it provides specific identification of students' skill strengths and weaknesses which will be invaluable in informing responsive teaching practice.

Student Attendance

Centenary SHS has taken a very focused approach over the last few years to addressing student attendance. The logic is very simple ... poor attendance equals poor results. Furthermore it is clear that regular attendance is part of a discipline valued in the workforce.

Traditionally Year 10 has been the year that has seen student attendance bottom out. It is concerning that in recent weeks our Year 12 absentee rate has been the highest in the school at just under 9%. Whilst the school administration will continue to work hard on maximising attendance the word needs to get out there to our senior students that the stakes are high and that every day well and truly counts.

Student Activity

I continue to marvel at the extent of busy student activity at Centenary SHS. Within the plethora of positive student activity occurring around the school a couple of projects have caught my attention in recent weeks.

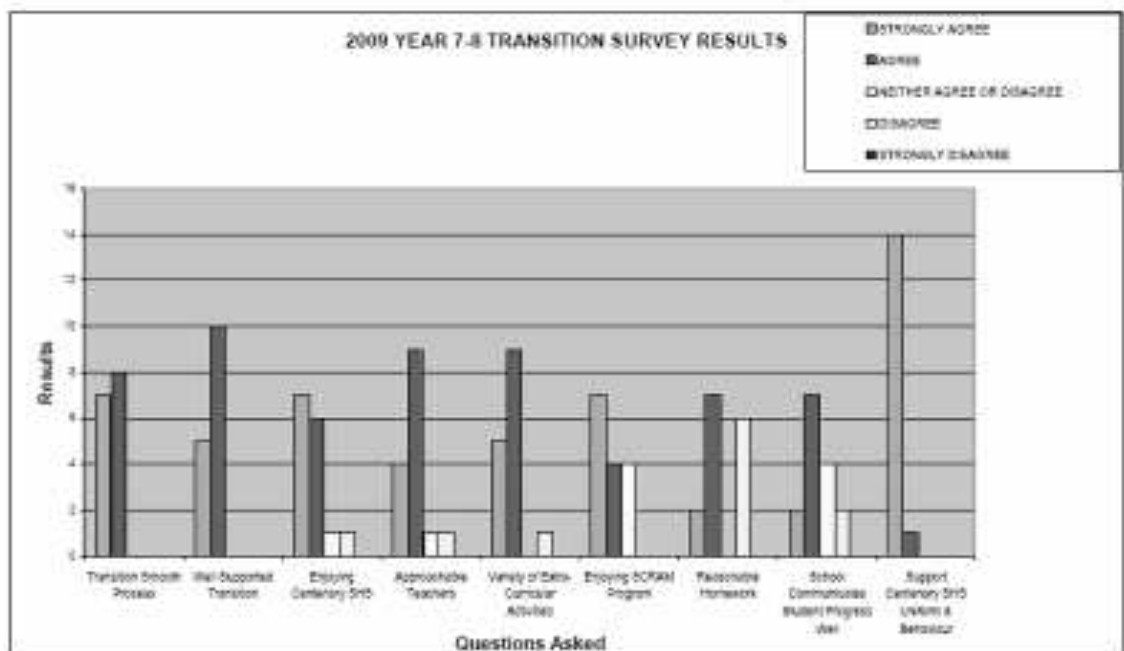
The Year 9 students are attacking their sustainability project with great zeal. The school will be the immediate beneficiary of their efforts however the project hopefully will nurture a life long respect and sensitivity for our environment.

The Year 10s working their projects for the Work Education Certificate are displaying a lot of enthusiasm and enterprise. I have no doubt we are fostering quite a few future entrepreneurs.

Parent Teacher Night

A quick plug for the Parent Teacher Night on Wednesday, April 8. As much as we can communicate via email and print, it is difficult to beat the face to face meeting for quality dialogue. I look forward to seeing you on the night.

John Brew
Principal



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Interim Reports

As the term draws to a close, it is time to review the academic progress of our students. Enclosed with this report is your student's Interim Report. As the school is now using One School the format of the report has changed slightly.

Parent Teacher Night

Please note that the Parent Teacher night is scheduled for Wednesday April 8 from 3.30 – 7.00pm in the General Studies Block as per the school calendar. The school apologises for the incorrect date that was advertised in the last school newsletter. This year the school is implementing a web based booking system for parents/carers to book their teacher interviews. It is hoped that the system will be a more efficient way for parents/carers to book teacher interviews. Enclosed in this mailout is a letter explaining how to book the interviews along with the parent login. As a school we welcome the opportunity to meet with each parent to discuss any concerns you may have regarding your student's progress in their studies.

Year 9 National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

Year 9 students will sit the NAPLAN tests on May 12, 13 and 14. A letter for Year 9 Parents and Carers is enclosed with this newsletter. Please read this letter carefully as there is important information about the test, exemptions and special consideration. Our Year 9 students have all had the opportunity to practice last year's test. Teachers will be providing valuable feedback to students about their progress on these practice tests. If you have any concerns about these tests please contact Julie Hammer (Acting Deputy) who will be the Chief Supervisor of this test (3373 4555).

Student Free Day – Monday April 20

Please note that Monday April 20 is a Student Free Day with all students returning to school on Tuesday April 21. The school will be working a Monday timetable on this day.

ANZAC Day Ceremony

Centenary will be holding our school ANZAC Day ceremony on the first day back at school which will be Tuesday 21 April at 9.00am. In addition, a number of

our School Leaders have nominated to represent Centenary at the Mount Ommaney ANZAC Day ceremony.

Thank You – Western Suburbs Special School

This term we are trialling the packaging of our school newsletter by students from the Western Suburbs Special School who will complete the task as part of their work experience. The students will gain credit toward their Certificate I in Work Readiness and this will assist with future employment opportunities for these young people. Their contribution to the packaging of the newsletter will be of enormous benefit to our school and we are most appreciative to the students and their teachers.

On behalf my colleagues, I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Easter and we look forward to working with you in Term 2.

Ann-Marie Kelly, Sallyann Griffith, Julie Hammer

Deputy Principals

FROM THE BUSINESS SERVICES MANAGER

Updating of Student Information

Please find enclosed within this newsletter, an information sheet from our database with pertinent information regarding emergency contacts, addresses, telephone numbers and emails.

Could you please look at this information and ensure that all of the data is up-to-date and correct and then return it to the administration office **before Friday, April 3.**

Outstanding Accounts

A big thank you to all families who have paid their school fees. Your support and contribution to the school is greatly appreciated.

The school does offer four different payment option plans which are outlined on the back of all invoices.

Anyone experiencing difficulties should contact the Business Services Manager during office hours (8am-4pm) if you need to discuss special arrangements.

Charmaine Macaulay

Business Services Manager

OUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

March has seen lots of smiling faces around our International Office with friendships developing and birthdays celebrated. Our Coordinator, Jane Campbell, has created a very supportive environment for our students, who are also meeting and working with students across the school. Our eight students (Years 8 to 12) are taking part in ESL lessons with Ms Siong, Mrs Hill and Ms Doyle, as are our domestic ESL students. Learning and laughter seem to be well paired in these sessions.

As an International School, Centenary SHS has also been involved in Education Queensland International's (EQI) marketing activities this past month. A large number of educational agents from China, Taiwan, Korea, Vietnam, Germany and Brazil have travelled through Queensland to familiarise themselves with our schools. On Thursday, March 19, Centenary SHS had a stall at the Agents' Minifair at Corinda SHS. Four of our students; two EQI students, Fernando de Paula

and Madoka Mogi plus two Year 11 students, Eloise Rankin and Sushant Chawla, did a wonderful job promoting our school and speaking with the agents with great maturity and enthusiasm. It was interesting for them all to see the extent of the whole EQI program and our involvement. A week later a number of agents visited our school, seeing a range of classes and facilities before talking with students and teachers over morning tea.



Next term we will have several new students joining us, both from abroad and from intensive English classes at Indooroopilly SHS. The International Student Program is certainly building slowly but surely at our school.

Note: Any German students who study with us need to keep up their language studies, mainly in French and Spanish. If you know of anyone prepared to go on a database to provide paid tutoring to these students as required, please contact Sallyann Griffith on the school number.

Sallyann Griffith
Deputy Principal

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Guidance Counsellors:

Vani Naiker (Monday to Friday) (Years 10, 11, 12)
vnaik2@eq.edu.au

Rachael Ryan (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday) (Years 8 & 9)
ryan41@eq.edu.au

Education Adjustment Centre:

Diane Porrill (HOSES)
dporr3@eq.edu.au

Chaplain:

Nick Emery
nemer5@eq.edu.au

School Nurse:

Dyanne Moxham
admin@centenaryshs.eq.edu.au

Student Behaviour Support

Marty Webber
mwebb30@eq.edu.au

NEWS FROM GUIDANCE

It has been an extremely busy start to an exciting year! Here is an update of what's happening in Guidance.

Year 10 - Parent Information Evening – February 24

It was rather encouraging to see such a huge turnout of parents and carers at this event. This was also a great opportunity for staff to meet and talk to parents/carers.

Parents were briefed on:

- ◆ Senior Education and Training (SET) Plans.
- ◆ Subject Selection
- ◆ Vocational Education and Training (VET)
- ◆ Tertiary Entrance, Overall Pathways (OPs) and Field Positions (FPs)
- ◆ Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)

Parents/carers who were unable to attend this information session could attend the next session planned for Term 3.

UMAT - Undergraduate Medical and Health Sciences Admissions Test

Year 12 students who intend to study medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, optometry or any of the health science courses in 2010 must sit for the UMAT exam. Registration for UMAT opens on April 1 and closes on June 5. There is only one test date; Wednesday July 29; so to avoid disappointment, register ASAP. For more information, visit <http://umat.acer.edu.au> or speak to a Guidance Officer.

QCE Tracking

It is envisaged that all Year 12 students will receive a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and students with special needs to be awarded the Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA) at the end of this year. The QCE replaces the old Senior Certificate of Education. The rationale behind the QCE or QCIA:

- ◆ For learners to take greater responsibility for their learning,
- ◆ Especially important to students who seek direct employment straight after Year 12 – a certificate recognised by employers.

Year 12 students, who are at risk of not achieving their QCE at the end of this year, are currently being interviewed by Guidance officers. Parents and students are encouraged to make appointments to discuss any concerns.

Subject Changes

Students must be aware that subject changes could impact on:

- ◆ OP and Field Position Calculations
- ◆ Tertiary entry requirements
- ◆ QCE calculations
- ◆ Levels of Achievement – Year 12 students who have not studied a subject in the previous year or semester could be disadvantaged.

The Hurting Game

On Thursday, April 30 Brainstorm Productions will be presenting "The Hurting Game" to the Year 8 students, a play about peer pressure and being true to yourself.

This is an entertaining way to promote discussion about friendship, body image, teasing, alienation, alcohol, playing the fool and wearing a mask.

Brainstorm Productions have won the NSW Performing Arts Frater Award - "Best Feedback from Schools" category for the last eight years. This show will assist students to recognise and resist peer pressure and help create a more positive school environment.

**Vani Naiker and Rachael Ryan,
Guidance Counsellors**

NEWS FROM THE EDUCATION ADJUSTMENT CENTRE

What a terrific start to 2009! It has kicked off with a great deal of enthusiasm with attendance at our recent Youth Group outing at an all-time high, our support networks being well received and attended, and our sporting achievers continuing their success!

Youth Group

Our first Youth Group outing was a Fast Food Crawl – for obvious reasons, a definite favourite! We started with dessert at Baskin Robbins Ice-cream (as you do), continued on to KFC and ended the evening at Hungry Jacks. Some managed to pace themselves and enjoy their favourite food from all three venues while others had reached their limit two-thirds of the way through. It was very rewarding to see the social interaction between the group and I'm sure they will be looking forward to our next venture at the end of March. Thanks to both students and parents for this supportive and encouraging start to our 2009 Youth Group activities.

Camps

Our first Expanded Core Curriculum camp for the year was held at our Centre during February where we concentrated on the enhancement of living and social skills. Overnight stays proved a great opportunity to assess our students' needs and enable us to gauge the areas which need improvement. Time management skills certainly improved during the course of the camp, proving how beneficial these camps are to both students and teaching staff alike.

Final numbers are in for our two main camps in July and August this year so it's all systems go with fine-tuning the arrangements.

Parent Support Group

A meeting of the "Foresight on the Western Front" parent support group was held on the March 2 and we were encouraged by the parental support we received at the meeting. Discussions revolved around concerns regarding a decline in the services available, and awareness of vision impairment in the community. Other discussion issues included how best, as parents, to deal with attitudes and questions arising from their child's disability. Do we discuss their disability in their presence? Do we go into detail when explaining their disability/reactions/behaviours to others? There are a multitude of questions and concerns and we, as a group, will try to resolve them in an endeavour to attain the best possible outcomes for these children/students/young adults.

"Learning is not attained by chance; it must be sought for with ardour and attended to with diligence" ~

Abigail Adams

The next meeting of the group will be on Tuesday, April 28 at Jamboree Heights State School Vision Impaired Unit, Beanland Street, Jamboree Heights. We look forward to all parents of vision impaired children being able to attend on a regular basis.

Vision Impairment Technology Expo

The EAC hosted a Technology Expo on Wednesday, March 11 from 1-6pm. Displays were presented by Pacific Vision and Vision Australia. It was disappointing that Humanware failed to participate in this Expo at the last minute, but the displays from the other two companies were excellent. Some of the up-to-date equipment on display included CCTVs, PICOs, calculators, hand held magnifiers, vision aids for distance, low vision aids, software programs, etc. We had an excellent turn-out of students, parents, teachers and community members who were seeking to minimise the difficulties experienced by the vision impaired on a daily basis. Thanks to Pacific Vision and Vision Australia for taking time out to present these displays.

Sporting Achievements

Ellie Mills, one of our athletic Year 9 students, continues her success in the pool with more achievements to her credit. Ellie competed at the State Championships on the February 21 and again came away with more successes to her credit in the Athletes with Disabilities section. They included: Winning the Pam Nugent Swimmer of the Meet award; breaking two age records – 13 years; breaking one open record – 200 metres breaststroke; and attaining five personal bests in five events.

Ellie will compete in six events at the State Secondary Schools Championships – the 50 and 100 metres freestyle, 50 and 100 metres backstroke, 50 metres breaststroke and the 200 metres individual medley.

All this training and competition is obviously paying off as Ellie is listed as number twenty-one in the world open breaststroke category. Congratulations on your successes Ellie.

Diane Porrill
HOSES

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

I recently spent some time with a world class communicator and public speaker, who was on a work related trip to Brisbane. During a breakfast session this man presented, he took time to answer questions from those in attendance. One person asked, "What is the best piece of advice you can give to us?" I was stoked that such a question was asked! I was expecting something deeply profound that would rock my world like no other statement ever before. I had pen in hand, ready to engage it with paper so that this piece of wisdom would forever remain with me. I was however left a little disappointed when our guest, in a very casual manner, replied to this monumental question with, "Golf will save your life." Um, actually, I'm pretty sure golf WON'T save MY life, was probably my first thought. But both of us were right.

It was a dramatised illustration of a good point. Golf didn't really save his life, but prioritising time out for himself and his family to keep his very demanding life resembling some sort of normality did. Golf was just his way of expressing that.

All of us deserve a good social outlet to relieve us of the business and demands of life. If you are a parent or provider for children, I can only imagine the weight of those responsibilities. As someone who graduated school not THAT long ago, I empathise with students who have to face the pressures of modern schooling. As someone who has worked six days a week for a number of years now, I am guilty as charged when it comes to this.

My general, personal insight is that young people find pressure boring...and adults find pressure stressful. These are two significant issues of our time. So somehow, somewhere, we have to find a way to medicate ourselves with a bit of pure fun. Find the thing that de-stresses you and guard it. Learn the things that de-stress your family and friends and guard and engage in them too. You and I (and our families, friends, employers and employees) have everything to gain through this.

Coming up in chaplaincy:

- ◆ Breakfast Club kicks off Term 2
- ◆ Chaplaincy Week May 17–24
- ◆ Lunchtime programs and activities

You can also stay up to date with what is happening in chaplaincy at Centenary SHS by visiting the chaplaincy page on the school website.

Happy Easter.

Nick Emery
Chaplain

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Quit Smoking: How to Go About It

Being smoke-free has many benefits that include saving money, having an increased fitness level and having a healthier and often younger looking skin. Quitting requires commitment and a belief that you can succeed. It will also take strength, determination and self-control. The following list outlines some simple things that you can do to help you take control of your life and overcome your tobacco addiction:

- ◆ Quit with a friend
- ◆ Set a quit date
- ◆ Plan your quit attempt (the Quitline 131 848 can help)
- ◆ Plan to use the money you save to buy something you really want
- ◆ Take up some exercise — this does not have to be strenuous, walking is a good start
- ◆ Drink lots of water
- ◆ Learn to deep breathe — this will help when you experience a craving for a cigarette
- ◆ Avoid places where smoking is common or where you usually smoke
- ◆ Remember you're the one in control

See the Youth Health Nurse for more information.

If you would like further quit smoking information please:

- ◆ Phone the Quit Line on 131 848 or visit The National Tobacco Campaign website on www.quitnow.info.au
- ◆ Or contact your School Based Youth Health Nurse (Monday and Friday)

Good Health to all
Dyanne Moxham
SBYHN

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Phone 3274 5564

FROM THE FACULTIES

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THE ARTS NEWS

The first half of the term has certainly been hectic with a number of Arts students attending various camps and excursions. There was a flurry of activity in CPAC when the cultural trip to Melbourne was announced with a rush of eager students seeking out the 35 places available. During the Easter vacation we will be embarking on a three day trip to see "Billy Elliot – the Musical" and "Wicked" which are finishing their runs in Melbourne soon. Closer to home, 61 Dance, Music and Drama students are seeing "Chicago" at QPAC in May and another group of students will have the opportunity to see "Cats" when it returns to Brisbane in July /August.

The Year 11 FTV and New Media and Drama students have had a successful three day camp at Bornhoffen in the Gold Coast Hinterland. There was an opportunity to participate in a gory make up session with many students producing black eyes, bullet wounds and cut throats. There was time for a few rounds of Holy Dido and of course plenty of films to analyse and digest.

There is plenty of interest surrounding the upcoming Musical "Changes" based on the characters from the songs of David Bowie. Rehearsals are progressing well in CPAC with the band, choir, dancers and lead singer/actors and backstage team of over 100 students.

The Year 12 Visual Arts students have now completed their assignment based on works exhibited at the Queensland Art Gallery and the "Optimism" exhibition at the Gallery of Modern Art.

There are always plenty of opportunities for students studying Arts subjects to become involved. Please encourage your child to participate in one of the many programs offered by the Arts faculty, particularly this year which has been designated the Year of Creativity.

Dale Partridge
The Arts HOD

ENGLISH/LOTE NEWS

Is it week nine already? The year is certainly speeding by with exciting teaching and learning occurring every day. Our Year 8 students have been learning to "read" visual images and should be able to analyse the family photo albums with aplomb! Tomorrow's magazine journalists and editors are learning their trade in Year 9, while Year 10 students have been learning about life through a study of literature.

Our Year 11 and 12 students have completed their first

piece of assessment for the year. Year 12s have embraced new technologies and expressed their appreciation of poetry through web logs or "blogs". Meanwhile, our Year 11s have had their say! Using the medium of a feature article, students conveyed their opinions on an issue of concern to Australian youth. Some will be justifiably proud of their results, however even if a disappointing result is received, it is very important for students to learn from the experience. This applies especially to Year 11 students "tasting" the demands of Senior English.

Practical and valuable learning is also taking place in our English Communication classes where students are fine tuning their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills to ensure they will be highly employable in these difficult economic times.

Of course none of this would be possible without the wonderful English teachers who inspire and guide our students. It's time to meet the remaining members of the English Department. Introducing:

- ◆ **Nardus Botha** (Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 English). "I have been teaching in Queensland since 2007 in the areas of English, SOSE and History. My special interest in education is literacy."
- ◆ **Amanda Doyle** (Year 12 English and 11 English Communication). "I have taught at Urangan SHS and Qilu Training College, PR China. I love my gorgeous family, touch footy, growing vegies, painting..."
- ◆ **Sadie Hamilton** (Years 9, 10 and 11 English). "I am a first year graduate and enjoy travelling, tennis, touch football, ultimate Frisbee and eating." Congratulations to Sadie whose year 8 girls' Aussie Rules team had a win!
- ◆ **Brooke Hardwick** (Years 10, 11 and 12 English). "I've been teaching for just over a decade now, in places as hot as Townsville and as cold as Scotland. Teaching is a fantastic job for travelling but I have also learnt that although I may be in a different place, we are all the same in so many ways. My passion lies in photography and I love learning about English idioms."
- ◆ **Strachan Kosanovic** (Year 12 English, Year 12 English Communication). "I have been teaching for eight years, one overseas in England and I've been at Centenary SHS since 2001." Note from Mrs Ivett-Hawes: Although some of Mr K's special interests include pre1970 Ukrainian tractors and long walks on the beach, we all know the most special of his interests is his beautiful new son, Joshua. Congratulations Mr and Mrs K – baby Joshua is a lucky boy to have such wonderful parents!

Below: English Teachers - Nardus Botha, Amanda Doyle, Sadie Hamilton, Brooke Hardwick, Strachan Kosanovic and Andrea Mestroni.



- ◆ **Andrea Mestroni** (Year 8 English). "Centenary SHS is my first appointment after graduating in 2007. My studies focused on the middle years of schooling (Years 6 to 9). I enjoy reading, dancing, music and movies."

With a sizeable chunk of Term 1 now under our belts, some students may begin to experience difficulties with English, behaviour in class or personal issues. Please, please, please: if any difficulty arises, no matter how insignificant it may seem, contact the teacher, Head of Department or Guidance Officer to discuss your concerns. It is vital that small problems don't become big problems. We want our students to be happy and successful, and these smiling faces are only too willing to help!

In future newsletters, look out for the latest information about our Languages Department and the fantastic work our teachers do immersing students in the cultures and languages of Germany and China.

Jenny Ivett-Hawes
English A/HOD

HPE NEWS

Smart Learning Continues in HPE!

This year the HPE department is continuing to deliver learning experiences via two electronic smartboards (interactive whiteboards) to aid with the delivery of all of our learning outcomes in HPE. We acquired these boards last year and are continuing to learn the numerous capabilities of this wonderful technology. We have them in our HPE classrooms and they are being used in every lesson! They are proving to be a very useful teaching and learning tool and so far this year they have been used effectively and efficiently to:

- ◆ Project all learning activities onto the screen
- ◆ Manipulate the activities using the electronic capabilities of the boards
- ◆ View several electronic resources at the touch of the screen
- ◆ Enable whole class viewing of internet material
- ◆ Observe video footage of student performance in a range of sports
- ◆ Observe video footage of expert sportspersons for comparison purposes
- ◆ Enable student presentations to be presented electronically via the big screen.

The boards have been warmly welcomed by the students and they have certainly added a new dimension to the teaching of our HPE lessons. The HPE staff are continuing to investigate further opportunities to continue to enhance the delivery of our learning experiences through the use of the Smartboards. Exciting times ahead for HPE students and teachers!

End of term assessment

I would just like to inform parents that all students studying HPE will be involved in some form of assessment between now and the end of the term. All classes have either Exams, Assignments or Oral presentations over the coming week/s. A full schedule of assessment can be seen on the school website where our assessment calendars have been uploaded.

Can I please encourage parents to encourage students to prepare themselves adequately for their assessment tasks, and to meet all the deadlines so that they give themselves every opportunity of achieving good results?

Sports Uniform

Parents are reminded that sports uniform and hats are required for practical HPE lessons. Please refer to p17-20 of the student diary for the school uniform policy. I can ensure you that all HPE teachers will be

enforcing this policy. Please assist us by having your student/s wear the correct sports uniform for practical HPE lessons.

If you have any queries about the HPE program, please contact me at school.

Regards
Steve Mills
HPE HOD

MATHS NEWS

Mathletics

Centenary SHS is currently investigating using Mathletics as a part of our program in Maths for the rest of this year. It will be an additional tool to help students with homework and in class as an alternative "fun" source of consolidation of mathematical concepts.

Mathletics provides online mental arithmetic practice as well as in depth testing of concepts within our program at a variety of levels. Teachers can tailor programs to suit classes and individual students within each class. This then can be another avenue in providing support and extension material to those students requiring it.

Parents/carers can also register with Mathletics and hence receive weekly reports. These reports will provide details on your student's achievements and progress to date.

Please refer to enclosed Mathletics Letter for more details.

Maths Competitions

2009 is off and running and Term 1 is almost over. As you saw in the last newsletter we will be running several competitions for students in the Mathematics arena in 2009. The Maths Team Challenge is an annual event that is free for students and selection trials for the teams will start shortly.

Maths Tutoring

Before school tutoring (Wednesday 8am-9am), is still being offered in room SC02 for any student who would like some extra help on a weekly basis. It was great to see students taking advantage of the extra contact time this provides with their teachers during the revision week as we had to open a second room to accommodate the extra students.

If any parents/carers have concerns about their student's attendance please contact me as we keep a roll of students attending the tutoring sessions.

Numeracy Testing (NAPLAN)

One of our major priorities for this year is to ensure that the Year 9 students are ready for the NAPLAN Numeracy Tests which will take place in May. All students recently sat the two practice exams i.e. Calculator and Non-Calculator in Week 8. After this, their tests will be marked and students will be given feedback on their results.

To ensure that the students who had some difficulties with the practice exams are better prepared, we will be running optional tutoring sessions before school during the early weeks of Term 2. These sessions will look at specific topics and all students who require extra help will be encouraged to attend.

If you would like more information about NAPLAN, <http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/assessment/1407.html> provides all the information you need.

If you would like a marking guide to analyse how your student is going compared to other Queensland students you can go to the following site: <http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/assessment/7972.html>.

Please keep in mind that the NAPLAN testing is only one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting

process, and does not replace the more extensive and informed judgments made about your child's day to day progress by his/her teacher.

More information about the testing will be sent home with students after the Easter Vacation period.

Graphic Calculators

The Graphics Calculators have arrived and students have been informed through the daily notices that they are available for collection. If you have placed an order and still not collected a Graphic Calculator from the office can you please do so by Easter. If you still need to get a Graphics Calculators I do have some still available but they will be on a first come basis at the office with full payment of \$155 required.

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Darren Teale
Mathematics A/HOD



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RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

As the term has motored ever forward, so too has the level of activity in the Resource Centre. In fact before school and during breaks the library has been teeming with students reading, studying, working on assignments, using computers or just taking a little down time. It's fantastic to see the place so busy and I have to admit I love it. However, it may well be worth chatting to your busy students at home about using the library after school. This time slot, until 4pm, is still underused in my opinion and can provide additional opportunities for students to study and access the resources they need.

In previous newsletters you may also remember that I mentioned that, as a school, we were looking into purchasing a range of quality data bases for student use. As it turns out we are in fact working in conjunction with Brisbane City Council Libraries to have access to their resources. My aim is to have all of our students signed on as members and using the fantastic services the Brisbane City Council provides free of charge to members. Apart from a huge array of quality data bases for research, there's free tutoring in English, Maths and Science, online computer tutorials, eBooks and downloads. Students can also chat online with a librarian and receive help with researching assignments and of course borrow from the Brisbane City Council's incredible paper collection. It is an amazing resource.

To help us meet this one hundred percent sign on goal, Marilyn from the Mt. Ommaney Brisbane City Council Library will be with me at our Parent/Teacher night to chat to parents/carers and sign up families. This very much demonstrates the commitment of Mt. Ommaney Brisbane City Council Library to the support our students, educationally. So can I please ask that if you are currently not a member, that you bring photo ID on April 8 to the Parent/Teacher night and an account, card or licence that has your current address. A Medicare card or student ID will also allow you to have all children in the family signed up. Cards will be signed on the night and then processed by Marilyn at the library in the days following the Parent/Teacher evening.

Marilyn and I both look forward to touching base with parents on the night, running through the Brisbane City Council Library services and having a chat.

Anne-Marie Price
Resource Centre Manager

CULTURAL COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Cultural Coordinator:

Mark Watkins

mwat16@eq.edu.au



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CAMP 2009

From March 2-6, about 180 students and teachers from the school instrumental and choral program attended five days of camp at Mt Tamborine. The concert band and string orchestra attended from Monday to Wednesday, with the symphonic band, stage band, chamber strings and choir members joining them on Wednesday and staying until Friday.

The camp was extremely hard work for all involved, with 5 rehearsal sessions spread across the day starting at 8.30am going through til 8pm at night. All ensembles improved greatly from the concentrated rehearsal process which helped to bring unity and cohesion to the groups. There was also a lot of fun along the way, including movies, trivia challenges and football.

The majority of the rehearsal time was spent on the preparation of pieces for the upcoming "Lost in Space" show in Term 2. This concert will feature all of the ensembles performing music inspired by outer space and science fiction. More information about the show will be coming up in future newsletters, so keep an eye out!

Thank you to all of the students involved for their hard work, dedication and fantastic behaviour; you did Centenary SHS proud. Thanks also to the teachers who gave up their own time, worked tirelessly and stayed up late to make sure everyone was safely in their beds: Mr Zorzetto, Mrs Harvey, Mr Partridge, Mrs O'Brien and Mr Loughheed. We now start to prepare for camp in 2010! Can't wait!

Mark Watkins
Cultural Coordinator

YEAR LEVEL COORDINATORS REPORT

Year 8: Berenice Furlong

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Year 9: Jean-Pierre Rossouw

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Year 11: Nicole Heuir

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Year 10: Brad Lambert

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Year 12: Strachan Kosanovic

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YEAR 8 COORDINATOR NEWS

As we approach the end of Term 1 it is hard to believe that we have accomplished so much. The Year 8s have had an impressive start to the year considering the hurdles associated with starting a new school. I am very pleased with how well the majority of students have handled complying with the uniform policy, understanding their timetables, found all their different classrooms on time and managed to "fit in" with life at Centenary SHS.

HSG Program

During HSG students have been participating in an innovative and interactive career exploration program called "The Real Game" (adapted). Students have been learning about many aspects of real life that they will one day face as adults – working, earning money, budgeting for housing, groceries, transportation and other needs and planning for the future. The students are required to complete the program by role-playing a specific career. (Ask your child what job they were given.) The students are currently deciding how they are going to maintain their desired lifestyle based on the income they will receive – the reality of working life.

Mid Semester Reports

With mid semester reports being completed it is an ideal time to reflect on the progress of your child. On Wednesday April 8 Parent/Teacher interviews will take place at school. This is the perfect forum to discuss your student's result and progress in a specific subject. I also look forward to meeting parents on the evening.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for supporting us in the uniform policy. Thank you also to

a number of parents who have contacted me via phone or email to alert me to any concerns. Please don't hesitate to contact me regarding any issue.

I wish you and your families a safe and happy end of term break.

Berenice Furlong
Year 8 Coordinator

YEAR 12 COORDINATOR NEWS

It's great to be back at Centenary SHS after a few weeks off with the birth of my first child. Joshua's arrival has certainly given me a different perspective on life and a new appreciation of the challenging role of parent-hood. With so many great kids in Year 12, I might be ringing people up for some advice!

The senior jerseys turned up in my absence and I'd like to thank Andrea Mestroni for taking on the onerous task of distributing 200 odd jerseys to raving students who wanted them there and then. It is the earliest we have received the jerseys and this is a great outcome for those students who showed initiative and got themselves so organised last year – well done. I think the jerseys look wonderful, mainly as they resemble the might Roosters NRL strip.

At this point teachers have completed reports for curriculum areas – could I encourage parents to make appointments with their student's teacher – particularly if it has been requested. This year is so crucial for our Year 12 group and a network of support from teachers, parents, friends and support staff is needed to get the best out of our group.

Work is already underway to get the formal up and running. I'll be working with the Year 12 student council to organise an incredibly exciting addition to this year's celebrations – stay tuned.

As always, feel free to contact me if there are any issues with which I can assist.

Strachan Kosanovic
Year 12 Coordinator



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MY FIRST DAYS AT HIGH SCHOOL

What is high school? A fresh start? A new beginning? A totally new way of learning? Here are some of my experiences at Centenary SHS.

High School is all those things; starting all over again, meeting new friends (or seeing some familiar faces) and a totally new school. It's the same for all of us. As I don't know a lot of people, I felt anxious like I was lost in a crowd.

Thanks to my HSG teacher, the Year 11 Mentors and the orientation day, I learnt my way around the buildings, met new teachers, made new friends and had an idea about what is expected in a Year 8 class.

Being through the first 4 weeks of Year 8 I have been enjoying a more advanced knowledge in some subjects for example AAP (Arts Appreciation) HPE (Health and Physical Education) and Science. I feel great as I developed more skills and know more.

I am enjoying being a Year 8 student at Centenary SHS because I feel like I have grown my own independence and responsibility and improved my time management skills.

Tuong Dong
CU 8A

SPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sports Director:

Simon Wright



swrig69@eq.edu.au

House Coordinators:

Curragundi: Jess Porter

Jarup: Melanie Osborne

Moolanda: Sharren Warren

Yallambee: Patrick Griffin

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SPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Results since last newsletter:

Swimming

- ◆ District Carnival – Congratulations to the 33 members of the school swimming team who competed in the District Swimming Carnival, against the seven other High schools in our district, for the title of District Swimming Champions. At the end of a gruelling day of races we were awarded the Percentage Trophy – a very good result. A special mention must go to Kate Irvine who set the only record of the day in the 19 Years Girls 50 m Butterfly – Well done Kate.
- ◆ Metropolitan West Regional Swimming Carnival - Congratulations to Kate Irvine and Paige Mu who have both been selected in the Met West Regional team to swim at the State Championships in April. Best of luck girls.

Met West Regional Cluster Days

- ◆ Results from Regional Cluster Day 2, March 10: Congratulations to these students who represented Centenary SHS in the West Brisbane district team, and were subsequently selected in the Met West Regional Team to go on and contest State Championships.
 - ◆ Darryn Harkins – AFL
 - ◆ Doug Blaikie – Soccer
 - ◆ Kate Irvine – Soccer
 - ◆ BJ Tierney – Rugby League
 - ◆ Darren Starmer – Soccer
 - ◆ Sam Donaldson – Soccer
 - ◆ Nathan Counsel – Golf
 - ◆ Luke Nerdal – Rugby League
 - ◆ Scott Yearbury - Baseball

Well done to all of these students and good luck at the upcoming State Championships.

- ◆ Regional Cluster Day 3, April 28: Sports on offer for trials are Basketball for Open age Boys and Girls, and Orienteering for Open age Boys and Girls. Information on district sports trials (March 30) in these sports will be posted on the sport centre notice board as it is received from convenors.

AFL – Brisbane Lions Cup

On Tuesday, March 10, 28 boys competed in the Brisbane Lions Cup at Coorparoo – the first time our school has entered the state-wide competition.

The boys played two games. The first was against Morayfield SHS, which they won 6-4-46 to 3-3-21. In the second game they were narrowly defeated by 9 points by Corinda SHS.

Mr Webber said the team was to be commended on how they played: with aggression at the ball, fast ball movement and accurate goal kicking. Special mention must go to:

- ◆ Brandon Cook who defended with courage, and
- ◆ Tori Joyce, for his speed on the wing.

The 2nd round of the competition is on April 28, so training will recommence early next Term.

AFL – Jonathan Brown Cup

Also on Tuesday, March 10, the Year 8 AFL Girls team, accompanied by Miss Hamilton, participated in the Jonathon Brown Cup at Yeronga AFL grounds. Despite limited training and lack of experience, the girls displayed impressive skills and determination to defeat each of the opposing teams on their way to the final.

The girls were able to maintain composure and continue their winning ways to overwhelm Park Ridge in the Grand Final. The final score: Centenary, 5-1-36 defeating Park Ridge, 4-1-29. This win made our Year 8 Girls AFL Team the District Premiers.

Congratulations to all girls involved, and good luck in the next phase of the competition!!!

Upcoming Events

Years 8 and 9 Sports Day – Coming up on March 31, the school will be entering teams in the Years 8 and 9 District Sports Day. This day provides competition for Years 8 and 9 teams in Volleyball (Boys and Girls), Softball (Girls), Basketball (Boys and Girls) and Touch (Boys and Girls), against the seven other schools that make up our district. Students play a round robin carnival and the winning team is announced at the end of the day.

Trials have already been held and students will be training in the lead up to the day. The selected students have been given a note that provides all the details about venues, times, buses and costs. The students will be required to show that note to parents to have it signed, and then return it to school.

Parents are invited to come along for the day and watch their students compete.

March

30 District Trials for Open Boys and Girls Basketball

31 Years 8 & 9 Sports Day – Basketball, Volleyball, Touch, Softball

April

28 Regional Cluster Day 3

30 School Cross Country at Rocks Riverside Park

Reporting Results

- ◆ To enable me to report on student results and to keep accurate records for sports awards, I need to know how participants went in their competitions. I encourage all students and parents to advise me of their results immediately after they have competed.
- ◆ Students can see me in Staffroom 4 or results can be emailed to: swrig69@eq.edu.au

Sports Calendar and Weekly Sports Report

Version 3 of the Centenary SHS Sport Calendar can now be downloaded from the download section of the school website. It contains all the latest sporting events and dates. A new addition to our website is the weekly sports report. It can be viewed via the News and Events link on the school website.

Simon Wright
Sports Director

SCRAM REPORT

Scram Coordinator: Deanne Kertesz

dkert1@eq.edu.au



SCRAM NEWS

Term 1 SCRAM has flown by so quickly and it has been so pleasing and rewarding to see all the students so involved in each of their activities.

I must at this point however reiterate the importance of SCRAM. This program is beneficial to all involved, particularly staff and students. Students learn new skills, meet and work with others and are encouraged to participate. Due to the relaxed environment, students can develop valuable relationships with teachers outside the working environment.

A reminder to all that SCRAM is compulsory for the junior school, making it an integral part of our school curriculum. This program is valued highly in the school which is why it is disappointing to see a small minority seek to 'opt out' of SCRAM. This is not an option and any attempts will be dealt with in the same manner as any other curriculum lesson.

On a more positive note, in Week 9 we saw students sign up during a SCRAM assembly for new sports which included: Fitness for Rugby, Netball, Soccer

and AFL squads and Social Sports on the Courts for those that would like to compete socially. This process worked effectively for first term and it was excellent to see so many students get involved.

During Week 10 we will see the rest of the students in Years 8 to 10 sign up to new activities. Remember if signing up to a payment activity then you must have your money on the appropriate sign up day. Students also must also have a second or even third preference just in case their activity is full or gets cancelled.

Sign Up Days & Times

- Monday March 30 - Year 9
8:00am - 8:50am (Before school)
- Tuesday March 31 - Year 8
10:20 - 11:05 (A.M Break)
- Wednesday April 1 - Year 10
1:25 - 1:55 (P.M Break)

Deanne Kertesz
SCRAM Coordinator

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS / PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

SPIKER SPORTS COMPETITION

Social Volleyball is on again! In the coming weeks Volleyball QLD will be starting a new competition for players of all ages, shapes and sizes. Spiker Sports is held at Brisbane Grammar School on Tuesday nights and, whether you're a skilled volleyballer or have never played before, is a great way to get active and have fun. So form a team with your friends, or we can link you up with some other players, and get into Social Volleyball! Nomination forms can be downloaded from the VQ website - www.qva.org.au. Phone (07) 3367 1991 or E-mail om@qva.org.au.

" Get involved in Social Volleyball! "

SPIKER SPORTS



WHERE: Brisbane Grammar School

WHEN: Every Tuesday night

- In the coming weeks Volleyball QLD will be starting a new competition for players of all ages, shapes and sizes
- Whether you're a skilled volleyballer, or have never set foot on a court, Spiker Sports is a great way to get active and have fun
- So form a team with your friends, or we can link you up with some other players, and get into Social Volleyball!

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