Dear Parents/Carers and Students

Welcome back to the last term of 2014. I hope the two week mid-semester break was a productive one and a chance for many to recharge the batteries. I have been fortunate to have enjoyed a seven week break courtesy of some Long Service Leave. I visited two of my grandchildren in New Mexico USA (and their Mum and Dad of course). En-route, I ticked off a few bucket list items, including a helicopter ride through the Grand Canyon, a few days in Las Vegas, visiting Yosemite National Park and Monument Valley National Park and a visit to Hollywood and the Getty Museum. The highlight of the trip was watching our two grandchildren experience falling snow when we went to the mountains for a few days. As usual, students were exposed to a short slide show of my adventures!

Reminiscing – 12 months ago our school celebrated winning the State Showcase Award for Excellence in The Senior Years of Schooling. I can assure the community that we have continued to develop as a Quality Learning Organisation, always looking for the edge with the motto of “Good Better Best”.

Year 12 End of Year Focus
In the next few weeks, Year 12 students will be completing their last pieces of school based assessment. It is vital that ALL Year 12 students stay focused. Students need to ensure they maintain, or attempt to exceed, their current level of achievement profiles in the last pieces of assessment. Every last assignment, every last exam, every last oral presentation counts and can help boost a Level of Achievement or a Subject Achievement Indicator (SAI).

I urge parents to support the school in keeping their children focused. To Year 12 students, the message is very simple: with only a few weeks left, please continue to focus on your studies and finish the year in the same way you started it – positively! (A reminder - Year 12 students MUST attend school up to and including 21 November to qualify for your QCE and/or OP.)

World Teachers’ Day - 31 October 2014
Today we celebrated World Teachers’ Day with pizzas for our lunch supplied by the P & C. It is gratifying to know that the P & C and the student body recognise the significant work done by all staff at the school and staff really value being recognised by the community for their involvement in what is deemed a “noble profession”.

Awards Evening - 19 November 2014
Our Awards Evening is one of the highlights of the year and all parents and community are welcome to attend. Students will be awarded subject prizes, academic excellence awards, sportsmanship awards and a number of special awards. The school leaders for 2015 will also be announced on this evening.

School Fees
I would ask that parents and caregivers with outstanding school fees attend to these. Our fees for next year will be $450.00 which again will include the issue of a laptop computer for home use.

Term 4 is only 10 weeks long (a short seven week term for Year 12 students) and it will get away from us before we know it. It is hard to believe that the Christmas festive season is on the horizon. Term 4 is also an exciting term. There are lots of school activities, including our Awards Evening, Year 12 Graduation and planning and preparations for the 2015 school year.

The exams and assignments for students don’t take a holiday during Term 4. All assessment items during this term count towards the result students will receive on their end of Semester 2 report – a report that potential employers will look at, especially to check the number of “unauthorised absences”.

In this newsletter, numerous school activities, student successes and awards are highlighted. I hope you enjoy reading this latest edition.

Terry Heath
Principal
Yeronga SHS Flying Start progress: Are we ready for Year 7 in 2015?

With only one term of school left before the end of the 2014 school year, all of our staff have been busy making final preparations for the arrival of Year 7 students into our school community next year. High schools will welcome approximately 60,000 students to Years 7 and 8 and up to 1,300 teachers will also begin to teach in the Junior Secondary years in 2015. Here at Yeronga SHS, we are expecting to welcome about 70 Year 7 students and 50 Year 8 students to our school.

While the addition of Year 7 in 2015 will be new for us, we have been working hard with Pilot Flying Start high schools and our local primary schools, to implement structural and curriculum changes to better cater for the young adolescent age group Years 7, 8 and 9. In particular, we have:

⇒ Reviewed and changed our timetable to a 5 period day to ensure students are accessing their core Maths/Science and English/Humanities teacher every day of the week in Years 7 & 8
⇒ Re- visioned our Leadership Learning YLEAD and Wellbeing YCARE program, including student leadership roles in Years 7, 8 and 9
⇒ Created a dedicated Junior Secondary Leadership Team including Deputy Principal, Head of Department, Year Coordinators and Care teachers who have undertaken extensive research and training to deliver high equity, high quality care
⇒ Trained Year 11 and Year 12 Student Mentors to assist in the transition of Year 7 & 8 students into high school
⇒ Reorganised our outside spaces to establish a Junior Secondary Precinct which includes F Block, G Block, under the Library, and green space between staff car park and the cricket nets
⇒ Partnered with our local primary schools to fashion lively and relevant learning spaces, where the best Middle Schooling principles have been identified, discussed and integrated into the Junior Secondary curriculum.

You may have questions around your child’s transition to high school. We’re here to provide as much support as possible and we would encourage you to come and speak with us or with the primary school where your child is currently enrolled should you require any clarification or assistance.

Di Goodison
Deputy Principal
Junior Secondary School

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

Welcome new EALD students for Term 4! We have had over 20 new students who started with us this term in Year 8, 9 & 10 (you can see some of them in the photos below!). New students have come from many different countries: Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, DR Congo, Eritrea, Somalia, Sri Lanka, China and Vietnam. Some have come to us from Milpera State High School and others have come directly from overseas.

Over the break, Yordanos and Meron from Year 11 were invited to participate in the Sunshine Coast Graduate Women’s Program (their report will be in the next newsletter) whilst Kennedy from Year 12 embarked on the Oaktree End World Poverty campaign that took him all the way to Canberra. Kennedy’s assembly presentation on his trip was very inspiring (see his full report on page 11). I would like to congratulate these students for being outstanding representatives for our school.
This term is a busy one with lots of fun activities planned and it is especially exciting for our Year 12 students as they prepare to move on from Yeronga State High School. They will take with them memories of the many experiences they have been involved in throughout their time here. It is also the final opportunity for all students to put in their best effort for 2014 and end the year on a high note. I look forward to seeing all our students shine as we count down to the end of the school year.

Golden Key New Member Induction
Over the holidays I attended the New Member Induction for the QUT Chapter of the Golden Key International Honour Society and was made an Honorary Member. This Society is exclusive and only initiates University students who achieve exceptional results in their studies, or professionals who succeed in one of the three pillars of the Society: Academics, Leadership or Service.

Golden Key Members have been volunteering at our school for two years now as they are aware of the benefits in being involved with our wonderful school and working with our inspiring students. I spoke to over 200 new Golden Key Members about why being involved with our school is such a rewarding vocation. We are looking forward to welcoming more Members of the Golden Key into our Volunteer Program in the future.

Intensive English Holiday Program on the Sunshine Coast:
Sponsored by the Sunshine Coast branch of Graduate Women Queensland
Congratulations to Matina and Glodiya who have been selected to attend an Intensive English Program at the prestigious Lexis English School at Maroochydore on the Sunshine Coast over the summer holidays.

The program is sponsored by the Sunshine Coast branch of Graduate Women Queensland, whose members also volunteer to provide accommodation and support for the young women involved. Graduate Women Queensland promotes and encourages the tertiary education of women so that they may attain leadership positions and influence outcomes in the community and workplace.

The Intensive English Program on the Sunshine Coast will continue in 2015, so EALD girls in Year 11 next year – work hard and you too may be fortunate enough to be selected for inclusion in the program in 2015.

Jessica Walker
Head of Special Education Services
32491433

Senior Schooling News

Year 12
This is the business end of the year for our Year 12 students. In Week 5, the students will be issued with their provisional statements. All Year 12 students will need to check their personal and enrolment details in their learning accounts, especially checking for any correction of errors reported in the September check. Students with errors must see me as soon as possible to ensure that I am aware of any errors or omissions.

Students must log into their learning account - https://studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au/ to ensure that they have updated their email address to their personal email address, not their @eq.edu.au address. Their school email address is likely to be unusable when Year 12 results and OPs are made available on the Student Connect website in December.

Year 12 results and OP results will be available in students’ learning accounts from 9.00am on Saturday, 20 December 2014 - you will need your LUI number to login. If you don’t know it then you must see me to get it!

Year 10 and 11
A number of students have enrolled in courses for the TAFE at Schools program next year. Students should receive enrolment packs shortly – exciting times! Students in these programs will attend TAFE one day a week and the other four days at school.

Part time jobs – Christmas casual work
There are many part time jobs available over the Christmas break. Please encourage your child to visit Senior Schooling in the Library and ask for assistance if they want some help.

Kathy Fortescue
Year 10 Co-ordinator
A/Head of Department - Senior Schooling
University of Southern Queensland – Tertiary Preparation Program Intensive

The University of Southern Queensland (USQ) offers an alternative pathway to university for current Year 12 students. The Tertiary Preparation Program Intensive is designed to provide a university pathway to those students who are not eligible for an Overall Position (OP) or are not confident that they will achieve the OP or selection rank cut-off for their desired program.

This is a free program for Year 12 students and one which offers guaranteed entry into selected USQ degrees in 2015 for those who successfully complete the eleven week program. The program commences on 1 December 2014 and is conducted over eleven weeks which includes online study and two two-week on-campus workshops. Applications must be received by USQ by 13 November 2014.

Further information about this program is available from the Guidance Officer or on the USQ website www.usq.edu.au

University of Queensland – Pathways

The University of Queensland (UQ) offers tertiary pathways through the UQ College. They include:

- Associate Degree in Business – a sixteen month program providing a pathway into the Bachelor of Business Management. The program will give the necessary knowledge, skills and self-confidence to assist in effective and successful management.
- Tertiary Preparation Program - a 28 week pathway program for students who require a supportive education model that will build confidence and help gain the necessary skills to improve QTAC ranking and required prerequisites for future undergraduate studies. There are no fees associated with this program.
- Intensive Four Week Course in Mathematics B, Chemistry or Biology – a four week pathway course in November and December each year. Successful completion of these courses will satisfy the prerequisite requirement at the University of Queensland.
- Information and application processes for these programs can be found at www.uqcollege.edu.au

Indigenous Employment and Careers Expo

The Indigenous Employment and Careers Expo was held at Suncorp Stadium on Thursday 18 September 2014. This event was managed by the Queensland Former Origin Greats (FOGS), a number of whom were present on the day. The photographs show our students enjoying the Expo.

Brad Milford
Guidance Officer
From the Year Level Co-ordinators

As we approach the half-way point of Term 4, it is important to keep in mind how quickly this term will go by. Although there are still six weeks of school left, and lots of school work and assessment to go, we need to keep in mind a number of issues in preparation for next year. In the last couple of weeks, all Year 8 and 9 students should have completed their subject requests for 2015. These selections are being analysed by Mr Logan to create a timetable that accommodates as many student choices as possible.

I was delighted to see an improvement in the effort and behaviour grades in the Term 3 reports from the Term 1 reports. In addition to this, there was an increase in the achievement results as well. I look forward to the Annual Awards Evening held on 19 November to see all of our hard working students receive awards in recognition of their efforts throughout the year.

On Wednesday, 10 December, there will be an excursion to a theme park for Year 8 and 9 students. This trip will only be available to students who have completed all assessment, complied with the school’s behaviour management plan and have paid their school fees. The approximate cost of this trip will be $50.00. Permission and payment forms will be coming home in the next few weeks.

Matt Petersen
Head of Department - Junior Secondary
Ph: 3249 1456, Email: mpete21@eq.edu.au

I hope you all had a well-deserved and relaxing two week holiday. We are now ready to get down to the business of learning in our final term of 2014. How quickly this year has gone by!

We have hit the ground running this term. The GOALS students have already had their completion ceremony that took place at the school in the Professional Lounge on 14 October. This was a great opportunity for all mentors and students to offer their final thanks. The 21 Year 9 students who have taken part in the program this year were formally congratulated.

Well done to all the Year 9 students who participated in Dance Night on 24 October. I know a lot of hard work and practice went into their fine-tuned, brilliant performances on the night and all students who were involved should be congratulated.

Lastly I would like to congratulate the students in Year 9 who have been to see me about being a referee when applying for part time jobs. It fills me with great pride to see these students being proactive and out there looking for jobs to help them be more independent and earn some of their own money. However, as with anything that takes up our time, it is important that students remember the importance of time management. If they are spending hours of their spare time working at their job, they need to make sure they are also spending the time at home doing the homework that their teachers set in class.

On that note, I will finish this article with a related quote: “If you want to make good use of your time, you’ve got to know what’s most important and then give it all you’ve got.”

As always Year 9s, keep up the good work.

Felicity O’Neill
Year 9 Co-ordinator
Ph: 3249 1481, Email: foneil@eq.edu.au

GOALS Completion ceremony
I can’t believe we are in Term 4 of 2014! Students are settled and working hard on their studies. I am very pleased to see the students trying to achieve to the best of their abilities and know that these good study habits will help them make the transition to Year 11 in 2015.

Some wonderful achievements for Year 10s: fabulous performance at Dance night and numerous students achieving great results in the Maths competition. Congratulations to Loraine for being accepted into the QUT Future Leaders Program for 2015-2016.

On 11 November, the Year 10s are heading off to QUT Kelvin Grove for an Explore Uni day. The aim of the day is to demystify university and TAFE as post school options and includes talks from current university students as well as hands-on activities, talks, role modelling and a tour. I strongly encourage students to return their forms and $5.00 to the administration counter ASAP so that they can attend. Lunch will be provided on the day!

The process of electing the school leaders for 2015 started last week. Eighteen Year 11 students stepped up and delivered their leadership speeches to the Year 10 and 11 students. The students described how they have contributed to the Yeronga spirit. They outlined how this school spirit can continue to be lifted by their leadership. The next stage is to present their speeches to the teachers. The leaders for 2015 will be announced at Awards evening by Mr Heath and each 2014 leader will traditionally pass on their duties by giving their jacket to the new leader.

Mr Heath will take all the candidates for an overnight camp and dinner at Bestbrook where we will learn about the actual plans for school leadership in more detail. This usually includes projects the students want to start and more about how we can make 2015 a great year.

Year 12 students will complete their final year of schooling in only three weeks. Hasn’t the time flown by? While the end of school may be in sight, it is important to stay focused on their schooling in these last few weeks. There is a lot of assessment still to complete which could ultimately affect their QCE results.

The Graduation ceremony is fast approaching. The ceremony will be held on Thursday, 20 November. Invitations for the ceremony will be sent out very soon. Tickets will be on sale from the Student Counter. Light supper and the ceremony will cost $25.00 per person and if attending the ceremony only, the cost will be $5.00 per person. In order for students to attend the Graduation ceremony, all outstanding school fees must be paid and resources must be returned.
ECOMAN – Simulated Business Program

From Thursday, 16 October to Monday, 20 October (our student free day), 16 Business students, along with Ms Hopewell, had the honour of attending the ECOMAN business simulation program at the National Australia Bank (NAB), Brisbane. Our purpose was not only to represent our company at a mock shareholders meeting but to represent Yeronga SHS too.

ECOMAN is a simulated business challenge that involves students working in small teams competing against each other while at the same time, challenged with running a business successfully! On the last day, each group had to represent their company and make a presentation for shareholders. We had to convince the shareholders that we had made good business decisions, show how we had used their money and why in future they should continue to invest their money in our company. The guests (shareholders) included Mr Heath, two NAB Managers, six Brisbane Mid-City Rotarians, Ms Hopewell, Mrs Briggs and several parents. Every student did a wonderful presentation for members and invited guests. At the end of our presentation the shareholders asked us questions relating to the decisions we made. We all answered the difficult questions well and could justify our decisions.

Monday concluded with us personally thanking Mid-City Rotary for donating $3000 for ‘our’ ECOMAN Program.

During this program we learnt how to manage a company, take responsibilities, be punctual, work as a team and that making a decision can then affect many more aspects within the business. In addition, we experienced working in a business environment. Some students were asked to supply feedback. Here is what they said:

“This experience was very beneficial. Not only did I learn about Business and Economics, but also, I learnt to appreciate people and their ideas and suggestions. Love Ms Hopewell! She is a great teacher; she guides us to do more than we could do.” (Tahira)

“Love that business environment. It helps me to learn a lot more and Bob and Judy were awesome.” (Shivani)

“ECOMAN is a great program for students. We learnt how to run a real business and we also learnt how to work in a team. It was a really fun loving environment. This was the best experience of my life. I would like to suggest other Business students do this program.” (Zeba)

On behalf of all the students, I would like to thank Ms Hopewell, for giving us this opportunity to experience the real world of business. Thank you Ms Hopewell.

Tahira
Year 11 student
Congratulations to Certificate II Business and Certificate III Accounts Administration Students

Over the past two to three years, the Year 12 Business students have successfully completed their Certificate courses at MSTU (Metropolitan Schools Training Unit). Since 2012, the Certificate III Accounts Administration students have worked hard towards achieving competency in all their units. The Certificate III gives students an additional six points towards their QCE. This qualification provides them with an entry level employment in a range of financial services sectors including: Accounts Clerk, Accounts Receivable Clerk, Accounts Payable Clerk, Payroll Clerk and Customer Service in the financial services industry.

Certificate II Business students have successfully completed their course over two years. The Certificate II gives students four points towards their QCE. This Certificate opens further employment opportunities for students to find work as the following: Administration Assistant, Clerical Worker, Data Entry Operator, Information Desk Clerk, Office Junior and Receptionist.


I would like to congratulate all students on their achievements.

Phuong Truong
A/Head of Department of Business/Humanities and Social Sciences

Lawyers in Schools Program – Final Session

The final session of the Lawyers in Schools Program was held on Wednesday, 22 October. Over 25 Year 10 students have participated in the four sessions covering various legal topics, including Common Law, Employment Law, Intellectual Property and Consumer Law. The program aims to increase young people’s awareness and understanding of Australian laws.

During the program, lawyers and students interacted in small working groups which encouraged in depth discussions about various legal issues relevant to their daily lives. Students have commented that they found the sessions informative and interesting and they came away with a better understanding of the laws. We would like to thank the King & Wood Mallesons law firm for giving up their time to work with our students.

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

Interact had a significant role to play in the recent function at the Yeronga Services Club, honouring the emergency services in our district. Members of the Police, Fire and Rescue, Ambulance and SES were honoured at the dinner which was attended by Police Commissioner Stewart who awarded the recipients with their certificates.

Interact provided the entertainment which was received by the Commissioner and those attending with much acclamation. Interact truly interacts with and serves the community.

*Victoria Hutchings*
*Interact Co-ordinator*

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**Readers Cup 2014**

Each year, the Western District Library Networks hold a competition called Readers Cup. Teams of four students are required to read a number of books and then answer questions about them at the competition. This year Yeronga hosted two teams: Junior team members were Jean, Larissa, Loraine and Julie. This team was particularly successful against the mainly private school teams and achieved a 3rd place (out of 12 teams). This is the first time Yeronga has placed in this competition. The school is particularly proud of these students.

The senior team for 2014 was comprised of Denise, Fatemeh, Maria, Ruth and Frankie. These students placed a credible 9th out of 12 teams.

Well done everyone and keep reading!

*Susan Edwards*
*Teacher Librarian*

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**Friendly Soccer Match v Milpera SHS**

On the last day of term, Yeronga Soccer students played Milpera in 3 friendly soccer matches. The day was about bringing together two close schools in a day that celebrates football, friendship and rewarding the hard work of the school year to date.

It was a clean sweep for Yeronga but good sportsmanship was the winner. Our Open boys won 2:1, with goals from Musa and Musaab in open play before Milpera scored from a penalty in the last seconds of the game. Our all ages girls won 4:0, with goals from Jackeline, Alene, Mikayla and a penalty from Joanna, whilst the Junior boys won 2:0 with a brace (2 goals) from Isaya.

*Kenton Presland*
*Soccer Coach*
Oaktree - End Poverty Campaign

“Oaktree” is young people leading a movement for not only reducing poverty but to completely eliminate the scars of poverty in our community.

I am very thankful that our school gave me the opportunity to be one of the thousands of young people who took part in the “End Poverty Campaign” on a road trip to Canberra. The purpose of this campaign was to encourage our political leaders to commit to the policy that benefits our people without harming the world’s poor.

During the holidays, we took the issue of ending extreme poverty to our leaders in Canberra. On our way to Canberra, we visited different towns and asked people to sign a petition. The petition called on our leaders to step up, to end poverty by giving their fair share of aid and taking a stand to make the global tax system fair. We took our campaign to Byron Bay, Armidale, Cessnock and the beach at Manly in northern Sydney, just to mention a few. We also visited the famous Tamworth landmark “the Golden Guitar”.

The best moment was when we arrived in chilly Canberra. We met with different members of parliament, guest speakers from the Labour, Greens and Liberal parties. It was a great experience to go into the main parliament during the question time to watch how the Prime Minister and Members of Parliament present their issues.

From this experience, I learned that we don’t need to be celebrities to make a change in the world; we just need to be who we are and keep believing in ourselves.

I recommend this program to other students who are keen to make a change in the world. “We just need to be positive, for the world is already negative and it needs positive people to change it!”

Social and Community Studies Excursion

On Tuesday, 21 October our Social and Community Studies class attended an excursion to the local areas around Fairfield and Yeronga to participate in community service. As part of our community service unit this semester, we designed a project that allowed us to give our time and resources for the benefit of the community. As a group we decided to focus on cleaning up the environment and giving to those who are less fortunate.

First we headed off to Leyshon and Fehlberg Parks in Fairfield, then to Yeronga Park and the outside perimeter of the school where we were surprised by the amount of litter. It was also interesting to see just how much the environment and many animals were affected by the damage of people littering.

The excursion was a great success, as we collected a lot of rubbish and were able to walk away feeling good, knowing that we had improved the health and appearance of the areas that many families and students visit.

This project has really confirmed for us that caring for our environment by disposing of our litter correctly can have a great effect on, not only us as humans and the appearance and health of a community area, but also the plants and animals that reside in that environment.

As the next part of our community service project we will be looking for good second hand clothing donations to pass on to FETCH – an organisation who collect donations of goods to give to those in need. Watch this space for updates on when we will be collecting, and how you can get involved.
What our International Students have been up to.....

On 17 September our International Students enjoyed a fun filled day at Gold Coast Movie World. Our students attend an excursion each term. The trip to Movie World was to enable our students to experience one of Queensland’s top tourist attractions and to take home wonderful memories of fun times.

Nana Tsukamoto our student from Japan enjoys her work experience week in the Japanese Tea house in Sunnybank.

The EQI Familiarisation Tour Mini Fair at The Gap High School was attended by 20 Queensland schools and 30 visiting Agents from all over the world. Yeronga High School’s table made us feel very proud of our school. The ISP Department awaits for more International students for 2015.

Song Huang and Maria Pudlyk

Fun in our Chinese Classroom

In our Chinese class, Mr Huang, Miss Ren and Miss Wu teach us lots of Chinese words, games and much more. We have learnt so much but there is still so much more to learn - I can’t wait till next year. I love the Chinese garden ant the Chinese culture is amazing. If anyone asks me what I love the most about school I will tell them “Chinese”. One day I would love to go to China but until then I will learn as much as I can.

Skye
Year 8 Student

Leadership Summit

As part of the ABCN Scholarship Foundation program, I was given the opportunity to attend a leadership summit in Sydney. The most exciting thing about the summit for me was that for the first time, I would be able to meet all the other scholarship winners. It was a two day experience where I gained a lot of knowledge. Craig Griffin was the teacher at the summit. He shared the four things that most successful business leaders have in common. Namely, playing from a ‘10’, unconditional responsibility, time management and goals and communication. He taught us how our thoughts easily affect our state and therefore why it is important to think positively.

The summit was then followed by the Scholarship Foundation Dinner where my fellow students and I met a number of business people. The dinner was also an opportunity for us to practice what we had just learnt. It was amazing! As soon as we all arrived, you could hear students interacting with adults everywhere around the room. I forgot that I was with business people and able to speak comfortably amongst them.

The following day we participated in the second part of the forum. We learnt about people’s character and achievements and why both are important. We all shared our future dreams and talked about how to break them down into small goals. Craig taught us the importance of having specific goals, as the more specific it is, the better it will be to achieve.

Sam then took us to the airport where I was to travel back to Brisbane and the other group flew back to Melbourne. Goodbyes are always hard especially after making new friends, but we promised to meet again in the future. As of now, we still communicate through social networking.

The skills I learnt from this Summit are fundamental in every aspect of life and I am very appreciative for being given this opportunity. I shared my experiences with my mentor at our next meeting and told her what I had learnt at the summit. It was wonderful to get to meet other scholarship winners and learn that we all wanted to be successful and make a change in the world. The skills I learnt, especially improving communication, I can now use in my school assessments and I feel I have developed personally.
As part of the ecotourism unit, the Year 10 Geography students went to Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort to look at some of their ecotourism practices. Upon arrival, the students were met by the Wildlife Education officer who spoke about Tangalooma’s past as a whaling station and how it has transformed today into a wildlife conservation, eco-friendly and sustainable tourism business. The students really enjoyed this experience and came back with a better understanding of what ecotourism is all about.

Here are some of the students’ comments about the day.

**Estha Chand**
Year 10 Geography Teacher

This is my first visit to Tangalooma Island Resort and it is definitely not the last. It was exactly what I had thought it would be minus the school work. The highlight of the trip was feeding the dolphins. I patted a dolphin! Well... kind of, it bumped into me so I touched it. You can’t actually touch them. Being in the water with them was awesome. The island was beautiful! Not too many people either, very leisurely.

**Victoria**
Year 10 student

Tangalooma, the best ecotourism experienced ever!!! My classmates and I had a chance to go to Tangalooma. Amazing is the only word I could use to describe this trip. We learnt about the history of Tangalooma and how it changed to become a most attractive tourist resort. I loved it.

**Lam**
Year 10 student

I truly enjoyed the excursion to Tangalooma Island with my teachers and friends. The mode of transport and all the activities I experienced, including the beautiful beach coast and the friendly tour by the wonderful Island staff, were amazing. I am sure all my classmates and teachers thought so too. During this fantastic ecotourist adventure we learnt about the natural environment, wildlife animals and whale hunting. We also swam in the delightful swimming pool and the best moment of all was feeding the pleasant dolphins off the coast of Tangalooma Island. Our group went for a long walk across the beach to have a look at the rusty wrecks in the ocean and climbed up the exhausting sand dunes and captured photos then ran down with the wind rushing through our souls.

**Seyed**
Year 10 student

My experience at Tangalooma was fascinating. My favourite activity was feeding the dolphins. The staff asked us to wash our hands before we touched the fish that we were going to feed to the dolphin. We were able to do different activities as well, such as climbing on the sand hill, swimming in the sea and the pool. We learnt a lot about Tangalooma and the number of tourists who come to visit. I was able to talk to other tourists at Tangalooma who shared their experiences. I loved going, I had a great time.

**Mariam**
Year 10 student
From the P & C...

The end of the year is fast approaching. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Year 12 students good luck as you close this chapter in your lives and open a new and exciting one. A special thank you to all of the school leaders who have come to our P & C meetings during the year and spoken to us. It has been a real pleasure to have you at our meetings.

Today we celebrated World Teachers Day by supplying lunch for the teachers, a small way to say a big “thank you” to the very dedicated and professional group of teachers. We are very lucky to have teachers at YSHS who continually go above and beyond for our kids.

Another important event is the African Feast. Make sure you get along to what promises to be a great night on Saturday, 1 November (see flyer on the next page for all the details).

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 10 November - never too late to come along. Looking forward to seeing many of you at Awards Night on Wednesday, 19 November.

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

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From the Chaplain...

Vulnerability...
Did you know that every superhero has a weakness? Their vulnerability actually makes them more likeable and we can relate better to them than if they were perfect. When we strive for perfection, we are trying to protect ourselves from future ridicule, judgment or shame. But perfection can in reality prevent us from connecting with others.

Showing our vulnerability instead shows that we have the courage to admit that we do need each other and at times need help. Being vulnerable is not just talking a lot, or over-sharing about what is happening in your life but rather being part of a community of people. Dr Brene Brown said that vulnerability “is the birthplace of connection and the path to the feeling of worthiness.” How can you connect better with your community? Do you need to let your guard down and be more vulnerable?

For more information on this topic, watch the TEDxHouston talk by Dr Brene Brown, on “The Power of Vulnerability”. It is one of the top 10 most viewed TED talks in the world.

Courageous Parenting...
Before my first child was born, my good friend hosted a baby shower for me. It was a lovely afternoon tea with my friends, opening presents, sitting around eating cake and talking through the exciting and romantic idea of motherhood. Like most new parents, I had no idea of the strength and courage I would need to survive as a parent for the next 18 years and beyond.

Here are some things that I needed to learn to be a courageous parent...

• being able to say “no” and often needing to say “no” several times to the same question!
• setting limits and boundaries and not just letting my children follow the crowd or the trend
• being consistent, making sure they know where they stand and what is expected of them, as well as following through with consequences
• being able to let go and allow my children to have a degree of freedom and independence
• allowing my family to make mistakes and helping them to learn from the experience. This means having conversations that encourage problem solving and evaluation of how things went
• encouraging hard work and perseverance to pursue skills, develop talents and personal strengths, without giving up
• making decisions that are aligned with our family values and beliefs... and
• the ultimate in being vulnerable and courageous - being able to say sorry when I’ve got it wrong and ask for forgiveness.

Summer Holiday Camps...
Are you looking for a safe alternative to Schoolies? For students finishing Year 12, SU Qld has great camps organised for the Sunshine Coast, Melbourne, Fraser Island, Whitsundays and Samoa. Apply online at www.su-schoolies.com

For other students, check out other great camps coming up over the summer holidays like Surf Camp or Ubertweak Summer at www.sucamps.org.au

Blessings

Jennifer Bennett
jenniferb@chappy.org.au
Yeronga State High School invites you to an evening of authentic African food and entertainment.

**African Feast**

**One School Many Cultures**

**When:** 6.30pm Saturday 1st November

**Where:** Yeronga SHS Cultural Centre

**Tickets from the school office:** 3249 1400

**Cost:** $20 for adults, $15 secondary students and Primary students FREE
FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE...

Lost Property

Please check the Lost Property box regularly. There are a large number of items, especially Winter jumpers. All unclaimed lost property will be donated to a charity at the end of the year.

ASK Magazine

The ASK magazine is currently in production. Students will receive their copy in the near future - provided all school resources are returned and school fees are paid.

Can Saver Plus assist you with high school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact David Smit, your local Saver Plus Worker:
(07) 3115 6202 / 0417 436 183
or david.smit@thesmithfamily.com.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered to South Queensland by The Smith Family. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

Term 4 - 2014

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 Nov</td>
<td>Sports awards assembly</td>
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<td>4 Nov</td>
<td>Interact school dance</td>
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<td>5 Nov</td>
<td>Year 11 Aspirations - session 4</td>
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<td>6 Nov</td>
<td>Senior Drama evening</td>
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<td>10 Nov</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<td>14 Nov</td>
<td>Public holiday</td>
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<td>19 Nov</td>
<td>Annual Awards evening</td>
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<td>20 Nov</td>
<td>Year 12 Graduation</td>
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<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>Last day for Year 12 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>24-26 Nov</td>
<td>ECOMAN excursion</td>
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<td>28 Nov</td>
<td>Last day for Year 10 and 11 students</td>
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<td>3-5 Dec</td>
<td>Year 11 TIP training</td>
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<td>5 Dec</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 8 Orientation day</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Dec</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Nov</td>
<td>Year 8 &amp; 9 excursion</td>
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<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>Year 9 Drama performance</td>
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<td>11 Dec</td>
<td>Social Network training - Year 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Dec</td>
<td>Last day for Year 8 &amp; 9 students</td>
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Yeronga SHS Reunion - Class of ‘84

Calling past students who graduated in 1984 or who attended YSHS during 1980-84.

A reunion is being held at Souths Rugby Union Club, 104 Frederick St (off Villa St), Annerley on Saturday, 29 November at 6.00pm. Any queries please contact Tracy on 0418730057 or shuttlebug@telstra.com

Yoga Classes at Yeronga High School 5 - 7 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