



Scientia
Knowledge
is power *Est*
Potestas

Brisbane State High Newsletter

Issue Date: 22 Jun 2009 Issue No: 119

Upcoming Dates

16-06 to 24-06
Year 11 & 12 block exam
20-06 CREATE Arts Festival - 6pm,
Merivale Campus
25-06 School social
27-06 Last day of Term 2
13-07 Student free day
14-07 First day of Term 3

School Office

Opening times:

Monday	8am -> 4pm
Tuesday	8am -> 4pm
Wednesday	8am -> 4pm
Thursday	8am -> 4pm
Friday	8am -> 4pm
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	CLOSED

Uniform Shop

Opening times:

Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	8am -> 11am 3pm -> 5pm
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	8am -> 11am
Friday	8am -> 11am
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	CLOSED



It is the connections between us all that drive who we are

From The Executive Principal...

Six degrees of separation...

The oddest and most apparently disconnected events often create the most interesting reflections.

We have all now encountered the reality via the Human Swine Influenza that as our world has shrunk due to the impact of social change, technology and relatively cheap travel, we can no longer expect to isolate ourselves from our fellow earthlings when things go astray.

And then amongst my morning emails is one from a parent acknowledging a senior student for a random act of kindness in which she had a chat to his Year 8 daughter at debating. Small pebbles can create big ripples.

Two events – one global and one a small private moment. But two events that demonstrate clearly that it is the connections between us all that drive who we are, what we do and what we dream of achieving.

A **good** school is a place where individuals have great opportunities to pursue their personal best.

In **great** schools, staff and students support each other in connected and interconnected teams to their individual best, team best and just maybe – school best.

My estimation would be that State High is a good school aiming to be great in relation to this connectedness.



Brisbane State High School
MUSGRAVE PARK,
SOUTH BRISBANE, 4101



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The concept and practise of connectedness and service is well established in the ethos of this school. Students **do** support each other actively, staff **do** go the extra mile, and past students, staff and parents are active supporters of our current students.

But how might we move from the verge of greatness to another level?

The Goal B Operational Plan Working Party – “Making a large school seem smaller” is developing a proposal related to creating ‘vertical’ year level form classes for 2010 and beyond. This concept is still very much in the thinking and reflecting stage but it seems to me that an opportunity each school day for the same group of students from each of our year levels (Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12) to meet together with the same teacher would be a powerful step to improve student connectedness and student leadership. As part of that proposal, Pastoral Care classes would remain in an age appropriate format.

The Goal B Working Party is interested in your view on this concept.

Please email Mark Law – The.Principal@brisbaneshs.eq.edu.au – if you have any feedback for their consideration.

2009 Key Projects...

Continuing our series of snapshot reflections of why each of our 2009 Operational Plan Key Projects is critical to our school and of course, our students.

Goal D

Establishing our key partners.

State High is a powerful ‘brand’. Our intent through the Goal D strategies is to ensure that Brisbane State High School has a range of partnerships which add value to quality educational outcomes for our students.

The Goal D Working Party will be refining and developing strategies in order to:

- **Create links with strategically significant primary schools:** Already we are in the process of developing sustainable and specific curriculum links with Graceville State School, Wilston State School, Bulimba State School and of course West End State School.
- **Refine school community engagement strategies:** We really began this work through our extensive community consultation process and it is now continuing in a range of strategies including significant parent involvement in the Operational Plan Working Parties.
- **Create new partnerships with the tertiary sector and significant business and industry:** We are beginning this work by negotiating a unique alliance with the University of Queensland.
- **Action a refined marketing plan:** This work will take the newly established State High ‘branding’ to a range of markets.
- **Refine selective entry processes:** You may be aware that we have already began the process of trialling a Year 5 Academic Merit Conditional Selective Entry Process for Year 8 (2012) with the entrance test being held at the school on Thursday August 13. ([Information is available from our website](#)).

Working Party members for Goal D are:

Goal D		Establishing our key partners	
Goal Leader	Leanne Hooper		
Representatives	Andrew Conquest	Deb Dawson (Parent representative)	
	Bronwyn Dewar	Anja Janosevic	
	Amalia Kidd	Monika Rhodes	
	Kerrie Richards		
	Student Representatives:		
	C.Grace (8H)		
	J.Pendrith (8N)		

All of this probably adds up to the ‘quiet achiever’ (Brisbane State High School) possibly becoming just a little bit more ‘noisy’!

School Website...

Brisbane State High School has a new school web address: www.statehigh.com.au and we are currently in the process of finalising our new-look school branding and standardising our use of logos, sub-logos and school colours. The updated and refreshed look to State High publications is the result of a wide consultation process involving teachers, students, parents and graphic design professionals.

And finally...

It was an amazing experience for me recently to have lunch with Sir Leo Hielscher (Brisbane State High School Class of 1941). You will know Sir Leo as the current Chairman of the Queensland Treasury Corporation and past Under Treasurer of Queensland from 1974 until he was appointed Chairman in 1988.

I now know Sir Leo as one of the most passionate past students of State High who I have met this year. He is also yet another public education success story.

RICHARD MORRISON, EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL

State High Champion

This edition's State High Champion is:

Vale – Cyril Connell

All who ever had contact with Cyril Connell will mourn the passing of a truly great man. Cyril touched the lives of thousands of Queenslanders in all walks of life, but most especially in education and in sport. Most people are aware of his wonderful work with the Broncos Football Club where his keen eye for talent and his kind and caring guidance made him a legend. He could see potential where others couldn't. He always found the right words of encouragement and so was brilliant at bringing out the best in everyone. He never forgot any of those he'd helped or encouraged and they certainly never forgot him.

What is probably less well known was his major contribution to the resurgence of Brisbane State High School in the early 1960s. After the doldrums of the 1950s, the arrival of the great George Lockie as Principal and shortly afterwards the appointment of Cyril Connell as his Deputy Principal, saw the rise of State High to unprecedented levels of excellence in every field of endeavour. The academic excellence which was the heart and soul of Brisbane State High School was maintained and even sharpened.

The level of school spirit and pride had to be seen to be believed and, in sport, a great era was begun that saw the school go to the forefront in all of its endeavours. Cyril was a wonderful football coach and under his guidance and inspiration the school won the 1st XV Rugby Premiership in 1964 after falling just one game short in the previous year.

This was the first football premiership since the 1940s and team members included Peter ('Pedro') Brandon who was Captain, and the dynamic School Captain - the late Paul ('Porky') Morgan.

Many members of the 1964 premiership team have reunited with Cyril every five years or so since. They will be devastated by his passing, as we all will.

I was doubly fortunate that I was coached by Cyril in Rockhampton when I was transferred there in the late 1950's, and then was on the staff at Brisbane State High School when he arrived as Deputy Principal.

I know that I can speak for all of the school staff in Cyril's time when I say that he was a friend and inspiration to us all. Such men are rare and we treasure them.

DENIS DONNELLY, BSHS STAFF MEMBER 1961 – 1993

From The Deputy Principals

Semester Two Subject Allocations – Years 8 & 9

Through their form class teachers, all Year 8 & 9 students should now be aware of the subjects that they have been allocated for Semester Two. Any student who has not received this information should see their form class teacher to obtain these details.

Any student who has concerns regarding their subject allocations should see me to discuss such issues. This must be attended to this semester.

I am generally available each morning before school and during the lunch breaks for students to come to my office in M Block.

No Changes will be made during Semester Two.

Students have also been made aware of this information as part of the assembly program on Monday 15 June.

Subject Changes for Years 10, 11 & 12

Students wishing to change subjects for Semester Two may commence this process now.

Subject change forms are available from the counter of the M Block Reception.

Closing date : Friday 24 July.

Changing in to, and out of, the Religious Education Program

Parents who wish to amend the RE/Assembly option for their child for Term 3 are requested to submit a letter to me no later than Friday 24 July.

No further changes will be permitted after this date.

JANICE HEAD, DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Preserving the history of State High for posterity

As a part of the work being done under Goal D of our Annual Operational Plan for 2009- Establishing Our Key Partners- we are planning to significantly expand our collection of memorabilia associated with the significant events, people and history of Brisbane State High School.

We are requesting donations of items such as photographs, uniforms (especially blazers), badges, newspaper articles, sporting equipment, etc. with a view to displaying such items in strategic locations around the school to allow students, present and potential, staff and visitors to be immersed in the traditions and ethos of Brisbane State High School. We would welcome the donation of relevant artefacts from all eras.

Please contact Leanne Hooper (07 32914111) if you have items that you would be willing to share with the school.

LEANNE HOOPER, DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Faculty News

Business News

The Year 11 Legal Studies classes were involved in an excursion to the QUT Faculty of Law. During our excursion we undertook a tour of the Law Library and surrounding facilities. We participated in a Mock Trial based on 'Jack in the Beanstalk'. This gave us a practical insight into the Australian Court system. The excursion was both insightful and a great day with many students gaining additional knowledge about Australian Law. Thank you to the Legal Studies teachers for organising and supervising the day.

A.BERNEY, STUDENT

On May 7 we took part in this year's Bond University Mooting Competition which involved months of preparation and culminated in the presentation of a moot argument. A moot, or mock legal trial, involves presenting arguments based on legal cases in a strict courtroom format. We were given our case a few months prior to our trial date, and prepared arguments in order to successfully represent our mock client. After many morning meetings with our mentor, Ms Natoli, we were able to develop a cohesive case line. As debaters, we were initially confident about our ability to present our case effectively. However, as the date grew nearer, we realised that the nature of this competition was unlike any other we had participated in prior. Unfortunately, our opposition was not present on the day, but

this did not prevent us from presenting our case. Throughout our speeches, the judges interjected with questions which required an extensive knowledge of the case in order to respond. Afterwards, we were given positive feedback and constructive criticism to allow us to improve in our moot and hence public speaking skills. The experience provided us with a forum to practically apply the theory of law. We gained invaluable knowledge of the procedures and requirements of the legal profession. We would recommend future Legal Studies students to partake in this competition, as it encourages public speaking skills, both impromptu and prepared, to be sharpened.

L.NUGENT, STUDENT AND S.SHARMA, STUDENT

English News

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was... Hang on! Haven't you read this line somewhere before? For the past few years, the English Faculty has requested students in Years 10-12 submit their assessment work, drafts and final copy, to the plagiarism prevention website www.Turnitin.com, whose service we employ. Not only does this site check each student's proposed assessment piece against millions of websites and blogs, it also compares its originality of authorship to assessment items submitted by Brisbane State High School students in previous years.

I fully acknowledge that writers, artists, philosophers and teachers often freely borrow 'the best bits' from each others' work. This week I heard of a current dispute before the courts over a claim that the Men At Work song 'Down Under' borrowed a snippet from the 1930s tune 'Kookaburra Sits in the Old Gum Tree'. I'm not sure to what lengths someone completely owns their spoken or written work; yet English teachers are more concerned with addressing incorrect or absent acknowledgement of sources in assignment work. As well, running imaginative assessment tasks through the Turnitin crusher during the drafting phase sometimes serves to re-direct the student away from an excessive copying of ideas. When a boy who just happens to be a wizard at Swinewarts School appears in a Year 10 short story, it's time to raise an eyebrow and re-direct the student author. Securing further parental support for students submitting assignments to www.Turnitin.com is desired.

The Bard is back in A Block! It's true; we hide him for the summer months and drag him back into chilly classrooms each year. Year 12 students have just completed their study of Macbeth and related reading positions. I guess it's a little easier to imagine a freezing Scottish landscape at this time of the year! It just wouldn't seem right to read it in summer. Next semester, it will be the job of Year 10 students to grasp some of the issues which arise in Romeo and Juliet. Students should purchase the World Shakespeare Series edition of the play in preparation for next term.

The theme for Year 10 English next semester is 'change', whilst Year 9 English will focus on the central idea of 'discovery'.

Year 12 students who completed Senior English in 2008 can arrange to collect their folio of work by calling me on 3291 4136. The remaining folders will be disposed of if not collected by the end of July.

GREG NEWMAN, ACTING HOD ENGLISH

Information Technology News

Software

The school network boasts an extensive range of the latest up to date software. The education department team that conducted the Managed Operating Environment (MOE) installation indicated that BSHS had a far greater software range than any other school. This allows staff the opportunity to offer a wide range of learning experiences that promote higher order thinking and make ICT integral to learning. Graphics and engineering students are utilising the latest 3D industry software to design and manufacture prototypes. Health and Physical Education students are able to analyse biomechanical movements. Geography students are creating and analysing data using global information systems. We have the latest entire Adobe master collection allowing Art, Media and Business to develop students' creative multimedia talents.

Unfortunately, Microsoft Office is not able to be upgraded to Office 2007 as all Education Queensland schools are standardised under the MOE and we are not currently permitted to upgrade this software

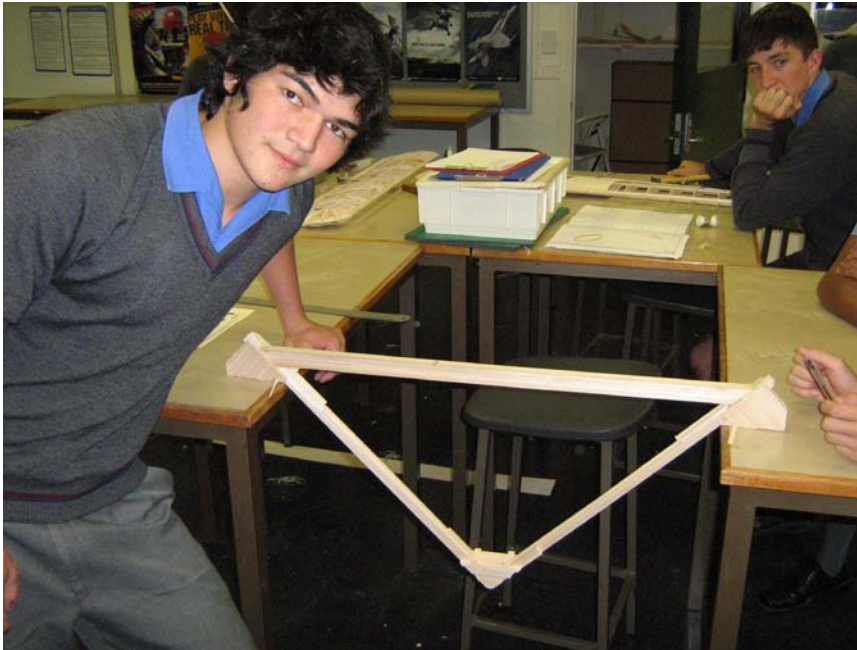
application. This can cause some issues when students bring their work in from home. Even though we have the conversion tool on the network, at times it is unable to read the students' work. I suggest that students should always use "save as" and select 2003 version for their work.

BRUCE CHAPMAN, HEAD OF ICT DEPARTMENT

BEAST News

Engineering at State High

During the first semester at State High the Year 11 and 12 Engineering students have been very hard at work. Both year levels have put in practice the theory component of the subject and applied it to individual practical situations.

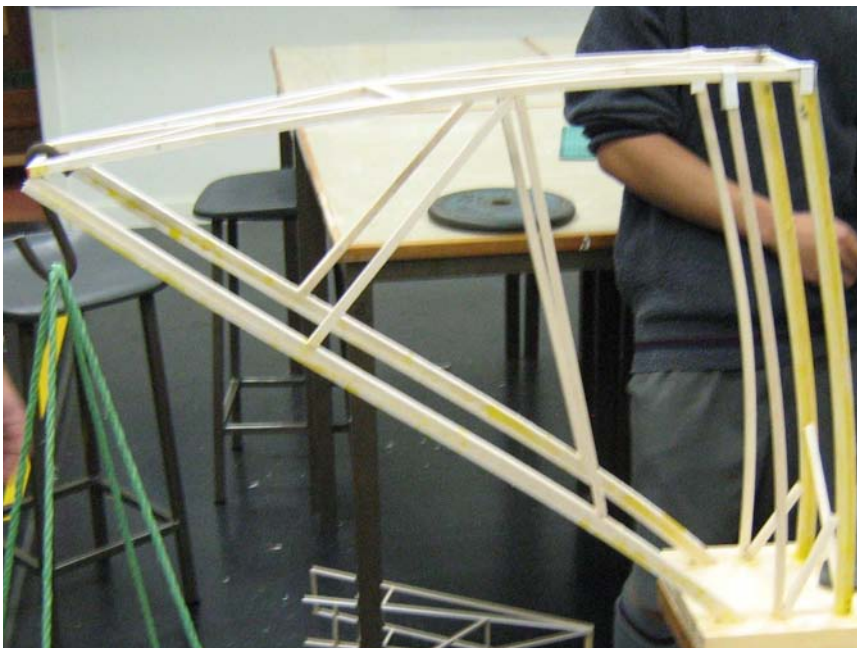


Both cohorts were instructed to sketch three designs from their respective design briefs. These sketches were then analysed and assessed against engineering principles such as force distribution, load bearing capacity, sideways stability, compression and tension. The students then postulated the best design to use as their project.

The Year 12 students' brief was to design and build a single span bridge to span a narrow gorge between two near vertical cliffs. In order to ensure that the best structure

was used for the bridge, models needed to be built and tested. The models were constructed primarily from balsawood and cardboard and joined with balsa cement. The models were loaded with weights on a loading pan until the structure failed. The best model in this situation would be one with the highest index or performance which is determined using the following formula:

$$\text{Index of Performance} = \text{mass suspended} / \text{mass of structure}$$



The photo (above left) represents the bridge that registered the highest PI. It held a massive 109kg and had a PI of 758.03.

Well done to A.Timms for this effort.

The Year 11 students' brief was to design and build a sign gantry to hold a maximum weight with lightest framework. The intention of this is to hang a sign from the given point using the balsawood and cardboard provided which is intended to simulate mild steel sections. Students were able

to incorporate into their design, flat or angled strips of cardboard. Students were also required to utilise balsa cement and PVA glue to assist in the construction of the sign gantry. The model's performance was again measured in terms of its performance index.

The photo (above) demonstrates the testing process of the Year 11 Sign Gantry. You can clearly see the forces acting on the members. Students incorporate photos when discussing their gantry design in assessment items, particularly when they consider any future improvements that could be made.

ANDY STERGOU, B.E.A.S.T HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Science News

Last week was very hectic in the Science Faculty. This was because all Year 8 and 9 students sat the ICAS Science Exam. This exam provides valuable feedback in relation to the effectiveness of science teaching and learning occurring within the school. Results should be back some time during Term 3. Certificates will be distributed to students via form classes.

Dr Ian Edmonds will be visiting the school on Tuesday June 23 to talk to some of our Year 10 students. Dr Edmonds is a retired physics professor as well as an inventor. He lectured in physics at QUT from the early 1970s to the mid 2000s. I am sure our students will enjoy hearing Dr Edmonds talk about some of his experiences in the field of science.

Registration for entry into the national qualifying exams for the Australian Science Olympiads closes on Friday July 17. If your son or daughter is in Year 10 or 11 and interested in sitting this examination please ask them to see me (Mr Webb) for an application form (a small fee of no more than \$10 per student may be charged). There will be more information in relation to this coming through the student notices.

OWEN WEBB, ACTING HOD SCIENCE

Administrative Matters

Lost Property

Parents, it is extraordinary how much lost property has accumulated in our Administration Office. The items are collected from various sections of the school and end up in the Lost Property Office located in the A Block Printery.

Items such as

- Sports Tracksuit Tops
- Jumpers
- Sports shoes
- Day shoes
- Books
- Bags with mainly sports clothing
- Pencil cases
- USBs

Some of the items are named, the majority are not. If there are 'named' items, these names are published in the student notices with a request for the students to come to the A Block Printery to collect their possessions. Some of the students do not claim their items even when advised. Could we ask that you reinforce with your children to make the effort to come to Lost Property to claim the items that you have spent your money on purchasing? If the un-named items are not claimed by the end of the year, they are sent to the Uniform Shop to be re-sold as second hand clothing.

Could we request that you name the items that students bring or wear to school? This will simplify the return of items to students.

CHRIS COLLINS, BUSINESS MANAGER

Student Voice

Wisdom of learning

If you are a parent of a Year 11 or 12 student, then as you read this your son or daughter will be in the middle of block exams. As I think about this, I ponder what it is exactly, that examining students achieves - specifically knowledge tests.

Why must we all be subjected to exams that really, only test our ability to regurgitate information? Truth be told, I have not yet come up with an answer.

However, one of my teachers wisely said to me at the beginning of this term, that study is what will help you achieve your goals. In this instance, study entails the effort put into a subject, and what is learnt from it. This is regardless of assessment being a knowledge exam, practical test, assignment or in-class essay. What is most important, and what this school offers, is that we learn how to learn. Because that is our building block for life.

What we are tested on in school can show us what we can work on, what we are good at, what we can achieve and can even guide us into a career or other life choices. Exams are not about making students nervous or frustrated at not understanding that particular equation in Maths. Exams allow constructive criticism that in turn makes room for improvement and further development of skills. Skills which have, I believe, already been enhanced to a much greater degree by this school than any other could do.

What should be remembered though, is that the exam is not the be-all and end-all of the subject you have selected. The exam is simply part of a greater education, within your subjects, school and lifetime. Each time you or your skills are scrutinised, know that it means you can improve and create bigger and better things as a result.

C.GLAB, SCHOOL VICE-CAPTAIN

Student Support

Chaplain's Reflections

Someone once asked me if I was a 'thermometer' or a 'thermostat'. Initially, I had no comprehension of what the person was talking about but then they continued and explored the deeper meaning to the question. A thermometer measures the temperature of a room, however it does nothing to change or adjust the room's comfort level. A thermostat on the other hand measures the heat of a room and then works hard at adjusting to fix the temperature by either cooling the room or heating it up.

As we read the newspaper, watch the TV and live within our communities, we see challenges and serious problems every day. Our world is filled with brokenness and heartbreak. We can be 'thermometers' or 'thermostats'. We can sit back and watch the problems of our world pass us by but feel powerless to make a difference or we can work to change the world and make it a better place.

I believe that there are many students at Brisbane State High School who are 'thermostats'. I recently had the privilege of taking a group of students to the World Vision Global Leadership Convention. At the convention, students explored the challenges facing our world's poor in the current global food crisis. Students engaged in role plays where they had to work in 'villages' and 'cities' to earn money for their families. At the end of each round of the game, money began to dry up. Students had to make decisions about which family members were going to die because of lack of food and which family members would survive. These decisions within a role play game are a reality faced by nine hundred million people across the world regularly.

When we see these statistics, we are faced with a choice. Do I enjoy my comfortable life and try to forget the magnitude of the challenge facing the world's poor or do I stand up and look for ways to help?

There are many practical ways to help improve our communities and world but I'd like to focus on one strategy that we will be undertaking next term. The Forty Hour Famine will be running during Term 3. Students, staff and parents have an opportunity to go without food (or technology/ furniture/ talking) for forty hours to raise money for the world's poor. Last year we raised over ten thousand dollars as a

school but I believe if we all play a part, whether that means fasting or giving generously, we can double the money raised.

If you would like to be a 'thermostat' and get involved in the Forty Hour Famine please see your chaplain, or a student leader at the start of Term 3.

ANDREW FOLEY, CHAPLAIN

Guidance News

New Targets

The Bradley Review which has recently reported on higher education in Australia estimates that by 2025 40% of people aged 25 – 34 years will have a degree. Currently there are 32%. This will make Australia's educational levels comparable to other OECD countries.

QTAC Presentation – Date Claimer

This Friday June 26, we will be talking to the Year 12 students about the QTAC application process for 2010. The presentation will be in K Block starting at 12.45pm. We will also be handing out copies of the QTAC Guide to students who attend this presentation.

Griffith University

Griffith Connect Equity Scholarship Scheme - withdrawn

The Federal Budget replaces the Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships with the Student Start-up Scholarships and the Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships with the Relocation Scholarships, both scholarships to be administered by Centrelink.

This means that Griffith no longer administers the funds that were allocated for the Griffith Connect Equity Scholarship Scheme. As such, the Griffith Connect Equity Scholarship Scheme is withdrawn for 2009.

Guaranteed Admission Scheme

The Griffith Connect Guaranteed Admission Scheme recognises the efforts of many students to attain and maintain grades through Year 11 and Semester 1 Year 12, and rewards these efforts with an early offer into a range of selected programs.

Applications must be endorsed by a senior Partner School staff member and returned 31 August.

*Note Arts program admission requires submission of portfolio by 30 June.

Students will be advised of outcomes by 30 September, and must submit a QTAC application to accept the offer. Offers are forced through QTAC and successful students will receive confirmation of their guaranteed offer in the QTAC December round.

Download the Application Form and view each scheme below for requirements:

- Arts Admission Scheme
- Business Admission Scheme
- Education Admission Scheme
- Health Admission Scheme
- Science, Environment, Engineering and Technology Admission Scheme

Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship Scheme

Cash payment adjustment

The Federal Budget allows exemption for all equity and merit based scholarships from means testing to the value of Commonwealth Scholarships, which in 2009 is \$6622 per year. Scholarship amounts in excess of the capped value would continue to be assessed as income against the existing criteria.

The cash payment benefit in the first year of the Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarships has therefore been reduced to \$6600, from \$7000, to ensure it is below the means testing limit.

University of Queensland

In 2010 high achieving Year 12 students can select from a range of subjects to begin studying one subject at UQ in Semester 1 to "test drive" university life. Interested Year 11 students need to see one of the Guidance Officers and apply by October 23 2009.

Undergraduate Diploma courses in Music, Languages and Global Issues have been introduced for students who may wish to pursue an interest not directly related to their bachelor degree. The Diploma will be HECS liable and run concurrently with the degree.

In keeping with making a big university smaller non residential college programs for a modest fee will now be available for students interested in tutoring, mentoring and social support.

The new Office of Undergraduate Education is responsible for UQ Abroad, research programs and industry placements. The goal is for one in four students to have an overseas experience. Scholarships are also available for this.

UQ's Young Scholars Program is available to three school nominated Year 11 students interested in enrichment and leadership. There will be a residential camp in early December of Year 11.

Scholarships

Academic Excellence Scholarship Scheme

- A guaranteed Academic Excellence Scholarship to each partner school.
- Scholarship to be one year scholarship of either \$1500 per semester for two semesters of study or \$1000 per semester for tri-semester studies depending on academic program.
- A guaranteed early admission to be made with the December 17 QTAC offer round.
- Schools to nominate up to three students who they believe will ultimately be OP1-6.
- Applications to be made by August 31.
- Acknowledgement of award of scholarship and admission to be made by September 18.
- Scholarship to be conditional on attending Griffith and paid at census date.
- From this pool of applicants the University will additionally award any suitable candidate a Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship and Honours College membership (in place of the Griffith Connect Academic Excellence Scholarship).
- Any applicant ultimately receiving an OP1 will be guaranteed a Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship and admission into the Honours College (in place of the Griffith Connect Academic Excellence Scholarship).
- Unsuccessful applicants in this round to be offered Early Guaranteed Admission places into suitable programs.
- All applications will be considered in the later Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship round in December.

Seize the Day Study Awards

Financial Scholarships for young Queenslanders who have had personal experiences with cancer, either themselves or with a close family member such as a parent or sibling, and who intend to commence or continue post secondary education next year. Further information can be downloaded from www.cancerqld.org.au or call 13 11 20.

Cadetships

PricewaterhouseCoopers is offering a trainee program for students interested in majoring in accounting. Applications close June 25. Further information can be found www.pwc.com/au/careers.

2010 KPMG Cadetship program for those interested in accounting closes Sunday June 14. Check out the website on www.kpmg.com.au. Both cadetships provide students with the opportunity to combine work and study.

NATHAN MACPHERSON, GUIDANCE OFFICER

School-based Youth Health Nurse

Are You A Digital Immigrant?

I recently read an article in a magazine called 'Brisbane's Child' titled 'The Brain's New World'.

Dr. Michael Nagel, Senior Lecturer and Head of Education Programs in the Faculty of Science, Health and Education at The University of Sunshine Coast wrote the article. He spoke of some relevant research that may give an explanation to parents on why we often feel like 'Digital Migrants' and our young people are 'the Digital Natives' (on some mystical island).

Dr Nagel explained that Neuroscientists are describing the young person's brain as "plastic" and it "shapes itself in response to the world around it". A lot goes on in their brains when they are babies and children with brain cells and neurons forming and communicating with loads of chemical interactions. Around adolescence this plateaus and restructuring occurs. Maturation and all the 'hard wiring' is all over by the 20's-30's with some flexibility of neural pathways in response to novel experiences in their lives. Changes take place every day in young people's brains with the strengthening of neural connections being determined through experience and repetition in their lives.

Dr. Nagel said that a growing number of scientists and researchers say that these changes could be seen in the "observable behaviour" of our young people born into such a technological age. Some behaviour has been likened to that of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Young people can often be seen "multitasking" with homework. They are listening to their iPod in one ear while texting on their mobile phone and a DVD playing. There may also be a computer on the desk with multiple social network applications running and a half written email. Somewhere in all this is their homework, I'm guessing.

He also stated "Over time, the neurocircuitry involved in social skills becomes weaker which, in turn, may lead to changes in behaviour, such as social awkwardness, isolation and diminished interest in social dynamic of classroom learning. This shows the challenge that classroom teachers have these days to keep students engaged in learning and deal with the resultant behavioural problems of boredom in the classroom. There may be even be diminished "depth and quality" in their relationships."

Dr. Michael Nagel cites Dr. Gary Small from UCLA.

We parents, who have not been born into the technological age, probably have not developed the full range of neuro-architecture and thus can be called 'digital immigrants'. Dr Nagel implores that we try to understand their world and then we may be able to properly communicate with our young people. They will actually need to be taught social skills by us and we will need to be taught technological skills, probably by them, so we can communicate with them.

Happy Parenting.

Source: Dr. Michael Nagel, "The Brain's New World." – Brisbane's Child, the best guide for parents. April, 2009.

UQ is also offering families an opportunity to be involved in a new parenting program aimed at treating anxiety in children 7-14 years. Anxiety is the most common psychological complaint experienced by youth. If left untreated it can increase the risk of developing other psychiatric disorders and it often leads to peer and school difficulties. Contact the University of Qld on 3365 7307.

MICHELLE CLEKOVIC, SCHOOL-BASED YOUTH HEALTH NURSE

Extra Curricular Activities

Sports News

Congratulations to:

N.Assefa, L.Young, E.O'Neill, B.Clarke, C.Black, K.Kamara, T.Madden, G.Anderson and B.Cook on their selection in the Met East Cross Country team.

A.McSkimming on his selection in the Met East Soccer team.

QGSSSA Autumn Fixtures

Congratulations to the following girls' teams for securing premierships during QGSSSA Autumn Fixtures:

- Basketball- Open, Snr A, 10A, 9A, 8A
- Football- Open, Snr, Jnr
- Touch- Open, Snr A, 8A

In team sports this year, all BSHS open girls' teams have been successful in securing premierships. In Autumn Fixtures, our Snr A teams and Year 8A teams also dominated. Congratulations to all teams who competed during the competition. There were many other creditable performances.

Special thanks also to the coordinating teachers, coaches, court supervisors, referees and parents who assisted with organising our girls each week. Our co-curricular program depends on a large number of volunteers giving their time each week. Thank you for your support of BSHS sport!

QGSSSA Winter Fixtures

The Winter Fixture competition commences the first Saturday back, July 18, after the holidays. BSHS is hosting St Peters Lutheran College at home in hockey, tennis, volleyball and netball. Draws will be available after the June/July vacation.

Up-Coming Athletics Dates

June/July Holiday Training

Contact Number – Mr. Davis 0416160749

Dates	Location
Tuesday, June 30	BSHS
Thursday, July 2	QSAC
Tuesday, July 7	BSHS
Thursday, July 9	QSAC

Times For Events	
7.45am	XC
9.00am	Sprints/Middle Distance/Hurdles
10.00am	Jumps
11.00am	Throws

BSHS Training – XC meet at F-Block. Athletics meet on the oval.

QSAC Training (Kessels Rd. Nathan) – meet at warm up track beside ANZ stadium.

Term 3

Dates	Events
Tuesday, July 14	Nominations for school carnival at 1.00pm
Wednesday, July 15	Yr 8 Athletics Development Day
Tuesday, July 21	Field Events (not conducted at QSAC) on BSHS Oval
Wednesday, July 29	BSHS Track and Field Carnival @ QSAC 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, Hurdles, 1500m, Relays All LJ/TJ except 13 years All Discus High Jump – Boys 16 and Open Javelin – Girls 16 and Boys Open
Friday, August 17	First UQ Athletics Meet for girls
Friday, August 21	First QSAC Meet for boys

Met East Cross Country

The Met East Cross Country Titles were conducted at Capalaba College on Thursday June 4. Twenty-three BSHS students contested the titles with eight qualifying to represent the Met East Team at the State Titles in Toowoomba in July. Students had to place in the top six in their age group at the regional titles to gain selection in the team.

BSHS had five placegetters at the Carnival.

L.Young(14 years girls) nursed herself through her race and won with plenty to spare. She is preparing herself for a big challenge at the State titles.

C.Black and B.Cook continued their close rivalry in the 15 years boys' event by placing 2nd and 3rd. They both finished in the top ten at the State titles last year.

Our 13 year olds ran terrific races to both place 2nd. N.Assefa (13 years girls) and K.Karamo (13 years boys) chased hard in their races but could not overhaul the leaders.

BSHS students who finished in the top ten at Met East were:

13 years boys(3km) - K.Karamo – 2nd

15 years boys(4km) – C.Black – 2nd , B.Cook – 3rd , G.Anderson – 7th

17 years boys(6km) – M Chandler-Mather – 7th

14 years girls(4km) – L.Young – 1st, E.O'Neill – 5th

16 years girls – B.Clarke – 5th

T.Madden (14 years) did not run at the Met East trials due to sickness but qualified for the Met East team on previous performances.

JO DUFFY, QGSSSA SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR

P&C Association

EKKA 2009

In eight weeks time the Ekka will commence. Since 2000 BSHS P&C Association has been fortunate to have the opportunity to run a Sandwich & Drinks Stall in the Dairy Farmers Building and a Strawberry Ice-Cream Stall in Side Show Alley at the Ekka. These two activities have raised on average \$50 000 per annum, about one third of the funds that the P&C raises for the whole year. It is an intense 10 days of activity and volunteering, but a great revenue raiser.

To do this in 2009 we need your help once again

Each of these stalls is managed by a paid Convenor – Bev Richardson (Canteen Manager) will manage the Sandwich Stall. Arrangements regarding the coordination of the Strawberry Stall are still to be finalised. However the vast majority of workers are volunteers from the school community. Volunteers work hard, but have a lot of fun. The carnival atmosphere of the Ekka is contagious and this along with the company of the other volunteers and interactions with the characters of the Ekka make the time fly by and the mood of the volunteers invariably joyful.

We need around 400 volunteers to cover the rosters for the two stalls. Volunteers (for shifts of four hours or longer) get free admission to the Ekka. We aim to finalise the rosters for this year's volunteers by mid July. The Ekka runs from Thursday August 6 to Saturday August 15 from 7.30am – 10.00pm. In the past volunteers have utilised annual leave, flex-time, rostered days off, or just organised their volunteering shift for after work or on the weekends or public holidays.

Please make whatever work arrangements you need to now so that you can volunteer for Ekka duty this year. Please also contact your fit and willing friends and relations and invite them to join the fun and volunteer for State High as well. BSHS students who are up to the challenge are also welcome to volunteer. Those in Years 8 -10 must be accompanied by a parent/carer during their shifts.

To be part of this fund-raising event complete the attached form and fax it to 3291 4175 or return it to the Vulture St canteen or register directly using [thislink](#). Please advise your preferred volunteered times as soon as possible and no later than July 8, 2009.

During the past five years the P&C has provided funds to the school to undertake major landscaping work in the upper campus, redevelopment of the Upper Canteen, subsidisation of many school sporting activities and the purchase of equipment to assist with co-curricular activities. One of the major projects of the P&C in 2009 and 2010 will be the provision of funds to assist with the fit-out of the new Performing Arts Complex which is rapidly taking shape on the lower campus.

Open Tender: BSHS Strawberry Stall Coordinator - Ekka 2009

Please indicate your interest in this opportunity by June 30, 2009

The P&C Association is seeking expressions of interest from anyone in tendering to provide a co-ordination service for the BSHS Strawberry Stall at the 2009 Ekka. Those interested in providing this service will need to have an ABN.

The task requires the successful person to oversee the operation of the Strawberry Stall from Thursday, August 6 to Saturday, August 15.

It will include:

- Attending the stall from 6.30am till closing on each day of the Ekka.
- Organising the supply of the raw materials/ingredients required for the assembly of the signature Ekka ice-creams.
- Liaising with the suppliers and other key stakeholders including Nestle and the RNA.
- Receiving, checking and accounting for supplies of ingredients at the selling point.
- Supervising and co-ordinating the work of the volunteers who will assemble the ice-creams and sell them.
- Ensuring that those volunteers rostered on for duty, attend as anticipated.
- Ensuring that the quality and health standards required are maintained at all times.
- Attending a one hour BCC Food Safety Seminar prior to Ekka.
- Being available the day prior to and the day following the Ekka for set-up and clean-up.
- Taking responsibility for the security of the BSHS purchased materials.
- Trouble shooting as required to ensure the smooth operation of the Strawberry Stall throughout the Ekka period and the maximisation of the revenue raising opportunity.

The successful tenderer is likely to be someone who:

- Has a demonstrated understanding of the enormity of the task.
- Is able to demonstrate knowledge of food preparation and selling (specific knowledge of Strawberry Ice-Cream selling at the Ekka would be well regarded).
- Is a first rate organiser.
- Is calm, even tempered and mature and is able to remain focused and productive in what can be an extremely busy environment.
- Is able to organise and direct people in an encouraging and supportive way.
- Is available for the duration of the Ekka.
- Has a Blue Card.
- Loves Strawberry Ice-Creams and the Ekka.

Those interested should contact either:

- Sue McComber (Administrative Officer of the P&C Association) on 3292 4173
- Julie Cork (Vice President of the P&C Association) on 3856 3998 or 0418 758860
- Via [online form](#).

JULIE CORK, VICE PRESIDENT P&C ASSOCIATION



EKKA 2009 VOLUNTEER

Name of Volunteer: _____
 BSHS Student: _____ Form Class _____
(Tickets to be collected by student from Vulture Street Canteen - date TBA)
 Telephone: (h) _____ (w) _____ (mob) _____
 Best time to call: _____
 Email: _____
 * I am willing to volunteer for _____ shift/s.

A minimum shift of 4 hours is required to receive an entry pass.

Dairy Farmer's shifts: 8.00am - 8.00pm (please nominate 4 hours)
 Strawberry Sundae: 7.30am - 10.00pm (please nominate 4 hours)

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR SHIFT PREFERENCE 1,2,3 ETC,
 NOMINATE TIMES AVAILABLE AND INDICATE STALL PREFERENCE

Preference	Day	Date	Start	Finish	Stall Preference		
					Diary Farmers	Strawberry Sundae	Either
	Thursday	6 August					
	Friday	7 August					
	Saturday	8 August					
	Sunday	9 August					
	Monday	10 August					
	Tuesday	11 August					
	Wednesday	12 August *					
	Thursday	13 August *					
	Friday	14 August					
	Saturday	15 August					

* Wednesday August 12 -EKKA DAY * Thursday August 13 - Pupil Free Day

Please return form to:

School Canteen
 BSHS P&C Association
 Vulture Street, South Brisbane 4101

or email: pandc.2003@gbn.eq.edu.au

or fax: 3291.4175

or phone: 3291.4174

0405.446978 (Bev)

Thank you for volunteering; you will be contacted to confirm your shift/s.