Our first term seems to have flown by very quickly. Teachers have been working diligently to finalise assessment and preparing reports so that the official Interim Reports can be mailed home. You will receive these early in the first week of the holidays. Further information regarding the Parent/Teacher evening and the new booking process is included in the mail out. This year we are using a web based booking system called PTO which will make it easier for parents and guardians to make appointments. You should have already returned a consent form enabling you to access the full features of PTO. If not please contact Deputy Principal, Di Goodison after the break.

Open Day
The community will have the opportunity to get a close insight into Yeronga SHS at our Open Day on Tuesday, 20 May 2014. This will involve approximately 450 Year 5, 6 and 7 students from our feeder schools experiencing what life is really like in a high school, and more importantly, having the “Yeronga experience”. Many of our students will be involved as guides, leaders and helpers on the day while others may take the opportunity to study at home. More about this later. Parents of potential future students are also welcome to attend an information session and morning tea on the day.

Outstanding Resource Fees
There are still some families who have outstanding Resource Hire fees. The payment of these fees is important so that your child can have full access to the resources required for learning. It would be appreciated if parents/carers could address any outstanding fees or re-negotiate payment plans so that students can fully engage in their business of learning. As the present tax laws enable these fees to be claimed as a legitimate tax deduction, I recommend that they be attended to so they can be claimed in this financial year. Education is the best investment that you can make for your children.

Quite a large number of families are using Centrepay - a free direct bill-paying service offered to customers receiving payments from Centrelink. Centrepay can be set up to help pay outstanding Resource and Text Book Hire fees.

Harmony & the School Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students
During my time as Acting Principal, I have been taking the opportunity to speak to students about our values of “Quality, Harmony and Sustainability”. Specifically, I have focused upon harmony and how this is shaped by the 4 Rs. The 4 Rs – Rights, Respect, Responsibility and Reputation are the foundation for the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students which can be found at the school website.

My message reinforces the way that we, the staff and students, go about our daily business. All students have the right to learn unhindered and to feel safe at school. In order to achieve this, we need to treat each other with respect and dignity, acknowledging that we are all different and have varied life experiences. As harmony doesn’t happen by itself, we all have a responsibility to speak up when people are being excluded or bullied, right any wrongs we may do and be kind. A reputation is a judgment that people make which can influence our opportunities. In order to maintain our positive reputation that is reflected by the considerable number of business and community organisations who continue to support us, we need to act in ways that others would be proud. This includes the way we dress, our use of manners and generally being helpful.

I wish everyone a restful break and look forward to continuing the business of learning next term, starting on Tuesday, 22 April.
Looking back over the past 10 weeks, it's been a busy term. Just look at the photo below of our Year 8s first day and see how they've grown physically and personally during this period.

Parent Teacher Online
The way parents book time with teachers for Parent/Teacher interviews will be changing this year. Parents can book directly through a link on our school website to the Parent Teacher Online (PTO) booking system. You will have the option to choose the time you are available and the teachers you want to see and PTO works out the most time efficient schedule for you. You can also print out an interview schedule to put on the fridge!

More information about how to use Parent Teacher Online and your username and password will be mailed home with school reports. Parent teacher interviews will be held on Tuesday, 29 April 2014 in the Library. See page 16 for instructions.

Report Cards: Advice for Parents
Report Cards will be mailed out on the last day of term. This can bring feelings of joy, excitement, and pride; it can also cause concern, frustration and uncertainty. In either case, the reporting period marks a new beginning to set goals and reflect on past work habits and achievements. Most importantly, it is a time for you to talk to your child/children about how they feel they are progressing at school.

Focus on the Positive
Regardless of the grades your child brings home, you should first focus on positive aspects of the report. For some, this might mean highlighting a strong effort or behaviour grade, or praising an academic accomplishment or a perfect attendance record. Starting on a positive note shows your child that you truly care about the accomplishments, not only areas that need improvement.

Ask the Right Questions
Be careful not to overreact to low grades or grades you view to be unsatisfactory. Instead, use this time to look at past performance and plan for the future. Talk to your child, asking questions to understand how a particular grade was earned:

- Was the work too difficult?
- Could the pace of the class be inappropriate? (too fast, so that your child feels "lost," or too slow, causing your child to feel "bored")
- Does your child complete all homework and ask questions when problems arise?

John Coutis Presentation
On Wednesday, the inspirational John Coutis came to Yeronga and moved us with his enthusiasm and positivity towards life, despite being born with a severe disability that has left him without legs. John challenged each of us to become a unique and special person, unlike any who has ever existed before or will ever exist again. He spoke to us about the effects of bullying and of treating people the way you wish to be treated. John had us laughing, crying, squealing and standing up to clap. A truly amazing and life changing experience.

Open Day - 20 May 2014
Preparation is well under way for our annual Open Day which is scheduled for Tuesday, 20 May. Lessons are suspended for the day as we welcome over 400 Year 5, 6 & 7 students from local primary schools to our campus. Primary students are provided with first hand experience of sitting in the high school classroom, engaging in high school activities with subject specialist teachers. Last year, 150 of our students gave up their own time to be volunteers on the day. Any students not involved as volunteers will have a private study day.

New cybersafety website - Meet the creeps cybersafety website
The joint Telstra and Queensland Government initiative helps parents and students become aware of online scams, social media pitfalls and cyberbullying. With the increase in online socialising by our children, cyberbullying is emerging as a new frontier of bullying, with an extensive reach into all facets of the lives of young people. Cyberbullying, like traditional bullying, is related to behaviour that involves the systematic and repeated abuse of power. It has many similarities with offline bullying, but it differs in that the child who is bullying can be anonymous, it can reach a wide audience, and any material sent or uploaded can be difficult to remove. Visit http://www.creepquiz.eq.edu.au/ to learn more.
Interim Reports
You will be receiving your child’s interim report early next week. It is very important that you take the time to read the report and reflect on its contents with your child.

There are three areas that teachers report on at this time of year: Achievement, Effort, and Behaviour. **Achievement:** This tells you how successful your student is in this subject. Of course, an ‘A’ or a ‘B’ would be the most desired outcome, but this may not be the case for your child. If a student is achieving at ‘D’ level then you need to know how you can help your child to achieve better results.

**Effort:** This is perhaps the most important indicator of how your child is going at school this year. If a child is trying very hard in their subjects then you would expect that he/she is achieving a reasonable level of success. If a lack of effort seems to be evident in the report then you should work with your child to discover how you can help him/her to feel more positive towards their schooling.

**Behaviour:** I would like to think you would be expecting to see all ‘A’s in this area, with perhaps the occasional ‘B’. Mr Heath consistently reiterates to the students that we are about the ‘Business of Learning’ here at Yeronga State High School. We have high expectations around students’ behaviour and have a zero tolerance policy on poor and disruptive behaviours in the classroom.

No matter whether your child has received ‘A’s across their Interim report or ‘B’s, ‘C’s, the teachers would love to see you at Parent Teacher Interviews in the second week back after the holidays. Please try to get along to meet your child’s teachers.

Interim Reports are a very important tool for senior students. It is very important that students are in subjects that they can be successful in. If your child has received lower than ‘C’ in a subject’s achievement level then he/she will be meeting with me in week 1 when I return to my Senior Schooling role. Some students will be required to change subjects in order for them to be successful.

I hope that everybody has a safe and happy break.

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**Head of Special Education Services:**

**English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) Unit**

In this edition of the school newsletter I am letting others do the writing for me!

Firstly, I am proud to present a report from Ajah Thiong & Charlese Ha Rogers about their experiences attending the Sunshine Coast’s Graduate Women’s Lexis English School Program over the Summer holidays. Their hosts for this program found them delightful – Ajah & Charlese were wonderful representatives of our school. See page 15 for their report.

And secondly…

On the next few pages is an introduction to our team of multilingual Teacher Aides for 2014. We could not support our culturally and linguistically diverse students and families as well as we do without the wonderful work of our committed and professional multilingual team. I am sure our newcomers will fit in perfectly with our school community.

I hope you enjoy reading these articles. As we head into the holidays, I would like to say is that this has been a first term full of POSITIVE opportunities and activities, and I know students have been working very hard towards their first term assessment pieces. I look forward to seeing how many students were able to achieve “Excellent” for their Effort and Behaviour. I hope you relax over the break and come back ready and refreshed for new experiences next term.

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Kathy Fortescue
A/Deputy Principal
Years 10-12

Jessica Walker
Head of Special Education Services
32491433
jwalk382@eq.edu.au
**Bloss Garcon**

French

Le plaisir que j’ai trouvé dans mes années d’école avait formé mon goût de devenir professeur d’Éducation physique. Cependant, les voyages de mon jeune âge m’ont entraînée vers d’autres choix. Ayant réalisé ce qui m’intéressait, que ce soit un emploi dans une société française de commerce international à Paris, ou des voyages, ou établir une galerie d’objets d’Art Contemporain français de haute qualité, j’ai aimé toutes ces expériences avec parfois d’énormes « challenges ». Il y a quelques années un changement dans ma vie m’a fait comprendre ma réelle vocation. Je crois avoir accompli tout le circuit de mes expériences personnelles, et il est temps maintenant de retrouver mon réel désir de donner mon temps à de jeunes élevés. Ayant à m’occuper de différents enfants, chacun avec ses propres besoins et sa propre expérience, enrichit l’un et conforte l’autre. Je suis reconnaissante d’être membre du personnel de YSHS.

Blandine Garçon, lundi à vendredi, Français.

**English**

Enjoying my school years formed my interest in becoming a PE teacher. However, travelling at a young age drew me towards other life choices instead. Achieving what was of interest to me, whether it be working for an international French trading firm in Paris, travel or starting an importing business, I enjoyed all of these experiences and at times enormous challenges. A couple of years ago, a life changing event made me ‘stop’ and ‘listen’ to what I would consider today ‘my calling’. I believe I have accomplished my full circle of personal achievements and it is now time to live my real desire of giving my time to young students. Being involved with different students, each with their own needs and life experiences, enriches one and strengthens the other. I am grateful to be part of Yeronga State High School.

Bloss (Blandine)

**Chernoh Bah**

Krio

Na me name Chernoh Bah. A born na Sierra Leone. A de work na Yeronga State High School as Multilingual Teracher’s Aide. A de Speak Krio Fullah and English. A de work every day from Monday to Friday

**English**

My name is Chernoh Bah. I come from Sierra Leone. I am working as a multilingual Teacher Aide at Yeronga State High School. I speak the following languages: Krio Fula and English. I work every day from Monday to Friday.

**Dhafar Al-Bakry**

Arabic

السلام عليكم ، أسمي ظفر شاكر البكري. اللغة التي أتكلمها بالإضافة إلى الانكليزية هي اللغة العربية. أنا أعمل كمدرسة مساعدة أيام الأربعاء والخميس. أنا من العراق وأبني قيس طالبة في هذه المدرسة، هي في الصف الثامن، أنا و قيس كلانا نحب هذه المدرسة كثيراً.

**English**

Hi everyone, my name is Dhafar Shaker Al-Bakry. The language I speak, in addition to English, is Arabic. I work as a Teacher Aide on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

I am from Iraq and my daughter Qabas, is a student in this school in Year 8. Both Qabas and I love YSHS so much.
Riduine Rwasa

Kirundi


Swahili


English

My name is Riduine Rwasa (Liduine), one of the new multilingual Teacher Aides at Yeronga SHS. Speaking from experience, I can assure you that Yeronga is one of the best schools with excellence in teaching. I studied at Yeronga SHS from 2007 to 2010 and Yeronga gave me so many opportunities. With teachers’ support and encouragement, I successfully completed a Diploma of Accounting, as well as part time University studies at QUT while I was still studying full time at Yeronga SHS. I have recently completed a Bachelor degree of Business in Accountancy. I speak Kirundi, Kinyarwanda and Swahili. I am at Yeronga SHS Monday to Friday. Welcome to Yeronga State High School.

Suguna Suresh Raja

My name is Suguna. I am from the southern part of India. I have a degree in Computer Science Engineering. I migrated to Australia in 2012 because I married my husband who lives in Australia. I speak Tamil, which is my first language. My hometown, Chennai, is the fourth biggest city in India. After moving to Australia I felt alone and unhappy, but after three months I started to go to TAFE where I made friends and started feeling happy. I started enjoying my days in TAFE as I had made more friends. I also started volunteering at Milpera SHS. I now work as a Teacher Aide at Yeronga SHS from Wednesday to Friday. I feel happy in the school working with students from all different countries. This is my first job in Australia. My husband supports me a lot and guides me. It was because of his encouragement I came to Yeronga State High School.

Taraneh Fekrat

Persian

سلام، من تارانه فکراتم کمک معلم جدید که در روزهای سه سه‌شنبه، چهار شنبه و پنج شنبه در این مدرسه کار می‌کنم. من دارای تحصیل دیپلم است که در همین مدرسه گزارش دوم و چند سال اسپت که در این بخش کار می‌کنم. من به ریان های فارسی و دری مسلط هستم و خوشحال می‌شوم اگر بتوانم کمک کنم.

English

Hi, my name is Taraneh Fekrat and I’m from Iran. I’m an EALD Teacher Aide at Yeronga State High School; I work on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. I used to be a student at this school and have been working as an EALD Teacher Aide since then. I speak Farsi and Dari and I would be happy if I can help you.
From the Chaplain...

The end of the term is finally here and I’m sure the stress of exams, assignments and life in general has felt like it has been piling up and left you feeling overwhelmed. Here are a couple of “Chappy tips” to get you through next term.

**Drop your shoulders** - by doing this action, your body will fall into a more relaxed position, releasing the physical stress we carry on our shoulders.

**Take a breather** - by taking deep breaths, it allows more oxygen to travel around the body. It’s a natural boost for the body.

**Focus on one thing** - Sometimes we have too many things on our plate and we just don’t know where to start. Choose one thing that you think is really important and put complete focus on that one thing for an hour. Take a break and then put complete focus on the next task.

**Drink plenty of water.**

You cannot add a single hour to your life by worrying, so relax! Try the tips above and see if they help.

Edgar Arevalo
The Chappy
Defence Work Experience Program

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) work experience program provides an opportunity for students over the age of 15 years to observe defence personnel performing their duties. Students also have an opportunity to sample the unique defence lifestyle at a number of locations across Australia. Work experience placements are offered by all three branches of the ADF, ie Army, Navy and Air Force.

On Friday, 28 March, Gallipoli Barracks at Enoggera hosted a Work Experience Co-ordinator’s Day in order to provide school based personnel with first-hand knowledge of the three day program offered by the Army. It also provided co-ordinators with an opportunity to inspect many of the new facilities which have been a part of the Gallipoli Barracks re-development.

Yeronga State High School was represented at that event by Work Experience Co-ordinator, Ms Denise Dibble and myself. Students who are interested in participating in the Defence Work Experience Program can contact either Ms Dibble or myself, or alternatively they can review all of the current placements at [www.defence.gov.au/workexperience](http://www.defence.gov.au/workexperience)

While photography was restricted in many areas on the base, the following collection highlights some of the facilities at Gallipoli Barracks.

Shown here is the Defence Work Experience Team (left to right) Queensland Work Experience Liaison Officer, Geoff Metcalfe, Defence Force Recruiting Careers Counsellor, Leading Seaman Heidi Blom and Work Experience Coordinator, Warrant Officer Class One Peter Thatcher.

From the P & C…

It’s difficult to believe we are at the end of Term 1. It has been another full and exciting term for the school and the P and C. Watch out for ways you can become involved next term. We will be seeking people to help organise our Trivia Night to be held in Term 3. We are hoping this year that many hands will make light work!

Keep your eye out for a very exciting cookbook project sponsored by the P and C and driven by one of the teachers, Mr Barratt. A reminder for parents that the Tuckshop can always use volunteers. If you have a few spare hours, they would really appreciate your help.

Remember the P and C is your voice in the school. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 22 April starting at 6.30pm. Please feel free to contact me any time - my details are below.

Have a refreshing Easter break ready for an action packed Term 2!
From the Year Level Co-ordinators...

Year 8

Before looking forward to Term 2, it is important to stop and reflect on what has happened over the past three months when our Year 8 students began their high school journey. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term - getting to know the students and their families, camp, swimming carnival, Year 8 welcome BBQ and visiting Year 8 classes throughout the school – not to mention teaching my Year 8 HPE class.

Most recently, I was impressed with the stories that came back from the sports days across the district with students participating with great enthusiasm and spirit. Last week I was invited to a Year 8 Home Economics class where I tasted some “healthy” variations to traditional recipes and was most impressed with the design element of the task – and the taste (thanks to those students who sought my opinion).

As students look forward to next term, I would encourage all parents/carers to talk through their student’s report card and use the student diary on pages 48 and 49 to help them reflect on their progress and to make personal learning goals for Term 2. Completing this task prior to Parent/Teacher interviews, which will be held on Tuesday 29 April, will help students to see that their efforts and ambition, along with the feedback and support from both parents/carers and teachers, is vital for their success.

Finally, I wish students a happy and safe holiday and look forward to a productive Term 2.

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

Year 9

Wow, who can believe Term 1 has gone so quickly! Congratulations to Year 9s on their completion of this term. I hope your report cards reflects how hard you have worked. On that note, if we know we are not currently doing as much as we can, let’s try and lift our game in Term 2. It might mean doing more work in class, by asking questions as soon as we don’t understand something, going to Homework Club after school, or doing more homework at home. There are still three terms left for Year 9s to work hard and to get the results in class that we work for.

Since the last newsletter, we have had a very successful first Junior Gala Day. Some sports still have their second day of competition coming up in Week 2 of next term. However, the Year 9 Boys Basketball team have finished their tournament and were the winners on the day. Excellent work to all the boys involved; it’s good to see your dedication and commitment to training has paid off. Congratulations to Year 9 student, Chloe Healy-Johnson, who won the gold medal for 200m butterfly at the State Swimming Titles last week.

I hope you all have a nice well deserved, relaxing Easter holidays and come back ready to knuckle down and work hard in Term 2.

Felicity O’Neill
Year 9 Co-ordinator
Ph: 3249 1481, Email: fonei6@eq.edu.au

Year 10

As Acting Year 10 Co-ordinator, I have been very impressed with the way so many of our Year 10 students are progressing. Over the last three weeks I have been monitoring student attendance, behaviour and assessment and have been very pleased with their results.

I have also had discussions with students about entering a school based Traineeship or completing a TAFE course closer to their personal interests and goals. I am impressed with the number of students pursuing their interests with realistic goals.

Throughout this term, Ms Bate has been encouraging students to attend “Job Club” after school on Wednesdays. Students are provided with vital help and assistance with writing resumes and cover letters and applying for that all important first part-time job.

I would also like to congratulate the Year 10 Leaders who are doing a great job setting up the Year 10 assemblies and reading out the student notices.

John Aloizos
A/Year 10 Co-ordinator
A/Head of Department - Senior Schooling
From the Year Level Co-ordinators...

One of the highlights of the term for me was the Norouz presentation (Persian New Year celebrations) on assembly recently. We all learnt a new cultural celebration based on renewal, harmony and peace - such wonderful traditions. Thank you to Ms Hamoonpou and the Persian students who participated.

The Bestbrook Leadership campers had their first reunion over lunch recently. We had enough leftover ingredients to cook two large lasagnes and a vegetarian cannelloni. We all had a good time bonding and getting to know each other further, as well as building leadership skills. Food is the best way to build a community and bring people together!

Food and community brings me to a new venture we are embarking on with the P & C - the Yeronga SHS Cookbook. You will hear more about the cookbook over the rest of the year. We are hoping this humble cookbook is going to build and celebrate our diverse heritage and culture. We need 100 of the best cultural recipes that you cook for your family. These recipes represent a new direction in Australian cooking and hopefully will excite our tastebuds. The first two cultural groups that we asking to participate are the Persian and Islander students. It would be great to organise a Persian dinner night and an Islander hangi using the recipes that will be in the cookbook. Keep an eye on this space for further information or contact me at school for more information.

The Student Councillors worked hard to organise the school dance held last night. It is rewarding to see great leadership skills developing amongst the students as they negotiate and solve problems that arise. The function was a great success, largely owing to the fact that all the students shared ideas and worked together as a group. Well done to all involved!

Brad Barratt
Year 11 Co-ordinator

The Year 12s are now a quarter of the way through their senior year! They have been very busy completing assessment tasks for all their subjects. It has been a hectic and tiring time for them all. Students will be receiving report cards soon. It is important for students to check on progress to date and fix any areas needing improvement for the next three terms.

It has been a very busy term with senior badge ceremony, Gala days, swimming and cross country carnivals, a school dance, Valentine’s Day fundraising, a Bunnings BBQ, Y Tours, the watermelon eating competition, Geography competition, Shakers Retail Shop and many other excursions. It has gone by so quickly. The senior leaders, Interacters and Student Council members have been doing a wonderful job organising so many events around the school. They have all stepped up to the plate. Well done!

The Senior Formal is only 12 weeks away and students should organise and make all their formal preparations over the holidays while they have some spare time. Year 12s should take time to refresh and recharge their batteries over the holidays to prepare for the next term ahead.

Karina Bray
Year 12 Co-ordinator
Languages...

Combining Maths and Chinese - Multiplies Benefits at our classroom
Maths and Chinese - Can they really immerse into each other?

Some educators have witnessed that language studies, such as Chinese, are proving that maths and language immersion can be an efficient formula for learning both subjects.

The initiative, launched in the Year 8 Chinese class, prompted us to create ways to combine maths and language.

The Year 8 class is currently learning numbers in Chinese. A booklet was designed for use via different resources, such as an online learning tool - https://www.vsl.vic.edu.au/chinese7/Default.aspx?userid=92079600

Another online tool is www.lls.edu.au, enabling the class to have fun whilst learning Chinese and at the same time combining maths/numeracy and Chinese.

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Home Economics News...

Design and Technology

This term, Year 8 have been learning about hygiene and safety in the kitchen and the design process.

They have cooked a range of exciting recipes culminating in the opportunity to develop their own food product. Their assessment task was to adapt a basic recipe they have cooked and create a new healthy food product. Some of the great ideas that they produced were choc-dipped muffins, psychlets and the super delicious pizza.

Mr Petersen was the guest judge and was given the envious job of sampling all the final products.
Debating News...

This year we have two debating teams – Year 8 and Year 12 - entered in the Queensland Debating Union interschool competition. The first round of competition has taken place over the last few weeks. The debaters all performed very well, but both teams were defeated by their far more experienced opposition.

Debating at this level is always very challenging, but extremely rewarding, and our teams learnt a great deal by simply participating. Thank you to Ms Whitting for coaching the Year 12 team and to Ms Stewart for her support with the Year 8 team. Round two for the senior team is next week, while the second debate for the Year 8 team takes place soon after the holidays.

We have also entered a Year 10 team in the Brisbane Girls Debating Association competition. This competition has a slightly different format, as there are five preliminary debates, all of which are short preparation rounds. The girls have so far participated in two debates, and have gained invaluable experience. Thanks to Mr Dilly for coaching this team.

Two students have elected to take part in the Rostrum Voice of Youth public speaking competition which takes place early in Term 2. Konagan Marker and Denise Nyirangabo will be working with Ms Heineger and Ms Ochoa to prepare their speeches to be presented at QUT.

Good luck to all debaters and public speakers. I am sure you will represent the school very well.  

Angela Maguire  
Head of Department - English/LOTE

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Creative Generation – State Schools on Stage

On Friday, 18 and Saturday, 19 July, the most talented dancers, singers, film makers and musicians from state schools across Queensland will come together to showcase their amazing talents at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, South Bank. The occasion is the 10th annual Creative Generation - State Schools Onstage.

Audiences will be wowed by the dazzling display of some of the best young performing artists from Queensland state schools, as well as spectacular special effects and performances by CGEN professional artists and mentors, including world-renowned jazz musician, James Morrison.

Over the last month, we received very exciting news that 20 of our students have been selected to perform in this year’s show as part of Queensland’s best.

Congratulations to:

**Choir**
Beatrice Agbalavi, Shae Belsten, Nyssa Corney, Larissa Francis, Rachel Glaydor, Leane Haenga, Lam Ho, Sophie Keable, Judith Ponge, Mariz Sapon, Daniela Stoian, Jarrad Ward, Kathryn Wrigley, Ben Zhang

**Film Crew**
Arwin Arwin, Siena Davies, Hartley Handebo- Heller, Ajah Thiong

**Dance**
Olivia Butt

**Symphony Orchestra and James Morrison Big Band**
Michael Adams

Tickets for the show go on sale next week.

Gordon Collis  
Head of Department - The Arts
Summer Interschool Gala Days
Teams from both the junior and senior school have recently travelled for their first day of summer competition against our fellow district members. School teams compete in either one or two days of round robin fixtures. Results of note so far are:
♦ Open boys Volleyball are district champions (coach Ms O’Neill)
♦ Year 10 boys Touch are district champions (coach Mr Bray)
♦ Year 9 boys Basketball are district champions (coach Mr Ung)
♦ Open boys Cricket are undefeated going into Day 2 (coach Mr Palmer)
♦ Boys open Touch are at 2 wins and 1 loss going into Day 2 (coach Mr Bray)

Well done to all teams on your efforts and sportsmanship. Thank you to all coaches for giving up your time in preparation for the Gala Days. The second day of competition where more premierships were decided was on Tuesday, 1 April for senior teams (details next newsletter) and will be on Wednesday, 30 April for junior teams. Champion teams qualifying for metropolitan finals which start on 7 May.

School Cross Country (Friday, 4 April)
Avoca, Kadumba and Shottery do battle again on the last day of term. Our school cross country is a whole school event where we see outstanding running and tremendous house spirit. All students are encouraged to complete the course to the best of their ability. The course runs through our school and Yeronga Park (see below). The event also allows us to select a school cross country team to compete in the district cross country at Limestone Park in Ipswich on Tuesday, 6 May. Good luck all students.
State Swimming

Congratulations to Chloe Healy-Johnson (pictured right) who is now the state champion (gold medallist) in the 200m Butterfly. Well done Chloe!

House Logos

This week we relaunched the traditional Yeronga High sports house logos. All current staff and students were invited to vote online for a shortlist of three logos for each house. Over 450 votes were received and the winning logos below were clear favourites. House logos will be displayed on large banners in the sport centre and printed on top of house tents used at our carnivals.

Metropolitan West Regional representatives

Chloe Healy-Johnson
Swimming

Prince Sheriff
Rugby League

Sala Callope
Basketball

Mabior Chol
Basketball

Nathan Dahn
Football

Geoff Palmer
Sport Co-ordinator

Year 9 Boys Basketball - Great Result!

With almost the same team as last year’s district winners and metropolitan finalists, I knew the boys would be in with a chance to do the double at a district level and win both District and Metropolitan Finals. Whilst we had lost a couple of players, I had also drafted in three eager replacements - Sahil, Stephine and Mathew. With growing maturity, Franko was now captain, allowing William to take a back seat leadership role and focus on his basketball, which seemed to suit this quiet achiever.

Sahil had impressed so much that he made it straight into the first team, and our opponents would learn not to make him angry as he was on fire in many of the games. Franko was imperious, dominating the court from the start, whilst William matched him with a quiet determination. George, Nowel, DJ and Eric all proved able lieutenants to these two natural leaders, one vocal and aggressive, the other stealthy and skilful. JB, Nureddin and Mathew easily stepped into any role when called upon. Everyone scored at some stage. Someone even managed to score for our opponent as he was so carried away with the ball going through the hoop!

Every chance they have, the boys are always practising on the D block courts, honing their skills, eager to win the Metropolitan finals and be crowned best in Brisbane. However there was just the small matter of winning the district first! All confidence was justified with no losses, beating Centenary 1, 23:15; Corinda 16:13; Centenary 2, 31:6 and Indooroopilly 36:6. A big thanks to Nathan for helping with training and on the day, whilst Stephine who missed the day should be available for the next round.

Kenton Presland
Basketball Coach
Blueshift - QUT Business School

Blueshift is a business case competition for high schools, hosted by QUT Business School. With assistance from QUT students and other experienced professionals, the schools are presented with a case study to solve concerning the real business world. As the teams compete against schools across Australia, they learn helpful presentation and problem-solving skills.

Aliya Rahmanovic, Ashleigh Hopewell, Sonja Krsmanovic, Saleheh Akhlaghi and I were nominated to be a part of the Yeronga High team. As part of the program, we travelled to QUT at Gardens Point on Tuesday, 18 March to take part in the business workshop from 4.00pm to 6.00pm. During the induction, we learnt how to successfully present a speech and create an effective presentation. Also, we learnt about skills in the way professional businesses handle problem solving. For example: PEST, SWOT and Porter’s Five Forces Analysis.

The orientation was helpful and a memorable experience. We are currently applying the strategies provided for the upcoming completion of our first case study on superannuation.

Eden Boyd
Year 11 student

Visual Impact – Brisbane 2014

Are you interested in a career in Digital Print, Signwriting, Display, Engraving or Graphics? This is your chance to see the latest and greatest in the Visual Graphics Industries, which include signage, digital printing, engraving, routing, awards, vinyl application, design, airbrush, screen printing and display solutions.

A tradeshow like this is a wonderful opportunity to see new products, meet leading companies, learn about new technologies and get a taste of what you could be working towards in Year 11 and 12.

First week with Jane and Ross
From our first day at Jane and Ross’s house it was as relaxing as the breathing sea. It was an amazing and exciting experience. Jane and Ross were a wonderful host family; they were so caring, encouraging and protectors of our future.

On the Sunday we arrived at their house we went shopping for the things we love to eat and things we wanted to cook. We did all the shopping and after that we all came home and we went to the beach. We walked around to be able to observe where we needed to go for school. Every day Jane and Ross took us to the beach, so that we were able to swim and surf in beautiful waves with other surfers. Going to the beach was one of the best things we’ve ever done. Jane and Ross were always there to look after us and make sure we are in a safe area and swimming in between the flags.

This first week at the Coast was so amazing and we did so much. Jane and Ross always took us to school every morning and they picked us up after school. Jane would sometimes arrange days where we would be picked up by the other members of the Sunshine Coast Graduate Women’s Association. These members would sometimes take us on a tour of other places on the coast that we hadn’t experienced before. Other days Ross would take us to school and after school he would read us poetry and we’d have to guess what the real meaning of that poem was and the message it’s teaching.

Every afternoon Charlesetta and I would run up the hill around the sea hills to the light house and back to the house and that would be our exercise for the day. Ross would make jokes at the dinner table and they would teach us about the way they were in high school and how they were academic students and also the way they became who they are now. Ross was an art student who developed his artistic skills to the point that he drew each of us a copy of ourselves and we now can look at these pictures and remember him and the warm welcome he and Jane gave to us. Jane was a teacher in her earlier years and Ross was also a teacher in high school and a university teacher. Through sharing their memories, they had let us experience what it like is to be an academic student or teacher.

Jane and Ross were a wonderful host family and I wish I was staying with them now as they were like my family, and I put them in the area of my family box. They are exciting people to live with and be around.

Ajah Thiong – Year 12

Second week with Yvonne and Peter
Ajah and I spent our two weeks on the Sunshine Coast having the best time of our life as we studied at the Lexis English Centre. The study was so much fun because we met lots of people who come from different countries. Every morning we got up, did some house work, made our lunches and after that we ate breakfast. We would tell our host family that we were ready to go to the Lexis school, then they took us to school. For the morning class AJ and I were together, then after the break, we had a second class and we had different lessons.

During the second week with our host parents Yvonne and Peter we went to see a movie after school, then we had to call our host parents to pick us up. Sometimes we would just go to the beach before going home. Every night we would have to do our homework, and after dinner we would sit around the table to talk about what we would want to do after Year 12.

Some afternoons we would go to other members of Graduate Women’s houses to have dinner. It was fun because we got to know more people. They would tell us about themselves and what careers they had had. All the Graduate Women told us it was important to ensure you make the best possible progress with your English language as it would also help us to make friends from overseas.

Charlesetta Rogers – Year 12
**Broadies American Kenpo Karate**

"You will learn a fun and effective self defence system. You will learn how to avoid and resolve conflict without violence and understand the value of hard work."

All instructors are internationally certified. First two trial lessons free - affordable fees.

Where? Studio 6 Level 1, 73 Victoria St, West End
Contact: Stephen Broadbent 0438 150 352

**Still undecided about a winter sport?**

Come and try Hockey with South West United on Thursday nights 6-7pm at Graceville Memorial Oval, corner of Appel and Plumridge St Graceville. We have spaces available in all teams for both boys and girls. For more details call Brett Holland on 0478 215 628 or visit [http://www.swuhockey.com.au](http://www.swuhockey.com.au)

**Blue Light Dance Party**

Mount Gravatt Blue Light is holding it’s next Blue Light Dance Party at 7pm on Friday, 4 April, 2014, at Mt Gravatt PCYC, 90 Klumpp Road, Upper Mt Gravatt next to the Hibiscus Centre. The dance is for children aged between 7 and 14 years old. The dance finishes at 9.30pm and cost of entry is $7. Lucky door prizes to be won. The dance is fully supervised by police officers and current blue card holders.

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Parent Teacher Online

Parent Teacher Interviews are on **Tuesday, 29 April 2014 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm in the Library.**

Parents will be able to start booking Parent Teacher Interviews from Tuesday, 8 April.

**Term 12- 2014**

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**How to make a booking with a teacher using Parent Teacher Online**

- Log onto the Yeronga SHS website at: [http://yerongashs.eq.edu.au](http://yerongashs.eq.edu.au)
- Click on the PTO logo on the right side of the page under **Quick Links**
- You will see the following page:

  - Type in your **SURNAME**
  - Type in the **PIN/PASSWORD** (mailed out with report cards)
  - Click **Login**
  - Follow the onscreen instructions.