



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As week two draws to a close we are finalising a range of structures and provisions in our school to ensure that 2013 is a year targeted towards strong student achievement.

Our calendar for 2013 is nearly complete and will be sent home soon. Also, the school's 2013 Responsible Behaviour Plan will be added to our website shortly.

School uniform has been outstanding with only a few students needing to finalise their footwear. A reminder that canvas shoes are not permitted with school uniform.

This week our school staffing is reviewed to ensure that our matrix of teachers meet our timetable needs. 2013 numbers are in the range of 1985 students but rather than be concerned by this large number it actually offers us increased flexibility in staffing and subject choices which only further consolidates the "many pathways" of our school vision statement.

Thank you for your continuing support.

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

1-TO-1 LAPTOP PROGRAM

The Benowa SHS 1-to-1 "Take Home" Laptop Program is now in its third year. This program (**available to students in Years 9 to 12 only**) enables participating students to use and take home a school-owned laptop as long as they are enrolled at Benowa SHS. All participating students must pay the annual participation fee of \$190.00 by the end of February. We would like to remind those students in Years 10 to 12 who are continuing in the program that they must renew their 1-to-1 Laptop Agreement each year. An Agreement Renewal Form will be provided to you soon. Students who are not continuing in the "Take Home" program must return the laptop immediately.

Students new to the school and Year 9 students of 2013 are eligible to join this program. We would like to thank those of you who have returned the agreement form and paid the participation fee. Laptops will be issued to these students very soon. A reminder letter should be on its way to those students who have not yet returned the agreement - please assist us by returning it as soon as possible and avoid delay in receiving a laptop.

If you missed the Information Night and/or did not receive a copy of the Laptop Charter/Agreement, it can be obtained from the Administration and ICT Offices or downloaded from our website www.benowashs.eq.edu.au (see Extra-curricular, Computer and Internet). The website also has other documents and information, including the "Day Use Only" agreement for those who do not intend to participate in the "Take Home" program. If you decide to not participate in either the "Take Home" or "Day Use Only" programs, please notify the school in writing. Please be aware that students are not permitted to bring personal laptops to school - Education Queensland does not permit them to connect to the school network in any way. The school has desktop

computers in the Library which are available to all students.

STUDENT DETAILS

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.

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 and encouraged to attend.

IMMUNISATION

Immunisation Consent Forms have been distributed to Year 8 and Year 10 students.

Please ensure they have been completed and returned to the office by Friday, 15 February 2013.

If you have any enquiries please contact the GCCC Immunisation Services on (07) 5581 6052.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on **Monday, 18 February 2013**. **Students are required to be in full dress uniform to have their photo taken.** Photo payment envelopes will be distributed during their care class shortly.

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.

SMS MESSAGING SYSTEM

Our absence/late text messaging system will commence on Monday, 11 February, 2013. If your student has been absent since the beginning of term and you have not notified the school, please send an SMS to **0417 159 081** stating name, date/s and reason for absence/s or lateness (eg: sick, family, floods).

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 (if available) 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.**

Limited laptop lockers are now available. A security deposit of \$10.00 is payable for the hire of laptop 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 activities will be advised soon.

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 are Monday to Friday until Friday, 15 February 2013 during the hours of 8am-3pm (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.