Thank you to parents and students who supported our school’s participation in the district ANZAC commemoration activities this year. We are very proud of the students who participated in the local ceremony, operated the technology and sound systems and marched with the school. Well done students.

Make sure you visit the construction students’ cubby house at the HIA expo at the Brisbane Convention centre this weekend. It is being raffled to support KYABRA so demonstrate your support for them by filling the wishing well. Congratulations to the students and staff who are making a difference in our world through their generous actions. The wishing well will also be at Garden City from 6 to 8 May and Sunnybank Shopping Centre from 13 to 17 May.

This week we hosted a visit from Education Queensland International and guests from overseas who bring students into the international program throughout Queensland. We were proud to be chosen to represent the Brisbane South Alliance of Schools. Many thanks to the staff and students who showed our guests around our school and showcased our graduate program to them.

Outstanding student achievements. Congratulations to Grace Ngiam who won the Val Nesbitt Trophy at the 2013 June Bevan Under 17 Australasian Badminton Championships. The trophy is awarded to the player of the tournament who exhibits the highest standards of sportsmanship, personality, court demeanour, player ability and appearance. Grace was also runner up in the Australasian Girls Under 17 singles, winner in the Australasian Under 17 doubles and runner up in the Australasian Under 17 mixed doubles. An outstanding effort, Grace. Congratulations.

Staff news. Last week, our Guidance Officer of over 16 years, Mrs Betty Bartlett, retired. We thank her for her dedicated work in our school and the sound advice and care she has demonstrated to all students and staff supported by her through the years. We trust you enjoy a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Woolworths Earn and Learn. We are registered again for the Woolworths Earn and Learn program. If you shop at Woolworths, please collect the stickers from the checkout operator and place the sticker cards in the collection box in the school student foyer. The points will be redeemed at the end of the promotional campaign and our school will receive a range of products including books and other items that are used as rewards for your students.

Brisbane City Council - Homeless Connect. Please donate non perishables (toothpaste, soap, deodorants, etc) for our student leaders to collect for Homeless Connect, an event at the RNA showgrounds on 29 May.

Congratulations to our year 8 leaders for 2013 - Abby Laifai 8B, Eyoel Gorfu 8C, Farhia Mwechiwa 8B, and Rebecca Steel 8C.

Tuckshop specials. Wednesday 8 May - spaghetti (small $3.00, large $4.50). Thursday 9 May - Cocktail spinach and ricotta cheese boats (tub $3.00).


Diane Hicks,
Principal
RESOURCES CENTRE
The Resource Centre has a new look. Over the Christmas break the staff workroom was renovated, the building was painted and carpeted and, last term, new furniture for the circulation area was installed. The students and staff all enjoy the new fresh, open feel of the space.

This year has also seen some major changes in resources available for students. We now offer:

Worldbook online
Students can search for information for assignments. Worldbook Online also assists students in planning assignments and creating their bibliographies. Worldbook Online is available at school and also at home for students and parents. To access Worldbook Online from home, go to: www.worldbookonline.com. The username is ss4109 and the password www.police.qld.gov.au/programs/cscp/personalSafety/youth/.

Overdrive
Overdrive is an ebook library. Students can now download the free app on their iPhones, iPads or iPods (or androids) and computers. Once the app is downloaded, students can log into the school's Overdrive account using their student number on their student ID cards. They will then be able to select from a range of ebooks and audiobooks and download them to their device to read or listen to. This is a free service. See staff in the Resource Centre for assistance.

Turnitin
We now subscribe to Turnitin, a program which allows students to check their assignments to make sure they haven't copied too much information from other sources. This will help students ensure their assignments are their own original work, with reference to sources, and could lead to improved performance in subjects. Students can see their teacher for more information.

Ms Cobb, Teacher/Librarian

PARTY SAFE FOR PARENTS
There are many things to consider if you child is attending a party. While most parties are fun for everyone involved, intoxicated guests, gatecrashers or some other mishap can sometimes ruin the occasion. Below are some key points for you to consider:

- Speak with the party host and find out how many people will be attending the party. Who and how many people will be supervising the party? Will alcohol be available at the party, if so, how will it be managed? (Remember that there are laws regarding the irresponsible supply of liquor to minors.) Will food be available at the party? What time is the party expected to finish? Will the party be registered with the police?
- Get the phone number of the house where the party is being held and/or the mobile phone number of the host;
- Drop your child off at the party venue and arrange to pick them up at a certain time;
- Talk to your child about how to have a good time at a party without coming to any harm; and
- Discuss backup plans should things "go wrong" at the party.

If you are planning a party, consider the following points:

- Register your party at your local police station;
- Make the entrance to the party by invitation only and have the start and finish times clear on your invitation; and
- Try to avoid using the internet, SMS, social networking sites such as Facebook, or word of mouth to advertise your party.


Senior Constable Shane Stanley
School Based Police Officer

YEAR 9 ANZAC PAINTINGS
Our year 9 Art class created some wonderful paintings for the ANZAC Day commemoration on assembly last Monday. Their work was shown in a power point presentation while Lani Vurewa and Jessica Chai presented a speech about the paintings and their tribute to our soldiers who fought for us in the many wars since World War One. Congratulations to all the students of year 9 who completed their paintings and to the speakers.

Thank-you, Mrs Chang

YEAR 8 HOMEWORK CLUB
Year 8 Homework club is starting week four of term two. Students are welcome to come to the library and join in from 3 pm to 4 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. A teacher and seniors will be available to help students work on assignments, homework or catch up with class work. All the library facilities are available for student use during this time.

Year 8 is a foundation year which allows students to discover what they like, what they are good at and what they may need extra work in. All students should be reading over and reviewing the day’s work after school even if they do not have assigned homework. Reading the relevant part of the text book and adding to your notes or doing some questions will add to your understanding. Did you know that simply reading through the whole term’s notes in a subject one day every week can improve your recall of them at the end of term by 80%? Why not make this part of your regular routine and set aside a day at homework club each week to do this?

Identify what you need to do to improve and take some action. Come along, maximize your opportunities, improve your scores and you may even make some new friends!

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL
Parents who have not had students participating in the homework club may like to receive the school eNewsletter please contact Bronwyn Webb - bwebb4@eq.edu.au and notify her along with your details.

NAPLAN TESTS
Students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will soon participate in the annual National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) to assess their skills and understanding in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests will be conducted in all state and non-state schools across the country from 14 to 16 May. An individual NAPLAN report for each child will be sent home later this year. Results provide additional feedback for parents, carers and teachers on how students are progressing in key curriculum areas. Please contact the school if you have any questions about your child participating in NAPLAN testing. Further information is available on the ACARA website (http://www.nap.edu.au/).
QCS TEST 2013 - Two paid positions available

The QCS Test is scheduled for Tuesday 3 September and Wednesday 4 September 2013. Preparation lessons are well underway and will continue until the test. All OP eligible students in year 12 are required to sit the QCS Test and participate in preparation for it if they wish to be awarded an OP. Non OP students may choose to sit the test or not. Those who have opted to sit the test are currently participating in QCS Test preparation. To maintain accountability, security and proper conduct of the test, the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) appoints members of the community to carry out duties on their behalf. Consequently, members of the Sunnybank SHS community are invited to apply for the positions of chief community representatives (two positions available). These are paid positions.

If you are interested in nominating for these positions, please contact Tania Williams, Deputy Principal and Chief Supervisor for the test, by email at twill455@eq.edu.au or by phone on 3323 8111 for application forms. All paperwork must be completed by Friday 10 May.

Further detail of the role and duties of community representatives including application forms can be found on the QSA website www.qsa.gov.edu.au (follow the links to Senior Secondary ► Secondary QCS Test ► Administration).

Tania Williams, Deputy Principal

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Term two has started off smoothly with lots of exciting things taking place. Firstly, big congratulations go to Samantha Menzies who has secured paid part time employment at Hungry Jacks. A great achievement! Laurie, Prew and Deklan are also working hard at their work experience placement and learning lots of workplace skills. Well done to all students involved.

This term, in conjunction with the Mt Gravatt PCYC, we are running a “Boys Group” titled Streetwise. Streetwise is a music-based program where over nine weeks, students will create, produce and record an original song. The program incorporates a range of different activities and opportunities for students to develop confidence, communication skills, team work skills and much more. The first session took place at Kindilan Outdoor Education Centre in Redlands and students engaged in some fun, exciting teambuilding activities. The day was a huge success with lots of laughs and good memories. Thanks to all who supported the day.

IEPs are in the process of being updated. Parents/caregivers, please expect a phone call in the next few weeks. Thanks to all the parents who attended parent teacher interviews. It was nice for teachers to pass on information about your students’ progress.

Karen Berger, SEP

WATOTO CHILDREN’S CHOIR

Sunnybank State Primary School is excited to announce that the world renowned Watoto Children’s Choir from Uganda will be bringing their newest choir tour, Beautiful Africa: A New Generation, to perform at their school.

Sunnybank Primary will host the first official concert for the choir’s 2013 Australian tour. The choir will perform in the Primary School hall at 50 Eddington Street, Sunnybank, on Friday 10 May at 11.45 am. The concert is free, but a gold coin donation will help support the wonderful work of Watoto.

AGE CHAMPIONS


DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to the students who were selected to represent the school in the Karawatha District Cross Country, held at Waterford Junior Rugby League Club on 30 April. Students had been training hard and this has shown in our results. Our boys team gained second place overall and our girls improved from fourth last year to finish third this year. Overall, Sunnybank State High School narrowly missed out on second place by 40 points and we won the percentage trophy for the sixth year in a row. Well done to the coaches and all students who competed.

Running Club

Through the efforts of Mr Andrey Alexeenko, the HPE department has started a Running Club. This allows students of all abilities the chance to get some exercise during most mornings before school. The Running Club meets under block four on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 7 am. This term students will be focusing on middle distance running (between 3 km and 6 km) and field events in preparation for the school Track and Field carnival.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Sunnybank Scouts Markets

Sunnybank Scout Den, Beenleigh Road, Sunnybank. First Sunday of the month, starting 5 May, from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm. Stalls include cakes, crafts, jewellery, food, etc. Enquiries: Chris - 0407 668 512

Mt Gravatt Blue Light Dance Party

The next Dance Party is Friday 3 May, 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm, at Mt Gravatt PCYC, 90 Klumpp Road, Upper Mt Gravatt. Enquiries: Senior Constable Shane Stanley - 3323 8106.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

School Cross Country

The school Cross Country was held on 26 March and gave students the chance to gain points for their House. This year saw fantastic participation across the school, with the highest number of competitors in three years. This was especially evident in the Open Boys age group. In the end, it was Arinya winning narrowly in front of Coolaroo, followed by Balcarra and Doolamai. With the Track and Field carnival to come, it is Arinya in front once again for the third year in a row.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF IMPORTANT DATES

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Watoto Choir - 11.45 am</td>
<td>Sunnybank Primary School Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14-16</td>
<td>NAPLAN Test</td>
<td>Regional Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7.00 pm</td>
<td>Regional Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>Winter Interschool Sport commencences</td>
<td>Sunnybank Primary School Hall</td>
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