



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello everyone and we are back for another fantastic year at Benowa State High School. Welcome to our Year 8s and families new to Benowa. Great uniform support in the school this week and thank you for supporting our 100% uniform policy.

A newsletter each of weeks 1 to 3 will keep everyone up-to-date as we start up the year is our plan and we hope this meets with your approval.

Student feedback is our major school agenda for Term 1. More information will be forwarded soon.

Regards,

Mark Rickard
Executive Principal

GENERAL INFORMATION

SCHOOL HOURS

Please be reminded that students must be in their Care Class by **8.45am** for roll call.

School finishes at **2.45pm**.

ADMIN OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 8.00am - 4.00pm

Phone: 07 5582 7333

Fax: 07 5582 7300

Email: office@benowashs.eq.edu.au

Website: www.benowashs.eq.edu.au

STUDENT DETAILS & CHANGE OF INFORMATION

It is vitally important, should parent/s, guardian/s or caregiver/s change address, telephone numbers (work, home or mobile) or email, to advise the Administration in writing as soon as these changes apply.

CARPARKING

Parents please **do not use** the two staff carparks to drop off or collect students during the day other than to collect sick children. Please drop off or collect students from Mediterranean Drive only.

BUS TRAVEL

Students who require information about bus timetables and bus passes please contact Surfside Buslines by phoning 13 12 30.

Application forms for bus passes can be downloaded directly from www.surfside.com.au.

Approved bus passes may be collected from the Textbook room at Benowa State High School at the following times:-

- * before or after school;
- * morning tea and lunch breaks.

P & C MEETINGS

The first P & C meeting for 2013 will be held on Wednesday, 20 February commencing at 6.30pm in room V05. Everyone is welcome.

MOBILE PHONE & PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY DEVICES

The use of mobile phones and personal music players is subject to the following policy: These are to be switched off during class time to protect the classroom environment and to not interfere with the learning of other students. These will be confiscated if used during class time. These may be collected from administration after school. The sharing of inappropriate images by mobile phone will be regarded as gross misconduct and subject to consequences in the Responsible Behaviour Plan for students.

Games are not to be played on laptops during class time.

SCHOOL ABSENCES

ABSENCE

Please notify the school as soon as you know your child will be absent.

You may report an absence by:

- sending a text message to 0417 159 081;
- telephoning the absence line on 07 5582 7360;
- replying to a text message;
- sending a note with the student on their return to school.

When you report an absence please give **clear and concise** details - student full name, year level, date of absence and a very brief reason for absence eg: appointment, sickness, family matter, etc. Unexplained absence/s will be investigated.

Persistent absence may affect school enrolment.

LATENESS

Students arriving late must report to the Absence room located next to the Textbook room. Students are to present a note with an explanation for their lateness. Students are reminded that punctuality is expected at all times. Late arrivals will be recorded on reports and can lead to cancellation of enrolment.

RECEIVING SMS ABSENCE MESSAGES

If you receive an SMS from the school advising that your child is late/absent from school would you please ensure that when you reply you include the **full name** of the student, Year level, date and reason for absence i.e. **John Smith Year 10 sick 11/2/12**.

EARLY DEPARTURE

Students are only permitted to leave school grounds during the day if they are signed out by parent/s, guardian/s or caregiver/s or have a note signed by parent/s, guardian/s or caregiver/s giving a valid reason. Notes must be sighted by a Director and a Leave Pass with student photo will be issued to the student. Students must come to the Student Services Counter either before school or during break time to obtain Leave Passes.

I would ask parents to please refrain from collecting students during school hours unless absolutely necessary. If you must collect your child during school hours please advise the office before hand to ensure we locate your child in plenty of time.

ILLNESS

Students who become ill during the school day must initially report to the Student Services Counter after obtaining a note from the current subject teacher.

From there, students will either return to class or a parent, guardian or caregiver or listed emergency contact person will be notified.

Your child should be collected as soon as possible after you have been contacted. We cannot provide long term care for students.

Under no circumstances is a student to contact home and arrange to be collected without the prior permission of the Office staff.

SUBJECT NEWS

SUBJECT CHANGES

Year 9 students are able to see Miss Lynch in her office via the pink door during morning tea and lunchtime from **Monday, 4 February** until **Friday, 22 February 2013**. Year 9 students may only change their electives if there is room available in their chosen subject.

Year 10 students are able to see Mr Wolski in his office during morning tea and lunchtime from **Monday, 4 February** until **Friday, 22 February 2013**.

Year 11 students are able to see Miss Douglas at her window during morning tea and lunchtime from **Monday, 4 February** until **Friday, 22 February 2013**.

Year 12 students are able to see Miss Lynch in her office via the pink door during morning tea and lunchtime from **Thursday, 31 January** until **Friday, 15 February 2013**.

IMPORTANT: NO SEMESTER CHANGES WILL BE MADE AFTER THE ABOVE DATES.

FINANCE NEWS

RESOURCE HIRE SCHEME

Resource Scheme contributions for 2013 are:

Years 8 and 9 - \$290.00

Years 10, 11 and 12 - \$385.00

Full payment will be accepted now.

To discuss our instalment option or deductions via Centrelink please

Speak to the Ladies in our Cashiers office.

Benowa 1to1 Laptop Program is:
Years 9 to 12 - \$190.00

Payment must be received prior to your student receiving a laptop for their use.

Lockers: The prices above do not include use of lockers. Please speak to the Cashiers office regarding lockers.

SUBJECT LEVIES

Year 11 Marine Studies - \$275.00

Year 12 Marine Studies - \$185.00

Years 11 and 12 Multi-Media Studies - \$200.00 per year.

Full payment is due by Wednesday, 20 February 2013.

Sports Excellence

Years 8 and 9 costs for Term 1 activity will be advised early this term.

PAYMENTS

Payments can be made in person or by phone to the school cashier. Payments can also be made through internet banking using the following information.

BSB: 064-430

A/c Number: 00090630

A/c Name: Benowa SHS General Account

Reference: Student ID number + reference code (eg only: 1234567890M + SPORT).

OPERATING HOURS

Extended operating hours for the Cashiers office are Monday to Friday until Friday, 15 February 2013 during the hours of 8.00am - 3.00pm (exc. public holidays).

From Monday, 18 February 2013 operating hours will be:

Monday to Wednesday:

8.00am - 3.00pm

Thursday: 8.00am - 1.00pm

FRIDAY: CLOSED

P & C BUILDING FUND

This is a voluntary and tax deductible contribution. These funds will be directed this year to **the air conditioning of two major teaching blocks.**

Contributions are:

1 student - \$50.00

2 students - \$80.00

Family - \$100.00 (maximum)

SPORTS NEWS

Please note that our weekly Sports Day falls on a **WEDNESDAY**. Full sports uniform must be worn by all students on Wednesday along with the correct footwear eg. running shoes or cross trainer – **no canvas or skate shoes**. Please ensure your child has selected a sport. Interschool sports competition costs \$100.00. Recreational sport will attract an additional cost depending on which sport is chosen (an information sheet has already been sent home for your perusal). Trials for interschool sport begin in week three along with recreational activities.

Please ensure your student has completed and returned the Sports Permission form for 2013.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

All students should have brought home an information sheet outlining all details regarding the swimming carnival. This is a compulsory school day and all students must attend.

YEARS 10, 11 and 12

Tuesday, 5 February 2013.

YEARS 8 and 9

Wednesday, 6 February 2013.

Venue: Southport Pool.

Cost: Entry to the pool for students is free (parents are required to pay \$4.10 on entry).

Buses: Buses will depart from Benowa SHS at 8.45am. Students will meet in the Sports hall at 8.35am to get their name marked off the roll - cost: \$3.00 **each way**.

Schedule:

8.45 - 8.55am: Entry into pool.

9.00am: Roll marking.

9.15am: Carnival commences.

2.15pm (approx.): Carnival finishes.

2.20 – 2.30pm (approx.): Buses depart the pool.

2.45pm (approx.): Buses arrive back at school.

By 2.45pm: All Benowa students not catching buses back to school must have departed the pool.

Sun care/dress:

Students are encouraged to wear a shirt in Homestead colours that offers sun protection, to wear a hat and to regularly apply sunscreen (sunscreen will also be available on the day).