



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The first three weeks have seen the first school sport events for the year with the swimming carnivals hailed as great days with terrific school participation.

Thank you to all attending students and parents and to staff for great support. Special thanks goes to Mr Hutchison, Mr Hakaria and the HPE department for organising the days.

This newsletter is the third and final of our yearly "start-up" home news documents and I hope they have been useful. We now return to our term newsletters which will be available for you to view on our website: www.benowashs.eq.edu.au.

Thank you again for your on-going 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

Year 9 students participating in the 1-to-1 "Take Home" program have now received their computers. All participating students (Years 9-12) 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.

If you need a copy of the Laptop Charter/Agreement, one can be obtained from the Administration or ICT Offices or downloaded from our website: www.benowashs.eq.edu.au (see Extra-curricular, Computer and Internet).

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.

SCHOOL PHOTOS Say Cheese

School photos will be taken on **Monday, 18 February 2013**. **Students are required to be in full dress uniform to have their photo taken.**

If your student did not receive a photo envelope one can be collected from the Student Enquiries Counter.

For students who are absent on Monday a catch-up photo day has been arranged for Tuesday, 19 February, 2013.

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 has commenced. 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 Enquiries 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 Enquiries 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**.

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 1-to-1 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

The Cashiers office operating hours are:

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)

VOLUNTEERING

STUDY CENTRE VOLUNTEER TUTORING

In 2012 with the support of 23 volunteer tutors we were able to provide weekly support to 106 students. Many parents and teachers noticed an improvement in confidence in their student's learning and they were able to complete all their assessments. Students frequently comment on how they are enjoying the lessons and learning from them.

Many of our students are again, requesting continuing support this year and we've had many referrals for students new to the school. This year some of our tutors' circumstances have changed and we would love to have more volunteers to continue helping us facilitate student learning in literacy and numeracy through one-on-one support in our Study Centre. From past experiences both volunteers and students have both gained a great deal from their involvement in our program. A couple of comments tutors have given us:

"I have been tutoring for over 10 years now and I have great pleasure helping young people with their literacy and supporting them in their reading and writing. I find it stimulating as all their issues differ and one-to-one assistance works well with positive results".

"Tutoring can be so rewarding and to know that you have played a part in raising a young person's self-esteem and confidence makes it all worthwhile; especially when you see the joy on their faces when they see their improvement and have achieved something they have never experienced before."

If you are interested, have the skills and time available, we would like to hear from you. Feel free to come and be part of an enthusiastic team of people supporting Benowa High students to achieve their goals. Please ring the school office or direct to Glenys in the Study Centre on 5582 7390.

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 began this week along with recreational activities.

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