From the Principal

I have had the opportunity since 2004 to lead a school where young people are valued and respected. Each year our commitment to the highest standard of education is evidenced in our cycles of review and subsequent refinement of practices and procedures. I commend to all members of our school community the energies and efforts of our teachers and support staff and that of our Director team and Administration team in 2012.

Next year heralds changes to our long standing relationships with families across the Gold Coast and the 62 primary schools from which students enrol each year. With unprecedented growth as an established public school in Australia, growth of 25% in five years and with the prospect of a large intake of the New Year 7 to secondary ‘Flying Start’ in 2015, we have reached an enrolment limit on our site. We are currently preparing an enrolment management plan that will cap and manage future school enrolments.

For parents of currently enrolled students, siblings will be an automatic enrolment in our school. To friends and neighbours who live outside our catchment zone there will be three significant points of entry including, academic, sport and cultural specialisation. The new enrolment plan is soon to be submitted and will be displayed on our school website as soon as it is approved. The plan contains a spreadsheet of local streets and street numbers of eligible addresses as enrolments within our catchment zone. A map will also be placed on the school website as a reference for prospective enrolments.

I spoke on Awards night of our goal this year was to show the Gold Coast that we live our school values of respect, diligence, compassion and integrity – I am pleased to say that I have seen many examples of these in practice this year and I believe that as a school we have added value to the great learners who have chosen to enrol in our school. Adding value must surely be one of the most important features of every education institution.

I have spent the last five years with a wonderful cohort of Benowa students who we have watched grow into the Year 12s of 2012. To all of these students please accept our very best wishes as you exit your years of secondary schooling and I look forward to hearing of your wonderful successes in the future and remember there are ‘Many Pathways - No Limits’.

Mark Rickard
Executive Principal
Congratulations to

BENOWA SHS PEER SUPPORT LEADERS!!
On Friday 12th October, a group of Peer Support Leaders travelled to Brisbane for the 2012 Mental Health Week Achievement Awards. Benowa’s Peer Support Program was judged as a finalist in the Organisation Category at the Awards which recognised the efforts and achievements of many individuals and organisations across Queensland who are supporting people living every day with mental health issues including mental illness.

Ashlon Crockett-Gardner, Jayden See, Charlie Cho and Courtney Wood (pictured below with Guidance Officer Snez Nastic-Kern) represented the school as Peer Support Leaders on the day and were absolutely thrilled to have won their category. They were even more thrilled when they discovered that the Peer Support Program also received the prestigious Earle Duus Award which represents the most outstanding achievement of all nominations!

The students were approached and congratulated by many other participants who wanted to know more about their program. There are currently more than 40 students from years 10 to year 12 who are heavily involved in a range of activities from providing tutoring and mentoring to younger students to training other students to become Peer Support Leaders. The students spend a significant amount of time ‘looking after’ their own buddy year 8 or 9 class and are always looking for ways to support other students. Well done Peer Support Leaders – a huge achievement!

Jessica Roche - Gold Coast Academy of Sport Awards
Jessica Roche (12X) (pictured above) received two major awards during the evening. She was named the Player of the Year for the Gold Coast Academy of Sport Indoor Volleyball Programme - for her selection in 2 Qld teams (the Under 19 Qld Schoolgirls and the Volleyball Qld Under 19 team). Jessica also won 3 Qld titles this year:- The Qld Open Championships the South Coast Open team, Winning the Qld Under 19 Beach Volleyball series and winning the Qld Beach Schools Cup Senior Pairs with Jess Nguuamo.

After all of these fantastic results in 2012 Jessica received the biggest award for the evening when she was named the Female Athlete of the Year out of all of the Gold Coast Academy of Sport Programmes!! Congratulations Jessica.

The Annual Gold Coast Academy of Sport Awards night were recently held at Royal Pines. This awards night is the pinnacle of the year for the many Academy programmes to recognise their sporting achievements during 2012.

A number of Benowa High students involved in these sporting academy programmes in Football (Soccer), Indoor Volleyball and Beach Volleyball. There are too many to name but congratulations to all of those Benowa students involved.

7 Benowa students chosen for Australian Volleyball Training Camp!
This year seven Benowa SHS students have been talent identified by national selectors and invited to attend the Australian Volleyball Junior Development Training Camp to be held in December in Victoria. This is a fantastic achievement to be selected as the cream of the crop of Australian Volleyball talent and is the most students ever selected for this camp from Benowa.

Congratulations to the pictured students on their selection.

Athletes attending this camp will be considered for future selection to represent Australia in 2013 and beyond.

Congratulations again to these talented students and good luck as you all strive towards your Volleyball representative goals.

From left to right: Bede Bouzaid (Yr 10), Claudia Young (Yr 9), Abby Byrne-Hartmann (Yr 9), Emma Burton (Yr 10), Carina Brennan (Yr 9), Franni Goldfinch (Yr 10) and Will Koskela (Yr 10).
Since 1990, Benowa High has welcomed hundreds of students to our International High School Programs.

We are now seeking additional homestay families who:

- Are warm, friendly and caring and are willing to include an International student in their life.
- Have a spare comfortable room with a desk and wardrobe, fan or air conditioning.
- Are open to sharing new cultures.
- Are willing to include the student in family activities and outings.
- Will attend training sessions and meetings.
- Live within 3km of the school.

For your opportunity to be a part of our homestay program please contact:

Judi Goldfinch – International Student Homestay Coordinator
07 5582 7359 or email: jgold88@eq.edu.au

Trudy Campbell – International Student Coordinator
07 5582 7361 or email: tcamp134@eq.edu.au

* Financial Remuneration
On Saturday, 20 October 2012 the youth community council held a Breast Cancer Fundraiser Day at the school and it was amazing! All directed by one of our wonderful students, Jasmine Lyness, who felt she wanted to help those who are experiencing the trauma of breast cancer. The day was made up of pampering, jumping castle, kids corner, sausage sizzle and more.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers who helped make the day run smoothly, the PNC for their help with the food, the GCCC for paying for the Jumping Castle, the school for letting us use the property and all those who came and contributed their money to help make the day a success!

In order to add to the profits, we have a brand new Samsung Tablet PC 9.7 worth $285 that was donated to the cause that we are raffling off for only $5 a ticket. Do you need a Christmas present for the loved ones this year? Then why not buy a ticket! Please contact me on 5582 7347 or amandah@su-chaplain.com if you would like to buy a ticket!

Amanda Homann, Chaplain

APPLICATIONS FOR 2013 BUS PASSES DUE NOW

A new application is required for a 2013 bus pass if
- your child is moving from Primary to Secondary School.
- is taking part in the pilot year 7 in Secondary Schools Program at Pimpama State Secondary School, Southport State High School, and Varsity College.
- is repeating a grade.

Reminder: A new application is required for all other instances where a child’s home address or school changes.

Information on the School Transport Assistance Scheme (STAS), eligibility and application forms are available from the Department of Transport and Main Roads http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Travel-and-transport/School-transport.aspx or by contacting your local School Transport Office on 07 5630 8857.

Information regarding school bus timetables is available at www.surfside.com.au.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR THE NEWSLETTER FROM OUR GUIDANCE OFFICERS

P & C
The next P & C meeting will be held on Wednesday, 21 November 2012 in room V05 (located at the left of the administration car park) at 6.30pm.

For latest school news and upcoming school events check our website - www.benowashs.eq.edu.au