26 February 2016

Principal’s Report

Teaching and Learning

Our focus for the year is Every child improving and achieving. As we approach the half-way point of the term, it is important to ensure that each child is engaged in their learning and giving themselves every opportunity for success. Our students are committed to their studies and this is reflected in their recent smart goal planning activity. It is also evidenced in the number of students attending tutorials and homework club in the afternoons with our teachers and volunteers. Students are to be commended on their readiness to learn and commitment to their studies.

As a school community, we value working together to ensure that every child has the opportunity to improve and achieve. We encourage families to discuss both the goals and strategies identified with your children and encourage contact with teachers to discuss your child’s learning. At the mid-point of the term, these conversations are very timely so students can adequately prepare for upcoming assessments and exams.

Literacy and Numeracy

Literacy and Numeracy is our other priority area across the school. To support continued skill development, we have committed to:

- The continued appointments of our Numeracy Coach and Master Teacher to support whole school Literacy and Numeracy
- Employment of a Primary school teacher for targeted Literacy and Numeracy Intervention across Junior Secondary for identified students to revisit and build upon fundamental skills
- Reading to Learn strategies in all classrooms
- Numeracy Ninja passports for junior secondary students
- Additional Teacher Aide time and in-classroom support
- FLI (Focused Literacy Intervention) lessons in Junior Secondary for identified students
- NAPLAN booster activities and preparedness programs
- Corrective Reading for identified students
- Reading program introduced in junior English classes
- New Numeracy HUB for students under block 7 to allow for practical applications of numeracy skills
- Professional development of staff in programs such as Reading to Learn, QCAA Mathematics courses and Teaching English in the Mainstream (to support EAL/D students)
- Inclusion of Numeracy strategies such as polya’s problem solving
Investment for Success

Our school will receive approximately $695,000 under the Investment for Success initiative funded by the Government to improve student outcomes. Through rigorous review and consultation, our school has committed to a concerted focus on Literacy, Numeracy and student pathways. Money will be used to engage and employ relevant staff, build capacity and capability, implement whole of school programs and ensure our students have every opportunity to improve and achieve.

Sunnybank Transforms

Our school continues to thrive and transform both externally and from within. We have had upgrades to our facilities that include the painting of buildings, gymnasium and toilets. Lighting to two tennis courts have been upgraded also. You may have seen our new electronic school sign with key messages for our community. There is a wonderful sense of pride in our school, reflected in our facilities, standard of student uniform and professionalism of staff.

Year 7 Family Barbecue

It was a pleasure to meet parents and families who attended our year 7 Family Barbecue last Thursday evening. The hall and basketball courts were a flurry of activity and action with games led by seniors and junior secondary buddies. Our Junior Secondary Deputy Principal presented important information to parents in the Library and the evening culminated in a barbecue.

Interim Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews

To keep our families well-informed, this year, our interim report cards will include results for academic achievement across the subjects studied. We believe this information serves as a wonderful opportunity to track and monitor children’s progress and lends itself to continued conversations at our Parent Teacher interviews. Reports will be distributed in the second week of term two and are primarily emailed to families, so please contact the school to provide your preferred email address.

Parents and Citizens’ Association

Our first P&C meeting for the year was an opportunity to present our school strategies, goals and targets for the year. We also discussed the school budget and our P&C budget. We encourage our parents and community members to please attend. Our next meeting is the AGM and occurs Tuesday 22 March commencing at 6:00pm in the school Library. All are welcome.

Tracey Cook Principal

Year 7 BBQ

On Thursday 18 February, the year 7s Welcome BBQ was held. After school, our year 7 students with the help of their roll mark teachers, Ms Finney, Mr Hamilton and Mrs Hill and the year 12 student leaders, undertook the first of the term roll mark challenges. For the next hour and a half, the students worked in their roll mark teams in basketball, volleyball and touch football. It was hot work but the students worked well to support each other, trying their best and having fun at the same time.

At 4:30pm our year 7 parents were welcomed to Sunnybank SHS by our Deputy Principal, Mr David Becker. Not long after 5:00pm the parents joined Miss Kalamafoni, the year 7s and Sunnybank SHS staff to enjoy an afternoon sausage sizzle. Many thanks go to Chappy Johnno, Darran, Mrs Garbutt and her children and Mrs Downie for the help with cooking the BBQ and setting up.

The BBQ was a great opportunity for our year 7 parents to meet our Sunnybank community. Special thank you goes to the 2016 senior leaders from year 11 and 12 who helped with the running of the afternoon and provided support for their younger peers. We look forward to seeing our year 7 parents in term two for the first Parents Evening of the year.

Ms Rosy Kalamafoni Year 7 Coordinator
District Swimming Trials

On Wednesday 17 February, the HPE department took a small team to compete at the Karawatha District swimming trials at the Chandler Swimming Centre. This event is one of the toughest districts to swim in with many students from other schools going on to compete at a regional and state level. Congratulations to all of the students who competed in this event, you performed really well and demonstrated great team spirit and encouragement throughout the day.

Abdullahi Lutfi – 13 Years Breaststroke
Sydnie Bailey-Neels – 14 Years Breaststroke, Butterfly, Backstroke and Freestyle
Rex Ball – 13 Years Breaststroke
Benjamin Busevac – 14 Years Breaststroke and Freestyle
Keana Kahuroa – 13 Years Freestyle and Breaststroke
Jimmy Marurai – 13 Years Freestyle and Breaststroke
Jennifer Millington – 14 Years Freestyle and Breaststroke
Miloje Ostojic – 14 Years Freestyle and Breaststroke
Rebecca Steel – 16 Years Freestyle and Breaststroke

Charmaine Lucock
HPE Department / Carnival Coordinator

Inter-House Swimming Carnival Photos

Tuesday 9 February

International Student Programme

Study Tour from Japan

We are honoured to host the Kariya High School Science Study Tour from 5 to 11 March. A group of eight girls from Japan will visit our school for the week and stay in our school’s Homestay program. This special science tour is packed with visits to Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary, the P.A. Hospital and a genetics laboratory. Our year 12 students have volunteered to be buddies for the visiting students.

Kariya High School was established in 1919. This is a very academic school specialising in science subjects. Kariya City is close to Toyota City, Hamamatsu, Shizuoka and Takayama.

We at Sunnybank State High School extend a warm welcome to all our visiting Japanese Study Tour students.

Dee Venter
International Student Co-ordinator

Mathematics

The Australian Mathematics Competition for the Westpac Awards

Sponsored by the Westpac Banking Corporation, the Australian Mathematics Competition for the Westpac Awards is the original and largest of its kind in the world. It has been challenging students for over 30 years. This year the competition will be held on Thursday 28 July. Cost of entry is $5.50 which can be paid at the office finance section prior to the Easter vacation. Teachers will be encouraging students to enter. Below are some questions for you to try!

The following questions are from a Year 7/8 paper (2015):

Q1. In the addition below, $x$, $y$ and represent three different digits.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
4 \times \\
\hline
y \\
\hline
z \\
\hline
x
\end{array}
\]

What is the solution to $x+y+z$?
(a) 9 (b) 8 (c) 10 (d) 7 (e) 6

An example of an early question from the Intermediate (Year 9/10) paper:

Q2. On a farm the ratio of horses : cows is 3 : 2 and the ratio of cows : goats is 4 : 3. The ratio of goats to horses is
(a) 5 : 7 (b) 3 : 8 (c) 3 : 5 (d) 5 : 18 (e) 1 : 2

How did you go?

Respect, Responsibility, Readiness

Teachers have asked me to remind students and caregivers of the importance of being prepared. Textbooks are used regularly in Maths classes and for homework, so if your student does not have a text, they are jeopardising their chances of success in this subject. All students should have with them every day their textbook, notebooks, writing equipment, calculator, ruler and diary. The department will supply any special equipment (e.g. protractors and compasses) as required but we do ask students to be READY to learn with the BASIC learning aids listed above. Caregivers are asked to regularly check their student’s diary, as this will allow you to monitor homework and also, should a teacher need to communicate with you, they may make a note in the diary.

Mangahigh

Mangahigh is an online-games based maths teaching resource for years 7 to 10. It draws on casual games and social competition from the online world and combines it with the core
mathematical concepts to provide students with the greatest sense of achievement. It is actively being used by over one million students each month in Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom. Teacher feedback from the Australian pilot of this resource included: (i) students were more engaged with Mangahigh compared to a “direct-teaching” lesson; (ii) noticeable improvement in students’ attitude and interest in maths; (iii) helped improve maths content knowledge for their students; (iv) students’ speed and accuracy improved over the period.

Students will be able to access this web based program from home as long as they have their username and password. Teachers will be setting challenges relevant to the topics being undertaken in class.

Maths Tutoring

The Mathematics department offers tutoring in all levels of Maths on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at first break, and Wednesday at second break.

Students in years 7 to 10: room 706 Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
Students in years 11 and 12: room 708 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
All year levels: room 707 Wednesday only with Miss Schloss.

All students are welcome to come along and get help from experienced mathematician.

Please encourage your students to attend these extra sessions if they require some extra practice in mathematics or clarification for assignment work.

Calculators

All students MUST have a scientific calculator for their Mathematics classes. (Please note that the use of the calculator function on mobile phones is not an acceptable practice). Students will not be permitted to use their phones in class or under exam conditions.

Scientific calculators are available for sale from the Mathematics department for $21. To purchase a calculator students pay their money at the office and present the receipt at block 7 staffroom to receive the calculator. Alternatively, calculators are available from major retailers.

Students studying Maths B, (Maths C, and/or Physics), will benefit greatly if they purchase their own Graphics Calculator (TI 84 +). The department can purchase these through their suppliers for approximately $160. Students can order and pay online. Interested students should see Miss Schloss or their Maths teacher. Alternatively, you may be able to get them from a retail store for a higher cost (try JB Hi Fi, Officeworks, etc).

ANSWERS to the sample questions: 1. (c) 2. (e)

Ms Schloss
HOD Mathematics

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**Uniform Shop**

Sunnybank State High will no longer sell second hand uniforms on behalf of parents and students from March 2016. We will kindly accept donations.

**Lesley Hall, Uniform Shop Convenor**

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**School Based Youth Health News**

Welcome back to the school year 2016. The holidays seem but a dream but welcome back to Sunnybank SHS. My name is Erica Carne and I’m the School Based Youth Health Nurse (SBYHN). I’m here Monday and Friday and every second Wednesday.

The Youth Health Nurse works with students, school staff and parents to:

- Address concerns or problems about health and wellbeing
- Help create a more supportive, healthy school environment
- Connect people to other support services outside the school

I work with individuals and school members to identify and act on issues that affect both the individual and the health of the school community. This includes helping with curriculum, teaching and learning activities, supporting an environment and school culture that supports health and wellbeing and working with the community and other services.

I can see young people in private to talk about - health concerns - relationships - sexual health - personal/family issues - smoking, alcohol and other drug use - referral to other services - feeling unhappy/stressed – puberty. Parents are also most welcome to phone me or make an appointment with any concerns about their child. There will also be regular health information articles in the school newsletters so look out for those.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming year.

**Respectful Relationships Education as Violence Prevention**

“It’s time we talked.”


As a Youth Health nurse, over the years I have noticed the impact of pornography on our young people and the expectations in their relationships. If we are to address respectful relationships and violence towards women it is also important to address pornography. You and your family are the most important source of sexuality and relationship information for your children. More than anyone else, you will lay the foundations for well adjusted, confident and healthy children who go on to experience positive, healthy, respectful, mutually consenting relationships.
At the recent “Respectful Relationships” conference I attended, it was highlighted that even some primary school children are being exposed and influenced by pornography. “If your child has access to a mobile phone, laptop, tablet or any other internet-enabled device – or if they have any friends or siblings who do – then it is very likely that they will see pornography, even if they never seek it out. They may even make their own pornography – because they’d like to or because they are pressured to do so by a partner or peers. For many young people, it’s now harder to avoid pornography than to see it.”

More than 90% of young men aged between 13 and 16 years have viewed pornography and 60% of young women. As parents it’s important you are aware of the changing world (porn won’t go away) and how you can help your young person navigate this challenge by giving them solid values and reject scenarios that conflict with their personal values. We can’t afford to allow pornography to be young people’s most prominent sexuality educator. We need to be able to help young people to see that sex and relationships can be better than what pornography portrays.

Please take the time to view the parent information tips and support from this comprehensive website:


Erica Carne  
School Based Youth Health Nurse

**Park Ridge Transit (PRT) School Route Changes**

**Effective 29 February 2016**

Park Ridge Transit has revised their school services and a number of changes have been made. These changes have been a necessity to improve service reliability, area coverage and running times.

- Sunnybank State High School:
  - Effected Runs (AM) – 6037, 6066
  - Summary of changes: Timing points adjusted (6037).
  - Effected Runs (PM) – 6124, 6166
  - Summary of changes: Add Sunnybank High and realign to safer route to avoid congestion and traffic issues to improve safety (6166).

Refer to our website at www.busqlq.com.au or phone Park Ridge Transit on 07 3802 1233 for further details for the updated changes. These changes will take effect from the 29 February 2016.

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### Important Dates

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<td>March 5-11</td>
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