Dear Parents, Carers and Students

With only three weeks to go before the end of term, now is the time for students to be totally focused on their studies and external distractions should be kept to a minimum. As parents/carers, please remember that you are a very significant partner in the learning process and that students appreciate an active interest shown in their work, homework, assignments etc. (They may say otherwise, but deep down and in the long term, they do appreciate your active interest).

Students who do well generally are those who actively demonstrate the 5Ps (being Punctual, Prepared, Productive, Positive and Proud). When was the last time you looked through your child’s school diary and sat down and discussed with them how it is being used to organise their personal, social and school commitments? It is never too late to start!

Senior Pathways Evening
Our Senior Pathways evening was informative and very well attended by a large number of families. The focus of the evening was about relevant and alternative pathways, accelerated academic programs, VET options, TAFE possibilities and the benefits of the rankings system and OP pathways and eligibility. Year 9 and 10 students are in the process of choosing subjects for 2015, with the Year 10 students beginning the SET Plan process next week.

2015 Enrolments
We have started our “official” enrolment processes for students wishing to enrol at Yeronga SHS for 2015. Our program next year will be fully compliant with the ACARA curriculum expectations and ALL students will have access to a personal laptop. Parents, caregivers and their student can phone the school on 3249 1400 to make an appointment from 8.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. All interviews will be with a member of the school’s administration team and will last for approximately 20 minutes. Prospective students should bring in school reports, passport, birth certificates and other relevant information.

The messages: Very safe and supportive school, quality academic and vocational achievements, very high staff morale – over 95%, learning climate deemed high to outstanding by auditors, value - addedness for all students is a focus, Good - Better - Best mantra is working.

Resource Fees
At the last P & C meeting, it was decided that the 2015 school resource fee would be raised to $450.00. This fee covers all resources that students require, including text books, take home lap top, photocopied materials and other general outlays.

QCS Test
Some of our Year 12 students will sit the Queensland Core Skills Test on 2 and 3 September. It is imperative that all students who have elected to sit the test give maximum commitment as the results of the group will impact upon the Overall Position outcomes for all eligible OP students.

Our award winning “Pathways Program” and our links with a number of Tertiary organisations have already enabled over 40 of our hard working and committed Year 12 students to have Guaranteed University Entry.

Long Service Leave
I am taking some long service leave as from today. In my absence, Jessica Walker will be Acting Principal until the end of this term and Bob Logan will be Acting Principal for the first two weeks of next term.

Terry Heath
Principal
From the Deputy Principals...

Parenting: The Teen Years

As Deputy Principal looking after the academic, social and emotional welfare of our young adolescents - 11 – 14 years, I often have parents in my office distressed at the deterioration of a previously healthy relationship with their child. “What has gone wrong? We used to get along so well.”

The early teen years pose some of the most difficult challenges for families. Teenagers, dealing with hormone changes and an ever-complex world, may feel that no one can understand their feelings, especially parents. As a result, the teen may feel angry, alone and confused while facing complicated issues about identity, peers, relationships etc.

What does it mean to be an adolescent today?

Today’s adolescents are arguably the most vulnerable generation of young people. Adolescence is starting earlier and finishing later, therefore increasing the period of vulnerability. Here’s what their bodies and brain are going through during adolescence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emotional Development</th>
<th>Social development</th>
<th>Brain Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking for independence</td>
<td>Peer-focused</td>
<td>Increased capacity of abstract thinking skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highly sensitive</td>
<td>Identify with music &amp; icons</td>
<td>Exercise poor judgement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety about body/sexuality</td>
<td>Risk-taking behaviours</td>
<td>Engage in increased risk-taking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-conscious</td>
<td>Seeking individualisation</td>
<td>Misunderstand subtle social cues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mood swings</td>
<td>Desire recognition</td>
<td>Limited attention span and a different concept of time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of self-esteem</td>
<td>Model adults</td>
<td>Lack the inhibitions of adulthood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overreact to ridicule</td>
<td>Social skills mature late</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some parenting ideas to consider?

1. **Give kids some leeway.** Giving teens a chance to establish their own identity, giving them more independence is essential to help them establish their own place in the world.

2. **Choose your battles wisely.** Doing themselves harm or doing something that could be permanent (like a tattoo), those things matter. Sleeping late on a Saturday morning, a messy room - those don’t matter. Try not to nit-pick.

3. **Invite their friends for a meal.** It helps to meet kids you have questions about. You catch more bears with honey than vinegar. If you flatly say, “You can’t go out with those kids”, it often can backfire - it just increases the antagonism.

4. **Decide rules and discipline in advance.** It’s important for parents to have their own discussion so they are on the same page with rules and consequences. If the child says it isn’t fair, then you have to agree on what is fair punishment. Then, follow through with the consequences.

5. **Discuss ‘checking in’.** Give teenagers age-appropriate autonomy, especially if they behave appropriately, but you need to know where they are. That’s a part of responsible parenting. If it feels necessary, require them to call you during the evening to check in. This does depend on the teen and how responsible they have been.

6. **Talk to teens about risks.** Whether it’s drugs, alcohol, behaviour etc, your children need to know the worst that could happen.

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Di Goodison
Deputy Principal

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Head of Special Education Services:
English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) Unit

For this edition of the newsletter, I am proud to let some of our wonderful students share their impressions of some interesting events they have been involved in. I am inspired by how motivated our young people are in making positive changes in the world around them – whether it’s dreaming big, like Kennedy at the Impact Conference or bringing a smile to another’s day, like Lorpu and the other Social Network Leaders who volunteer their time to make students new to Australia feel welcome. I feel reassured with our future in the hands of these compassionate young leaders.

Jessica Walker
Head of Special Education Services
3249 1433  jwalk382@eq.edu.au
Impact Program

Have you ever wanted to make a difference? Perhaps you don’t know how? Social enterprise can be a great way of making a sustainable and lasting impact on your community.

It was such an amazing experience to attend the Impact Entrepreneur conference recently. We heard from a number of incredible social entrepreneurs, including Daniel Flynn from Thankyou Company (profits from water bottles go to building wells in developing countries); Steve Williams, from SEED PPM (employs people who are long-term unemployed and unable to find a job as landscapers and gardeners); the founders of “who gives a crap” paper company, Metaset company; Social traders and Ygap organisation, just to mention a few.

The purpose of this conference was to encourage young people to dream big and to bring their dreams to life. This is a wonderful opportunity for young people aged 16-25 years to meet successful people from across Australia. Participants were challenged to think of something that they wish to change or improve in Australia as well as across the world. We were divided into groups where we discussed different issues that affect our society and came up with solutions to resolve these problems.

I met and befriended professionals from many different industries who I never thought I would meet. We had lots of fun! If you participate in this conference, you will have more fun than you’ve ever experienced before. We were provided with a wonderful morning tea, lunch and a delicious Eritrean dinner. We had games, designs, career times as well as “selfie” time!!

I highly recommend the 2015 Impact conference to all students who are passionate about changing the world by bringing their dreams to life. I urge you to apply, and if you are accepted, attend! As Machingura said, “No one will come in to rescue you. You just have to step out somehow, and make your dreams come true”.

Kennedy – Year 12

Social Network Leaders - Visit to Milpera State High School

On 15 August, the Social Network Leaders went to Milpera State High School to talk to students about what to expect during a typical day in a mainstream high school. We went into two different classes. The Social Network Leaders had put together presentations to talk to the class about Yeronga SHS.

The first presentation was all about school rules. The presentation informed the students about the rules in high school, especially our school. We spoke about getting to school on time, the importance of wearing the school uniform and about respect and harmony.

The leaders also prepared some games to play which involved every student. One game was the “Naming Game” where you had to throw the ball to someone at random and say their name. After all the games we went back into the class and delivered a few more presentations.

We did the same activities in both classes. At the end of the day, the two classes came together and were allowed to ask us any questions about high school.

Overall, it was a fun day. I’m sure all the leaders enjoyed themselves and we hope the Milpera students did too. I would like to thank Meredith Hands from Multicultural Development Association for giving us the opportunity to develop our leadership skills. Thank you to all the leaders who participated in the activities, if it wasn’t for you, this day would not have been successful. I look forward to our next visit to Milpera State High School.

Lorpu – Year 11
Griffith Connect Guaranteed Admission Scheme

This scheme grants Year 12 students who are eligible for an Overall Position (OP) and who meet specific prerequisite criteria, guaranteed entry into a range of Griffith University programs following the completion of Year 12. Subject results from both Year 11 and Semester 1 in Year 12 are used to determine eligibility and therefore students must have maintained a high level of achievement throughout their senior years.

Students are able to select from a range of programs within the following academic areas:
- Business and Government
- Criminology and Law
- Education
- Engineering and Information Technology
- Environment, Planning and Architecture
- Health
- Humanities and Languages
- Science
- Visual and Creative Arts

In 2013, five Year 12 students from this school received guaranteed admission into programs including Science, Biomedical Science and Engineering. These students were acknowledged at our Awards Ceremony last year and received their formal offer from the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) in the November early offer round.

Applications for current Year 12 students close on 20 September 2014. Please see the Guidance Officer for details regarding program specific eligibility criteria.

Choosing Senior Subjects

The Senior Pathways Evening was conducted in the Auditorium on the evening of 19 August. Those families who attended received a copy of the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) Tertiary Prerequisites 2017. This document is designed to provide information about the range of tertiary programs which will be available to current Year 10 students after they complete Year 12 and are entering higher education in 2017.

While this booklet does focus on the specific subject prerequisites for each tertiary program, it also contains information about all aspects of tertiary study. This information is well presented as a seven step guide to assist in the process of subject selection. QTAC Tertiary Prerequisites 2017 can be downloaded from the QTAC website at www.qtac.edu.au

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Senior Schooling News...

School Based Traineeships/Apprenticeships

We have a number of students who have put in applications for school based traineeships. These include: Certificate III in Business Administration, Certificate II in Automotive, Certificate III in Hairdressing and a Certificate III in Community Pharmacy. Good luck to all of the students who have applied. Students in Years 10 and 11 should be checking the Senior Schooling noticeboard for opportunities that might be of interest. You can earn money while you gain valuable work experience and a nationally recognised qualification.

TAFE

TAFE enrolments for 2015 are now open for Year 10 and 11 students as part of the TAFE at School program. Campuses that might be convenient for students to study at include: Southbank, Mt Gravatt and Loganlea. Courses available include certificates in: Animal Studies, Retail Makeup and Skin Care, Beauty Services, Hairdressing, Early Childhood Education and Care, Design Fundamentals, Events, Millinery, Fitness, Health Support Services, Health Services Assistance, Horticulture, Hospitality, Interior Design Retail Services, Media, Music, Music Business, Telecommunication Technology (Networking).

For further information see http://tafebrisbane.edu.au/resources/pdf/study-with-us/TAFE%20at%20School%202015.pdf Students should see Mrs Fortescue in the library to enrol now!

Year 12

Year 12 students are at the business end of proceedings. A reminder that students should have logged into Student Connect to check their Learning Account. Any errors/omissions need to be flagged to Mrs Fortescue in the library.
From the Head of Curriculum …

READING for SUCCESS

This week is National Literacy and Numeracy week and the central theme is ‘explore’. The purpose of this week is to celebrate and recognise the need for these important skills in life.

This year there are two planned literacy activities ‘Read for Australia’ and ‘A Poem in Your Pocket’. On the website www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au there are great literacy activities on offer and ideas about how to get involved in the National Literacy and Numeracy celebrations.

Our *Reading for Success* students will be participating in and celebrating all things literacy during our reading sessions this week – trying our luck at poetry writing. This week I challenge you to find a poem that resonates with you - a poem that encourages you to explore and delve a little deeper. Why not explore some of Australia’s most historical poets including Henry Lawson and AB Paterson? Do you have a favourite Aussie poem?

Tiffany Ostwald
Head of Curriculum - Literacy and Reading

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Dance News

Our Year 10 Dance students were invited by ABCN to attend an event with two dancers from the Bangarra Dance Theatre Company. The students were able to meet the dancers: Elma Kris, who was raised on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait and Luke Currie-Richardson, an ex-state basketball player turned Indigenous dancer.

The dancers shared insights about their personal journey, their background and the studies they undertook to pursue a dancing career. Our students learnt about the history of the Bangarra Dance Theatre Company and what they do, as well as an insight into the busy life of a dancer. Our students also had a tour of the Commonwealth Bank flagship branch in Queen Street and took home a bag of goodies. Thanks to ABCN, Bangarra and the Commonwealth Bank for having us!

Karina Bray
Dance Teacher

Careers in Nursing

On Friday, 22 August, 20 Year 11 and 12 students went to the PA Hospital Nursing Open Day. It was an opportunity for them to meet nurses from both the hospital and the local community. The students spoke to nurses from a range of specialisations around the hospital and went on a tour of the wards to see nurses in action. The students were able to participate in different activities including bandaging, taking vital signs, resuscitation and gowning up for surgery.

This was a great opportunity to develop a better understanding of the Pathways into Nursing and the careers available within the profession.

Karen Bate
Teacher

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Karina Bray
Dance Teacher
The Year 9 students have been busy in the last couple of weeks. There has been the athletics carnival, another GOALS excursion and our last sports Gala Day for the year. Well done to all students who have been involved in the many different events that are happening around the school.

The GOALS students participated in their third session on 5 August. This session was aimed at the importance of building relationships and confidence. This means there are only two more sessions to go before our completion ceremony in October. Attendance is always compulsory at these GOALS sessions as there is valuable information provided and experiences that are only gained by being present.

Congratulations to a couple of our talented Year 9 students:

- Franko came first in the 1500m at District Track Day. An amazing race where he fought hard to win and then followed that up with coming second in the 800m.
- Abu who came second in the 400m.

Good luck Franko and Abu and to all the other students who are participating at Regional Athletics.

**NAPLAN**

Last week the NAPLAN results were mailed out. It is important to remember that these are “point in time” tests that should be used alongside other assessments and academic reporting data to determine overall success at school. It was very pleasing to celebrate some fantastic improvement with 27 Year 9 students achieving improvement scores from Year 7 to 9. They were in the top 20% of improving students in the country for their level of achievement. This value-addedness, which is referred to as relative gain, is the most important measure of NAPLAN as it tells a story of how the students have performed over two NAPLAN test periods.

“**True Colours**”

In Week 6, all Year 9 students participated in the Griffith University “True Colours” careers workshop. In this workshop the students answered a quiz about their work habits, interests and values that led to aligning a number of professions to their interests. Whilst most students found there was a match between what the survey said and the jobs they have already considered, it was a very interesting process that promoted a lot of discussion around careers and offered many possibilities that could be considered for the future.

This program was an introduction to our Year 9 subject selection process for 2015, which also included the recent parent information night and the Head of Department subject talks last Wednesday. All Year 9 students will choose a number of subjects that they would like to study in 2015 in Week 8. These forms will need to be signed by parents/carers to ensure that subject choices have been made in consultation.

**Year 8 Ambassadors**

On year level assembly this week, I invited all Year 8 students to apply to become a Year 8 Ambassador. This leadership position will involve students training and participating in transition activities with our affiliate primary schools in Term 4 and is an excellent opportunity to develop confidence, public speaking, and leadership skills.

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**From the Year Level Coordinators**

**Block Exams**

It is difficult to believe that we are now approaching the formal assessment period for Term 3 with block exams starting on Tuesday, 9 September. Students should be using their assessment planners to plan and manage their time efficiently to ensure that they can prioritise tasks to complete assignments in advance and study effectively for their exams. Studies have shown that preparing for exams should start up to three weeks prior to the exam date. Students will need support in managing their assignment load and exam preparation. The student diary has some excellent ideas on pages 129-143 to assist students with exam preparation and study techniques. I would encourage all parents and carers to work through these pages with their students to assist them to work out the most effective use of their time in preparing for exams and completing assignments.

**Matt Petersen**

Head of Department - Junior Secondary  
Ph: 3249 1456, Email: mpete21@eq.edu.au
Once again Year 9s, continue to work hard. The busy part of term is coming up with lots of assessments and assignments due ahead of our block exam in Week 9. Ensure you start these assessment tasks early and that you work to the best of your ability.

I’ll finish off with a quote of the week: “If you want to achieve some really big and interesting goals, you have to learn to fall in love with hard work”.

Felicity O’Neill
Year 9 Coordinator
Ph: 3249 1481   Email:fonei6@eq.edu.au

Senior Pathways Evening
Thank you to students and their parents/caregivers for coming along to our Senior Pathways Evening on Tuesday, 19 August. I’m sure students appreciate the support of their parents when it comes to deciding future pathways and subjects.

SET Planning
SET Planning is taking place for Year 10 students on Tuesday, 2 September and Wednesday, 3 September. All students should have received confirmation of their interview time and an appointment slip from their interviewer. Please remember to dress in formal clothing as this is great preparation for future interview experience. Students are also required to bring their tablets, Subject Selection Handbooks and QTAC Tertiary Prerequisites for 2016.

In preparation for this important interview, students, parents and guardians should be reviewing and discussing with students your intended learning for 2015, Interests, Goals, Strengths, Areas for Improvement and Future Courses and Careers. It is important to arrive at the interview with your subjects selected so you can refine and confirm your SET Plan. Please contact me if you have any questions about the SET Plan Interviews.

Kathy Fortescue
Year 10 Coordinator
Head of Department - Senior Schooling

It is the start of the business end of the term, with students busily working on their class assessment tasks. While the end of school may be in sight, it’s important to stay focused on the tasks currently at hand.

Year 12 Queensland Core Skills (QCS) students are in the final weeks of preparation for the test on 2 and 3 September. It is vital that all students are present each Wednesday for their timetabled QCS classes. The QCS test will be the most important test OP students sit this year as the class QCS averages are a critical factor in calculating student OPs. The Year 11 students will be organising a breakfast for the Year 12 students sitting the QCS exam on both mornings so the students will be well nourished before their exams.

With the QTAC due date for applications due on 30 September, students wishing to apply to QTAC to complete further study need to attend their scheduled QTAC application review appointment with the relevant staff member. These appointments are listed in the school’s daily notices. See your Form Teacher for more details.

Keep your eyes on the prize – yours and not anybody else’s. “Go for it now. The future is promised to no one” -Wayne Dyer. These last few weeks of the term could make all the difference to a student’s overall result.

Felicity O’Neill
Year 9 Coordinator
Ph: 3249 1481   Email:fonei6@eq.edu.au

Kathy Fortescue
Year 10 Coordinator
Head of Department - Senior Schooling

Karina Bray
Year 12 Coordinator
Ph: 3249 2101   Email: jbray@eq.edu.au

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Head of Department - Senior Schooling

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Year 12 Coordinator
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Important Dates for Year 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 2 September – Wednesday 3 September</td>
<td>QCS Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 9 September – Friday 12 September</td>
<td>Exam block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19 September</td>
<td>Last day to submit evidence of learning from QCE credit transfer &amp; workplace, community or self-directed learning projects for QCE credit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 30 September</td>
<td>Due date for QTAC applications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Congratulations to Maria, Tom, James and Zahraa, our Senior Visual Art students who have had their artwork nominated to be in the Regional exhibition at Ipswich Art Gallery, d’Arcy Doyle Place, Nicholas St, Ipswich CBD. The exhibition is a wonderful opportunity for students to share their work with the wider community and to see their creations in a professional setting. We would like to encourage many of you to see the exhibition which opened to the public on Saturday, 23 August and goes through to Sunday, 7 September.

There is a special awards presentation on Sunday, 31 August where each participating student is able to invite two attendees. During this presentation, students find out if their work has been selected from 170 entries. This means they participate in an artist workshop, have their art tour around Queensland and then exhibited at GoMA in 2015.

**Brachia (Just breathe)**
The twisting nature of this composition relates to my own struggle to accept myself and my place in the universe.

The drawing workshop at Cai Guo-Qiang’s exhibition in GoMA first inspired me to draw a tree with faces in it. I gradually evolved the idea and felt a strong personal investment in its beauty and symbolic possibilities. I find the religious, symbolic and environmental importance of the tree to human life fascinating. The media and heavy craft paper work surface help to emphasise the earthy, organic nature of the work.

*Maria - Year 12*

**The Clops and the Hound**
To some, this artwork may appear to be brimming with symbolism and deep meaning. If you saw it this way, you would be wrong. This piece was painted to depict the complete randomness with which students daydream throughout a school day. Ironically, the idea for this piece came to me whilst I was at school, daydreaming in class. I decided to use acrylic paint to create this piece as I have some experience with it and I also thought it would be more effective than any other form of media as the vibrant and bright colours really strengthen the piece.

*Tom - Year 12*
Stop the Abuse
I created Stop the Abuse to draw attention to the cycle of domestic abuse being passed down through generations. Inspired by the photographer LG Morrigan, I used mixed media in the style of trompe l’oeil. Painting the artist’s hand in colour, drawing the message to stop the abuse, helped me to produce a realistic attention grabbing effect. Using pencil for the girl’s sad expressionless face and the rough touch of the paper allowed me to use a range of soft to bold tones, emphasising the drama encountered by many abused children.

James - Year 11

Kuone (Unfairness)
This work responds strongly to the unequal distribution of wealth and resources across the globe. To highlight the difference between the ‘haves’ and ‘have nots’, I focused on access to readily available clean water throughout the world. Water is one of the planet’s most valuable resources. I was inspired from viewing photographs of children from Africa and so chose to name the piece ‘Kuone’, meaning ‘unfairness’ in Swahili. I emphasised the disparity of wealth with a symmetrical composition, intentionally halving the work to strengthen the contrast and lack of equity.

Zahraa - Year 11

I would like to thank these students for working so hard to produce artworks of such outstanding quality and for communicating their ideas and concerns so strongly through their Visual Art.

Maxine Conroy
Visual Art Teacher
Year 8 Textile Design Technology
In Year 8 Textiles we have been studying Personal Protection Equipment and the impact textile products have in protecting us in the workplace. As a design project the students have been asked to Design and Make a PPE.

Students have completed research in both construction and design and are currently making a product that will enhance their safety in the kitchen next term.

Karen Bate
Textile Design Technology Teacher

Year 9 Home Economics
In their quest to design their perfect biscuit for assessment, this term’s Year 9s have been practising their finer icing techniques by decorating some delicious cupcakes. They were very proud of their efforts and some plan to use similar ideas with their biscuits. They have also been practising making a variety of biscuits using different mixing methods and flavours. It’s pretty delicious work!

Year 11 Hospitality
Students are preparing for the warmer weather ahead and are organising a salad function in coming weeks for staff. They are taking on more responsibility for the organisation this term after learning the ropes last semester. They have enjoyed trialling a few new salads of various flavours and hope that staff will enjoy them too.

Year 12 Hospitality
In the past few weeks, Year 12s have taken advantage of the cooler weather and have been busy learning how to work with chocolate and have been decorating gourmet style cakes. There were many beautiful creations and the students were very proud of their work.

They have also been using their creativity in a unit called “My Restaurant Rules”. They have been designing their own eating establishments complete with menus, logos, staff uniforms, décor ideas and promotional materials. In future lessons, they will also be preparing some spectacular meals from their menus in the interest of appeasing the “Bank Manager” who may fund their business ideas.

Suzy McGuire
Home Economics and Hospitality Teacher
Exciting projects happening in our Chinese classes......

The second group of Year 8 Chinese classes have certainly been enjoying their lessons. Our ‘Chinese Language Ambassador Programs’ are well under way. We have been invited to host and join our international visitors from China, Japan, Korea and many other Asian countries.

On 20 August, a few Year 8 Chinese Language Ambassadors joined a group of students visiting from China. We danced together, ate a delicious Chinese meal together and of course shared conversations with our Chinese guests (we used our simple Chinese greetings words to impress our guests). We also took our Chinese guests to a Science classroom with Mr Smith (Head of Department - Science) and participated in a range of science activities for Science Week.

Our current Chinese class is enjoying our lessons by learning Chinese words with help from our Chinese Language Assistant, Ms Ren and our teacher of Chinese, Mr Huang. We enjoyed our Chinese online learning, making the Great Wall project and also enjoyed our Chinese cooking lessons.

Very soon, we are going to embark on another Chinese learning journey - learning about the Chinese language and culture, both in and out of classes.

Contributed by Mr Huang’s Chinese Classes

You don’t have to be commanding to be a good leader!

This sentence sums up nicely what our future leaders learnt recently when they attended their first session of the ABCN Focus program. The Focus program gives female student leaders the opportunity to be mentored by senior women in business, focusing on developing tomorrow’s leaders.

Our girls really enjoyed their first session, and they all looked amazing - so poised and so confident. At the start, the main presenter, Ms Rosie Grbac, asked our students to nominate a female leader who they consider is a fantastic leader and to describe the personal characteristics that makes that woman inspiring.

After analysing current women leaders, it was clear that each leader had very different managing styles. In fact, to become a successful leader, you must first understand the six different styles of leadership. Good leaders have qualities such as: organisation, assertiveness, adaptability, positiveness, intelligence and a good dose of common sense and a sense of humour.

The middle session asked students to evaluate how they spent their day. Did they spend too much time on frivolous activities like “facebook” compared to school study? Effective leaders are effective time managers so students were encouraged to make judgements about how they spent their spare time and to decide if they used their spare time wisely? Did they spend time every day to become a better person?

Tough questions were discussed and our girls came away with a better understanding of what makes a leader and what qualities are valued in leaders. You could see from the excited faces of our future leaders that they are really looking forward to next week’s session.

Contributed by ABCN Focus: Madina, Saleheh, Ruth, Leone, Eden, Lorpu, Deyana, Melinda and Feven.

Deborah Cadell
Teacher
**From the P & C...**

At our last P & C meeting, we were again joined by two of our students from the leadership team, Sports Captains - Mikayla and Nguyen. They presented a very detailed report of what the student body has been up to so far in Term 3. Once again I was very impressed with their presentation, their enthusiasm and the huge number of opportunities our students have at this school. If any of us were in any doubt that we are part of the best school in Queensland, Mikayla, Nguyen and Mr Heath reminded us once again that Yeronga SHS is the best!

A major project coming up for the P and C is the Persian Feast Night on Saturday, 6 September. We are very fortunate to have a small but very dedicated group of volunteers coordinating this event which promises to be a “delicious” night. You can find all the details in the article below and on the next page. Please plan to be there and buy your tickets through the office ASAP.

The next meeting of the P & C will be on Monday, 8 September beginning at 6.30pm. Once again, you are most welcome to attend.

I wish Mr Heath all the best as he takes some long service leave - enjoy those grandchildren!

Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Jennifer Wrigley  
P & C President  
jennifer@inhand.com.au  0432 434 495

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**Persian Feast**

**One school - Many cultures!**

Our first cultural feast is almost upon us! The menu looks amazing and it is shaping up to be a great night. For those who arrive early there is a choice of sitting at a table or on a carpet to eat in traditional Persian style – first in best dressed (latecomers might have to take a table!) You might want to come in a group of 10 - 12 and take up a whole table, or carpet, or come as a family and meet some new people and make some new friends.

There will be traditional dancing from some of our students, all welcome to join in if you’re game! Whilst not traditionally Persian, we will have a raffle on the night as we have had some great prizes donated by local businesses. By way of thanking them we will publish a full list of those who have supported the event in the next newsletter. In the spirit of sharing gifts, another way to say thank you on behalf of the school would be to support these businesses where you can.

The flyer for the event is on the next page of this newsletter. In summary, the tickets are $20.00 for an adult, $15.00 for a secondary school student and younger children are free. As the intention is to grow greater community involvement in the school, we are relying on our wonderful volunteers and this event is aiming only to cover our costs. The last day for purchasing tickets is Monday, 1 September so please contact the office to buy tickets prior to this date and help us plan the right amount of tasty foods.

We would love to get more families involved in helping with the food and entertainment for this or future events. If you would like to be involved please get in touch (email: alliefarr@tpg.com.au or 0414 734 581). It doesn’t matter if you only have an hour; any contribution is more than welcome. It’s a great way for your children to see you are involved in the school, and for you to find out a little more about what makes it tick, as we build a common culture through shared experiences. All cultures know that what we get out of shared experiences depends on what we bring to them. We look forward to seeing you and your family and friends there on the night and at future events.

Allie Farr  
Yeronga SHS P & C
Yeronga State High School invites you to an evening of warm exotic spices and an authentic Middle Eastern banquet.

one school—many cultures!

Persian Feast

6pm Saturday 6 September
Yeronga SHS Cultural Centre
Full banquet meal + entertainment
Cost: $20 adult, $15 for secondary school child, Free for primary school children
Tickets from the school office. 3249 1400
Year 11 and 12 Business Management Excursion – IKEA

On Thursday, 31 July, students in Year 12 studying Business Organisation and Management, as well as those studying Business Management in Year 11, participated in an excursion to IKEA in Logan.

The IKEA trip was a fundamental excursion for our Business education as it helped us explore how a large business operates and how it attracts customers into its doors. We started the day with a brief discussion of the origin of the IKEA franchise. This was presented by Mr Matthew Stace, the organiser of the IKEA experience. Once inside, we retrieved our work booklets for the day and split into small groups of 3 - 4. For those of you who are not aware, IKEA only has one entrance and one exit. This ensures that customers walk the entirety of the store, some two kilometres if the shortcuts are not used.

We roamed the store answering questions from our booklets. The booklet contained a series of questions that helped reinforce the theoretical concepts we had learned in the classroom by experiencing first-hand how a successful international business operates on a daily basis. This allowed us to view business practices from the perspective of the business rather than as a customer, connecting theory with reality.

During the course of working through the booklet, we inevitably reached the restaurant where we took a lunch break. Most of us purchased IKEA’s signature meatballs - a mouth-watering treat not to be missed. Definitely one of the best parts of the day! Apart from the amazing meals we had at the Swedish themed restaurant, the facility was also very impressive, spanning an area equal to more than two American football fields. There was definitely a great deal to take in. We think it is safe to say that IKEA sells much more than what they are mostly known for, that is, their furniture. IKEA sells a large variety of items from kitchen units to light bulbs, food and more!

Throughout the day we experienced many different tastes and witnessed how IKEA became the operational giant that it is today. We learned that IKEA’s business model is approached from the perspective of cost minimisation through self-service and flat-pack products. There was definitely a connection between what we had learnt in class, and what we experienced and saw during the excursion. Utilizing workbooks, we enjoyed a fun and interesting way to apply our business knowledge in learning about IKEA by exploring the store searching for answers to questions. In this way, we gained an understanding of business practices ranging from logistics and operations managements to inventory control and pricing, and of course, the internationalisation of a successful business model.

Excursions of this nature provide excellent opportunities for business students to develop concepts taught across the two years in their Business Management course.

_Camillo and Nabeel_  
_Year 12 students_
Science Week 18 - 22 August 2014

Science Week activities started with demonstrations of some spectacular chemical reactions on the whole school assembly on Monday morning. Capably led by the five UQ Science Ambassadors (Ashley, Arash, Mahsa, Nikola and Denise), activities involving burning hydrogen and various properties of dry ice (carbon dioxide) were carried out.

Monday lunch hour saw students launching water rockets on the oval and Wednesday lunch hour gave everyone the opportunity to make and take home their own lava lamps and green slime. They were also able to take part in demonstrations of electrostatics using the Van der Graaf generator and exploring the myth of “the Genie in the Bottle”.

UQ Science Activities

On Wednesday, 23 July, 18 Year 10, 11 and 12 students ventured to the University of Qld to attend activities arranged by the Science Faculty. The purpose was to inform students of the career possibilities in various science fields. Students rotated around three sets of experiments which they participated in:

♦ manufacturing and testing solar cells made from blueberries
♦ making chemical dyes which were made edible (slime) or used in advertising to make images for logos
♦ Forensic Biology – using analysis techniques to work out who killed the sheep. Scat, fur types, foot prints and other samples were used to track down the killer – turns out the kangaroo did it!

It was also interesting to hear the stories from second and third year Science students and the research opportunities available. Thank you to Mrs Dibble for assisting Mr Smith on the day and co-ordinating the visit.

Steve Smith
Head of Department - Science

Toohey Forest Science Incursion- Renewable Energy

Recently, the Toohey Forest Science Advisers came to the school and demonstrated multiple experiments involving renewable energy to the Year 8 students.

The first activity was outside H block where we looked at multiple ways of using solar energy. These included solar cooking where we were treated to popcorn and sausage rolls and a solar powered TV that we played on the Nintendo Wii.

The second activity involved using solar cells to operate mechanical constructions, such as merry-go-rounds, cars and windmills. The concept of energy transfer was evident through these models.

The final session involved converting wind energy into useful work, such as electrical energy. Currents were measured using a multi-meter and we looked at how the energy varied when the number of blades and angles of the blades varied.

My favourite activity was the solar power devices that we were able to build out of K’nex. The group I was in built a spinning wheel which was powered by a small motor attached to a solar panel.

Angela - Year 8 student
QUT Business School Accountancy Program

On Thursday, 24 July, our Accelerated Accounting class and Ms Hopewell attended the QUT Business School Accountancy Program as part of the Accounting and Accelerated Accounting course at Yeronga State High School. The purpose of this program was to expand students’ understanding, increase aspiration and widen participation in tertiary education in Accounting.

All students who participated in the excursion agreed that this excursion was really beneficial for us in understanding and increasing our knowledge about Accounting. Not only did I learn about Accounting, but how the Accounting profession is divided into several fields, for example, financial accounting, management accounting, forensic accounting etc.

The excursion was such an amazing day for me as it has given me ideas about what I want to study in the future. Thank you to Ms Hopewell who provided this excursion and always wants the best for her students.

Chi - Year 10

GriffithBUSINESS Year 10 Ambassadors

On Wednesday, 23 July, Angela, Reem and I attended the Griffith University Campus, for the GriffithBUSINESS Ambassadors Program. We were chosen by Ms Hopewell as Business Ambassadors. We covered topics such as Human Resource Management, how to prepare for a job interview including the hidden truth behind them and also about the dangers of social media.

An activity after lunch mixed all Year 10 and 11 students from the different schools into small groups. Each group was given a scenario about different situations of social media. We had to write about the situation and we finished by completing a group presentation where each group member had the chance to speak.

The three of us had a delightful day where we experienced a day in the life at university and learnt new material. We would like to thank Ms Hopewell for choosing us as the Business Ambassador Students.

Nisrain - Year 10

Horticulture Update...

The great moment comes when the vegetables are ready to be harvested! Nothing tastes quite as good as fresh, organic vegetables that we have nurtured and grown in the Year 11 Horticulture Garden. The photograph below shows the second harvest for the year - the winter crops of potatoes, tomatoes, silverbeet, carrots, zucchini, sweet corn, aubergines (eggplant) and parsley. Most students harvested as the crops were ready, giving a continuous supply of fresh vegetables. The garden beds have been prepared with compost and a new crop, including strawberries, has been planted, in old recycled bath tubs. A new supply of compost has been prepared.

The landscaping projects are constantly improving the look of the Horticulture area. New paved pathways between the garden beds have been completed and the retaining walls on the sloped garden are being planted with native plants. By the end of the year, we will have a new native garden.

The Year 12 students are completing the chicken yard and they have learnt to build a cyclone fence to keep the chickens safe. We all look forward to our new chickens and the eggs they will produce!

Brad Barratt
Horticulture Teacher
“Lawyers in Schools” Program

The Lawyers in Schools Program was first created in the United Kingdom to provide opportunities for students to engage with practising and trainee lawyers about various legal issues relevant to their daily lives. This year, Yeronga State High School was chosen to take part in the Lawyers in Schools pilot program in Queensland. The program involves raising young people’s awareness and understanding of the law. There are a total of six workshops covering topics including the difference between civil and criminal law, employment law, intellectual property and youth justice.

Through facilitated small workshops, the volunteer lawyers would stimulate discussions on various legal issues/topics. The aim of these workshops is to equip young people with the skills, knowledge and understanding to play effective roles in their local community and society as a whole. Currently there are 24 Year 10 students involved in the program.

Workshop 1: Criminal Law
We started the session by splitting into small groups, each led by a lawyer. Our first activity involved finding out how much we all already knew about the law. We then moved on to an activity where we had to match a set of scenarios - people committing crimes or breaking the law to the appropriate punishment. We then discussed if we thought the person should be sentenced to jail or given a fine. Overall it was an enjoyable time and I’m looking forward to the next session.

Ben - Year 10

Workshop 2: Intellectual Property
The second workshop explored intellectual property where we learnt more about what is legal and illegal in terms of using images, music and other people’s creations. We learnt about copyright, trademarks and patents. The lawyers also discussed different cases where people were sued by companies for using their materials. It was an interesting topic and being a musician myself, I now know more about my rights and ways I can protect my works.

Sam - Year 10

Phuong Truong
A/ Head of Department - Business/Humanities and Social Sciences
**Maths News**

**Numeracy Support Program**
A Numeracy program started at Yeronga State High School at the end of Term 1 this year. The program started with a focus on the Year 9 cohort, preparing them for NAPLAN testing. After the NAPLAN test it has been extended to Year 8 and Year 10 students. It is available to all students, high and low achievers.

The students get support across the strands of numeracy – number, space, measurement, chance and data. The program is basically students’ needs driven. We look at the gaps the students have in numeracy based on NAPLAN, Pat M, end of term and semester results. Programs that suit their individual needs are then designed and implemented to address the problems or extend students’ knowledge. A team of dedicated teachers have been allocated time to help the students in their areas of need.

**Mathematics Team Challenge**
On 5 August, selected students from Years 8, 10 and 11 travelled to Stretton State College to participate in the Mathematics Teams Challenge. The students performed admirably, representing the school as worthy ambassadors. The team work demonstrated from the students was wonderful as they battled against the opposing schools in a two part competition. Congratulations to the following students for their participation:

**Year 8:** Hope, Jack, Julie, Keyan and Aurelia.
**Year 10:** Wang, Mohammad, Christopher, Kathryn and Sam.
**Year 11:** Fatemeh, Julia, Frankie, Deyana and Peter.

**Year 8 Quiz**
On 18 August another group of Year 8 students travelled to Redeemer College after school for the Year 8 Quiz. The students represented the school well and worked diligently against the competing teams. Congratulations to the team for their efforts after school: Dylan, Hope, James, Jordan, Sebastian and Dieudonne.

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**Music Concert**

Congratulations to all students who performed at our Music Concert on Tuesday night. The evening began with our school Concert Band, combined with some students from the Yeronga State School band, and was directed by Mr Bevan Messenger. They delivered a very polished and musical performance.

Other items included vocal solos and duets from Brayden, Leone, Ben, Konagan and Alejandro. Other solos included a punchy bass solo by Liam and an amazing piano solo by Frankie, who performed her own composition.

Other items included a string trio, a brass quintet, a violin solo by Nyssa and a trombone duet performed by Mr Messenger and Michael. To finish the evening, Vocal FX sang with beautiful harmonies in their cover of the song, “Goodnight Sweetheart.”

Thank you to Mr Bevan Messenger (Instrumental Tutor and Director of the Concert Band), Ms Margaret Caley (Strings Tutor and Director of the String Ensemble) and Mrs Cassandra Tsimboukis (Senior Music Teacher and Director of Vocal FX).

Many thanks to all of the teachers who assisted with running of the evening. A special thank you must also go to Mr John Aloizos, Mr Ken Myers, Miss Kate Collis, Mr David Wrigley (parent) and the members of the sound and lighting crew and backstage crew for all of their hard work. It helped to make the evening the success that it was.

*Cassandra Tsimboukis*
Senior Music Teacher and Vocal FX Director
Study Mates

There is a buzz in the library on Monday afternoons, long after the school day has finished. Keen students continue to take the opportunity to get extra assistance with their schoolwork at Study Mates where a group of dedicated volunteers are available to work with them. It is great to see so many students taking advantage of the chance to work on assignments and consolidate concepts learnt in class.

Study Mates is held on Monday afternoons from 2.45 to 4.30pm.

New volunteers are always welcome. If you know of anyone who would enjoy the rewarding experience of working with our motivated young people, please contact Ros Myers Volunteer Coordinator for Helping Hands International Australia. Mobile 0421 076 303 or ros@helpinghands.org.au

Career Events Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CQ University</td>
<td>10 September 2014 10am - 7pm, Virtual Open Day (online)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For more information on these and other CQ University events, visit</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cqu.edu.au/events">www.cqu.edu.au/events</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian Maritime College</td>
<td>31 August 2014 For tours available year round, visit <a href="http://www.amc.edu.au/visit-amc">www.amc.edu.au/visit-amc</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Cross University</td>
<td>For tours available year round, email <a href="mailto:campustours@scu.edu.au">campustours@scu.edu.au</a></td>
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Tertiary Event               | Date                                                                 |
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<tr>
<td>Adult Tertiary Entry Expo (ATEE)</td>
<td>Saturday 30 August 2014 9:30am - 3:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brisbane Convention &amp; Exhibition Centre</td>
<td>Saturday 30 August 2014 9:30am - 3:30pm</td>
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Yoga Classes at Yeronga High School 5.00 - 7.00 PM

Held each Wednesday during school terms in N14, Norm Lee Cultural Centre, 159 Villa St Yeronga

Payment of $100/$80* (concession for students and families) due in 5 week blocks which you can start any time

For bookings & enquiries CONTACT

Maxine Conroy
Ph:0439258122
E: yogayeronga@gmail.com