



### Upcoming Dates

- 30-08 Music and International Food Festival
- 08-09 Year 8 & 9 Parent/Teacher interviews - F block, 4.00pm to 7.00pm
- 09-09 Year 12 Mini block exams start
- 16-09 Year 12 Mini block exams end
- 17-09 Year 12 Senior Formal, Brisbane Hilton, 7.00pm to 11.00pm

### 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



"Year 8 Art students workshop at the GoMA gallery"

## From The Executive Principal...

### ***If you build it, they will come...***

There is a quiet revolution taking place at State High. One element of this revolution has taken half a decade, while the second phase is only just beginning.

If you reflected about what a world class State High of the future looked like, felt like and acted like, you might well reach a very simple conclusion – great teaching and learning taking place in quality facilities.

The quiet revolution to which I refer above is essentially focused on these two central planks of quality schooling.

Brisbane State High School has systematically rejuvenated its 'bricks and mortar' learning environment over the past five years. The school now enjoys some truly world class facilities. This has been achieved through a huge collective effort from many people and of course the very active and generous financial support of the Brisbane State High School Parents and Citizens Association and the State and Federal governments.

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revolution  
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Quality 'bricks and mortar' doesn't ensure that great teaching and learning will take place but it certainly enables this to occur when the other significant contributors are in place.

We had the great pleasure of seeing years of planning come to its final glorious moment last Monday when the Performing Arts Centre was opened up to classes for the first time.

I hope many of you will have the opportunity in the near future to see the Performing Arts Centre first hand. Our school is very proud of the facility which accommodates the learning areas of Dance, Drama, Media Studies, Music and Instrumental Music as well co-curricular activities such as Dance Troupes, Drama Club and all school Performing Arts events. A wonderful feature of the developmental phase of the Performing Arts Centre was the fact that it has been a genuinely collaboratively designed learning space and the final product really shows that. It is a perfect building for the State High teaching, learning and curriculum context.

I especially wish to acknowledge the efforts and expertise of the following people. They have contributed countless hours to ensuring that every possible benefit was squeezed from every possible dollar during the Performing Arts Complex project.

- Mr David Sutton                      Past Brisbane State High School Executive Principal (1998 to 2008)
- Ms Chris Collins                     Brisbane State High School Business Services Manager/Project Officer
- Professor Brad Haseman           Creative Industries, QUT
- Mr David Eames                      Parent representative on the Planning Committee
- Mr Biagio Martinelli                Senior Project Coordinator (New Schools, Project Management Services),  
Department of Education & The Arts
- Ms Arlene Robb                        Project Services, Department of Public Works
- Mr Martin Miles                        Project Services, Department of Public Works

Can I also acknowledge the fact that the entire Performing Arts Centre project was made possible by funding derived from both the Brisbane State High School Parents and Citizens Association (\$120,000 for the new canteen) and the Queensland State Government (\$20,000,000 Redevelopment of Brisbane State High School).

World class facilities are an essential element of a world class public secondary school. The Performing Arts Centre takes Brisbane State High School a step closer to achieving our aspirational goal.

### **The second central plank of the quiet revolution...**

One of the key roles of a public selective/local entry secondary school is to differentiate and innovate in curriculum, teaching and learning. At State High, we do this so that we can continue to challenge some of the most able students in the state. Critically, we also absorb ourselves in this work because it is our absolute core business and our reason for being.

I am pleased to advise you that the innovative Aspire curriculum project for 2010 Year 8 students is well advanced. This initiative will see Brisbane State High School take the lead in the provision of high quality, high rigour curriculum delivery for Year 8 students. For further details, please see Mr Dan Walker's article on page 4 of this newsletter.

### **What makes a school effective...**

It's one thing to have an aspirational goal. It's quite another thing to take the steps towards that aspiration.

Our 2009 Operational Plan Key Projects are progressing very positively with a range of refinements likely to be introduced to State High in 2010 and beyond.

**Goal A:** Building next generation learning in order to improve student outcomes

**Goal B:** Making a large school seem smaller

**Goal C:** Fostering effective leadership

**Goal D:** Establishing our key partners

**Goal E:** Enhancing our unique school culture and climate

We will make every effort to consult widely in relation to any Brisbane State High School key projects reform and ensure that we gauge the school community response prior to any action phase.

The details of where each Key Project has progressed to are available to you on our website.

<http://www.brisbaneshs.eq.edu.au/downloads/latestDocs/AOPworkingPartyUpdates.pdf>

While you read this information, you might consider that the Brisbane State High School Operational Plan Key Projects are actually very much related to maintaining and refining the 'backbone' of what makes an effective school.

...researchers attempted to determine what factors create successful schools. Several students have revealed a common set of characteristics, a five-factor theory of effective schools. Researchers say that effective schools are able, through these five factors, to promote student achievement.

*Factor 1: Strong Leadership*

*Factor 2: A Clear School Mission*

*Factor 3: A Safe and Orderly Climate*

*Factor 4: Monitoring Student Progress*

*Factor 5: High Expectations*

DM Sadler, PhD & Karen R Zittleman, PhD (2009). McGraw School – Choosing a Public School. Retrieved 26 August 2009 from [www.education.com/reference/article/Ref\\_What\\_Makes\\_School](http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref_What_Makes_School)

I believe that you will see a very close alignment in our planning.

### **And finally...**

I really don't know what was more impressive - the new Performing Arts Centre in action on Sunday at MIFF or the sights and sounds of instrumental ensembles from Benowa State High School, Dutton Park State School and Warrigal Road State School performing beautifully. Either way, I left affirmed that State High is a state leader in instrumental music. Well done all!

*RICHARD MORRISON, EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL*

## **State High Champion**

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### ***This edition's State High Champion is:***

#### **Barry Irwin (BSHS: 1958-1961)**

Brisbane State High has always had the ability to endear itself to those who have attended there. Be it by way of great memories, future offspring educated within its walls, attendance at reunions or just monitoring the schools progress from afar, the school is in the blood. For most that is enough.

For Barry Irwin, it obviously wasn't. To some it would appear that Barry has never left.

Many remember him as the Cox of the First VIII and his love of rowing. He was one of the smaller lads at the school but has proved to be a giant over the years.

On graduating, he undertook a career as a successful architect and combined that with an interest to ensure the school's Past Students' Association was a relevant stakeholder in the school's future.

He has occupied all the major committee positions of the BSHS PSA and provided support and counsel for the Principals on a number of important issues. His expertise/input is often sought on many matters of policy. His knowledge of all things past may well be unrivalled.

Today he is the Registrar of BSHS PSA, the Editor of Amicus and the driving force behind the restoration of the School Museum. His daughter, Samantha, is a committee member and former President. Three generations of Irwins have passed through the Big Red Brick Building. There is the possibility of a fourth.

While Brisbane State High continues to produce citizens of Barry Irwin's calibre, the future of this school is assured. Barry's involvement covers 50 years - that's champion.

*SUBMITTED BY IAN SCOTTNEY*

## From The Deputy Principals

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### **Year 8 Aspire Curriculum 2010**

An exciting component of the teaching and learning conversation within the school this year has been related to the rationale and shape of any future Extension curriculum for Year 8 and 9.

The characteristics of curriculum, teaching and learning which cater to the needs of gifted learners have been researched, debated and discussed. In particular, the school's aspirational goal of being recognised as a world-class public secondary school is also an essential element of this conversation. We will produce an Extension curriculum for students at this school in which higher-order, creative and lateral thinking, pace, complexity of challenge, appropriate degrees of independence and the development of the whole student are encouraged.

In short, we "aspire" to deliver a curriculum for gifted learners which raises the bar and narrows the gap; a curriculum where high expectations of all students are set and maintained. In this context, the word "aspire" very much fits the purpose of our Extension curriculum.

I'm pleased to announce to the school community that in 2010, the following Aspire subjects will be offered to Year 8 students:

- Aspire English
- Aspire Mathematics, leading to Fast-Track Mathematics after Semester 1
- Aspire Humanities (History and Geography)
- Aspire Engineering
- Aspire Visual Arts

To maintain flexibility for students across all Learning Areas, Aspire subjects will be offered in conjunction with the school's current unitised curriculum structure.

Aspire subjects will be one-year courses, quality-assured by some of our key partners in the tertiary, business and arts community, which seek to create unique learning experiences for students involved. In particular, the learning involved in these Aspire subjects may not be confined to the four walls of the traditional classroom, but also in digital and virtual environments and in universities and business.

### **The National Curriculum**

The shape and architecture of the National Curriculum is evolving rapidly at present. The new body overseeing this reform is called Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). We will all be hearing a lot more about the work of ACARA over the next couple of years. The first round of syllabuses in English, Mathematics, Science and History are destined for implementation in all Australian schools in 2012, with a "settling-in" and trial period in 2011.

This reform will have some ramifications for the curriculum structure of our school and over the following 12-18 months, I will continue to keep parents informed about how the national curriculum impacts upon a State High education.

*DAN WALKER, ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL*

## School Community News

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### **Year 8 & 9 Parent/Teacher Interviews**

The Year 8 and 9 Parent/Teacher interviews will be held in F Block on Tuesday, September 8 between 4.00pm and 7.00pm.

*PIP HOSKIN, HOD CURRICULUM*

## Year 9 & 10 Subject Selections

The Year 9 and 10 Subject Selection Forms for 2010 need to be returned to your form room teachers by no later than Thursday, September 3.

*PIP HOSKIN, HOD CURRICULUM*

## 2010 Ski Trip



Queenstown, New Zealand

### September 2010

Brisbane State High School has booked an eight day Ski Trip to Queenstown, New Zealand departing Brisbane on September 19, 2010. Current Year 10 and 11 students who will be in Year 11 and 12 in 2010 are eligible to participate.

An information pack, detailing costs and inclusions, is available from Ms Baroutsis in D104. To secure your place on this trip, a non-refundable deposit is required by Wednesday October 7, 2009. There are limited places available and the next trip will be in 2012.

*ASPA BAROUTSIS, TEACHER/TRIP ORGANISER*

## Faculty News

### Business News

July and August have been very busy for students in the Business Faculty. Year 10 Accounting students visited the QUT Gardens Point campus and were involved in presentations by the QUT lecturers and other guests from the accounting profession. It gave our students a wonderful insight into the university life as well as the endless possibilities that are available by following a career in accounting.

Eight senior business classes, BOM, BCT and Legal, went to Dreamworld in July. The students took part in the education program where a talk on topics such as Nature of Business, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Workplace Health and Safety and the legal implications of running such a large organisation took place.

We were also lucky enough to have Jessica Page, an Industrial Inspector from the Department of Justice and Attorney-General come to talk to the Year 12 BCT students about the Industrial Relations System.

Such real life experiences are invaluable for the students, putting into context the content they cover in the classroom.

*JACKY HODGES, ACTING HOD BUSINESS*

### Science News

The Australian Student Mineral Venture (ASMV) is a series of vacation programs held annually throughout Australia. The ASMV is an initiative of The AusIMM Education Endowment Fund (EEF) and is open to high school students in Years 10, 11 and 12. These vacation programs allow students to find out about careers, lifestyles and opportunities in the minerals industry and investigate university courses that would suit their abilities and preferences in terms of subjects such as Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Geology and Biology.

The ASMVs are fully residential and supervised, with an ASMV Coordinator responsible for each Region's program. Students visit mine sites, university laboratories and other facilities, and have the opportunity to talk with graduates and industry professionals about courses and careers in the minerals industry,

working conditions and prospects. Hands-on activities are emphasised, and student participation is required through various activities and projects. The ASMV programs highlight some careers that may be familiar to students and others that they didn't know existed.

The deadline to apply is September 25, 2009.

For more information visit: [www.ausimm.com/ASMV](http://www.ausimm.com/ASMV)

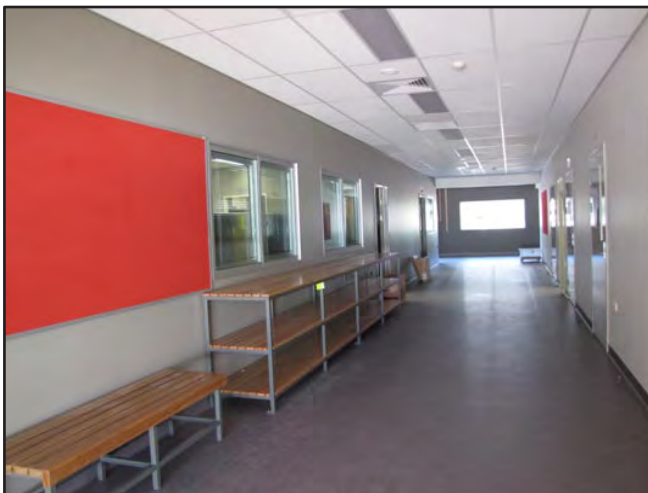
RHONDA WILLIAMS, TEACHER

## **BSHS Redevelopment**

The new Performing Arts Centre, which is located on the site of the previous outdoor tennis and basketball courts and Sports Centre, is now 'open for business' and this has generated a lot of excitement for the students and staff.

The new canteen located in the Performing Arts Complex will open to the students on Friday, August 28.

Teachers will have quite a bit of work to do to have the centre functioning at full capacity; therefore students may experience some minor disruptions. The centre will be an extremely efficient and exciting learning centre for students and staff.



The Corridor Past the PAC Staffroom



The New Music Block looks very snazzy!

More photos can be found on our website.

<http://www.brisbaneshs.eq.edu.au/redev.php/photos/folder/Aug/2009>

## **Brisbane City Council's Hale Street Mitigation Works**

Students have had limited access to the new walkover bridge. They now have a shorter route to traverse to and from both campuses. Limitations have been placed on the use of the bridge due to the continuation of the construction of the sound attenuation walls in the near vicinity. Work on these walls is currently quite intense with work being undertaken in the following areas:

- the oval fence line
- behind B Block
- along Cordelia Street to cater for the new 'kiss and ride' zone and
- Ernest Street. The works being undertaken on Ernest Street will have two-fold benefit to us, providing a new entrance into the school and giving us a bus drop-down entrance.

It is expected that September will see the arrival of some demountable buildings at the school. These will be used to decant the students from classrooms that will undergo air-conditioning and double glazing treatment. It is anticipated that we will hand to the builders 12 classrooms at a time to speed up the construction process. There will be eight classrooms catered for in the demountables and four in the school's Research Centre. The next blocks to receive mitigation works will be half of A Block, C, D, H,

I, and L Blocks. B and J Blocks have already received their improvements under the Council's Hale Street Link Mitigation Program. The demountable buildings will be placed in the new Merivale Street Campus staff carpark.

As previously advised, these walls, air-conditioning and double glazing treatments are to negate the noise effects of the increased traffic using the Hale Street Link. This program is being funded by Brisbane City Council. The sound barriers and air-conditioning work will be completed in June 2010.

The decommissioning and demolition of K Block will commence at the end of August, 2009.

### **BER - (Building Education Revolution – a Federal Government Initiative)**

The restoration of the school's Heritage Listed H Block will commence at the end of Term 3.

### **Maintenance**

General maintenance has once again been a priority for the school over the past few weeks.

Some of the work that has been undertaken has been:

- The refurbishment of two small timber pavilions which were once attached to the Junior School building, H Block which is located on the Merivale Street campus. H Block is now Heritage Listed with the Queensland Government's Environmental Protection Agency. One of the pavilions was constructed in 1914 with the second built in 1917. These pavilions were the teachers' retiring rooms.
- The refurbishment of the C Block boys' and girls' toilets. This represents Stage 1 of the Toilet Refurbishment Program throughout the school. C Block Boys' and Girls' Toilets received a 'makeover', with current tiles extended throughout the blocks and stainless steel doors and partitions installed. The school anticipates that the new surfaces will assist with negating the effects of graffiti and vandalism. I am happy to say that after one week they are still graffiti free!
- Installation of the plaques signifying the changes that have occurred around the school.
- Installation of two flag poles. One of these once graced the area where the new tennis courts are sited and the other was located near the Sports Centre. One will be returned to the Sports Centre locale on the Vulture Street entrance with the other being placed near the two small timber pavilions which are Heritage Listed.
- Work being undertaken on the subfloor of H Block, which is the school's Heritage Listed classroom block.

CHRIS COLLINS, BUSINESS MANAGER-PROJECT OFFICER

## **Humanities News**

Each year, the Humanities Department participates in many extra-curricular activities associated with organisations such as the Red Cross and the United Nations Youth Association. This year, M.Byron in Year 11 attended the UNYA Youth Conference and shares her experiences with us:

*In the June-July holidays, I had the great privilege of being selected to be one of twelve delegates to attend the annual United Nations Youth Conference (UNYC) – a conference bringing together passionate, informed and energetic youth from all of Australia's states and territories, as well as delegations from New Zealand and South Korea. The conference was run by the United Nations Youth Association, a non-profit youth organisation run entirely by young Australians under twenty-five years old. This organisation reaches out to students every year through summits, conferences, model UN Security Council competitions and speakers' nights that aim to develop public speaking, debating, negotiating, problem solving and leadership. Most importantly, the organisation encourages and gives youth an opportunity to discuss and debate important issues amongst their peers and the broader community under a sociable and nurturing environment.*

*This year UNYC was held in Brisbane at St Lucia and various places such as Old Parliament House and City Hall. Each day was jam-packed with exciting and knowledgeable speakers who talked about issues that coincided with the day's theme, ranging from Human Rights to Climate Change to Peace and Security. Guest speakers complemented the theme of the day and offered contrasting perspectives on important issues, such as the Human Rights Act for Australia. After each speaker's session, we would break out in*

groups and discuss and voice our own opinions of these issues that do and will affect us all, from all walks of life; and it was in hearing the voices of other youth that we found our own amongst them.

Prior to attending the conference, we researched our assigned countries, such that we were able to represent them on resolutions in our respective UN councils and the General Assembly. I had the pleasure of representing Japan on the Security Council.

Furthermore, we also compiled a Youth Declaration, which was a document that listed the concerns and various policy ideas we raised and constructed on topics of our particular interest (for instance, environment and sustainability; human rights; indigenous rights; gender issues). This document was formally presented to the Hon. Wayne Swan at the conclusion of the conference.

Most importantly of all, though, were the people and the friends that I met there. The delegates were always enthusiastic to learn more and participate in debates; the facilitators sacrificed sleep and sanity to make sure that we were enjoying and looking after ourselves.

The conference was truly a rewarding and amazing experience and I would encourage everyone to get involved. In the coming months there will be some opportunities for anyone interested. The annual UNYA Hammarskjöld Security Council Competition is occurring in October, and school visits and workshops will be running later in the year.

*M. Byron, Student*

LINDA NEWELL, ACTING HOD HUMANITIES

## Curriculum News

As Week 7 comes to a close and assessment looms near, I urge students at this time of the Term to focus on their commitment to their studies. Preparation and consolidation are vital factors in academic success. All students should be carefully noting their hours of homework and study in their school diary. The aim of this is to ensure accountability to the process. It will be the outcomes from your results that will be remembered, not the hard work invested.

### Study Tip - Some Simple Rules!

- Begin study 30-60 minutes after a meal.
- Never study within 30 minutes of going to sleep. Read something instead.
- Prioritise! Make a list of what you intend to study, prioritise the list, and stick to it!
- Tick things off as you finish them.
- If possible, study no more than 30-40 minutes at a stretch. You will remember more by studying for short periods with breaks in between.
- Take study breaks away from your desk or wherever you are studying. Use some break time to reflect on what you have just studied.
- Follow up the next day, reviewing what was studied the day before.

*Adapted from: <http://www.adprima.com/studyout.htm>*

### NAPLAN

Recently the Courier Mail published results from the NAPLAN testing of Numeracy and Literacy. Our Year 9 cohort, along with their teachers, are to be highly commended upon their strong results in this testing. See [www.qsa.eq.edu](http://www.qsa.eq.edu) for more details on the school's performance.

### Year 8 and 9 Parent Interviews

Reminder these interviews are on September 8, F Block, 4-7 pm. There is much to be gained from students' attending these interviews and taking notes on strategies for improvement. I look forward to meeting parents on this night.

PIP HOSKIN, HOD CURRICULUM

## Vocational Education News

It is subject selection time of year for those going into Year 11 in 2010. Using an external organisation to gain Certificate III level qualification can also be considered as part of a senior student's timetable. This would give the student a head-start into their primary career of choice or provide them with a better paid casual job whilst doing tertiary study once they have left school.

Training providers include:

- Bremer TAFE (Bundamba)
- Brisbane North Institute of TAFE (campuses at Brackenridge, Caboolture, Ithaca and Redcliffe)
- Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE (campuses at Alexandra Hills, Mt Gravatt, Loganlea and Yeronga)
- Skillstech (campuses at Bracken Ridge, Ithaca, Mt Gravatt, Yeronga)
- Southbank Institute of TAFE.

Students attend the training organisation one day a week. Only five subjects are selected for the school timetable, instead of the usual six. An OP is still obtainable and the Certificate III qualification is completed over the two senior years. All contribute to the Queensland Certificate of Education.

Courses are available in Accounting, Beauty Therapy, Business, Child Care, Computer Aided Drafting, Design Fundamentals, Engineering, Event Management, Fashion, Fitness, Graphic Design, Horticulture, Hospitality, Information Technology, Laboratory Technician, Media, Music, Nursing, Retail, Tourism and Visual Arts.

There are several one year Certificate II courses available to Year 12 students only. For example Automotive, Bicycle Mechanics, Furniture Making, Floristry, General Construction, Hairdressing, Landscaping, Outdoor Power Equipment and Plumbing.

All tuition fees are paid for by the Federal Government. Only material costs need to be paid (at most \$250 for the year – saving thousands of dollars). Some courses have direct entry (no QTAC application needed) into Diploma and eventually Bachelor level courses at Queensland Institute of Technology and Griffith University.

Students can drop into the Vocational Education Department in I Block on the lower campus to make enquiries. Parents/guardians can contact Vicki Goodall on 3291 4228 or Dale Furlong on 3291 4154.

Applications will close mid-October.

VICKI GOODALL, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COORDINATOR

## Visual Art News

The following information relates specifically to subject selection and answers some frequently asked questions about Visual Art and Film, Television and New Media.

### Why Study Visual Art?

Visual Art prepares young people for a future in the workforce by requiring them to seek creative solutions to complex design problems, think divergently and use higher order learning skills to articulate an informed and individualised aesthetic (style/expression). At a time when creativity is sought by industry, visual art significantly contributes to the design and manufacture of images and objects needed for living. Artists, designers and craftspeople reflect identity and document culture through persuasive and inventive ideas.

### According to the UK body, National Advisory Committee on Creative and Cultural Education (NACCCE):

*... young people now live in a complex web of interacting cultures and sub-cultures: of families, gender, peer groups, ideological convictions, political communities and of ethnic and local traditions. They also live in a global culture that is driven by the interplay of commercial interests, the creative energies of young people themselves, and the enveloping influence of information technologies.*

*National Advisory Committee on Creative and Cultural Education (NACCCE). (1999). All our futures: Creativity, culture and education. Sudbury, UK: Department for Education and Employment.*

### Why Study Film, Television and New Media?

Film, Television and New Media are our primary sources of information and entertainment. They are important channels for education and cultural exchange. They are fundamental to our self-expression and representation as individuals and as communities. Moving-image media enable us to understand and express ourselves as Australian and global citizens, consumers, workers and imaginative beings. They also provide a means to connect with and learn about our own and other cultures and practices.

Critical literacy skills, used within the techniques and processes of moving-image media production and use, enable students to think, question, create and communicate by designing, producing and critiquing film, television (TV) and new media products. These skills are not only of vocational value, but they also facilitate informed and social participation.

### For Year 9 into Year 10 students:

- Can I study Art101 and Art102 at the same time?
  - Yes, you can. ART101 and ART102 are independent subjects. You can choose to study both or either one, in Semester 1 or 2.
- Can I study FTV101 and FTV102 at the same time?
  - Yes, you can. FTV101 and FTV102 are independent subjects. You can choose to study both or either one, Semester 1 or 2.
- What is the difference between Art101 and Art102?
  - ART101 has a Fine Art focus, while ART102 has a Digital Art and Design focus. Together, they will provide a broad base for a full range of Visual Art media. Separately, you can use them to focus on the areas that interest you the most.
- What is the difference between FTV101 and FTV102?
  - FTV101 has a focus on video making and in particular music clips. FTV102 is about documentary conventions and students learn these through the design and production of mockumentaries.
- Does it matter if I didn't take any Art or DAD subjects in Junior?
  - No. All Visual Art subjects are structured to allow success and challenges for both new and continuing students.
- What does Year 8 & 9 DAD lead to in Senior?
  - ART102 is a progression of the Digital Art and Design subjects in the Junior Curriculum. Senior Visual Art allows for the continuation of Digital Art approaches. Year 11 covers both Fine Art and Digital media, while in Year 12 students follow their choice of media approach, so a student may choose to work entirely in Digital Art during Year 12. The new media aspect of Film and TV also caters for students wishing to continue working in digital media.

### For Year 10 into Year 11 students:

- Do Art and FTV count towards an OP?
  - Visual Art and Film, Television and New Media are both authority subjects and count towards an OP. The assessment for each is formative in Year 11 and summative in Year 12.
- Is there a written component to Visual Art and Film Television and New Media subjects?
  - One third of assessment in each of these subjects is a written component. In FTV this is the critique criterion and in Art it is the appraising criterion.
- Where can I find Information about the course structure?
  - Visit the QSA website: <http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/learning/1183.html>

AMALIA KIDD, HOD VISUAL ART

## Art Students Become Funky Fashionistas



"Year 8 Art students captivated by the striking sculpture of a giant, reclining woman that lies near the GOMA gallery's entrance"

On August 21, a class of Year 8 Art students were treated to a special preview of a new show at the Gallery of Modern Art. The exhibition celebrates the work of Easton Pearson, a Brisbane-based and internationally acclaimed fashion house. The students spent the afternoon creating their own fashion collections in the GoMA Activity Centre while posing for a crowd of media photographers. Created with patterned paper and cardboard mannequins, the students' couture creations were a varied lot, ranging from the sublimely stylish to the freakishly bizarre. The students were also captivated by the striking sculpture of a giant, reclining woman (Ron Mueck's "In Bed") that lies near the gallery's entrance.

TERRY OBERG, PRE-SERVICE TEACHER

## Mathematics News

### Mathematical Learning

The framework for the Australian National Curriculum has been released. Personally, I was glad to see it has been steered away from the skills based learning found in the International Baccalaureate (IB) and more towards a Queensland (and other Australian States) approach to a focus on both skills and their application, all coupled with the integrated use of technology. I think that the transition to the National Curriculum in Mathematics will be smooth and possibly unnoticed for students in Queensland. This National Curriculum will be implemented in 2012.

The current group of Year 11 students (and all others up to 2012) are studying new Senior Mathematics syllabi, released in Queensland this year. There have been slight changes from the previous syllabi in both the assessment and feedback procedures. In a bid to reduce confusion and ensure effective feedback to students, we are still using numerical marks for students in the first section (Knowledge and Procedures) but the marks will reflect a more direct 'criteria' approach to grading assessment. This means all questions in this section will either be graded out of two marks or four marks. For two mark questions, think of the following: 0-E, 0.5-D, 1-C, 1.5-B, 2-A. Final report cards for students will remain unchanged.

These new Queensland syllabi require students to answer tasks that are categorised into four sections, namely:

- Simple Routine
- Complex Routine
- Simple Non-routine
- Complex Non-routine

The Complex Non-routine tasks are the exciting part, where students can really show their ability to be innovative and creative with Mathematics. These more challenging questions typically involve a number of steps and often require students to integrate knowledge from multiple sections of work and then apply it.

The inclusion of this last 'type' of task indicates Queensland Mathematics education is at the leading edge of international trends in Mathematical Learning and Brisbane State High is well positioned within that, as evidenced by our students' achieving the second-highest average NAPLAN result in Queensland for Year 9 Numeracy in 2008. If these new grading procedures cause any concerns, or if you have any questions about the new system of assessment, please feel free to call me on 3291 4204.

DARREN MCGREGOR, HOD MATHEMATICS

## Performing Arts News

We are finally in our new building and it's wonderful! Students and staff are relishing working in their new surroundings and for such a big project there really haven't been too many teething problems. There are still many boxes to be unpacked and a deal of organisation of resources to be completed but classes and rehearsals are up and running fully. We are very much looking forward to learning all about the fabulous technology and then training our students crew in lighting and sound as well.

This weekend will see the first concerts as a part of the Music and International Food Festival.

Last week the Brisbane Arts Theatre hosted its inaugural Improvisation Competition and our Junior Drama group "dramafia" was placed second in the heats. The senior team "Obama Drama" was placed first and is now in the finals to be held on September 12. The Drama Club also competed in Brisbane Arts Theatre Festival on Friday, August 28.

Also on Friday, August 28 our Junior and Senior Dance Troupes competed at the Gold Coast Eisteddfod "Tropivcarnival". The Senior Dance Troupe won first place in its section and a Very Highly Commended, whilst the Junior Dance Troupe scored a Very Highly Commended and a Highly Commended. Fantastic effort! I'd like to thank Mr Steele for having supervised the students in the past weeks and Mr Toohey who has thrown himself into the coaching. I would also like to extend out deepest gratitude to Mrs Calibrese who arrived at school last week with a bunch of costumes which she has donated to Dance Troupes. These really lifted the winning entry to new colourful heights!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Performing Arts and Instrumental Music staff for the hard work each person has put in to getting everything working so smoothly in the new PAC. What an undertaking it was/is to pack up and then unpack and sort out an entire faculty which is so resource rich! Everyone pitched in and worked long hours to get it done. Thank you very much to Ms Collins for all her assistance, to the Executive team for its support, to the janitorial and cleaning staff whose help has been invaluable - and to everyone who assisted us in any large or small capacity. And thank you also to the students who joined in the unpacking and sorting process.

*KARIN KUNO, HOD PERFORMING ARTS*

## Physical Education News

### University Module to be Embedded into Senior Health Education

A new partnership is being established between QUT and the HPE faculty at State High. Students who enrol into Year 11 Health Education in 2010 may choose to study the QUT Start Module (PUB251 – Contemporary Public Health) which will be embedded into Semesters 2, 3 and 4 of the Senior Health Education course. The mode of study will be in class lessons plus additional readings from the QUT online learning "Blackboard" site. Students will also receive access to the extensive QUT libraries. No after hours lectures at QUT are required, however students may need to complete some additional assessment instruments. Additional support will be available from BSHS teaching staff and QUT staff. Students who satisfactorily complete the module and receive a grade of 4 or above will receive guaranteed entry into the following degrees:

- Bachelor of Health Science (Nutrition)
- Bachelor of Health Science (Paramedic)
- Bachelor of Health Science (Podiatry)
- Bachelor of Health Science (Public Health)

*Note: PUB251 is a compulsory module for all of the above degrees. Students who complete this module as part of Senior Health Education will receive exemption from this module in further studies at QUT.*

*SCOTT EMBLEN, HOD PHYSICAL EDUCATION*

## Languages News

### Paper Crane Project

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the BSHS paper crane project.

With commendable teamwork from Year 9 and 10 students of Japanese, we successfully reached our target of making 1000 paper cranes.

The tradition of making 1000 paper (origami) cranes dates back to the story of Sadako, a young girl who suffered from leukaemia as a result of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. She vowed to make 1000 paper cranes (the crane is a symbol of long life) as a wish to live. Though she never reached her target, her story has become a legend throughout Japan and the world. Over the years, Sadako has become a symbol of peace, inspiring others to make sets of 1000 paper cranes in her honour, and in hope for global peace.

BSHS's cranes have also been sent to Hiroshima and will be placed, with thousands of other cranes, at a statue dedicated to Sadako, in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

Thank you to all the Japanese language students who folded the 1000 paper cranes and to everyone who has contributed their time and effort to this project. A very special thank you to A.Ho in Year 10, who, with her mother and aunt, kindly threaded the hundreds of cranes together.



1000 paper cranes - We made it!

### 39th Annual Queensland Japanese Speech Contest

On Saturday, August 22, nine students from BSHS presented speeches at the 30th Annual Queensland Japanese Speech Contest, held at the University of Queensland.

BSHS had a very successful team in the contest, with representatives in each Division receiving either a place or an encouragement award.

Congratulations to the following students on their outstanding achievements:

- Year 8 Division - T.Chang - 1st Place (Speech Title: "My dream")
- Year 9 Division - N.You - Encouragement Award (Speech Title: "My hobby")
- Year 10 Division - A.Tsai - 2nd Place (Speech Title: "Why I love Japan")
- Senior Division - C.Chang - 2nd in Senior Heats and recipient of one of two special JETAA (Japan and Exchange Teaching Alumni Association) Awards, in the Senior Finals. (Speech Title: "My Grandfather")

Well done to all our representatives on a fantastic effort at this year's Speech Contest: T.Chang (Year 8), N.You (Year 9), A.Mo (Year 10), A.Tsai (Year 10), C.Chang (Year 11), W.Chen (Year 11), M.Go (Yr 11), E.Hsiao (Yr 11) and S.Lee (Year 11).

PIP ABERCROMBIE, JAPANESE TEACHER

## Student Voice

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### **Rockin' Leadership**

The annual school rock concert 'State High Rocks' was yet again a huge success. As usual the mass of rock n' roll talent within State High combined to produce a four hour heart pumping spectacular.

I want to take this opportunity to recognise the student State High Rocks committee that produces this event every year. The amount of work that goes into an event as such involves much planning, preparation and time. This event is a great example of an event 'by students, for students'.

The huge success of the night is testament to the undeniable leadership, commitment and willingness of all that are part of this group.

If this is not State High spirit, I don't know what is.

*J.MOLONEY, SCHOOL VICE-CAPTAIN*

## Extra Curricular Activities

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### **Sports News**

#### **Congratulations to:**

- T.Laycock on his selection in the Australian Schools Basketball Team to tour the USA in December this year.
- A.McSkimming on his selection in the U15 QLD Soccer team
- J.Schofield on his selection in the U/19 QLD Soccer side
- H.Tyler on his selection in the Met East U/19 Cricket team
- C.Caslick on her selection in the 15yrs Qld Touch team
- A.Tupua on her selection in the 18yrs Qld Touch team

#### **QGSSSA Volleyball**

Four games down and nearly halfway through the season, State High's volleyball girls are performing up to the high expectations resulting from previous years. Both the Open and Senior A teams remain undefeated. The Year 10, 9 and 8 sides have only a single loss each. Sportsmanship and behaviour from all teams has been exemplary.

Punctuality to training and games is critical. This area is important for team organisation and warm ups for game preparation. Parents are requested to assist their children to arrive on time to morning trainings and to arrive 30 minutes before the start time for Saturday fixtures.

The Open girls competed in the Queensland Schools' Cup competition in Toowoomba from July 31 to August 2. Playing in the top division (Open Honours) the team finished a pleasing sixth place with wins over some quality sides. This was the first tournament experience for many of the girls and several of our team are still one or two years under age for this division. The result is quite an achievement.

*ROB MOO, QGSSSA VOLLEYBALL MIC*

#### **QGSSSA Athletics**

The girls' Athletics season is now in full swing. We have now completed three carnivals at UQ and a number of our top athletes are gearing up for the Met East Regional titles.

Thirteen year old A. Johnson has been in good winning form recently with personal bests in Long Jump, High Jump and Hurdles. She will contest six events at the regionals.

L.Young is coming into excellent form in the distance track events. Her run of 10.16.00 in the 3000m led home all age groups in UQ meet Number 2. L.Young and 13 year old N.Assefa travel to Nowra NSW for the Australian Schools Cross Country Titles on August 29.

K.McGrath has been coming into good form in the 15 year throws. Her discus throws around the 38metre mark are encouraging for future titles.

Our two Captains L.O'Sullivan (sprints) and S.Tuicakau (hurdles) have shown good form at the UQ meets.

There are many other girls who are improving their performances and BSHS will again be competitive in the inter-school QGSSSA Titles in October.

### **Up-Coming Dates**

Thursday, September 3 and Friday, September 4 – Met East Regionals at QSAC

*KERRY MAHONY & JO DUFFY, BSHS SPORTS OFFICE*

## **Student Support**

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### **School-based Youth Health**

#### **Ramadan**

To all our Muslim students and staff along with their families, I would like to wish you well for the month of Ramadan.

#### **Healthy Mind, Healthy Life**

By the time this newsletter is published I would have conducted a mental health information session with the Year 11s. Some years ago, Education Queensland schools were offered talks from The Early Psychosis Team – a Unit attached to the P.A. Mental Health Services. They saw a need to start to inform young people exiting school about psychosis because of their experience of working with many young people presenting with this medical condition in the adult unit (18 years onwards). The majority of these presentations are usually related to early symptoms of a medical condition or moderate to heavy use of marijuana or other drugs.

Symptoms include:

- confused thoughts
- thoughts are sped up or slowed down
- preoccupation with unusual thoughts
  - They can often believe people see or hear things that others cannot or they may feel they can control the thoughts of others or vice versa.

As a result, they act differently and have problems concentrating.

The Early Psychosis Team spoke with some of our Year 12s last year and this year they came to talk to the year 11s as we are finding that we need to get the message through earlier. I also presented a PowerPoint on general mental health issues. I am from a health promotion background so am very supportive of the concept of early intervention and prevention to improve quality of life.

There is a strong need for young people to know about mental health issues, supported by research:

- Approximately 24% of young people will have suffered at least one episode of major depression by the time they are 18 years old. (NHMRC 1997)
- 160,000 young people live with depression each year. (Australian Bureau of Statistics (2008). 2007 National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing: Summary of Results (4326.0). Canberra: ABS)
- 1-3% of young people will have a major depressive disorder (NHMRC 1997)
- Seventy five per cent of adult episodes of mental illness occur before 20 years of age (Mental Health Association 2005)

The number of young people presenting for support is far below these statistics. I felt it was a rather important subject to address, to reduce stigma and barriers to accessing services, to improve the quality

of life for these young people. It is a given that this will impact on their studies and approach to their schooling, therefore future choices in career.

We also know that many of our young people are dealing with family members unwell with depression, anxiety and other mental health illnesses. Therefore I hope the Year 11s feel more confident in helping/ coping with an illness of a friend or family member and will talk to someone about any stress as a result of this.

For more information.

- P.A. Hospital Mental Health Services 1300 858 998
- Transcultural Mental Health 3167 8333
- COPMI (Children of Parents with Mental Illness) 3163 8370
- Lifeline 13 11 14
- Kidshelpline 1800 55 1800
- [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)
- [www.eppic.org.au](http://www.eppic.org.au)
- [www.reachout.com.au](http://www.reachout.com.au)
- [www.headspace.org.au](http://www.headspace.org.au)
- [www.moodgym.ane.edu.au](http://www.moodgym.ane.edu.au)
- [www.psy.uq.edu.au/brave](http://www.psy.uq.edu.au/brave)

MICHELLE, SCHOOL-BASED YOUTH HEALTH NURSE

## Guidance News

### Upcoming Dates

- Wildlife Currumbin Sanctuary has a "Careers With Animals" day on Wednesday September 9, 10.00am – 3.30pm. Cost is \$7.00 per student. See [www.cws.org.au](http://www.cws.org.au) or phone 5534 0846.
- Christian Heritage College has an Open Day on Saturday, August 29, 10.00am – 2.00pm at 322 Wecker Rd, Mansfield.
- JMC Academy has an Open Day on Saturday, September 5, 10.30am – 1.30pm. Further details available at [www.jmccademy.edu.au](http://www.jmccademy.edu.au)
- Queensland School of Film and Television has its next free information seminar at 11.00am on Saturday, September 12. Holiday workshops are running, September 21 to 22 and 24 to 25. Further details online at [www.qsft.qld.edu.au](http://www.qsft.qld.edu.au)
- Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors offers both scholarships and cadetships, with a closing date of September 30. Check the website [www.aiqs.com.au](http://www.aiqs.com.au) or phone 02 6282 2222.
- Endeavour College of Natural Health, 362 Water St, Fortitude Valley has an Open Day on Sunday August 30, 11.00 – 2.00pm.
- Griffith University is again advertising its Experience Day program, where students can be a student for a day and experience lectures and tutorials first hand in their chosen course.

ROBYN DRAKE & NATHAN MACPHERSON, GUIDANCE OFFICERS

## Chaplain's Reflections

When I was growing up, my family ate an extremely healthy, nutritious diet. My parents grew fruit and vegetables organically. A standard dinner consisted of raw broccoli, lettuce, wild tomatoes, grated carrot, grated beetroot and an egg from one of our chooks. I ate this every day without any dressings or seasoning. When I was sick my mum would make a crazy concoction that included juiced violet leaves, stinging nettles, dandelion leaves and a variety of other green 'weeds'. Because I was forced to consume this horrific green-brown liquid if I stayed home from school with an illness, I was only absent if I required hospitalisation.

When I moved out from home later in life, I discovered the world of fast food. Life was like a massive food party and so I ate hamburgers and chips every night. In the space of a few months I had started to pack on the kilos.

It is a basic scientific principle that the food entering our bodies affects us. We absorb the nutrients, sugars and fats into our systems and our long term diet will influence our appearance. Personally, I don't believe that this principle applies solely to the food we eat. I believe it also relates to what we let into our minds.

Every week I oversee a group called 'Deeper Ground'. This group is led by student leaders, who talk, support, share and pray with their friends about relevant issues as they explore faith together. Last week a student leader talked about 'spiritual hunger'. The student shared that if we eat bucket-loads of junk food it may taste nice in the moment but it doesn't satisfy us and we never feel full. Ultimately if we eat too much of it we feel sick. Whereas a good, hearty, balanced meal leaves us feeling happy, content and satisfied. The student then compared this to the rest of our lives and encouraged us to personally think about what we were feeding on spiritually.

A friend of mine shared a powerful testimony of his victory over negative habits and depression that plagued his life. For him personally, he described that one of the key factors in his freedom was changing the information that he allowed into his mind and heart. My friend talked about 'being transformed by renewing his mind'. He stopped talking about himself negatively. He ceased listening and watching things that tore him down and started to focus on supportive friends, reading positive books, viewing TV shows and movies that encouraged him. By changing the material entering his heart, his thoughts and life were positively impacted.

It is heartbreaking to hear the lies that some young people believe about themselves. These lies have been thrown at them and absorbed into their psyche. Sometimes the attitudes expressed in a superficial TV show or the constant barrage of images from glossy magazines of stick-thin, 'photo-shopped' women affect the way people view themselves. In some instances, the hurtful words of a thoughtless parent or 'friend' reverberate inside people's minds until those harsh words shape identities. Sometimes the negative words that we speak over our own lives have the greatest impact.

It is empowering when we start to see our true identity, with all our unique gifts and abilities. It is liberating when we truly start to listen to the helpful, enriching, encouraging words of a genuine friend.

How often do we spend feasting on the 'good stuff'? How often do we spend reading, watching and listening to things that uplift us, encourage us and help us to pursue lives of purpose? How often do we spend dwelling on things that speak mercy, strength and hope to our minds and souls? My hope and prayer for all of us is that we would learn to fast from the negative, 'junk food' lies and feast on the love, grace, encouragement, truth, motivation and wisdom that surround us.

*ANDREW FOLEY, CHAPLAIN*