



Principal's REPORT

10th February 2009

WELCOME

Welcome to the 2009 school year. A special welcome to all new students, their parents and to new staff members.

I have been very impressed with the commitment and dedication of the administration team, office staff, Heads of Department, Year Level Coordinators, teachers and non-teaching staff. They have ensured an excellent start to the school year for our students. Our school motto of "Working together to Learn" is certainly being pursued by all. Currently our enrolments are:

Year 8:	358
Year 9:	389
Year 10:	337
Year 11:	320
Year 12:	238
<u>Total:</u>	<u>1642</u>

With our Day 8 numbers finalised there are currently adjustments being made to classes and class sizes. We are working with staff and students to minimise the changes to student timetables as much as possible.

NEW STAFF

We welcome the following new staff who commenced or returned from leave at Urangan State High School for the 2009 school year:

- Ms. Megan Mackenzie – Performing Arts
- Mr. Nathan Milne – HPE
- Ms. Mary Kuypers – Teacher Librarian
- Ms. Nicole Lau – English / SOSE
- Ms. Robyn Hutchinson – Head of Special Education Program
- Mrs. Judith Heijboer – English / SOSE
- Mr. John Heijboer – Maths
- Mr. Scott Ashcroft – Special Needs
- Ms. Rebecca Cullen – The Arts
- Ms. Joanne Goodall – English / SOSE
- Ms. Marnie Zollia – English / Arts
- Mr. Damien Symes – Home Economics
- Ms. Gail Vermeulen – Maths / Science
- Mr. Ben Austin – HPE

- Ms. Kathy McIntyre – Science
- Mr. Michael Fuller – Maths / Science
- Ms. Renee Searle – HPE
- Ms. Deb Bonell – HPE
- Ms. Amanda Baker – The Arts
- Ms. Helen Baker – Special Needs
- Ms. Kate Freeman – Music
- Ms. Rachele Young – Home Economics

YEAR LEVEL CO-ORDINATORS

The welfare of our students is an important focus of our school and throughout this year the following Year Coordinators will endeavour to keep this on track.

- Year 8: Mrs. Donna Hall and Mr. Peter Abra
- Year 9: Ms. Desloee Murdoch and Mr. Paul Crilly
- Year 10: Ms. Meagan Smith and Mr. Ben Lethborg
- Year 11: Ms. Sandra Ashlakoff and Mr. Trevor Watts
- Year 12: Ms. Chelsea Donaldson and Mr. Trent Baker

UNIFORM POLICY / DRESS CODE

Urangan State High School is committed to implementing procedures that enable our school to comply with the requirements of the Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995. The Workplace Health & Safety Act states that covered footwear **must** be worn. If students do not have a medical certificate and fail to wear covered footwear either:

- Parents will be contacted to bring covered footwear to the school or take the students home; or
- If parents cannot be contacted, students will be withdrawn from class and complete subject work in the office for the day.

The P&C Association and School Council have endorsed and passed a resolution to have a student dress code (School Uniform Policy) because it believes that a student dress code policy at the school promotes the objectives of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 and in particular that it:

- promotes a safe environment for learning by enabling ready identification of students and non-

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

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students of the school;

- promotes an effective teaching and learning environment by eliminating the distraction of competition in dress and fashion at the school;
- promotes a supportive environment at school by fostering a sense of belonging; and
- fosters mutual respect among individuals at the school by minimising visible evidence of economic, class or social differences.

As the P&C Association and School Council have endorsed a school dress code (School Uniform Policy) the following applies.

Uniform

All students are to be in full school uniform and wear the P&C endorsed school uniform correctly. Students wearing incorrect uniform will be sent to the uniform shop to change into the correct attire. Students can collect their own clothes at 3.00 pm from Student Services when they return the loaned articles of clothing.

The following procedures are required to be followed to ensure the school uniform/dress code policy is successfully implemented at Urangan State High School.

- No student is permitted to class if out of uniform.
- No student is permitted in the school playground during lunch breaks if out of uniform.
- Any student out of uniform is to be sent to the uniform shop to change into the correct uniform. If a student refuses they are to be sent to Student Services where either a Deputy Principal, Year Level Coordinator or office staff will ring home to explain the uniform policy with parents, get a commitment to follow the policy, and if possible, bring the required uniform to school.
- Students arriving to school out of uniform will be recorded on the school's ID ATTEND computer program.

If a student continues to refuse to change into the school uniform, the student's decision escalates the consequence to deliberate disobedience and refusal to follow teacher/school instructions and directions and may result in suspension.

Dress Code

Students are expected to come to school with a clean and tidy appearance

- Hair colour is to be natural tones i.e. not multicoloured, no unnatural hair colours.
- Hair styles are to be neat and tidy e.g. no shaved styles, no mohawks, no clown styles, no words shaved into the scalp etc.
- Make-up is not to be worn.
- Clear nail polish is permitted.

As jewellery does not enhance learning, minimum jewellery should be worn:

- Small sleepers (no bigger than a five cent piece) or small studs (non protruding items only).
- One small religious symbol (no bigger than a twenty cent piece) on a thin chain.
- A signet ring.
- Medical alert bracelets and necklaces.

If students wear extra or dangerous/obnoxious jewellery, it will be confiscated, stored and returned at the end of the school day. If this behaviour persists and is ongoing, the jewellery will be stored and returned at the end of the school term.

EXPECTATIONS / POLICIES

1. Students are not to leave the school grounds during the day. (This especially relates to students leaving the school grounds to go to the Boundary Road corner store)
2. Senior students are not to leave the school grounds without authorised permission.

3. The principal has the discretion to grant leave of absence for a student to leave the school grounds to receive:

- Medical Treatment
- Dental Treatment
- Specialised instruction (Specialised instruction means instruction or training in a subject or activity that is not part of the student's normal school subjects or activities)
- Other valid reasons (e.g. to attend a funeral, do banking for an ill parent)

The principal **must only exercise this discretion:**

- If a parent advises the principal of the student's requirement to leave the school grounds for such purposes, and
- If the request is received in writing

The principal has the right to override the parental request if he/she believes that safety and the good order and management of the school are comprised.

However, Section 18 of the regulation **DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

- **Leaving the school to go shopping**
- **Buy lunch or**
- **Go home for lunch**

With the changes to this regulation now in effect the school can no longer issue lunch passes and the expectation is that all students will bring their lunch or purchase their lunch at the school canteen.

We ask and thank all parents for their support in helping our school implement these changes to this regulation.

MOBILE PHONE, IPOD, MP3 PLAYER POLICY

The following is an extract provided for parents and students in relation to Urangan State High School's policy on mobile phones:

- The use of mobile phones, pagers, portable CD, I POD, and MP3 players, personal Digital Assistants and similar electronic devices in class is disruptive to the learning environment of all students and will not be tolerated.
- Students should have their mobile phone or electronic devices switched off and out of sight in their school bags or they may be left at the school office at the beginning of the school day. Parents are still able to contact students through the school office, and students are able to contact parents during their lunch breaks through the blue phone that is available to them.
- If students are caught with their mobile phone or electronic device on their person in the school grounds it will be confiscated (in complete working order) and placed in the school safe/strong room to be collected by a parent/guardian at the end of the school day.
- Appropriate action through the schools Responsible Behaviour Plan will be taken against any student who photographs or films other individuals with out their consent or sends harassing or threatening messages.
- Disciplinary action will be taken against any student caught using a mobile phone or electronic device to cheat in exams or assessments.

This policy also applies to students during school excursions, camps, and extra curricular activities. Parents and students are reminded that no liability will be accepted by the school in the event of the loss, theft, or damage of any device.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed 10 Feb P&C AGM and General Meeting 7.00pm, Library
Fri 13 Feb Inter-house Swimming Carnival
Mon 16 Feb New Parent Evening 5.30pm, PA Block
Wed 18 Feb Fraser District Summer Trials
Mon 23 Feb Fraser District Swimming Carnival
Wed 26 Feb Wide Bay Summer Trials
Wed 4 & Thurs 5 Mar School Photos
Mon 9 Mar to Fri 13 Mar ... Year 8 Camps

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 11/2	Thursday 12/2	Friday 13/2	Monday 16/2	Tuesday 17/2
E Clark, S Turnbull	S Beu	Swimming Carnival	Help needed	Help needed
Wednesday 18/2	Thursday 19/2	Friday 20/2	Monday 23/2	Tuesday 24/2
Help needed	S Beu, S Turnbull	Help needed	S Turnbull	Help needed

UNIFORM SHOP

The school uniform shop, which is run by the P&C, is a great fundraiser for the school. However, it relies on volunteer support from the school families to open each day from 8:30-9:30am. It is currently in desperate need of more volunteers. So if you have a spare hour on one or more mornings and would like to help out please contact Pat (Uniform Shop Convenor) at the school. Thank you.

SCHOOL BASED IMMUNISATION CLINIC 2009

This year, Fraser Coast Regional Council is providing free vaccinations for all Year 8 and 10 student on 2nd march, 18th May and 12th October, as part of Queensland Health's annual School Based Vaccination Program.

Year 8 students are being offered vaccination to protect against hepatitis B and chicken pox, while Year 10 students are being offered protection against diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis.

The vaccinations will be conducted by a team of specially trained Registered Nurses.

A consent form for each vaccination will be given to your child to bring home. Please read the information carefully, sign the form, (in the appropriate area) and return the form to school, irrespective of whether you wish your child to be vaccinated or not.

Parents are encouraged to ensure their children have a healthy breakfast on the morning of vaccination.

If you have any questions or concerns about the program, please contact Janet Morrow (School Based Health Nurse) at the school or by phoning Community Health on 4122 8733. or call 1343 2584.

Janet Morrow - School Based Health Nurse

CLEANLINESS

Why practice cleanliness?

At a simple level, cleanliness is washing daily and brushing teeth. It is putting things away

after using them and helping to keep the home in order. At another level, it is straightening yourself out, bringing yourself back to your best. Cleanliness means to remove those things that result in 'dis-ease'...things that interfere with our well-being.

Being clean protects us from 'dis-ease'.

- Wash hands to keep away germs that cause disease
- Wear clean clothes to help us look our best
- Clean our mind so it feels clean and uncluttered. Notice unpleasant or unwelcome thoughts. Try to understand why they are there and then work to replace them with thoughts which are good
- Straighten up your room...we can find things more easily, and a bed with fresh sheets is sooooo comfortable and feels sooooo good!

Besides cleaning the body, let's clean up our language. A mind filled with pure and positive thoughts keeps us feeling peaceful. People who use harmful drugs mess up their brains and lose the ability to think clearly. Only put into your body things which will make you healthy, like nutritious foods and drinks. Avoid putting anything in your body which could harm you. When you make a mistake, clean it up by deciding to change. Apologise if you need to, and then start to act differently.

Let's work together to keep ourselves clean, our surroundings clean and our spirit strong and peaceful.

(Adapted from the virtues Guide' by L Popov, D Popov, J Kavelin)

Mannly Dubroy - Guidance Officer

MCGREGOR SUMMER SCHOOL FUNDRAISING WINNERS

The eight Urangan High music students attending McGregor Music School over the recent summer break would like to thank the following local businesses for their kind donations and assistance in the students' cultural ventures.

Hervey Bay RSL ▶ BottleO ▶ Camera

House ▶ Adrenalin Bikes & Hobbies ▶ Torquay Camping & Leisure ▶ Bay Auto ▶ Aquavue ▶ Retravision Pialba ▶ Go Natural Foods ▶ Reject Shop ▶ Spar Supermarket ▶ Stylish Celebrations ▶ Helga's ▶ Bunnings ▶ Auscare Pharmacy, Mellory Pce ▶ Dimmey's ▶ Airport Nursery ▶ Canelands Nursery ▶ Flowers and Colour ▶ Bay Central Tavern ▶ Showcase Jewellers ▶ Silks Lingerie ▶ The Good Guys ▶ What Women Wear ▶ Terry White Chemist ▶ Sam's Warehouse.

The lucky winners of the four hampers were:
Voucher hamper: M Fischer

Household hamper: Roy

Sports hamper: R Henman

Bunnings hamper: V Hauser

Thankyou to the school, local community and Hervey Bay Jazz and Blues festival for their support.

Gordon Collis - HOD The Arts

COMMUNITY NEWS

Junior Hockey Sign-on

- McFie Pk, Tavistock St
- 5th, 12th Feb., 3-4:30pm
- 7th Feb., 10am-12noon
- ☎ Deb 4124 6214 or Gloria 4128 7548

Junior Rugby League Sign-on

- Stafford Pk, Bideford St
- 21st Feb., 10am-4pm
- Please bring: original birth certificate or passport; Medicare card; correct fees (NO EFTPPOS/Credit Cards)
- ☎ Heather 4124 0974 or Pat 0400 665 374

Netball Sign-on

- Netball courts, behind PCYC O'Rourke St
- 14th Feb., 9-11am
- ☎ Di 4125 7884
- Breakaways ☎ 4125 3273
- Bullets ☎ 4124 9121
- Comets ☎ 4124 0607
- Cosmos ☎ 4128 1699

PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

The school canteen and uniform shop are the P&C's major fundraisers. However, the P&C also encourages all families to assist their efforts to enhance our school by contributing to the volunteer contribution scheme or volunteering in the canteen or uniform shop.

If you would like to volunteer your time at either the canteen or uniform shop please contact the school on 4125 5440.

If you would like to contribute to our volunteer contribution scheme please send your donation to the school marked 'P&C Volunteer Contribution Scheme' to the amount of \$10/semester or \$20/year and including your name and address so that a receipt can be posted to you. Thank you for your support.

**P&C Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7pm in the school Administration Building. All Welcome.
2009 AGM: 10 February 7pm, Library**