



## Principal's REPORT

7th April 2009

### CONGRATULATIONS

As this will be the last newsletter for Term 1, I would like to say that I have been most impressed with the enthusiasm and cooperation of students during the term. I thank them sincerely for maintaining the high standards in behaviour and school uniform that our school and community have come to expect of Urangan High.

It continues to be a very good year for our school and I encourage you to be part of it. Thank you to all the teaching staff and non-teaching staff for your hard work during the term and for your assistance with the wide range of extra curricular activities that our school offers to students.

### PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

A reminder to all parents and care givers that Parent / Teacher interviews will be held tonight in the school gymnasium. I hope that the interim reports in conjunction with discussions with your child's teachers will provide you with a good insight into your child's progress during this term.

### NOMINATE YOUR FAVOURITE TEACHER

Students are now able to tell us what makes their teacher so special with the 'My Favourite Teacher' program. This year, as part of the Year of Creativity, students are asked to nominate a teacher who has inspired them to become more creative.

'My Favourite Teacher' is an opportunity to recognise and reward the commitment of Queensland state school teachers. Last year, Queensland students cast more than 4000 votes. Teachers can be nominated via the

Department's website:

[www.education.qld.gov.au/community/events/edweek/favteacher/](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/community/events/edweek/favteacher/)

All students need to do is to write in 25 words or less why they think their nominated teacher is so special. Entries close on 8<sup>th</sup> May. The winning teachers will be announced during State Education Week, which is being held from 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June.

### NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

From the beginning of Term 2, the printed version of the school newsletter will no longer be handed out to each student. Families are requested to register to have the newsletter sent to their email address. A letter explaining the process of registration has recently been sent out to all families.

If you haven't already made arrangements to register, please type in the link below into the address bar of your internet browser and follow the instructions.  
<http://mailouts.austnews.com.au/subscription/U/urangan-shs-signup.html>

For those without internet or email access, a limited number of printed newsletters will be available at the office. The newsletter can also be viewed on the school website.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- Tues. 7 Apr. Parent / Teacher Interviews, 3.15 pm to 6pm in school gymnasium.
- Thurs. 9 Apr. Last Day of Term 1
- Mon. 20 Apr. Student Free Day
- Tues. 21 Apr. 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Term 2

*Ross Zelow - Principal*



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principal Ross Zelow  
deputy principals Linda Buxton  
Nick McMorrow  
Craig Wotton  
registrar Ruth Dillon

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web [www.uranganshs.eq.edu.au](http://www.uranganshs.eq.edu.au)

## WINTER UNIFORM 2009

2009 will be a transition year for school jumpers. During 2009, students will be allowed to wear a plain grey, white or red jumper (not a combination of these colours and no patterns or logos). **However, in 2010, the plain grey, white or red jumper will be replaced by a red polar fleece jumper available only from Banana Bender, The Esplanade.** If purchasing a jumper for school this year it is advisable to purchase one of the red polar fleece jumpers which will be available from Good Friday at a cost of \$40.

Students also have the option of wearing the school's zip-up/tracksuit jacket (\$65) if preferred, and Year 12 students may wear their USHS jersey.

Female students have the option of either the school dress pants (in stock at Banana Bender) or the school's track suit pants (in stock at the school uniform shop for \$40). Male students may wear the school track suit pants. **Grey jeans are not acceptable.** The regular summer uniform may be worn throughout Winter.

Full details of the school uniform can be found on the school website. Your assistance in ensuring a smooth transition into 2010 is greatly appreciated.

## DRIVER EDUCATION - YEAR 11

A great opportunity exists for all Year 11s to attend Driver Education on either Friday 8th May or 29th May at the Maryborough Showgrounds from 9.30am - 2.30pm.

Rotary and the school are covering the cost for the Driver Education Program and Bus travel. A letter with more details and a permission slip will be given to Year 11 students in the near future.

## RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

If you are 17 or under, attending school, working part-time in the Retail or Hospitality Industry and would like to have your knowledge and skills recognised - this could be a great opportunity for you.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is the process used to assess your existing level of knowledge and skills against a range of industry standards. By demonstrating your competence in performing tasks and by telling your stories, this assessment process may lead to you gaining a full or part qualification, without ever entering the classroom.

RPL can assist to realise life and career goals. In particular it can:

- ◆ Be a starting point towards a full Certificate
- ◆ Help you meet the minimum entry requirements for a training course
- ◆ Add additional points to your QCE (if recorded on your current SET plan)

There is no cost for RPL when this is included in your SET plan. RPL is an easy process to follow in a short amount of time. If this opportunity sounds good to you please give your name to Linda Buxton before Thursday 9th April 2009.

## MOVIE MARATHON

Bigscreen Cinemas, Hervey Bay is holding another movie marathon on Sunday 3rd May 2009 for students aged 15+ (ID required). The cost will be \$20 for 4 movies (to be advised). The marathon commences at 9:30pm and finishes at approximately 4:30am. Tickets are available now. Wrist tags will be issued on the night. For further information regarding conditions of entry please contact Margy Harper on 4124 8200 or at [promo@bigscreen cinemas.com.au](mailto:promo@bigscreen cinemas.com.au)

## THE SCIENCE OLYMPIADS



Every year, teams of talented students are sent overseas to compete in the Science Olympiads. This challenging path begins with National Qualifying Exams held in August-September, and this year the teams compete in Mexico, Japan and England. Check out the sample papers posted on the Australia Science Innovations website: [www.asi.edu.au](http://www.asi.edu.au).

If you would like to take on the challenge, register online for the Qualifying Exams. Registration closes on June 17. For more information go to the website or contact Australia Science Innovations on (02) 6125 9645. Australian Science Innovations is a not-for-profit organisation providing high quality programs for students and teachers. Its aim is to promote science by engaging students and encouraging their natural enthusiasm.

## YEAR 12 STUDENTS - THE GAP YEAR

The GAP year is a project of the Australian Defence Forces (ADF). The GAP year provides the opportunity for Year 12 students to enrol in the Army, Navy or Air Force for a period of 12 months. After completing the GAP year, participants can elect to join the ADF. Participants receive a wage of between 32K and 40K depending on which branch of they ADF select. Applications will be available online at the ADF website from May 1. In 2008, applications far outweighed available places. In 2009 there will be 500 places in the Army, 200 in the Navy and 200 in the Air Force.

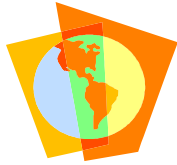
Prospective applicants should search the ADF website for further information.

## Canteen Duty Roster

It is not necessary to start before 8.30am. Finishing time is approx 2.00pm. If you cannot make your rostered day, a telephone call would be appreciated. Contact Barb on 41255440.

Wednesday 8/4	Thursday 9/4	Friday 10/4	Monday 20/4	Tuesday 21/4
J Stone	Help needed	Good Friday	Student Free Day	Help needed
Wednesday 22/4	Thursday 23/4	Friday 24/4	Monday 27/4	Tuesday 28/4
M Harding, S Beu	Help needed	Help needed	Help needed	Help needed

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT NEWS



We are looking for new Home Stay families for our International Students for 3, 6 or 12 month periods. If you have a spare bed, an interest in learning about another culture and have easy access to USHS (bus, bike, walk, etc) please contact the Home Stay Coordinator on 4125 5440. Suitable Home Stay families will undergo orientation, training and a police check (Blue Card). A Home Stay allowance of \$190 per week is provided to cover the costs of meals and transport.

In addition, we will be hosting a Study Tour Group from Germany for four weeks in August 2009 (dates to be confirmed). We are looking for expressions of interest from families who are able to host a German student for this short-term period. This would be a great way to make an international friend and learn some German too! Please contact the School on 4125 5440 to register your interest.

*Michelle Berryman - ESL  
Teacher International Program*

## PACE

The PACE program is a joint initiative between the Australian Agricultural College corporation (AACC) Emerald Campus and the Capricornia School of Distance Education. It provides an educational opportunity to Year 11 and Year 12 students to assist in achieving a Queensland Certificate in Education (QCE) while enrolled in AQF Certificates in Agriculture at AACC Emerald Campus.

Its aim is to provide an alternative for senior school students who wish to leave school in Year 11/12, have a passion for Agriculture as a career but also want to gain a Queensland Certificate of Education.

For additional information about the PACE program or to enrol please contact:

- ◆ Dom Steenstra on (07) 49828777 or by email at dom.steenstra@aacc.edu.au, or
- ◆ Tamara Warner on (07) 49874155 or by email at twarn38@eq.edu.au

## ALLSTARR TENNIS ACADEMY SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC

Be part of the action these school holidays for ages 7 and up, all abilities and new comers welcome! Includes tennis coaching, modified tennis games, team challenges, group activities, knock-em-down target challenges, junior competition, swimming, prizes, medallions and more.

Where: Tennis courts, Colyton St, Torquay

When: Wed 15th April to Fri 17th April

Time: 9am - 3pm

Price: \$40 for individual days or \$120 for 3 days

Bookings are essential - so book now! For all bookings and enquiries please phone Steve or Peta on 4194 5587 or 0411 866 069 or email us at allstarrtennis@bigpond.com

## SOFTBALL U19 STATE TITLES



The U19 Softball State Titles were recently held at Noosa. Congratulations to Lora Hansen and Lauren Ross, who were both competing for the final time, and played very well. Well done girls, you were both awesome and will be missed.

*Miss Bowell - HPE Staff*

## BULLYING - ADVICE FOR PARENTS

Bullying is when a person hurts someone else on purpose, time and again. The hurt can be physical or emotional. Bullying can be physical, verbal, social, racial or sexual. It happens at any age, and is not just limited to children. Its effects can be lifelong and may contribute to depression, low self-esteem, shyness, poor academic achievement, isolation and even threatened or attempted suicide.

What can parents do?

Look for the possible signs of bullying. Is your child:

- ◆ Frightened of walking to or from school, or going on public transport, or going to a certain place that didn't disturb them previously.

- ◆ Feeling ill in the mornings - tummy ache, headache, nausea.
- ◆ Becoming withdrawn.
- ◆ Having possessions 'go missing' or regularly having their possessions/clothes destroyed.
- ◆ Becoming aggressive and unreasonable and beginning to bully others.
- ◆ Having nightmares.
- ◆ Getting hurt or bruised regularly with no given explanation.
- ◆ Putting themselves down, unhappy.
- ◆ Beginning doing poorly in their school work?

If you are worried:

- ◆ Ask your child directly and encourage them by saying you are concerned and want to support them. Make time to listen, encourage your child to describe what happened, how often, when, where.
- ◆ Avoid passing judgement, interrogation, over-reacting or offering advice too soon - it may backfire and they may clam up and not want your involvement.
- ◆ Ask your child what they have tried already to deal with the problem - did it work, what happened when they tried a particular strategy.
- ◆ Acknowledge that a problem exists. Let them know that bullying is not acceptable and that you both will figure out a constructive way of sorting out the problem. Get them to give one of the ideas a go. Review the outcome. Praise your child for trying new strategies and evaluate if things are improving.
- ◆ If the problem persists or escalates:
  - If it is happening at school arrange a conference with the child's teacher, Principal, Guidance Officer and, at some stage, the bully's parent.
  - If bullying is occurring outside the school consider meeting with the child's parents, or have a discussion with the police about your child's rights.

You are the best advocate for your child. Keep pushing until the matter is resolved.

*(adapted from Relationships Australia Info Sheet #18 December 2000)*

*Mannly Dubroy - Guidance Officer*