Congratulations to our age champions from the Track and Field carnivals over the recent weeks.

The Principal’s Awards assembly will be held on Monday 30 July. Parents of students who achieved all As, Bs and no more than two Cs for academic, effort and behaviour comments on their semester one report as well as those who achieved 100% attendance are invited to attend the school assembly on Monday 30 July commencing at 10.45 am. Details have been provided in your invitations. We look forward to celebrating our student successes on this day.

Congratulations to David Ngiam who has the number one ranking from the 2012 Under 19 National Championships held in Darwin in July. To achieve this he won the singles and men’s doubles and was in the semi-final of the mixed doubles. Grace Ngiam is now ranked number five having competed in the women’s doubles semi-final, the women’s singles quarter final and the quarter final for the mixed doubles. Fantastic work.

The year 8 and year 11 camps held last week were a resounding success. Well done to all students and staff who attended. We know you will use many of the leadership skills you developed in the coming months and years.

QTAC applications can now be made commencing 1 August and will close 28 September. Students are encouraged to include six nominated courses of study. Changes can be made after 28 September but will incur a cost. Students should ensure they have discussed their preferences with the Guidance Officer, Ms Sardie, and also make the most of the tertiary expos and open days that universities and TAFE colleges are offering over the next couple of months.

Our school has a strong partnership with Griffith University called Griffith Connect. This year Griffith University is again facilitating support for financially disadvantaged students who wish to nominate Griffith University as one of their QTAC preferences. To access this support, please discuss your applications for tertiary studies and this program with our Guidance Officer, Ms Sardie. Thank you to Griffith University for your continued support of our students.

Diane Hicks,
Principal
The construction classes have been actively engaged in the construction of an extreme doghouse to enter a competition in conjunction with the Housing Industry Association and Construction Skills Queensland.

The doghouse is split-level and designed like a Queenslander, has a bone shaped swimming pool and planter boxes to suit. The students who have participated in this exercise have done so with great zeal and enthusiasm. Our doghouse has been dismantled and taken into the HIA Builders and Renovators Expo at the Brisbane Exhibition and Entertainment Centre at South Bank where it has been rebuilt and put on display.

This is a wonderful opportunity for industry to see the calibre of students who are opting for a career in construction. The winning entry will be auctioned off and all proceeds will go to the Queensland Guide Dogs Association with the possibility of Sunnybank students building another doghouse at the Brisbane Ekka.

Enriched learning programs such as these provide students with an excellent platform to display their skills and knowledge to the general public. Throughout this year there has been a huge increase in students undertaking a structured work place learning program which consists of 160 hours of industry experience. As a result quite a number have been ear marked for a school based apprenticeship.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank parents and students for their on-going support. Quite a number of students will be attending the HIA Expo on Friday 27 July to support our entry. They will get to meet the Broncos, Shelley Craft from “The Block” and “Funniest Home Videos”, the winning couple from “The Block”, Duncan Armstrong and The Honourable John Paul Langbroek the Minister for Education Training and Employment.

Parents are encouraged to attend and vote for Sunnybank High. I would also like to mention a special thank you to Mr Kerry Martinez for his assistance when needed. Kerry often put in extra hours to ensure our goals were met. Finally, a very special thank you to a very supportive Principal, Mrs Diane Hicks.

Chris Ralph, Senior Construction Teacher

RIVERLIFE POSITIVE REWARDS TRIP 2012
On Friday 22 June, sixty students from years 8 to 12 attended the semester one Positive Rewards Trip to Riverlife Adventure Centre. Sunnybank teachers nominated students based on excellent performance standards in effort, behaviour and homework throughout their classes. The students had a fun filled day taking part in activities including abseiling, cycling, kayaking and rock climbing. For many students this was the second time they had attended the trip and this opportunity once again confirmed the hard working ethic they adopt in their studies. Congratulations on the way they approach their studies on a daily basis.

Under a beautiful clear winter sky students scaled and climbed the cliffs of Kangaroo Point; facing their fear of heights and practising their Spiderman skills. Others took to the water, paddling up and down the Brisbane River, some very successfully, others with a little unexpected dip in the water. Those on the cycles worked hard, with the wind in their hair, to race across the city, starting from the Story Bridge then following the River Walk through to the Go-Between Bridge and finally passing South Bank as they headed back to Kangaroo Point.

After much physical effort the students enjoyed a sausage sizzle feast cooked at the top of the cliffs overlooking the city. A great day was had by our students and the year coordinators and it was fantastic to see even more students join us on the trip in 2012!

Rosy Kalamafoni, Year 8 Coordinator

ENGINEERING CAMP
During the second week of the June-July school holidays students from all over Queensland, including three Sunnybank State High School students, participated in a week long engineering camp held at the University of Queensland. Pawin Phoothong, Hubeldin Legese and Abdull Heidari were the Sunnybank High representatives. We stayed at St John’s College for the week. The College had great facilities such as the convenience of having our own room that included a mini-fridge, telephone and many other awesome features. The camp had excellent food cooked by a chef but the best part of all was making great friends that we will never forget.

During the week we took part in numerous exciting challenges relating to engineering including: creating a bridge using drinking straws and sticky tape, egg drop survival, electrical circuit for a bike light and many more. The week was memorable and fun filled with many unforgettable adventures such as climbing the Story Bridge and a trip to Dreamworld to end the week. All these experiences were free of charge as part of a joint university program to promote engineering to high school students.

Pawin Phoothong, Hubeldin Legese and Abdull Heidari

50th Anniversary Celebrations 2013
Please contact us if you are a past student of Sunnybank State High School. Also, does anyone know the possible whereabouts of a time capsule that was buried on school grounds many years ago?

Pelin Abdull
IMPORTANT NEWS FROM THE DEPUTY

Term three is going to be extremely busy at Sunnybank State High School. In addition to our usual activities there will be important tests, and subject selection for 2013. Please be aware of the events detailed below and support your student/s through the processes.

Queensland Core Skills Test (QCS)
The Queensland Core Skills Test (QCS) will be held on Tuesday 4 and Wednesday 5 September for year 12 students who are OP eligible as well as those who have opted to sit. It can be a stressful time for year 12 students who require additional support and understanding from home. Please ensure your child minimises their commitments during this time, eats and sleeps well. Ensure they have all the necessary equipment to maximise their opportunity for success (students are aware of what is required). Year 12 students not participating in QCS are required to attend classes as normal.

PISA Testing
In 2012, Sunnybank State High School has been selected to participate in international testing, known as PISA. An information leaflet has been enclosed with this newsletter for your information. Parents will be notified if their child has been randomly selected to participate.

Subject Selection for 2013
This term, all year 8, 9 and 10 students will select their subjects for 2013. Subject Selection Information Evening is Tuesday 7 August, 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

SETPs for All Year 10 Students
It is compulsory that all Queensland year 10 students complete a Senior Education and Training Plan (SETP). In completing the SETP, each student will have identified their goals, career aspirations and preferred pathway to achieve their goal/s. The process enables students to identify their strengths, areas to improve and factors which may affect them during their senior years. Studies teachers and students have been working hard to complete the documentation in preparation for parent input and participation.

SETP interviews with each student and their parent/s will be held in the week of 13-17 August. Parents will receive further information to nominate their preferred interview time. The interview enables the school and home to work together to support the student. It also provides further opportunity for parents to confirm their child’s subject selections for 2013. SETPs are a mandated requirement for all year 10 students and parent involvement is essential. We look forward to meeting with all year 10 students and their parents in August.

Tania Williams, Deputy Principal

LOTE - FRENCH
Who doesn’t enjoy eating delicious food? Last term, the year 10 French class made authentic French crêpes in the classroom. Laki Muse treated the students to a sample of traditional Somalian food, samosa and biryani, which she had made herself. Délicieux!

Bastille Day, the French National Day, was celebrated on 14 July. The students of the French classes celebrated this special day by making red, white and blue rosettes and ice cream sundaes topped with la glace à la vanille (vanilla ice cream), la sauce au chocolat and la crème chantilly (whipped cream).

The year 12 class welcomed two special visitors from Germany, Cathrin Braun who was an international student at Sunnybank last year and her brother Philippe. The students made crêpes and were assisted by Mrs Roberts and Miss Chen. An enjoyable time was had by all.

Mrs G Bastille-O’Donogue, LOTE Teacher - French

PARK RIDGE TRANSIT BUS CHANGES
School Run 24 and School Run 37 have been extended for Calamvale College, Sunnybank State High School and St Thomas More College. School run 24 commences service from Heathwood estate, Forestdale, Hillcrest. School Run 37 commences service from Green Road, Regents Park through to the Grand Plaza Interchange.

For further information please contact your school or Park Ridge Transit (38021233).

ADVANCE NOTICE OF IMPORTANT DATES

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District Track Carnival
ESL Parent Information Session
Immunisation Year 10
Maths Competition