



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello everyone, we are back for another fantastic year at Benowa State High School. Welcome to our Year 7 families new to Benowa. Great excitement in the school this week and special thanks to families for supporting our 100% uniform policy.

Best wishes for a fabulous 2017.

**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

**Mon to Fri:** 8.00am - 4.00pm  
**Phone:** 07 5582 7333  
**Fax:** 07 5582 7300  
**Email:** [office@benowashs.eq.edu.au](mailto:office@benowashs.eq.edu.au)  
**Website:** [www.benowashs.eq.edu.au](http://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. You can change your details online if you are registered with QParents. See article below for details on how to register with QParents.

### VIEW E-NEWSLETTER ONLINE

Parents and students receive emails with the direct link to view newsletters online. The online version lets you view and download the newsletter, excursion letters, documents and lots more. The schoolzine app is also available for apple and android devices through the e-newsletter site.

### SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on **Monday, 13 February 2017** with a catch-up day on Monday, 20 February 2017.

Students are required to be in full dress uniform to have their photo taken.

All students are required to have their photo taken as this photo will be used for the School Student ID Card which the school supplies.

Photo payment envelopes will be distributed during care classes shortly and payment will be required **TO THE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPANY ON PHOTO DAY (13/2/16)**. Note: there will be a quick turnaround from when you receive the photo money envelopes and the date of the photos - Monday 13 February, 2017. Please ensure you have the correct money in

the envelope as the Canteen and Cashier's Office do not give change.

### UNIFORM SHOP EXTENDED TRADING HOURS

Hours Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January till Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January - 7.30am till 2.30pm.

### Closed Australia Day 26<sup>th</sup> January

Normal hours from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017 are:

Monday to Friday - 8am till 11.30am

### CANTEEN

Benowa has recently introduced FlexiSchools online ordering and ID card payment in the school canteen; this lets students make cashless transactions in the canteen as well as allowing parents to monitor their children's purchases and spending limits. Through a simple three step process parents can register and top up the account - allowing their students to pay quickly and easily. To register go to [flexischools.com.au](http://flexischools.com.au).

### P&C

The first P&C meeting for 2017 will be held on Wednesday, 15 February at 6.30pm in the Conference Room in W Block (multi storey building off Mediterranean Drive). Everyone is welcome.

### 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.

### BUS TRAVEL

Students who require information about bus timetables and bus passes go to [www.translink.com.au/schooltransport](http://www.translink.com.au/schooltransport).

Application forms for bus passes can be downloaded directly from [www.translink.com.au](http://www.translink.com.au).

Approved bus passes may be collected from the Student Services Counter at Benowa State High School at the following times:-

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

### IT NEWS

2017 is set to be our last year of the 1-to-1 laptop program, which only Year 12's will be on. Years 7-11 are all now BYOX device users. Parents continue to have the opportunity to purchase a device and then gain connectivity to the Benowa State High School BYOX network.

### ON-BOARDING BYOX STUDENTS IN 2017

The IT Department will be doing classroom visits to assist students with connectivity to the BYOX network during the first few weeks of term 1.

IT would greatly appreciate if parents could ensure their children have their laptops/digital devices with them as early in the first few weeks as possible. This will ensure that IT can on-board as many students as possible within the early part of term one.

# NEWSLETTER WEEK ONE 2017

Parents can find the minimum specifications for devices information on the BYOX (Computers and Technology) page of the Benowa State High School website. There is also a BYOX brochure available on the same page, along with the BYOX Connect zip file, which will be required for students to run when they wish to connect to the school's BYOX network during school time.

Day use devices are only available to Year 12 students, as they are only designed for the 1-to-1 program users. All other year levels are 100% BYOX devices only.

### 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 0429 318 486 – Please note your message must contain **TEXT ONLY** and ensure it does not contain any digital multi-media icons or French accents as the message will not be accepted. Also note you **cannot ring** this SMS mobile number;
- leave a message on 24hr absence line - 07 5582 7360;
- replying to a text message;
- sending a note to the Absence Room when the student returns to school.

**Please do not send absence messages through the school newsletter "contact us" as messages go to a generic office email and not directly to the absence office.**

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. Students cannot report their own absences. Repeated days off should be supported with a medical certificate as outlined in the student diary. Persistent absence may affect school enrolment.

#### Lateness

Students arriving late must report to the Absence Room located next to the Textbook Room to sign in. 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 include the full name of the student, year level, date and reason for absence i.e. John Smith Year 10 sick 11/2/16.

### 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. Before school or during break times, students must have their note sighted and signed by a Director and then go to the Absence Room to have a Leave Pass issued.

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 beforehand to ensure we locate your child in plenty of time. Students will not be released from the school site to go to an ATM or to go and buy lunch.

Please be detailed in absence notes as 'Family Reasons' will not be accepted as a reason for absences.

### 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

### Homework Club and Subject Support

Year 7-12 students can access teachers in the Collaboration Centre for homework and assignment support in English, Mathematics, Science and other subject areas commencing on Monday, 30 January 2017. Homework Club operates on the following days:  
Monday – 3.00pm to 4.00pm  
Wednesday – 3.00pm to 4.00pm  
Thursday – 3.00pm to 4.00pm

### Subject Changes

Years 9 and 10 students are able to see Miss Lynch in the Administration Courtyard during morning tea and lunchtime from Monday, 30 January until Friday, 17 February 2017.  
Year 11 and 12 students are able to see Mr Wolski in his office during morning tea and lunchtime from Monday, 30 January until Friday, 17 February 2017.

### IMPORTANT:

Students may only change their electives if there is room available in their chosen subject.

NO SEMESTER CHANGES WILL BE MADE AFTER THESE DATES.

## FINANCE NEWS

### Cashiers Office hours:

Monday 16 January 2017 to Friday 27 January 2017 from 8.00am to 3.00pm.  
From Monday 30 January 2017 the operating hours return to: Mon – Wed: 8.00am to 3.00pm.  
Thurs: 8.00am to 1.00pm. Fri: **CLOSED.**

Please do not send payment information through the school newsletter "contact us" as messages go to a generic office email and not directly to the finance office.

### Resource Scheme contributions for 2017

Years 7, 8 & 9	\$330
Years 10, 11 & 12	\$430

Full payment can be made as a single payment of the total amount.

**Instalments** - During the first two weeks of the first three terms, in the following proportion of the total amount:

Years 7, 8 & 9	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
	\$110	\$110	\$110
Years 10, 11 & 12	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
	\$150	\$150	\$130

### RESOURCE SCHEME 2017 - YEAR 10 PREPARATION PROGRAM - \$1400

Full payment can be made as a single payment of the total amount.

**Instalments** - During the first two weeks of each term for the amount of \$350/term.

### Payment Options

**Preferred method of payment is BPoint** – Website: [www.bpoint.com.au/payments/dete](http://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/dete)  
Details for BPoint payment are listed on the bottom of each invoice.

**Centrelink:** Instalments can be deducted from a regularly fortnightly Centrelink Payment. Minimum fortnightly payment amount is \$50 per student. Forms are available from the Cashiers Office or you can contact Centrelink directly.

Payments can also be made by Cash, Cheque, EFTPOS or through Internet Banking as below. Internet banking information is as follows:  
BSB: 064-430;  
Account Number: 00090630.  
To guarantee correct identification of the payment, please ensure that the internet banking payment reference clearly includes the STUDENT NUMBER, along with the characters RES, e.g. 1245456594KRES.

To comply with Education Department Policy requirements the Resource Scheme Participation form must be signed and returned before access to the resources can be provided in 2017. This form can be downloaded from our website, the schools e-newsletter or collected from the Cashiers Office.

### Additional Costs for 2017

Sport Excellence Years 7, 8 & 9  
Costs to be advised at the beginning of each term.

1to1 Laptop Program - Yr12 Students only - \$190 per year

**Full payment required by Monday 27 February, 2017**

Subject Levies Years 11 & 12	
Marine Studies-Year 11	\$275
Marine Studies-Year 12	\$185
Certificate of Business	\$198

**Subject levies must be paid by Monday, 6 March 2017**

### P&C Building Fund

The P&C Association contribution is a voluntary but important contribution and is the major fundraising activity of the P&C Association. This contribution is tax deductible. Contribution amounts are: \$50 per student, \$80 for two students or \$100 for the family.

## SPORTS NEWS

### DISTRICT & REGIONAL SPORT TRIALS

Information and calendars that outline the dates for Broadwater District and South Coast Regional Sport trials have been uploaded to the school's website and the left side panel of the newsletter page. Information sheets about individual sport trials can be collected from Mr Thomson in the Sports Office at the back on the Sports Hall.

### HOMESTEAD SWIMMING CARNIVAL

This year's Homestead Swimming Carnival will be held on the Weds 1<sup>st</sup> Feb (Week 2) at the Gold Coast Aquatic Centre at Southport. This is a whole school event to determine our champion Homestead for this discipline. Nomination for events will occur on the day with races being held across all four swimming strokes. All students are encouraged to wear their Homestead colours on the day to show their support for their fellow competitors.

**Year 7 students** must catch the free bus to the event that is supplied by the school. All year students will meet under W Block at 8:30am for roll marking before departing for the aquatic centre.

**Year 8-12 students** have the option of making their own way to the aquatic centre or catching the bus from school. If you require bus transport to the carnival please return the transport slip on the bottom of the carnival letter to the boxes outside Mr Thomson's office in the Sport Hall so that the correct number of buses can be organised. These notes are due back no later than Monday, 30 January. The cost of the bus is \$3 each way to and from the venue which is payable upon entry to the bus.

### SPORT SELECTIONS-Term 1

Term 1 Sport Selections are now due. Please ensure you have communicated your two preferred options for Term 1 sport to your Care Class Teacher. There are 3 options for sport this term 1. The first being Interschool sport where weekly competition is held against other schools in our district. The second is recreational sport which are conducted at school on Wednesday afternoons. The third option is involvement in the schools Musical Production. All relevant information about the school's sport program are included on the information letter that students received on their first back at school.