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 2012 is a year targeted towards strong student achievement.

Our calendar for 2012 is complete and will be sent home in the next two weeks and the school’s 2012 Responsible Behaviour Plan will be added to our website.

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. 2012 numbers are in the 1900 range 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

WEATHER INCIDENTS AND ALERTS

Thank you to parents who provided positive feedback about the text message sent to families last week to reassure our community that students were safe and well at school and that classes were continuing as normal.

The greatest risk to families is Mum or Dad risking poor driving conditions coming to pick up students who have sent them a reactive text request to go home.

Our school site will not flood nor are we so exposed to weather that we are ever likely to be closed.

Unless it is absolutely essential, we ask that you do not collect your child from school during extreme weather incidents as this exposes our staff and students to the elements.

When we talk to students about managing their media we also talk about the consequence of actions - I fear an accident outcome for one of our families in such action.

STUDENT DETAILS AND 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 Student Enquiry Counter 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 2012 will be held on Wednesday, 15 February commencing at 6.30pm in room V05. Everyone is welcome.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Wednesday, 21 March commencing at 6.30pm in room V05. All positions are vacant and everyone is welcome.

1 TO 1 LAPTOP LEARNING PROGRAM “TAKE HOME PROGRAM” YEARS 9 TO 12

Information has been sent home this week regarding the 1 to 1 Laptop Learning Program “Take Home Program”.

Information evenings have been scheduled on the following dates to provide details of the 2012 program commencing at 5.45pm in the Sports Hall.

Year 12 – Tuesday, 7 February (parents/carers of new Year 10 students are encouraged to attend this evening).

Year 11 – Wednesday, 8 February.

Year 9 – Thursday, 9 February.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 February.

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

Photo payment envelopes will be distributed during their care class.
**SCHOOL ABSENCES**

**ABSENCE**

Please notify the school as soon as you know your child will be absent. You may report an absence by:
- telephoning the absence line 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: sickness, family matter, appointment 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 Enquiry 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.**

**FINANCE NEWS**

**RESOURCE HIRE SCHEME**

Resource Scheme contribution for 2012 is:

- Years 8 and 9 - $280
- Years 10, 11 and 12 - $370

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:

- Year 9 - $190
- Year 10 - $142.50 (for continuing BSHS Year 9 students from 2011)
- Year 10 - $190 (new students to BSHS)
- Year 11 - $190
- Year 12 - $190

**The prices above do not include use of lockers.**

**SUBJECT LEVIES**

Marine Studies for Year 11 - $275
Marine Studies for Year 12 - $185
Multi Media Studies for Years 11 and 12 - $200 per year

**Sports Excellence**

Years 8 and 9 - Costs for Term One 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. 010101 Res).

**OPERATING HOURS**

Extended operating hours for the Cashiers office are Monday to Friday until Friday, 10 February 2012 during the hours of 8.00am to 3.00pm.

From Monday, 13 February 2012 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 deductable contribution. These funds will be directed this year to the air conditioning of three major teaching blocks.

Contributions are:
- 1 student - $50
- 2 students - $80
- Family - $100 (maximum)

**SPORTS NEWS**

Please note that our weekly Sports Day falls on a **TUESDAY**. Full sports uniform must be worn by all students on Tuesday 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 2012 along with recreational activities.

Please ensure your student has completed and returned the Sports Permission form for 2012.