



newsletter



Principal's REPORT

12th May 2009

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM IN LITERACY AND NUMERACY (NAPLAN)

Commencing today Tuesday 12th May until Thursday 14th May, all students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia will sit Literacy and Numeracy tests. Our Year 9 students have been preparing for these tests during class time and we hope this will help them perform at their best.

YEAR 8 CAMPS

The year 8 camps are taking place this week at Mudjimba on the Sunshine Coast. At the camp students will develop skills of leadership and teamwork as they participate in a range of activities. We thank our Deputy Principal, Mr Craig Wotton and the Year Level Coordinators, Ms Donna Hall and Mr Peter Abra for organising this camp. We hope all the students have a great time and use the opportunity to develop new skills.

SNAPSHOT OF 2008 GRADUATES RELEASED

A state-wide snapshot of the education outcomes of last year's graduating seniors was published on a school-by-school basis in *The Courier-Mail* on Tuesday May 5. Regional snapshots have also been printed in major regional daily newspapers.

The publication of Year 12 outcomes is part of wider Government reforms aiming to provide more information to parents and the community about student and school achievements.

school, includes the percentage of Year 12 students receiving tertiary offers, the number of students completing or continuing school-based apprenticeships or traineeships, the percentage of students with an OP 1-15 and the number of vocational qualifications awarded.

This year the report also includes information on the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE), the Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA) and the International Baccalaureate Diploma offered by the Queensland Academies and a number of schools.

The Year 12 graduate profile is not a league table – it does not rank schools. What it provides is an overview of the wide range of learning options students can now choose from, whether it be studying for university entry, a vocational qualification or a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship, and the outcomes students are achieving.

You can access the Year 12 outcomes data and an information pack at: www.qsa.qld.edu.au

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Mon 11 to Fri 15 May - Year 8 Camps at Mudjimba
- Mon 11 to Fri 15 May - Marine Camps
- Tues 12 May - P&C Meeting, 7pm in Administration Block
- Tues 12 to Thurs 14 May - Year 9 NAPLAN Testing
- Wed 20 May - School Council meeting 5pm, Conf. Rooms
- Fri 22 May - Show Holiday
- Mon 1 June - Education Week commences

*Ross Zelow
Principal*

The data, compiled by the Queensland Studies Authority and presented alphabetically by

access to quality education → access to a better life

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CULTURAL / SPORTING COMPLEX

In 2008 our school commissioned Enterprise Innovations to develop a Feasibility Study into the need for a Cultural/Sporting Complex in Hervey Bay to be built on the Urangan State High School site. This complex would be for use and access by all school and community organisations. The following is the executive summary from the recently completed Feasibility Study:

1.1 Urangan State High School (USHS) is committed to the planning and construction of a Cultural and Sporting Complex in Hervey Bay that will become a cultural and indoor sporting hub for Urangan SHS, for other local schools and for the Hervey Bay community as a whole.

1.2 The Needs Analysis for Urangan State High School's (USHS) aspirations for a Cultural and Sporting Complex in Hervey Bay shows a demonstrable need on planning, community, policy and social grounds. The key finding here is that any performance centre should not compete in scope and function with the Brolga Theatre but be matched to the specific needs of Hervey Bay. This project will fill the current clearly identified gap for a space for larger gatherings at the regional, school and local community level, and make a very significant social contribution to the asset base of the city.

1.3 It is envisaged that most external use will be by local amateur, school and community groups augmented by a selective number of Management Committee or school initiated touring performances or events. Secondly, it should target specific educational (school market) events, professional development workshops, industry conferences and seminars to the venue. The facility could become pivotal as a rallying place for excellence in the arts in Hervey Bay and a focus for skills development and education.

1.4 The Cultural and Sporting complex should aim to collaborate with key sporting clubs and associations and entice, wherever possible, longer term tenants, alongside ad hoc short term hiring. In addition, there is much potential for sports competitions at a local and regional level.

1.5 The inherent value of this complex will be in contributing to the development of social infrastructure in Hervey Bay's extraordinary growth; namely a much needed social, educational and recreational venue in the eastern precinct of the city manifested in an aesthetically pleasing auditorium as an expression of civic pride for Australia's fastest growing city.

1.6 The project will have very significant employment and economic benefits, both during the estimated 12 month construction period, and over the long term.

1.7 Approximately \$13,278,550 is required for the construction and related development costs. To allow the business to remain buoyant for the first five years, a total of \$13,757,799 is required in grants or start up funding (an approximately additional \$500,000 over 5 years).

1.8 The complex will be almost at breakeven on a cash basis and, with subsequent management decisions based on the report, this could be achieved. This will be essential in planning for the business start up. An estimated sinking fund allocation of \$50,000 per year means the deficit ranges from approximately \$75,000 to \$81,000 per year. This is the primary challenge for USHS to move this project forward.

If you would like further information regarding this proposal please contact myself or Ms Linda Buxton, Chair of our steering committee.

SCIENCE ON SATURDAY

Science on Saturday is a fun, hands-on program for children aged 7 to 14. Each week there will be a new 1½ hour session of awesome science. Come to one, or come to all six! Children who attend all six sessions get a cool magazine (*The Helix* or *Scientriffic*) to take home. Check out these fabulous topics:

Scientists at Work (09/05/09): Learn about the scientific method as you come up with hypotheses, and use constants and variables in experiments.

Our Environment (16/05/09): Look at ways to protect our Earth while understanding what different species need to survive.

Health and Wellbeing (23/05/09): What keeps humans healthy? How do our bodies work? Learn body facts, what's good and bad for you, and how your senses work.

Whodunit? (30/05/09): Put your detective hat on as you enter the field of forensics to solve a crime. Examine evidence such as fingerprints, blood groups and handwriting to help find the



culprit.

Geology Rocks! (06/06/09): Investigate the rock cycle, geological time and mining processes. Look at raw materials and see where they are used at home.

Awesome Agriculture (13/06/09): How do plants and animals grow? How do we get rid of pests and diseases?

Cost: \$6 per child per session if paying in advance (\$9 if paying on the day)

Times: 10:00-11:30am for 7-10 year olds (children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult)
12:30-2:00pm for 11-14 year olds

Venue: Hervey Bay State High School, Beach Road, Pialba.

Sessions are limited to 25 children so **bookings are essential!** For more information and bookings go to www.csiro.au/SOS

Or call 1300 302 649 during business hours and quote your location, your child's name and age, and which activities you would like to book.

MS READ-A-THON

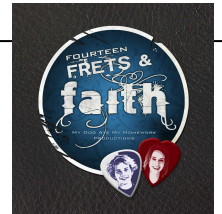
Students are being invited to join in the celebrations of the 30th year of the MS Read-a-thon by registering to take part in the June reading event. Here's how to get involved:

- ◆ Click online for free registration and receive a very cool MS Read-a-thon wristband.
- ◆ Flick through books during the month of June.
- ◆ Collect sponsorship donations from family and friends and collect some terrific rewards.

Visit www.msreadathon.org.au or call 1300 677 323 for more details.

Bonus! Once 20 students from your school have registered online for the MS Read-a-thon, the school will receive a book pack for the library - it's free to register online, just check with mum or dad first.

HERVEY BAY COMMUNITY MOVIE PROJECT



Urangan State High School staff and students are presently working on the production of a Community Movie Project with other youth from Hervey Bay.

Shooting of our short film, 'Fourteen, Frets and Faith' begins in 6 weeks and we are busying ourselves with location scouting; hair and makeup design; and hunting for, designing and building props & costumes. The film has next to no budget for shooting, so we are seeking donations of old items that people no longer have a use for. You may have some of these items tucked away in a cupboard somewhere gathering dust. Sorry we cannot return these items but they will be put to good use.

- ◆ Lounge room and kitchen bric-a-brac from the 60's, 70's and 80's
- ◆ Items for a teenage boy's bedroom
- ◆ Action figures
- ◆ Skateboard
- ◆ Surfboard or boogie board
- ◆ Bed spread
- ◆ Music posters
- ◆ Desk lamp – doesn't need to work

- ◆ Old style full size fridge – doesn't need to run
- ◆ Men's ties
- ◆ Male or female short sleeve white shirts with collars - similar to old style white school shirts
- ◆ Guitar cases
- ◆ Old photo frames

Any donations can be left at the administration office at Urangan State High School, marked attention Gordon Collis. If you have an old fridge with the look we are after I can organise to pick it up. If you would like to know more about the short film, check out our project website at:

www.mydogatemyhomework.com.au

Thank you for your support.

Gordon Collis - HOD The Arts

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 13/5	Thursday 14/5	Friday 15/5	Monday 18/5	Tuesday 19/5
J Stone	Help needed	Help needed	Help needed	S Beu
Wednesday 20/5	Thursday 21/5	Friday 22/5	Monday 25/5	Tuesday 26/5
S Turnbull RED DAY	Help needed	Show Holiday	Help needed	Help needed

UNDERSTANDING THE ADOLESCENT IN YOUR HOUSE

Anyone who has a child will one day have an adolescent and for some parents with good memories this might be a little scary. The best advice for parents of adolescents, you will be surprised to know, is the same for newborns:

Enjoy your child! Love your child!

This time in a child's (and parent's) life is about change and discovery. The reality is that despite the challenges, most adolescents thrive and survive the teen years while managing to maintain a healthy relationship with their families. As children grow they gradually demand more independence, and parents must gradually grant it. Even as adolescents pursue independence and want to spend more time with their peers, they still want to know they have mum and/or dad there for them, as well as a safe home base to retreat to. When children feel connected to their parent(s), they are less likely to partake in risky behaviours, and more

likely to emerge healthier and more secure. Here are five keys to raising teens:

- ◆ Love and connect with them. These two factors need to be practiced from birth, but while they change don't let your love for them change.
- ◆ Monitor and observe. Know where they are, what they are doing and who they are with (early practise of this makes it easier to perform).
- ◆ Guide but limit. Loosen up when you know they are ready for it but don't let go.
- ◆ Model and consult. Talk to them, ask their advice, include them, help them through tough times by showing them how to problem solve.
- ◆ Provide assistance and advocate. Although they want to be independent in many respects they also need you to help them to reach their goals.

Remember, parents are the most important adults in an adolescent's life. Adolescents crave their parent's love,

respect, dependability and guidance. By being there for your child he/she will have a greater chance of becoming a physically, mentally and emotionally healthy adult and your good example will live on when they have their children.

Adapted from 'Healthy Teens, Body and Soul, A Parent's Complete Guide' by Marks, A and Rothbart, B 2003

Mannly Dubroy, Guidance Officer

CANTEEN PRE-ORDERING



Do you find that your favourite foods are sold out by the time you reach the canteen? Why not order your lunch before school! All you need to do is fill in an order form and pay. Then collect your lunch from the main counter - no waiting in line! Order at first lunch for second lunch.