FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

We have just passed the halfway mark of Term 1 with Autumn now upon us. By now, students should be settled well in their classes and totally focused on the business of learning.

Since the last newsletter, we’ve had a district swimming carnival, school photos taken, a Y-Tour, the Lions Youth of the Year competition, several excursions and two camps. Yeronga SHS has so much to offer and so many activities to highlight. Our school vision, “Quality Pathways to Success”, underpins our existence as a learning organisation and whilst “learning” is our primary focus, it is also important to have fun along the way. As with all our newsletters, we have included a variety of photos of students engaged in the business of learning and achieving success, and as indicated by their smiles, they are having a fair amount of fun along the way.

Year 9 GOALS program, Year 11 Aspirations Program and Year 11 Focus Program
The very successful GOALS, Aspirations and Focus programs which link a number of our Year 9 and Year 11 students to successful business mentors will again be offered to students this year. This is due to the significant support which our school receives from the Australian Business Community Network and its member companies.

School Enrolments
Our school reputation continues to spread with enrolments holding at 675 students (six students more than Day 8). Our parent, student and staff opinion surveys from 2014 were extremely positive (all in the mid 90%) and we are always very receptive of parents’/caregivers’ comments about school improvement.

We will always strive to be a safe and caring school that focusses on high standards, continual improvement and academic achievement. Our school is inclusive - a real global learning community, catering for students who initially struggle with English through to those who are doing various extension programs and university courses.

Upcoming Y-Tours - Enrolling now for 2016
After a successful Y-Tour this week, we have five more scheduled this year. Y-Tours provide an opportunity for prospective parents to visit, and during the morning sessions, have a chance to tour the school. They will see “the business of learning” taking place and questions can be answered over an informal morning tea with the school leadership team.

Great Results Funding
Yeronga SHS has been allocated approx. $800,000 as part of the State Government’s “Great Results Guarantee” program - specifically targeted to improve numeracy and literacy. We will be using the funds to:

- employ specialist Numeracy and Literacy Head of Curriculum leaders
- provide Maths teachers with professional learning and meeting times
- develop an extended and intensive reading program targeted to improve students who struggle with reading
- purchase relevant resources for Numeracy and Reading programs
- enable professional release time for teachers to further embed our School Wide Pedagogical framework.

School Council
The inaugural Yeronga SHS School Council will be formed in Term 2. Two parent representatives will be elected at the next P & C meeting on Monday, 20 April (the first Monday back after the Easter holidays). Nominations have been called and a proforma can be found on our website - www.yerongashs.eq.edu.au The process has been circulated via email, newsletter, the school website and Facebook mediums.

Terry Heath
Principal
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

After six weeks of schooling, our Year 7s and 8s have settled in admirably. They understand how a secondary timetable works, are playing socially in their designated areas, have identified their ‘favourite’ teachers and have made new friends. They’ve experienced their first swimming carnival, have been away on camp together, have undergone a battery of literacy and numeracy testing and will soon participate in their first inter-school Gala Day. High schools are such active and vibrant places and our students are responding positively to the change from primary school.

Attendance

It is important that students attend school all day, every day. Parents are requested to communicate student absences by phoning the Absentee Line as soon as possible. If this is not convenient, please send a note to the Care Teacher on return to school. A note proforma has been included at the back of the Student Planner.

Helping us to keep accurate rolls will ensure attendance reports are accurate. These appear on Student Academic Report Cards and may have financial implications for some. Keeping the school advised of current home and mailing addresses and phone numbers is very important.

Some interesting facts about 2015 Year 7 and Year 8 cohort

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>% Year 7</th>
<th>% Year 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aust Citizen Born in Aust</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aust Citizen Born OS</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Visa</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary Visa</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current enrolment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>78 students from 31 different Primary Schools</td>
<td>63 students from 18 different schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

End of Term Reporting

During the end of term break, parents and guardians will receive a mid-semester report for students. For each subject studied the report indicates a level of achievement (A-E) and ratings for effort and behaviour. The achievement levels are interim ones, that is, they can change between now and the end of semester but they can be used as a guide for how students are progressing at this stage. The standards for achievement are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A Very High Achievement</th>
<th>B High Achievement</th>
<th>C Sound Achievement</th>
<th>D Limited Achievement</th>
<th>E Very Limited Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The expectations and standards for effort and behaviour are different from that of achievement and can be confusing. The standards are listed from left to right in order of most to least acceptable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Satisfactory</th>
<th>Needs Attention</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Always meets expectations</td>
<td>Almost always meets expectations</td>
<td>Meets most expectations</td>
<td>Does not meet most expectations</td>
<td>Does not meet any expectations OR Is resistant to meeting most expectations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The expectations for effort and behaviour are framed around the 5 Ps:

**Effort**
- Prepared – The student brings necessary materials to class, is ready to learn.
- Productive – The student works with others when required, tries to the best of his/her ability, meets assignment and task deadlines.

**Behaviour**
- Positive – The student is respectful towards teachers, students and staff and their property, displays a helpful attitude towards students and staff, acts responsibly in upholding the rights of others to be safe and learn unhindered.
- Punctual – The student arrives to class and events on time.
- Proud – The student takes pride in self (including appearance), others and school achievements.
From the Head of Special Education Services

English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) Unit

One of the highlights of this term for me has been the Year 7/8 Adventure Camp at Lake Moogerah. It was wonderful to see our students enthusiastically trying out new activities and conquering their fears. This was the first school camp for many of our EALD students and they embraced every opportunity, even jumping in the lake when they knew there could be snakes! It was also lovely to see students helping each other out and giving their support when their peers most needed it, like when they were learning to kayak for the first time, or trying to climb a shaky tower made of crates!

Experiences like school camps demonstrate what genuinely kind-hearted students we have here at Yeronga – it’s these students who create the Harmony we all enjoy.

Another highlight was attending the East Brisbane ZONTA Club meeting on Monday, 9 March. Ashvini, one of our wonderful Year 12 students from 2014, was there to receive her first ZONTA Scholarship cheque. She was recognised at our 2014 Awards Night for being a high-achieving student with a bright future ahead. Ashvini has commenced her university studies with a Bachelor of Biomedical Science at UQ.

Lidia, last year’s recipient and Year 12 student from 2013, was also in attendance at the meeting. Lidia has started studying Pharmacy at University of Queensland. Ashvini and Lidia understand that success is a direct result of hard work and now they are enjoying the opportunity of a university education.

The next few weeks will be challenging for all students, especially our new EALD students, as we enter into a period of assessment with Term 1 reports being mailed home before the holidays. We will be inviting parents into school Week 2 of next term for interviews with teachers and there will be interpreters to give assistance.

Please remember – we have EALD Homework Club every Thursday in I10 immediately after school until 4.15pm. We have had many students take up this opportunity, which is great to see. We have teacher aides, teachers and many volunteers who come to assist students with homework, general study, preparing for exams and completing assignments. If EALD students have any questions about their class work, or would like some extra help – please come to Homework Club!

We also have an EALD Job Club every Monday in the library immediately after school until 4.15pm. If students are interested in part time or casual work, this is the place to go to get some support in finding a job. Staff from MDA and teachers are there to help write resumes and apply for work online.

Best wishes to all students for the weeks of assessment ahead.

Jessica Walker
Head of Special Education Services
3249 1433
jwalk382@eq.edu.au
As we have now passed the halfway mark of Term 1, the students’ focus should now be centred on assignments and exams. All students should now have entered their due dates into their diaries and have settled into a study routine.

The report cards that will be posted out on the last day of Term 1 will be based around formal assessment and will reflect your student’s current level of achievement, effort and behaviour. These reports are an excellent tool for reflecting on study habits and setting goals for the end of semester reports.

I strongly encourage parents, guardians and students to spend some time looking at the assessment planners and going over the Yeronga SHS Assessment Policy outlined in the student planner. Please do not hesitate to discuss assessment with relevant subject teachers who will be more than happy to assist you with questions. I look forward to celebrating the success of our students when the interim progress report card comes out. I am confident that the large majority of our fabulous Year 7 students will have progress reports worth celebrating for they are settling in to life as a high schooler quite well.

Matt Petersen
A/Head of Department - Junior Secondary
Year 8 Co-ordinator
mpete21@eq.edu.au Ph: 3249 1454

Who can believe we are over halfway through Term 1 and the Easter holidays are now so close? I sit down to write this article after just witnessing two very talented Year 9 students, Martine and Anthony, do a wonderful guitar and singing performance on assembly. Congratulations to Martine and Anthony, it was a great way to start the week.

Since the last newsletter we have had many Year 9 students involved in an array of sporting events around the school, namely District swimming and some Regional sporting trials. The Year 9s represented Yeronga well at the District Swimming Carnival on 9 March with Dylan, Lucas and Jarrah swimming well on the day.
We are well and truly settled into the business of learning in Year 10. I am very pleased to see the students focussed on their studies and starting to think about their futures. Our excursion to QUT Explore Uni day on Wednesday, 18 February was fabulous. Upon arrival we joined students from St James College and Mitchelton State High in a lecture room. Over the course of the day, students divided into their different interest areas and attended a number of workshops. The workshops were interactive and challenging.

In the Slam Poetry workshop, Placide wrote the following poem. The Creative Industries’ faculty were so impressed they have requested a copy. Well done Placide, and to QUT and all of the students for making the day both informative and enjoyable.

We are a broken race
we chose violence instead of respecting each other’s space
we are supposed to be outsiders, outliers and outcasts
instead we follow each other like sheep
and sometimes it make me weep
and i get sick
of how weak our race is
be a goat
be free
save the world from humanity
we should create better generations
and start to unite our nations
for we are not on vacation
we are using information to create a fantastic nation.

In other Year 10 news, Genevieve spent her first day on the Lord Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council last Friday. I have asked Genevieve to write about her experiences for the next newsletter. This is a wonderful opportunity to be part of the decisions that affect Brisbane youth.

By now, students should have also completed their resumes and cover letters during forum lessons on Wednesday afternoon. A number of students have been very busy applying for part time jobs. I wish them the best in these endeavours.

Felicity O’Neill
Year 9 Co-ordinator
fonei6@eq.edu.au

One of the 5 Ps we closely follow at Yeronga is “punctuality” and the importance of arriving on time to school every day and to every lesson. Students who strive to follow the 5 Ps in their daily endeavours are recognized by the teachers and it was with great pride we presented Rahimullah with a certificate of recognition in our recent Year Level Assembly for doing just that. Who will be the next recipient of an award for aligning with the 5 Ps? Work hard, Year 9s. It does get noticed.

Congratulations must also go to the 16 Year 9 students who have been chosen to take part in the GOALS program this year. After much consideration by the administration staff, teachers and myself, the students who would most benefit from this program and who will represent Yeronga well into the future were selected. Students who were selected for this program will find out in the next week and the parents and guardians of these students will receive permission and information forms regarding this program.

Well Year 9s, with only a couple of weeks left of Term 1, I know there are a pile of assignments to complete and tests to study for as we come to the business end of the term. Students should be planning their assessment schedules and managing their time so they are able to do their very best.
FROM THE YEAR LEVEL CO-ORDINATORS

With the term well and truly underway, the Year 11 students are now faced with assignments and exams in most of their subjects. The sheer amount of work expected from our Year 11 students can be overwhelming and it is important that our students develop some strategies to help manage their stress. Our Youth Support Worker, Tracey Beck Gude, spoke with the Year 11s earlier this week about managing stress leading up to assessment. Tracey outlined that students need to develop a study timetable, maintain a quiet study space and increase their positive self-talk prior to exams.

We have a very enthusiastic group of students who have already taken one of the leadership opportunities available to them at school. A group of our Year 11s has been welcoming the Year 7 and 8 students to our school through the TIP program. This is a great opportunity for students to practise their communication and organisation skills which will greatly benefit them in the future.

Last week, 50 Year 11s braved the great outdoors during their Recreational Studies camp at Meebunn-bia Outdoor Education Centre in Maroon. The camp included outdoor activities such as rock climbing, rope courses, tree climbing, bushcraft, bush walking and general bush survival. These activities were selected to challenge the students’ abilities and to enhance their survival skills. I look forward to hearing all the exciting stories from the students next week.

It is important to note that the skills students learn during this busy time will prepare them for tertiary education and for the workplace. I wish all the students the very best of luck for the first round of assessment in Year 11.

Sam Dilly
Year 11 Co-ordinator
sdill47@eq.edu.au

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICER

Australian Defence Force Gap Year Program

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) has announced that their popular Gap Year Program will continue in 2016. This program will be available to Australian citizens who have completed Year 12 and are aged between 17 years and 24 years. Gap Year opportunities are available in the Navy, Army and Air Force. It provides participants with the opportunity to experience military training and lifestyle for a 12 month period. Successful applicants will complete both basic recruit training and specific trade training before being placed in one of the three services within the ADF.

Further information is available at defencejobs.gov.au/gapyear

Brad Milford
Guidance Officer

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2014. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. Thank you for your support of the Next Step survey in 2015.

Further information on Next Step is available online at www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or on toll free telephone 1800 068 587.
New Australian of the Year Award - 2015

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms Jessica Walker for nominating me for the New Australian of the Year award. I would also like to thank those who supported the nomination, Mr Terry Heath, Sgt Jim Bellos, Mr Tom Beck, my wife Angelina Akuac and all the members of the Australia Day Council who chose me to be the recipient of the New Australian of the Year award.

I was so humble and happy when I received the news that I had been chosen out of many nominees to be the New Australian of the Year for 2015. It was a big moment and surprise for me because I never expected to be awarded or acknowledged for the work that I continue to do as part of my daily routine since migrating to Australia.

It is a great honour for me and my family, African communities and their leaders and the volunteers and individuals who are working tirelessly supporting vulnerable people in our society. I also would like to thank Mr Jose Zepeda and the late Mary Gavin who supported my family and I when we migrated to Australia. The award belongs to all of you and it will be used to encourage, motivate and give a sense of hope to those who feel hopeless and uninspired within our society; so that they rise and become valuable citizens and ready to give a helping hand to others.

I would like to conclude with an African proverb that states “it takes a whole village to raise a child” which means, as a member of society, you have a moral responsibility for extending a helping hand to others where it is needed despite our differences, colour and our background.

Gabriel Ukuno
Community Liaison Officer for African communities at Yeronga State High school and the New Australian of the Year for 2015

The Freedom Tree - symbolising peace and hope for children from the South Sudanese community and for all.

FROM THE P & C ASSOCIATION

For those who are new to the school community I should introduce myself. This is the start of my third year as P and C President. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first two years and look forward to an even greater third year. The youngest of my three daughters, Kathryn, is currently in Year 11. My two older daughters who are now 20 and 22, also attended YSHS and all three have had a very positive secondary education. I have been attending P and C meetings since my eldest daughter started in Year 8. It never ceases to amaze me the opportunities that our kids have these days.

Research has found that parental involvement in schooling is a strong indicator of a child’s success. Children whose parents had high aspirations for their children, backed up by their involvement in the school community, had a better chance of doing well regardless of wealth, ethnicity or the kind of school they attended.

We all have limited time these days and I know that the opportunities to be involved are much less at secondary school compared to the primary years but the monthly P and C meetings are a great place to start and is not a huge time commitment - approximately 1 1/2 hours a month. It was very encouraging to have a good crowd at the AGM and then the general meeting last Monday night. Thanks to those who took the time to attend and especially to those parents who willingly took on a position. The committee is President Jennifer Wrigley, Vice Kate Dyson, Secretary Karyn Healy, Treasurer Wendy Boyd and Correspondence Secretary Kirsty Keable. We also have some "apprentices" learning the ropes for some of the jobs.

We were lucky again to have three of our school leaders join us and give a brief report on the student news. Thank you Denise, Amber and Leone for taking time out of your study to come and talk to us. As I’ve said before, these young people are truly an inspirational bunch. Our local member, Mark Bailey MP, also joined us for some of the meeting and it was good to touch base and hear from him. We look forward to a positive relationship in the future.

The whole meeting was a very positive time and it was so great to hear spontaneous comments such as "this school is a hidden gem", "a fantastic community with wonderful and inspirational teachers", "YSHS is a great story to be told". Well, it is the best school in the universe!!

Please keep in touch with what is going on and ways that you may be involved. I look forward to meeting more of you during the year. Please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can help you with. The P and C is the voice of the parents in the school. As the second Monday of the month falls during the holidays, our next meeting will be Monday, 20 April at 6.30pm in the Professional Lounge. This is the first day of Term 2. Please think about coming as we will be voting on School Council nominations.

Jennifer Wrigley
0432 434495
jennifer@inhand.com.au

***************
Parenthood in an era of over-indulgence...

As a parent I often wonder if I am doing all I can to set up my children for future success in their lives. Some things that I consider important are: giving them an opportunity to learn (at school, but also other life skills), to develop their natural talents and interests, to socialise and develop relationship skills, to grow their self-esteem by knowing they are loved, special and unique and to have a sense of peace and hope for the future.

The hardest thing though is to get the balance right. There is always potential to overindulge them with everything they want, particularly with material possessions, in an effort to keep up with what others have or out of a distorted sense of what they might need. We want our children to have a better life, to not have to go without like we might have when we were young. It is easy to do when we live in a country with so much wealth.

The problem with giving them so much is that there is potential that we are spoiling our children; that they are not really being prepared for the real world. The real world is a place where you have to work hard for the things that you want. Psychologists (David J Bredehoft, Jean Illsley Clarke & Connie Dawson) identify some risks of overindulgence that include:

- thinking that they are the centre of the universe
- having an overblown sense of entitlement; deserving more than others
- having a disrespectful attitude to their own things and those of other people
- being helpless and not learning to work things out
- not learning the difference between wants and needs
- irresponsibility by not being accountable for completing tasks and facing consequences for their actions
- being ungrateful
- poor self-control
- relationship problems
- poor conflict resolution skills.

That is a huge list which gives us much to consider. We might need to redefine what good parenting is and consider if we are actually doing our children any favours by giving them too much. After all, we want our children to be likeable, responsible and respectful. We want them to be happy, but this happiness should come from personal success related to their intelligence, creativity, strong work ethic or character, rather than just their status in life because of how much money they have, the clothes they wear or the car they drive.

Blessings
Jennifer Bennett
jenniferb@chappy.org.au

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

LITERACY AT YSHS

This week is all steam ahead in the land of literacy, as we see our three pronged approach to tackling literacy at YSHS begin. What is our three pronged approach?

- Accelerated Literacy Class (ACP) – additional Literacy lessons provided to identified students in Years 7 and 8. The purpose of these classes is to address gaps in students’ literacy. Our ACP Literacy classes will focus on enhancing reading comprehension, writing and language development. I would also like to thank Claudia Godfrey and Ellie Lundin in advance for taking on these new classes.
- Reading for Success – a one to one reading program focused on building reading confidence and fluency through targeted and explicit instruction. Students develop reading strategies and learn to apply these strategies when reading. Students involved will participate in two to three reading sessions per week. Last year we witnessed great success with the students involved.
- Rigorous Reading – a dedicated 40 minute reading session devoted to developing the reading skills of all students in our junior school. Teachers recognise the importance of reading and in doing so are committed to delivering explicit reading instruction, allowing students to apply these skills to new situations.

Parents, please keep an eye out this week for a letter explaining your child’s involvement in developing their literacy journey.

Tiffany Ostwald
Head of Curriculum - Literacy
There have been a lot of numeracy opportunities occurring at YSHS these past weeks. At Junior Secondary camp, students needed to use their numeracy and problem solving skills to complete a number of team building activities. In one activity students were asked to move numbered tyres from one stack to another. However they were not allowed to place tyres with a greater number value on top of one with a lower number value. It required a lot of strategic thinking and some trial and error but in the end, all groups figured out a way to complete the task. It was great to see students find their voice to lead their group to success.

Back at school, Year 9 students are very proud of their success in their intervention sessions and many students have already made the Numeracy Star Board. Well done!

Next week we will start a new class for Year 7 and 8 students. It will provide more opportunities for selected students to engage with numeracy and build their competence and confidence in Mathematics classes, the numeracy within all other subjects as well as numeracy at home. We are all looking forward to exciting learning ahead.

**Numeracy at Home - Hints and Tips**

While we are talking about camping and sports, here are some hints and tips for highlighting numeracy with your student when in the great outdoors:

- While watching sports events, discuss scoring aspects of the game. For example, cricket lends itself to discussing run rates, averages, angles, position and graphs.
- Your student may be interested in being a timekeeper for swimming or athletics events. You could show your student how to use a stop watch for lap times or speed to compare times.
- Is your student interested in construction of models such as cars, trains and aeroplanes? Take the opportunity to discuss the scale or size of the model compared to real-life size.
- Your student could measure the temperature in various parts of your home. You could ask which would be the coolest place to store some chocolates you want to buy and set aside for a special occasion. If you want to germinate some herb seeds (like parsley or chives), where would be the most suitable place? If students do this with three different types of seeds, they could measure the growth of the seeds each day and the temperature to determine the growth speed and effect of temperature. They could put the results into a table or chart to clearly see the results.
- Maybe your child is interested in indoor activities such as sewing, scrapbooking, cross-stitch, tapestry and quilting, all include aspects of measuring and patterning.


By now you may have heard from your student about these great online Maths games, often being set as Maths homework. Mangahigh.com is one of the world’s first games-based learning sites, where students learn Mathematics via purpose-built casual games that balance fun and learning. It is proven to be effective and is adaptive to each student’s ability. The games adapt in difficulty to the ability of the student in order to aid the student to stay in their optimal learning zone. It also improves students’ automaticity by providing exciting ways to practise skills until they become second nature.

If your student needs to review the concept there is a ‘teach me’ section for every skill. At the next parent’s evening you will have the opportunity to take a closer look at this and other resources. In the meantime, every Year 7-9 student has a login code, so ask your student if you can take a look.

**Paulina Armstrong**

*Head of Curriculum - Numeracy*
Year 7 & 8 Camp
After some quick games, lunch and setting up our tents, we were straight into our activities. We started focusing on working together and getting to know everyone in our groups. Over the course of the three days, it was great to see Year 7 and 8 students working together to solve challenges and support each other in the process. The ‘mission’ was reported to be the best activity with kayaking coming in close behind.

It was also wonderful to take the time to take in the stars at night – a far more impressive view than what we are used to in the city. Overall, it was a fantastic experience getting to know the students and how they responded to the challenges that were put before them. Our next challenge is to apply the skills and attitudes shown to overcome these obstacles to our life challenges back home and at school. Thank you to the wonderful teachers who so enthusiastically supported the students throughout the camp. See pages 12 and 13 for photos.

Year 7 and 9 – NAPLAN 2015
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008. On Tuesday 13, Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 May, students will undertake the 2014 NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children.

All students are encouraged to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for special provisions that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at www.naplan.edu.au.

The test timetable is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 11 May</th>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
<th>Friday 15 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Catch up day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 9: 45 mins</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 9: 65 mins</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 9 (calculator): 40 mins</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minute break</td>
<td>Catch up day</td>
<td>20 minute break</td>
<td></td>
<td>Catch up day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 9: 40 mins</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Matt Petersen
A/Head of Department - Junior Secondary
Year 8 Co-ordinator
mpete21@eq.edu.au
Ph: 3249 1454
Having fun learning Chinese!

We have learnt how to count with Chinese numbers from 1 – 99, eat traditional Chinese food like vegetarian yam cookies and participate in traditional Chinese tea ceremonies. We are also able to listen to Chinese music and sing along. Before our lesson starts, Mr Huang plays music and we do a routine where one of the students says “stand up”. I enjoy learning Chinese very much, learning with friends, eating Chinese food and getting to know more about China.  

Thereze

Learning Chinese is fun - we have learnt so many things, such as Chinese letters, traditions, dances, ceremonies and many more things which will definitely benefit some of us in the future, especially if we would like to sign up for scholarships that have to do with the Chinese language.

Shierra

I learn all different things in my Chinese class. I like to count and have fun pronouncing them. It is lots of fun. I would like to be a chef and make Chinese food such as sushi, dumplings, rice and noodles. I want to be able to make lots of yummy food for all my friends. I also want to be a dancer and perform all over China and wear all sorts of pretty clothing when I dance.

Teagan

Learning Chinese is fun in my classroom because I have learned how to count to 99 and we get rewards, such as biscuits, rice and tea. Having Mr Huang as my teacher is great because he’s very funny and prepares a lot of Chinese activities for us to do and they are lots of fun. I also find Chinese quite easy to learn.

Tanika

Learning Chinese is fun in my class because we learn something new every day and that is not an exaggeration! We started with numbers from 1-99. We also play games along the way. We have all had an opportunity to learn new skills such as using chopsticks. Our class starts with a lovely traditional Chinese musical concerto, followed by a student saying ‘Qi Li’ which means stand up. Now at home I say it at the dinner table to my family when we need to stand up.

Overall I love our Chinese class and I’m sure all the other students love it too! In the future there are so many things I’m super eager about. There are many activities we have been promised such as tea ceremonies (I have green tea every morning) and a trip to China.

Indigo, 再见
Year 7 & 8 Camp!
Year 7 & 8 Camp!
Year 11

Year 11 Biology students have been learning about Earth’s diverse ecosystem of living things this term. To help them understand how scientists work in the field of identifying and collecting specimens for further study, students visited Toohey Forest Environmental Education Centre. They were able to examine live and preserved specimens and practise classification and identification of insects for their own collections.

Students used nets, beating boards, live traps and lots of energy in collecting their insects for their assignments. Prassana is holding a snake.

Year 12

Year 12 Biology students have been studying about body systems and have performed dissections to further understand how organs work together and how they function. The students below are dissecting hearts and finding the structures within.
Year 7 and 8 Science - “A Case of Identity”

On Thursday, 19 February, the Year 7 and 8 Science students were involved in a Forensic Science workshop called “A Case of Identity”. It was an interactive performance where students used observational skills and deductive reasoning, combined with what they are learning at school, to solve a murder. Students took on the role of a forensic scientist and learnt how forensics help the Police solve crimes.

The workshop engaged students in the task and promoted the study of Chemistry, Physics and Biology and how these subjects apply to real life situations.

Science and Engineering Challenge 2015

On Wednesday, 4 March, 31 students in Years 9 and 10 who expressed an interest in Science entered the 2015 Science and Engineering Challenge. This is a national competition run by the University of Newcastle in cooperation with the University of Queensland.

In teams of four, students were presented with practical engineering problems and were given either 2 hours or 4 hours to complete the task. The tasks were varied and included construction of working models from simple materials - for example a catapult, vehicle suspension system or human hand. Some tasks were solving engineering problems such as how to distribute electricity in a grid.

Students came up with some ingenious solutions and points were awarded based on how well their solution performed. Overall, Yeronga came fifth on the day but the students were very happy and were singing in the bus on the way home!
This year our two Senior Art excursions, held on the 24 February and 2 March, were to the Queensland Art Gallery and the Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA). We had the opportunity to experience two main exhibitions as well as view works from the QAG collection.

In the exhibition *We can make another future* (Japanese Art after 1989), some artists expressed a sense of the possibility of ‘the infinite’ in their works. By using repetition, many works gave the impression of being part of something much larger. An example of this was Yayoi Kusama’s *Soul under the moon* - an installation of mirrors, ultraviolet lights, water and plastic. Standing in this room, it seemed as if the repetition went on forever, defying our senses and perceptions of space. Our students loved Kusama’s interactive project, *The obliteration room*, where visitors are invited to plaster a completely white room with multicoloured polka dots.

Throughout this exhibition we saw many wonderful examples of repetition, infinity, surface and colour which fit really well into the current Year 11 themes of Representation and Repetition. Year 12 students looked for examples of art works which fitted their focus and suggested themes around Personal Challenge for their written critique of a room sized exhibition.

**Sublime** (Contemporary works from the QAG collection)

Have you ever been impressed with greatness and lost for words? Artists in the 19th century first used this idea to express the overwhelming power of nature through landscape paintings. Today, modern artists express ideas of wonder and uncertainty about our place and the effect we have on the world. Installations made from tyre inner tubes hung like dark clouds, old car wash brushes looked like a moving abstract painting and complex mirrors reflected the self and gallery space as if we were looking at the entire universe! It’s amazing how the artists have transformed once functional objects from everyday life into works of art with powerful messages.

The excursions are the instigation and inspiration for Visual Art seniors’ first appraising task (Repetition and Personal Challenge) and for the Certificate class to start their unit on Source and Use Information, gaining first hand experience of viewing art works ‘in the flesh’, rather than always on line or from books.

We would like to thank Sue Kallis and Judy Fauls for accompanying the teachers and students on this excursion. Our Art students should be commended on their appearance, cooperation and engagement with tasks.

Amy Kallis, Senior Visual Art Teacher
Maxine Conroy, Certificate 11 in Visual Art Teacher
This week two groups of Year 12 students went to Griffith University to attend their first Business workshop. Twenty students attended the Nathan campus and seventeen attended the Logan campus.

The day began with a presentation from a university lecturer who spoke to us about the difference between schools and universities. Students from several schools attended the program with the Yeronga students. After an hour, we were given a short break and the large group was split up into their three strands – Commerce, Business Management and Sports Management.

We were in the Commerce group and we were taught about the economical side of business. After the two hour lecture we had a lovely lunch provided by the university and then we sat for our two hour exam. This exam was a group assessment and luckily an open book assignment. This technique allowed us to use all the information we were given in the lecture....whew!

The day was an excellent experience and made us realise that there are many differences between school and university.

---

**Read and Chat Book Club**

Starting up again this term is Read and Chat Book Club. On the last Wednesday of this term, we will talk about our chosen book for this term – “Mice” by Gordon Reece. We will meet in the Library at 3.00pm.

The Book Club is open to students, their parents/caregivers, big brothers or sisters and staff members. If you are interested in being part of Book Club, come and see Mrs Edwards to borrow a copy of the book. (Please let Mrs Edwards know if you and your family are coming for catering purpose.)

Term 2 book will be in e-book format and Term 3 will be Bring Your Favourite Book.

**Learning in the Library**

Each Thursday the Library staff will run a Learning in the Library (LIL) session on different topics ranging from traditional information literacy skills to digital citizenship skills. There will be two sessions; at 8.15am and 11.15am. You don’t need to book in - just come along to either session. The sessions for Term 1 and Term 2 will be:

**Term 1**
- Week 7: Research skills - how to write a bibliography
- Week 8: Research skills – note taking skills
- Week 9 & 10: Research skills – how to distinguish a good website

**Term 2**
- Week 1: Digital skills - Word – how to create a table
- Week 2: Digital skills – Word – how to create a contents page
- Week 3: Digital skills - Excel – how to use formulas
- Week 4: Digital skills – research skills – how to skim read articles
- Week 5: Digital skills – Powerpoint – use of templates and formatting
- Week 6: Digital skills – making the most of Outlook
- Week 7: Digital skills - Cyber Safety
- Week 8: Digital skills – print screen & snipping tools
- Week 9: Research skills – how to write a bibliography
- Week 10: Research skills – using safe internet sites
FROM THE HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT

Year 11 Hospitality

Year 11 Hospitality students have been using their creative skills to decorate cupcakes in class. They can now appreciate the effort and time put in by specialty cake makers to produce such amazing and intricate cakes. The students had fun baking the cakes, making delicious buttercream icing and piping or fashioning sweets into decorations. They were very proud of their efforts and were pleased to present an iced cupcake to valued teachers. Teachers were delighted to see a gorgeous cupcake on their desk at the end of a long day. :-)

Suzie McGuire
Home Economics Teacher

***************

Brand New Store for the Shakers Shop

The start of this year saw the opening of the brand new Shakers Shop located down in E block. The newly renovated shop opens every Monday and Thursday at first break, from 11:00am to 11:30am. The Shakers Shop is operated by the Year 11 & 12 Certificate II in Retail Services students which provides them with hands-on real life work experience.

In the coming weeks the shop will be introducing new specials of the week to our menu, including choc-malt, choc-mint, lime and cookies and cream. We still offer our usual flavours of chocolate, strawberry, caramel, vanilla and banana. So come on down and buy a shake for only $2.50. You won’t regret it!

Karina Bray
Retail Teacher

***************

Study Mates

Study Mates is in full swing on Monday afternoons, with a large number of students availing themselves of the opportunity to work on homework and assignments at school. It has become so popular that unfortunately we don’t always have enough tutors to assist all of our keen students.

We really hate to disappoint students so if you are able to join our group of enthusiastic tutors, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Ros on 4021 076 303.

Ken Myers
Study Mates co-ordinator
### Debating News

Last Wednesday four very proud students from Yeronga SHS, James, Ruby, Sebastian and Angel attended our first debate at St Laurence’s College. The topic of the argument was “That we should end the Melbourne Cup”.

Our opponents were St Joseph’s College Gregory Terrace. Students presented and proved their arguments well. We did not win the debate but our students presented a lot of comprehensive material to support our argument.

Angel was the timekeeper for both teams. Sebastian, James and Ruby spoke confidently at the perfect time and were able to deal with rebuttal as well as give a strong refute to the opposing team effectively. The students spoke passionately about the issue. At the end, the students stayed back and received individual feedback from the adjudicator. I’m sure we will do better next round.

Anthea Heiniger  
Year 9 Debating Team

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Before school</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Volleyball Club (Years 9-12)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SPORTS CENTRE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.45 - 8.45am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Instrumental Band</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CULTURAL CENTRE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.30 - 8.45am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First break</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Business Ventures</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maths Problem Solving Club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ROOM F-05</td>
<td></td>
<td>ROOM - E-11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chess Club</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chinese calligraphy /</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ROOM E-04</td>
<td></td>
<td>martial arts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ROOM D-05</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>After school</strong></td>
<td>Study Mates</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cricket Club</td>
<td></td>
<td>Soccer Club *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LIBRARY</td>
<td></td>
<td>CRICKET NETS</td>
<td></td>
<td>TOP OVAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.45 - 4.30pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.00 - 4.00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.00 - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Job Club</td>
<td></td>
<td>Soccer Club *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LIBRARY</td>
<td></td>
<td>TOP OVAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.00 - 4.15pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.00 - 4.00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Soccer Club *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOP OVAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.00 - 4.00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gym Club</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SPORTS CENTRE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.45 - 3.45pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Soccer club sometimes limited to specific teams training for special games - students to listen to school notices for more details - **Cancelled if raining**

Robotics Club starting in Term 2
FROM THE OFFICE

CASUAL ADMINISTRATION WORK
Occasionally, due to illness and leave, the school office requires an additional staff member for reception and clerical duties. If you have office experience and would be interested in casual on-call work, please forward your resume to the Business Manager, Jo Muir (email: jmuir74@eq.edu.au) or drop a copy in at the office.

RESOURCE FEES
A reminder to all families who have not paid their 2015 school resource fees or who have not made an arrangement to pay via Centrelink or instalments, that fees are now overdue. Immediate payment would be appreciated. If you need to discuss fee payment, please phone either Jo Muir or Anmaree Hudson at the school office on 3249 1400.

LOST PROPERTY
The Lost Property box has accumulated a number of items already this year. There are shoes, pencil cases, sports uniforms and school jumpers left from the swimming carnival as well as from around the school. Please remember to name all your items so they can be returned to you.

STUDENT RECORDS
A reminder for parents/guardians... please keep your child’s records updated (eg mobile numbers, home numbers, work numbers, addresses & emergency contacts).

Do you know this grammar rule?
In English, the overwhelming majority of works show their plural by adding “s”. Do not add your own apostrophe.

As fruit and vegetable stalls often display this error, it has come to be known as the grocer’s apostrophe.

2 melon’s for $3.00, 1 kg of apple’s for $1.00

YOGA MANGALAM
yeronga
Bookings and enquiries: Maxine Conroy  yolayeronga@gmail.com
www. ashtangayogamangalam.com

Term 1 - 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>Year 11 Griffith Ambassadors Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>Celebrating Harmony Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 March</td>
<td>Lions Cup Boys AFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>Junior Summer Gala Day 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 March</td>
<td>Staff immunisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>Year 10-12 Dance intensive day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>QCS practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>Year 7, 8, 9 LOTE excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>Year 11 Legal Studies excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>Milpera friendly Soccer games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>Newsletter emailed, Reports posted home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Join us on Facebook!