21 November 2014

Principal’s Report

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for the warm reception I have received upon commencement at Sunnybank State High School. I am proud to be the Principal of such a dynamic school community that inspires us all in our learning journey through many ways to excellence. I am passionate about working closely with our community to improve outcomes and opportunities for all.

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding journey that our school and community have been on to achieve significant success. On the first school assembly, I shared with staff and students, three key attributes that makes Sunnybank such a remarkable school. These are:

- A united school community with strong connectedness and collegiality
- A rich culture of inclusivity: many ways to excellence
- Quality Teachers and Successful Learners

As a school community, we have a lot to be proud of. We have a strong legacy of leadership and this was evident with a visit from our Minister for Education and past student, John Paul Langbroek, who toured our school and spent time with our current leaders. Another fine example was at our Remembrance Day service, whereby our upcoming school captains and leaders presented moving tributes and represented our school with pride. We remind our students that all are role models to others through their daily actions, interactions, behaviours and achievements. As a school, our core values of respect, responsibility and readiness unite us.

This week we have celebrated significant milestones including our Year 12 Graduation, EQI Graduation and Year 12 Formal. It is an opportunity to reflect on a strong learning journey and readiness to transition to continued success beyond the school gate. We wish all of our students the very best in their chosen pathway and know that they will continue to strive.

For the remainder of the term across our year levels, our focus is on:

- Attendance: in order for our students to succeed, they need to be at school on time for every lesson of every day
- Academic Achievement: this is reflected in our readiness to learn, our engagement and at this busy time of the year our focus is on giving our best in order to be the very best we can be.

I invite you to our next P&C meeting, Tuesday 25 November, 7.00 pm in the school library.

Tracey Cook, Principal

Sunnybank SHS Orientation Day

For students in years 7 and 8 in 2015 - 2 December 2014

In order to give current year 6 and 7 Primary School students an introduction to High School, Sunnybank SHS will hold its Orientation Day on 2 December, 2014. This day is designed for year 6 and 7 students who are currently enrolled as well as those students who are interested in enrolling at Sunnybank SHS for 2015.

The day runs from 8.45 am to 2.45 pm and will be filled with activities spanning the Languages, Health and Physical Education, Technologies and Performing Arts faculties. The Orientation Day is designed to give the Primary School students an experience of High School in preparation for the year 6
and 7 student’s transition in 2015. It will be an enjoyable and invaluable experience for the students, enabling them to feel more confident and prepared to make the transition to Sunnybank High School next year.

Your child is encouraged to attend our Orientation Day and we look forward to meeting them in the near future. To secure your child’s place at Sunnybank SHS please make contact with the school office on 3323 8111 for an enrolment interview.

Science Department News

Year 9 Science students have been studying light and have dissected a bull’s eye to demonstrate how a lens in the eye forms an image which is your vision. Students were amazed by the structures and colours inside the eye. (All organs come from the abattoir and are from animals which have been used for food.)

Year 11 Biology students have been studying anatomy and physiology this term and have had the opportunity to dissect a kidney and laboratory rat. Students quickly find out if they have the disposition for a career in medicine or nursing!

Ms Aldridge, HOD Science

Student Services Room 219

A hive of activity has been happening at the student services room 219. The Youth Support Co-ordinator and Chappy Johno have teamed up with Julie, one of our school volunteers, to put on a weekly festive activity. This week it was Christmas cards and tags and next week Christmas tree decorations. Pop along on Thursdays at first break...

Darran Miah, Youth Support Co-ordinator

TRACTION

For the past year, ten students from Sunnybank SHS have taken part in TRACTION, an ensemble performing arts program organised by Queensland Theatre Company. QTC recruited almost 40 of Logan’s most passionate performers and theatre-makers for TRACTION, QTC’s first Logan Youth Theatre Ensemble.

On Thursday 13 November, these students created a one-night-only performance which was the culmination of a year of workshops, skills development and a whole lot of fun. The TRACTION participants developed this work themselves, with the guidance of professional artists, to showcase their specific talents, ambitions and unique outlook on the future we share.
The performance was diverse, creative and really engaged the audience in their collective opinions and perspectives on the world around them as young people. It was fantastic to see Sunnybank SHS making up a quarter of the ensemble and the pride that the students showed in representing themselves and Sunnybank SHS to an audience of Brisbane Theatre networks, parents, friends and even the Artistic Director of QTC himself, Wesley Enoch. Congratulations to Tina Fonoti (12), Rhyanna McCoombes (12), Leah Kung (12), Abdul Salman (11), Asma Rezai (11), Najiba Abbassi (11), Anastasia Chistiakoff (9) and Luke Davison (9) on their ongoing commitment through the year. You all shone on the stage!!

Miss Kalamafoni, Drama Teacher

Student Resource Scheme

The Sunnybank SHS Resource Scheme ensures all students have the necessary resources for their education. As well as financial savings, this scheme saves the need to shop for and find books and other required resources. The P & C Committee agreed and endorsed the fee of $385 which includes a Technology charge of $45 which will contribute to maintaining our IT resources to a very high standard.

The Resource Scheme for 2015 will be posted home or can be collected from the School office. There will be a 5% discount if there are three or more students in the family or full payment is made by 20 February 2015. Please return the completed agreement form before 30 January 2015 and if you wish to pay by Centrepay, internet banking or supply your credit card details please complete the payment form at the same time.

For financial hardship special arrangements can be made, please contact the Business Services Manager on 3323 8110; all discussions will be confidential.

Margaret Richter
Business Services Manager

Homestays Required

Are you looking for the opportunity to share your home, our unique Queensland lifestyle, our variety of food and customs? Consider becoming a Homestay provider for Sunnybank High School’s International Student Program!

We are looking for friendly and reliable providers who are able to offer a safe and caring family atmosphere, treat the student as a family member, speak English as their first language, encourage English conversation and be located within easy reach of the school.

You will need a spare private bedroom with wardrobe, student desk and lamp and to provide nutritious meals and snacks each day. Also, you will need a Commission for Children and Young People check (Blue Card) and will receive financial reimbursement ($254 per week).

Please contact: Dee Venter 3323 8119, International Student Coordinator, Cricos Provider Number: 00608A

Sunnytext

All textbooks must be returned to Sunnytext before students finish school at the end of the year. The books need to be cleaned, ready to be issued in 2015. Any books lost or damaged, need to be paid for at the Finance Office.

Opening hours for the beginning of 2015:
19 January to 6 February – 8.15 am to 2.45 pm
Closed Monday 26 January, Australia Day Holiday

Uniform Shop

Closed Friday 12 December 2014 for stocktaking.

Opening hours for the beginning of 2015:
19 to 23 January – 8.00 am to 2.30 pm
27 Jan to 6 Feb – 8.00 am to 1.00 pm
Closed Monday 26 January, Australia Day Holiday

Second-hand uniforms will only be accepted if they are washed, ironed and neatly presented with name and address attached.

Downs Syndrome Association Variety Show

Sunnybank State School Fireworks Fiesta
Multi-draw Raffle Donations

It’s that time of year again and Sunnybank State School is starting to put together the multi-draw raffle ready for their Fireworks Fiesta which will be held on Tuesday 9 December. This year, their P&C will be spending the money raised, on improvements to the tuckshop and purchasing new Information Technology equipment for the students.

The school is asking local businesses to support this major fundraising event by donating prizes. They are also hoping that some parents might be able to help provide some prizes too. Many parents work for businesses which might be happy to donate goods or services that can be used for raffle prizes.

As a supporter of the event, your business will receive free publicity to their vibrant school community. Sunnybank State School will acknowledge your donation in their newsletter and on the night of the event. In addition you will receive a Certificate of Appreciation to display in your workplace. A letter of request can be obtained from the Sunnybank State School office for you to take to your business of choice. All donations can be left at the office. Any assistance you may be able to provide will be greatly appreciated.

Blue Light Dance Party

Mount Gravatt Blue Light will be holding the next Blue Light Dance Party at 7.00 pm on Friday 5 December at Mt Gravatt PCYC, 90 Klumpp Road, Upper Mt Gravatt, next to the Hibiscus Centre. The dance is for children aged between 7 and 14 years old. The dance finishes at 9.30 pm and cost of entry is $7. Lucky door prizes to be won. The dance is fully supervised by police officers and current blue card holders. For more information, please contact Senior Constable Shane Stanley on 0427 644 702.

Important Dates

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