Inside this issue

Principal’s Message..................2
Deputy Principal’s Message ....3
Spark Eng Camp ......................4
EALD Faculty news ..................4
Music ................................5
Literacy/Numeracy Week......5
Griffith University .................5
National Science Week..........6
Enrolments now open 2015......7
Community News...............7

Special points of interest

• Story Bridge
• Music students visit Fairfield High
• Enrolments open for 2015

Dates to remember

27-29 Aug ......Yr 10 LPP Parent Int
2-3 Sept ........QCS Test
10 Sept ......... Yr 12 Block Exams
22 Sept - 3 Oct...School Holidays
6 Oct ............Public Holiday

Uniform Shop Hours

8 am to 10 am Mon - Fri

Payment Window Hours

8 am to 3 pm Mon - Wed - Fri
How can you help your child in reading?
Reading is the key to unlocking learning success for students so please find listed below some helpful hints you can use to support your student develop further their reading skills.

- Show your child that you value reading by reading whenever you can.
- Encourage a positive attitude to books.
- Provide a variety of texts for your child to read to you, e.g. stories, comics, poems, plays, cartoons, reference books, magazines, children's recipe books.
- Encourage your child to borrow books from the library.
- Encourage your child to predict what a book is about from the cover and illustrations.
- Talk about illustrations and diagrams in books and discuss how they add meaning to text.
- Encourage your child to read books for enjoyment as well as for information.
- Encourage your child to talk about characters and events in texts.
- Ask your child to think of possible beginnings and endings for stories read and heard.
- ‘Sound out’ difficult words and/or give clues to the meaning of difficult words.
- Praise your child when they are reading, e.g. ‘well done — that was a difficult word’.
- Encourage your child to have a go at reading words that are unfamiliar.
- Ask your child to read on past the unknown word to gain clues from the rest of the sentence.
- Show your child how to find the meanings of unfamiliar words in dictionaries.
- Encourage your child to watch films and videos of books they have read.
- Talk about the ways in which a film version of a book compares with the print version.
- If your child is having difficulty with reading, or not enjoying reading, ask your child’s teacher for help.

School News
School life has now settled down after the events of our Senior Schooling, Junior Secondary and ILC Week at the beginning of the term and we are currently undertaking a review of this program in order to evaluate its effectiveness.

During the past few weeks there has also been a number of exciting events take place around the school. Starting with our Parent Teacher Interviews which provided families with a great opportunity to discuss their student’s progress with staff. It was very pleasing to see so many families in attendance and taking a strong interest in their child’s education.

Recently approximately 120 of our students received a free bike via a Logan City Council event which was sponsored by Coca Cola. Sam Willowby (BMX Champion) was also in attendance to help students assemble their bikes. This event also received recognition in our local newspaper.

We have also been celebrating our students’ successes from Semester 1 at our Honour’s Ceremonies that have been happening during the past week. It is incredibly pleasing and exciting to see so many of our students receiving acknowledgement for all their hard work and efforts. Congratulations to all our recipients.

Maths Program
During this year we have been in discussions with QUT (Queensland University of Technology) in relation to a mathematics program they have created which looks to develop students’ numeracy skills and overcome any numeracy deficits they may have. Recently we have made a decision to move ahead with purchasing this program and so in the upcoming months we will be in a planning phase with QUT in order to prepare staff to deliver this program in 2015.

Staff News
Congratulations to Ms Lyndsey McKean (HOD Senior Schooling), who has been offered a position in Central Office until the end of this year. Ms Robyn Gooley from Shailer Park State High School will be replacing Ms McKean whilst she is working in Central Office. We extend a very warm welcome to Ms Gooley and look forward to her joining us here at Woodridge SHS.

Exciting News
Last month I reported that there was a significant amount of maintenance occurring around the school. Recently, the male and female student toilets have been completed and are now operational and maintenance work continues around the school as well as some playground areas being upgraded.

The new Junior Secondary and Community building is nearing completion and due to be handed over very soon. During the last week furniture has started to arrive and the finishing touches are taking place, so we are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to start using these facilities.

Cont’d
Junior Secondary
2015 Year 7 & 8 enrolment Interviews are currently occurring along with a number of primary school visits taking place by our staff. Families are also able to make a booking to undertake a school tour by contacting the office. Further information sessions for families and transition programs for both students and staff are also being planned. The last week of term will also be a special time for Junior Secondary with a number of special events being planned.

School Uniform
The school uniform is a crucial part of the culture of our school. Students need to be dressed appropriately for this school and be clearly identifiable by all community members. The students are proud to wear the uniform as it sets us apart from others and distinguishes us as a unique place of learning.

Your support with the following will greatly enhance our school culture:
- Purchasing only all black lace up shoes.
- Purchasing only white socks.
- Purchasing only white undershirts.
- Purchasing a plain royal blue jumper.

School Website
Our new website is up and running and I would encourage all families to visit the new website and review the information on it. Q Schools website link to download the free app (Q schools).

Upcoming Events
- 27 - 29 August – Year 10 SET Plan Interviews
- 2 & 3 September – QCS (Queensland Core Skills) Test
- 10 -13 September – Year 12 Block Exams
- 15 -19 September – Enrolment Week Junior Secondary
- 15 -19 September – Year 11 Work Placement
- 20 September – 6 October – School Holidays
- 7 October – Term 4 commences

Geoff Sippel
Principal

From the Deputies
In the last two weeks we have acknowledged our Senior and Junior students with our twice-yearly Honours parades. This has been a wonderful opportunity to congratulate the efforts of students, including a growing list of students who achieve 100% attendance. Well done to all our students for their hard work. Enrolments are now open for 2015 and I encourage all families to make an enrolment interview in this term to ensure your students place for 2015. “E-Week” in the last week of this term will see students from all the local primary schools invited to our school to work in the new Junior Secondary building and experience high school life for a day.

One of the exciting projects for 2015 is the further development of our Academy programs. Our sports program, previously known as JSA, will evolve into HPS – High Performance Sport, and for the first time we are introducing our Junior Academy of Music, or “JAM”. These programs will be open for application and selection in term four to all students enrolled for 2015. For further information please contact Ruby on reception for details of school tours and enrolment interviews.

How much sleep is your teenager getting each night? Adolescents need between nine and ten hours of sleep every night. This is more than an adult needs, yet research indicates most adolescents only get seven or eight hours – some get even less. Regularly not getting enough sleep can affect a teenager's academic and sporting performance and may increase emotional problems. Even 30 minutes of extra sleep each night makes a difference.

Some tips for parents:
Try not to argue with your teenager about bedtime. Instead, discuss the issue with them. Together, brainstorm ways to increase their nightly quota of sleep. Suggestions include:
- Allow your child to sleep in on the weekends.
- Encourage an early night every Sunday. A late night on Sunday followed by an early Monday morning will make your child drowsy for the start of the school week.
- Decide together on appropriate time limits for any stimulating activity such as homework, television or computer games. Encourage restful activities during the evening, especially directly before bed, such as reading.
- Assess your child’s weekly schedule together and see if they are overcommitted. Help them to trim activities.
- Encourage your child to take an afternoon nap after school to help recharge their battery, if they have time.

Work together to adjust your teenager's body clock.
Every day at school we see the effects of students not getting enough sleep at night and the direct impact this can have on academic achievement in the classroom and general behaviour around school.

Rod Flood, Glyn Jones, Stephanie Wade
Deputy Principals
SPARK ENGINEERING CAMP

Congratulations to Somayeh, Mortassa and Samuel. These students were selected to attend a week camp at the University of Queensland for students aspiring to study Engineering after leaving Secondary School. The camp was held during the first week of the July school holidays. The selection process involved students presenting information about themselves and also about a topic that relates to Engineering. Each student also needed to be nominated by member of staff from the school.

All three students had a fantastic time, met many other friendly students and enjoyed the range of activities. Particularly, they all said that highlight was the “Story Bridge Climb”.

Once again, congratulations to Somayeh, Mortassa and Sam.

Fiona Dodd - Head of Department – Mathematics

EALD Faculty News

It has been another busy term already and it is quite hard to believe that Term 3 is almost over.

We started Term 3 with the ILC Week – a week of activities and experiences that were designed to inspire students’ thinking, broaden their general knowledge and celebrate their talents. Some of these activities included a performance by a Pacific Islander dance group, catapult making, song writing, boomerang painting, language games and team building games. The week finished with a combined Year 8, 9 and ILC Talent Concert that was enjoyed by all.

Our Intensive Language Centre (ILC) classes continue to be rigorous learning places for our students. On top of the main task of learning how to read, write, speak and listen in English, our students have excitedly welcomed the use of iPads into their classrooms. The iPads and the carefully chosen apps provide a unique opportunity for our ILC teachers to use technology in a safe learning environment that meets our students learning needs. The apps that our students and teachers have most enjoyed using are Book Creator, Inspiration and Maths Fight. We wait with great anticipation to see the books that our students create over the next few weeks.

Another opportunity that was provided to many of our ILC students this term was to participate in the community-based Happiness Cycle program. This program saw 120 of our students make and keep a bike during an excursion to the Logan Metro Indoor Sports Centre. This program is focussed on providing teenagers a chance to improve their physical health and wellbeing as well as develop their independence. It was a wonderful opportunity for many of our ILC students and definitely provided many happy smiles.

Our Year 10 ESL students are now planning for their senior school studies. This process includes a meeting with myself or Ms Sullivan and the HOD for Futures at which each child gets to discuss their preferences for their future studies as well as review their current outcomes. This is an important conversation between the student, their parent/caregiver and the school that is designed to support students as they approach this important stage of their schooling.

Key assessment times for all ESL and ILC students are quickly approaching. Good luck with all of this upcoming work.

Kate Davis - EALD HOSES
FAIRVALE High School was treated to a spectacular performance by students from Queensland's Woodridge State High School last Tuesday.

About 45 students and five teachers from the school visited Fairvale High as part of their VET entertainment course, which included a five-day tour in Sydney.

Janelle Grills, Fairvale High School's assistant national partnerships manager, said the aim of the visit was to build a stronger connection between the two schools.

"The partnership is to provide the opportunity for students from both schools to work collaboratively by sharing a common interest in music, skills and talent," Ms Grills said.

"The time spent together enabled staff and students to share their experiences and ideas. "This experience has inspired both schools to work side by side in the future."

Woodridge High students gave a concert that included large band set-ups as well as small acoustic pieces.

Ms Grills said the repertoire comprised music from the 70s to the present, as well as original compositions by students.

"Year 11 music students from Fairvale High were also invited to perform at the concert as part of the Pasifika engagement," she said.

"They opened the concert by performing a cappella, acoustic and band arrangements of popular songs."

Ms Grills said she was proud of the school's music students who took part in the concert.

Fairvale High School hosted a special lunch for the performers.

Sydney Music Tour 2014.

Every now and again you get a massive buzz from your job. The Sydney trip was one of those occasions. Taking 45 students, from 5 schools, 1,000 kms by bus to perform at 5 venues, ranging from elite private schools to scouting groups, reinforces the reason we become educators. Not only did the students perform to an extremely high standard, they made friends where ever they performed. Our itinerary was as follows;

- **Day 1** - leave WSHS by 7am – arrive Sydney 8:30pm
- **Day 2** - Perform at Ravenswood Girls High – they have a massive auditorium and restaurant with 4 chefs and a barista! (we prepared spaghetti bolognaise for dinner)
- **Day 3** - Combined performance at Fairvale High then performance at Bundilla Scout Camp for relatives and scouts. (barbecue dinner)
- **Day 4** - Performed at Granville South Performing Arts High then visited the Opera House with impromptu acoustic performance on the steps. (dinner was a Chinese banquet)
- **Day 5** - Combined performance at Granville Boy’s High School. Ede feast provided by GBHS was a hit.
- **Day 6** - Avoided some bush fires on the trip back to Brisbane, arriving back at 9pm!!!!

What a trip! All students gained a massive amount of experience and completed several competencies towards their Certificate III. The staff, on the other hand, recovered - eventually.

Where to next year?

*Dave Stuart - HOD, The Arts (Acting)*
Do you have a child in year 6 or 7 right now? Enrol them now for 2015 in Junior Secondary at Woodridge State High School.

The development of our Junior Secondary program for years 7, 8 & 9, has been an exciting process for our school and we are eager to accept new students for 2015.

Our Junior Secondary students will be located in our brand new purpose built $7 million building. Our experienced staff are a mix of secondary and primary teachers, working collaboratively to help your student achieve to the best of their abilities in a safe and secure environment.

The flagship of Junior Secondary will be our Academies, allowing students to pursue studies where they have a passion and aptitude for excellence. These are:

- Junior Academic Extension – allowing high performance academic students to extend their academic performance in a challenging environment.
- JAM – our Junior Music Academy, at the cutting edge of arts education with opportunities in traditional or contemporary music.
- HPS – High Performance Sport, allowing for students to extend their sporting talents with a dedicated elective class.

At Woodridge State High School our positive behaviour program, including rewards and awards for students has been recognised as best practice amongst Logan schools. Our student support structure covers Indigenous, Pacific Islanders, refugee, and mainstream support for all students. Specialist staff working with care teachers and year co-ordinators provide students with a comprehensive well-being program.

For more information, school tours are available at 9.30am every Tuesday, call Ruby on 3290 7222 to book in, or arrange another suitable time. To confirm the enrolment for your student please call the school on 3290 7222 and book an enrolment interview.

Keep up to date with all that is happening on our school website www.woodridgeshs.eq.edu.au
National Science Week

To celebrate National Science Week, a group of Year 10 students and our regular STEM club members visited the Translational Research Institute located on the grounds of the Princess Alexander Hospital. They were able to tour the laboratories – the origin of world class medical research changing cancer treatments and developing new vaccines. After listening to Dr Fiona Simpson speak on the difficulties and joys of a career in medical research the students headed to the laboratory to undertake their own experiments. They were able to observe HeLa cells dividing under a binocular microscope, learn micropipetting skills and run a gel electrophoresis to separate DNA fragments. With the level of skill and enthusiasm shown by our students, we may have unearthed the next generation of researchers.

STEM Club

Tuesday afternoons after schools a busy time for some of our curious Science students as they attend STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) club till approximately 4pm. During this time students undertake a variety activities ranging from the chemistry of toffee, the magic of jumping flames to bridge building.

STEM club activities are open to our Years 8, 9 and 10 students. With so many after school activities and commitments, we recognise that a student may not be able to attend every Tuesday afternoon and activities are arranged around this. A roll is kept so that the school and caregivers can confirm attendance.

If you would like more information please contact your student’s Science teacher. We look forward to seeing your student at one of our activity afternoons.

Deanne Blackmore - HOD Science
Welcome to the National Literacy and Numeracy week at Woodridge State High School.

The Week will be held during 25-31 August and we are excited to celebrate literacy and numeracy learning with our students and parents. During this week there will be a number of literacy and numeracy activities with some great prizes! Please encourage your child to get involved and to have a go.

This year, we would also love for parents and families to get involved. Your positive engagement and involvement will only help your child’s learning.

There are many everyday things you can do to encourage literacy learning. These include:

- encouraging your child to read and view a variety of texts such as newspapers, novels, comics, magazines, websites, email, timetables, instructions and recipes. It does not matter which language these are written in.
- encouraging your child to speak and listen for a variety of purposes such as sharing a joke, giving instructions or asking for information.
- playing games that develop knowledge and an enjoyment of words.
- making use of community resources such as the local and school libraries, clubs, community groups and websites.

Have a happy Literacy and Numeracy Week everyone!

The Teaching and Learning Team

Griffith University’s Year 12 Program at Logan Campus

Throughout 2014, Year 12 Business students at Woodridge State High School have been partaking in Griffith University’s Year 12 Program at Logan Campus. Students attended three sessions (one per term), which gave them a great opportunity to develop an insight into University Life.

During the program, students engaged in lectures based on a theme and were required to complete an assessment at the end of each day. Students were given the option to choose from two strands: Business Management or Commerce.

Due to hard work and determination, all students who began the course met the necessary achievement levels and can therefore apply for a Guaranteed offer of Entry into the Griffith Business School degree or double degree.

On Friday 22nd August, the graduation ceremony took place in the main Auditorium at Logan Campus. Congratulations to the following graduating students:

- Hannah Billings
- Mainelyn Embel
- Konio Holeong
- Tai Ioane
- Samuel Kerswell
- Noran Linggod
- Johnathan Mafoe
- Rosa Neema
- Denis Bosco Oyoo
- Latel Afamasaga
- Trinity Elia
- Saadia Karimi
- Adela Nyandatwa

Jason English - Acting HoD Business / IT / eLearning

Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Program

Positive Culture, Improved Behaviour
Greater Performance
Tuesday Afternoon Maths Homework Club

Students from Year 8 to Year 12 are invited to attend Tuesday afternoon tutorials in the Woodridge State High School Library. Mathematics teachers will assist students in areas they are having problems, provide help with homework concerns and extend students that would like that little bit extra.

Where: Woodridge State High School Library
When: Tuesday afternoons
Time: 2.45 to 4.00pm

This is a reminder to all families, that ALL PAYMENTS can only be accepted on: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY’S.

Heavily Funded Training in Health

Health Industry Training is a not-for-profit Registered Training Organisation representing the professional interest of General Practice and Primary Health Care in Queensland.

Health Industry Training is offering highly subsidised qualifications for parents who are interested in working within the health industry. At a cost of $320.00 for concession participants and $600.00 for non-concession participants, this will allow you to complete a Nationally recognised qualification in Allied Health Assistance, Health Service Assistance, Health Administration, Community Services Work, Aged Care, Disability, Home and Community Care, Youth work, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health care and Health Support Services.

For further information please call Health Industry Training on 1300 381 415

Tuckshop News

We are still looking for volunteers. If you can help please contact John on 32907208 during school hours.

Heavily Funded Training in Health

Health Industry Training is a not-for-profit Registered Training Organisation representing the professional interest of General Practice and Primary Health Care in Queensland.

Health Industry Training is offering highly subsidised qualifications for parents who are interested in working within the health industry. At a cost of $320.00 for concession participants and $600.00 for non-concession participants, this will allow you to complete a Nationally recognised qualification in Allied Health Assistance, Health Service Assistance, Health Administration, Community Services Work, Aged Care, Disability, Home and Community Care, Youth work, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health care and Health Support Services.

For further information please call Health Industry Training on 1300 381 415

Tuckshop News

We are still looking for volunteers. If you can help please contact John on 32907208 during school hours.

Heavily Funded Training in Health

Health Industry Training is a not-for-profit Registered Training Organisation representing the professional interest of General Practice and Primary Health Care in Queensland.

Health Industry Training is offering highly subsidised qualifications for parents who are interested in working within the health industry. At a cost of $320.00 for concession participants and $600.00 for non-concession participants, this will allow you to complete a Nationally recognised qualification in Allied Health Assistance, Health Service Assistance, Health Administration, Community Services Work, Aged Care, Disability, Home and Community Care, Youth work, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health care and Health Support Services.

For further information please call Health Industry Training on 1300 381 415

Heavily Funded Training in Health

Health Industry Training is a not-for-profit Registered Training Organisation representing the professional interest of General Practice and Primary Health Care in Queensland.

Health Industry Training is offering highly subsidised qualifications for parents who are interested in working within the health industry. At a cost of $320.00 for concession participants and $600.00 for non-concession participants, this will allow you to complete a Nationally recognised qualification in Allied Health Assistance, Health Service Assistance, Health Administration, Community Services Work, Aged Care, Disability, Home and Community Care, Youth work, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health care and Health Support Services.

For further information please call Health Industry Training on 1300 381 415

Heavily Funded Training in Health

Health Industry Training is a not-for-profit Registered Training Organisation representing the professional interest of General Practice and Primary Health Care in Queensland.

Health Industry Training is offering highly subsidised qualifications for parents who are interested in working within the health industry. At a cost of $320.00 for concession participants and $600.00 for non-concession participants, this will allow you to complete a Nationally recognised qualification in Allied Health Assistance, Health Service Assistance, Health Administration, Community Services Work, Aged Care, Disability, Home and Community Care, Youth work, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health care and Health Support Services.

For further information please call Health Industry Training on 1300 381 415

Heavily Funded Training in Health

Health Industry Training is a not-for-profit Registered Training Organisation representing the professional interest of General Practice and Primary Health Care in Queensland.

Health Industry Training is offering highly subsidised qualifications for parents who are interested in working within the health industry. At a cost of $320.00 for concession participants and $600.00 for non-concession participants, this will allow you to complete a Nationally recognised qualification in Allied Health Assistance, Health Service Assistance, Health Administration, Community Services Work, Aged Care, Disability, Home and Community Care, Youth work, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health care and Health Support Services.

For further information please call Health Industry Training on 1300 381 415

Heavily Funded Training in Health

Health Industry Training is a not-for-profit Registered Training Organisation representing the professional interest of General Practice and Primary Health Care in Queensland.

Health Industry Training is offering highly subsidised qualifications for parents who are interested in working within the health industry. At a cost of $320.00 for concession participants and $600.00 for non-concession participants, this will allow you to complete a Nationally recognised qualification in Allied Health Assistance, Health Service Assistance, Health Administration, Community Services Work, Aged Care, Disability, Home and Community Care, Youth work, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health care and Health Support Services.

For further information please call Health Industry Training on 1300 381 415