From the Principal

At this time of year students continue to prepare for end of semester exams and the opportunity to consolidate good results. It is also a time to look back at study habits and the level of commitment made to achieve a good subject result and indeed; even to honestly reflect whether OP eligibility should be maintained. Our Guidance Officers are always here to support students at this difficult time and I encourage students to access the full range of services we provide.

Many stories of amazing opportunities or incredible achievements have circulated this term from the iconic Reef Trip, through to the Language Perfect World Championships. Imagine competing against 747 schools around the world with 135,000 students all vying to be world champions in language learning. At the time of writing this report Benowa (World Champion School 2011) is again dominating the best school in the world category with just a few days to the finish – go Benowa!!!

Special thanks to our senior phase students for the way they have modelled our high expectations as a school and very significantly to our wonderful Peer Leaders team who continue to provide an important link during students transition and in times of student conflict and concern – they are becoming an invaluable school resource.

Thank you to parents and caregivers for your support of our school uniform. We have gone to great lengths recently to provide more than 8 different levels of access to the same information about our community’s expectation of wearing the correct and complete Benowa State High School uniform. This is an ongoing commitment to the strong name of our school in 2012.

As always, there are ‘Many Pathways ~ No Limits’

Mark Rickard
Executive Principal
May, 2012

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

For more than 25 years Benowa State High School has set a benchmark of expectations in public schooling in our state of Queensland. The school reputation we enjoy is the result of parent support and staff diligence and commitment. The positive and strong recognition from our wider school community has centred on not only the core values of our school and student achievement but indeed on two very simple measures - how our students look and how they behave.

Student behaviour in 2012 has been extremely positive and has been well managed through the many programs of identification, support and recognition that are embedded in our school’s culture of striving and caring. We enjoy the company of the Gold Coast’s best and brightest here every day.

Could you please however, reinforce with your student(s) that the school uniform is extensively described in the school diary (every student should have one to show you), on the school website and in the school prospectus.

The following key points I draw to your attention as recurrent matters of concern this year with both female and male students.

**Uniform**
- Students must wear their full sports uniform on Tuesdays no matter what activity they have selected. There is no acceptable combination of day uniform and sports uniform items.
- Canvas shoes, including converse, vans, ballet shoes and slippers are not acceptable footwear.
- Short white socks or black stockings are required to be worn with shoes.
- Jumpers are to be school uniform jumpers.
- Scarves in black or grey are acceptable.

**Personal Appearance**
- Hair must be neat, clean and worn in an appropriate style.
- Hair styles not appropriate include:
  - obvious streaks or foils;
  - red, pink, green, purple or colour other than natural;
  - balayage;
  - headbands/bandanas, decorative hairclips (flowers etc.);
  - ‘bald’ haircuts, exposed ‘rat tails’, undercuts and tracks.
- Hair colour must be one colour.
- Hair colour must be of a natural tone.
- Ribbons to be black or red—no other colours.

**Jewellery**
- One watch.
- One pair of earrings (sleepers or studs in silver or gold).
- No visible body piercings (including nose sleepers, lip sleepers, eyebrow sleepers).

The consequence applied to students choosing not to comply with the school’s uniform policy in accordance with the gazetted Education Regulations is an afterschool detention of 30 minutes.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Mark Rickard
Executive Principal
News from the Guidance Officers

SOUTHBANK INSTITUTE OF TAFE

- SkillsTech Australia’s Year 10 Trade Taster programs give students the chance to participate in skill training in up to 3 different trade areas. They are a great opportunity for students to learn about a greater range of trades and make more informed choices in their program selection for Years 11 and 12.

- If you are interested in being a chef, a great way to get a foot in the door is to study Southbank Institute of Technology’s Certificate II in Kitchen Operations. This course is the first stage of an apprenticeship and enhances the possibility of obtaining a career as a chef.

- Years 10 and 11 science extension students can gain an industry qualification as part of their school curricula through our Science Industry Preparation program. In 2012, the students who completed the Certificate III in Laboratory Skills can go on to do the Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques.

- Four pathways to a Bachelor of Education at USQ are being offered from the Diploma of Sport Development. This provides a career outcome as a P.E. Teacher which is an increasingly popular choice amongst students.

ACADEMY OF DESIGN

Open Day is on May 29th from 4-7pm at 4/76 Robina Town Centre Drive, Robina Town Centre, QLD 4226. You will have the opportunity to view student work, browse the campus, meet teachers and design students, hear from industry leaders about Photography, Multimedia, Graphic Design, Screen Media, Digital Media, Interior Design, Fashion Design, Styling and Make-up!!

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

- Registrations are now open for the Careers that Shape the World experience day to be held on Thursday 12 July at UQ’s St Lucia campus. Developed specifically for Year 11 and 12 students, this university-wide initiative provides a wide variety of workshops focusing on career outcomes across all fields of education. You must register online.
  For information phone: (07) 3365 8820   Email: shapenewworld@uq.edu.au   Web: uq.edu.au/shapenewworld

- FEAST – July 2012 - FEAST is a five day residential program designed to help students discover the huge range of exciting and rewarding science careers in the agriculture, animal and food industries. With more than 2000 unfilled jobs available each year for university graduates in the agriculture, animal science and food sectors, students will find out more about these careers and the study pathways available to become part of this exciting future. FEAST is open to year 11 and 12 students and will be held at the UQ Gatton Campus from 01-05 July 2012. Registrations close on 18 May 2012.
  For information contact:   Email: feast@uq.edu.au   Web: science.uq.edu.au/feast

- PACE Open Day – August 19 - The UQ School of Pharmacy will be hosting its annual Pharmacy Open Day on Sunday 19 August, 2012. This is a fantastic opportunity for secondary school students and staff to tour the brand new Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence and find out more about UQ’s Bachelor of Pharmacy program. Guests can talk to current students about their experiences and discover more about the exciting field of work.
  For information phone: (07) 3346 1926   Email: s.dunn@uq.edu.au   Web: uq.edu.au/pharmacy/openday

- The Bachelor of Applied Science has recently been reviewed and now offers four majors and six extended majors. Majors include Agronomy, Animal Production, Equine Management and Horticulture and there are extended majors in Crop Production, Urban Horticulture, Equine Science, Production Animal Science, Veterinary Technology and Wildlife Science. For information Phone: (07) 3365 1888   Email: science.enquiries@uq.edu.au
  Web: uq.edu.au/study/program.html?acad_prog=2240

- Experience Science – register now! School registrations are now open for Experience Science 2012 and for the first time, the event will be offered at UQ’s Gatton Campus. At Experience Science, students in Years 10 - 12 can discover what studying science is like at UQ and how science is applied in industry and everyday life. Students will gain hands-on experience through interactive science workshops facilitated by experts from both UQ and industry. Now in its 9th year, the 2012 program will run on 13 July at the Gatton campus and on 12, 13, 16, 17 and 18 July at the St Lucia campus. Places at Gatton are limited so register now.
  For information phone: (07) 3346 1629   Email: experience.science@uq.edu.au   Web: science.uq.edu.au/expsci

- School Holiday Campus Tours - Students do not have to wait until they are studying at UQ to visit one of our first-class campuses. A guided on-campus tour is a fantastic opportunity to get a closer look at University life, ask questions, talk to current students and see the facilities first-hand. Tours generally take about an hour and information packs are provided for all visitors.
  The next school holidays campus tours will be held from Monday 25 June – Friday 29 June, and from Monday 2 July – Friday 6 July. For more information and to book a tour, visit web: uq.edu.au/campus tours
BOND UNIVERSITY

- SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN! The 2013 Bond University Scholarship Program is now open for applications. The program offers a large number of full fee and part fee scholarships as well as cash bursaries to Australia’s best and brightest students. Visit www.bond.edu.au for more details.

- RSL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN - Applications for the 2012–2013 RSL Youth Development Program opened online today and will remain open until Remembrance Day (November 11). Current Year 10 and 11 students from across Queensland are eligible to apply, and must complete an online application form at www.RSLyouth.com.au.

- BOND UNIVERSITY FILM & TELEVISION AWARDS OPENS SOON - On April 30, Bond University will once again open its annual short film competition BUFTA, where Year 11 and 12 students with a passion for film and television have the chance to win a full tuition scholarship to study a Bachelor of Film and Television at Bond University.

- BOND UNIVERSITY – MIRVAC SCHOOL OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - SCHOOLS ECO COOK-OFF CHALLENGE – GREEN WEEK

FREE EVENT: Thursday 7 June 2012. The Bond University – Mirvac School of Sustainable Development is setting a Culinary challenge to 5 Gold Coast secondary schools!

Each school is given their own BBQ and a selection of sustainable local produce to create their unique grilled gourmet masterpiece. If interested, register at www.bond.edu.au/isdad

- OPEN DAY – Sunday 19 August 2012 from 10am to 3pm - This annual event provides one of the best opportunities for students to start asking questions about their study options after school as they gain an all-access pass to our campus and the chance to explore every area that interests them.

- Change to BOND UNI application process - From September 2012 all applications made by Queensland residents for study at BU (excluding B Medicine/B Surgery) are to be made directly through the University’s online application form and not through QTAC. The online application form can be viewed at https://apply.bond.edu.au. Apply through QTAC for BU's B Medicine/B Surgery course only.

BU course information will still be contained in the QTAC Guide in the 'Institutions with Self-Managed Admissions' section (usually located at the back of the book). BU's B Medicine/B Surgery information will remain in the main section of the QTAC Guide for applications processed by QTAC.

QUEENSLAND STUDIES AUTHORITY

- STUDENT CONNECT is a magazine for Year 12s from the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA). The latest issue is now available online at http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/9209.html. This issue contains information on: the QCS Test, OP myths, VET pathways, key dates, tips from Year 12 graduates.

- Win an iPad and stay in touch. QSA is offering three lucky Year 12 students the chance to win an Apple iPad. To be in the running, just log in to your learning account at www.studentconnect.qsa.qld.edu.au anytime between 1 June and 31 August 2012 and check your personal and subject enrolment details are up to date.

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

- Engineering Information Evenings at Griffith University (GU) will include a presentation on GU’s undergraduate and postgraduate degrees that lead to a career in engineering. They will also provide an opportunity to see the engineering facilities and meet GU staff and students.

Gold Coast campus: 4.30 – 6.00 pm Wednesday 6 June 2012 at Clinical Sciences 2 (G16) Lecture Theatre 1.07, Gold Coast campus.

Register at: https://askgriffith.custhelp.com/ci/documents/detail/2/Engineering_Online_Form.

- New $60,000 scholarship - Starting in 2013 GU will offer the Dean's Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship in addition to its long standing Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship. The new scholarship is valued at $60,000 - $12,000 per year payable for up to five years. It will be awarded to scholarship applicants who achieve a result which places them at the top of the OP 1 band. Bonus ranks do not apply. Scholarship applicants must also have demonstrated.
Applications for the 2012 intake into the GRIFFITH ENG Program are now open.

Griffith University is excited to offer Year 11 students the opportunity to take part in GRIFFITH ENG Program commencing in Semester 2, 2012. The program is designed to encourage students interested in pursuing a career in engineering to study the equivalent of a first year first semester Griffith University engineering course during their senior years.

GRIFFITH ENG is a two stage program. Stage one A Taste of Engineering, consists of two on campus Experience Days offered in Semester 2, 2012 to Year 11 students, covering the practical components of engineering practice course. Students who successfully complete the Taste of Engineering will be invited to enrol in GRIFFITH ENG in Year 12 to continue with stage two of the program in semester 1, 2013. The stage two will involve attending the 1007ENG-Engineering Fundamentals (on Gold Coast campus) or 1001ENG-Engineering Practice and Sustainability (at Nathan campus) lectures and completing the end of program examination for GRIFFITH ENG at the end of semester 1.

The program is offered on both the Gold Coast and Nathan campuses.

Eligibility: to be eligible to commence A Taste of Engineering students should be high achievers and are required to be studying Maths B and English and at least one of the following – Maths C, Physics, Chemistry, Technology Studies or Engineering Studies. The students should have support of their School, Teachers, Parents and/or Carers.

How to Apply: students can apply by completing a GRIFFITH ENG application form and they will need to get approval from their School (School Principal, Head of Department or Guidance Officer).

Applications close on Friday, 22nd June 2012. Be quick as places are limited! If you have any questions about the program or require any assistance in completing the form, please contact us by email to giffeng@griffith.edu.au or visit: http://www.griffith.edu.au/engineering-information-technology/griffith-school-engineering/future-students/griffith-eng-year-11-year-12-program

The Engineering Link Group has been providing its award winning programs to secondary school students and teachers in Queensland. In 2012, we are proud to again offer The Engineering Link Project (ELP). There are three Projects this year:

- South Queensland Engineering Link Project: June 26 – 28, Kings College, UQ, Brisbane
- Central Queensland Engineering Link Project: June 26 – 28, Capricornia College, CQU, Rockhampton
- North Queensland Engineering Link Project: July 16 – 18, Combined Catholic College, JCU, Townsville

Students are welcome to apply for any course, but preference is given to students in the local area (as each course has strictly limited numbers).

Full details of each course can be found at http://www.telg.com.au/ELP.html

Student registration packages and a 2-page brochure for parents and students can be downloaded from website: http://www.telg.com.au/Registration.html

There are two full-funded student scholarships and two partially-funded student scholarships PER PROJECT. These scholarships are designed to allow students who would otherwise be unable to participate in the Project due to financial or geographical reasons to attend. Application forms for these scholarships are available from (http://www.telg.com.au/Opportunities.html).

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact Greg Millican (_admin@telg.com.au; _ (07) 47258488).

Guests Program: The Griffith University Early Start to Tertiary Studies (GUESTS) Program is for year 12 students who wish to undertake a single course (subject) at Griffith University in semester one or two of the year prior to commencing a Griffith Bachelor’s degree.

Applications for semester 2 are currently open and close on the 30th May. Application forms and further information can also be accessed at www.griffith.edu.au/guestsprogram.

Journalism and Creative Writing Competitions: $15 000 up for grabs for the School of Humanities two new and exciting competitions for high school students and their schools.

For more competition details, information on how to enter, and to register your schools’ and students’ interest visit: Minute Journalist competitionGriffith Garrets Creative Competition

IMPORTANT: QCS PRACTICE tests were held on 30 and 31 May.

Students completed the tests as a full rehearsal for the real QCS tests held on 4 and 5 September. Attendance is compulsory as this is the first and last full practice they will have and practices in the past have been single tests only.

Mrs Hucks, HOD Senior Schooling.
On Wednesday 16th May, four Peer Support leaders from Year 10 had the opportunity to attend the World Vision Global Leaders Convention at Carrara. The Global Leaders Conventions are World Visions’ one-day student leadership events, designed to inform and empower student leaders in Years 10-12 who are passionate about being a voice for justice in the world. The events embrace innovative ways of learning about poverty and global hunger. The Convention aims to develop leadership qualities in secondary students by encouraging them to:- learn about the challenges associated with global hunger, act and make a difference by using their influence to motivate others and to share their knowledge and skills with their fellow students, school and community.

Here is what they had to say about their experience: “The World Vision’s Global Leaders Convention excursion was an educational day where we learnt the trends of food markets and how it operates. This activity enriched our leadership and teamwork skills; and confidence. Life stories of children in developing countries were shared in order for us to realise that aid is needed for those who are starving and that change is possible. We were given positions to represent the school in an effort to lead the 40 hour famine project, the chosen solution.”

The four students who attended were Naomi Bourke, Jayden See, Chelsea Wilson and Brock Van Der Korput.
The Science and Mathematics preservice teachers belonging to the Benowa Teacher Education Centre of Excellence are currently in the schools full time for a block of approximately three weeks. This follows on from regular participation in classes each week that commenced in late March.

During the block practicum the preservice teachers are progressively assuming more and more responsibility for the classes they are working with under the supervision of their mentor teacher, the regular class teacher. Anecdotally, it is apparent that the preservice teachers are bringing much valued industry expertise to the schools in that they are able to articulate from firsthand experience how the theoretical knowledge they are teaching is applied in industry and elsewhere. This is an important factor in stimulating interest in students to undertake high level science and mathematics courses in senior high school. The shortage of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) university graduates is an Australia wide problem and one of the factors influencing the decision to establish a STEM focus at Benowa.

Professor Robyn Jorgensen, the coordinator appointed by Griffith University to work with the Benowa Teacher Education Centre of Excellence, has commenced formal evaluation of the program with preliminary data collection to analyse the effectiveness of the program and to guide future actions. As findings become available, these will be reported to the school community.

Several of the preservice teachers have won competitive scholarships to assist them during their studies. In fact, a quarter of the Department of Education, Training and Employment’s Step into Teaching Scholarships valued at $10,000 were awarded to BTECE preservice teachers and this was acknowledged recently in the local press.

The supervising mentor teachers are reporting that the preservice teachers are developing into very effective practitioners. As Head of Mentoring I have been working with the preservice teachers and their mentors on developing best practices in teaching and also in mentoring preservice teachers to achieve best practice. Part of this has involved me observing lessons delivered by the preservice teachers, providing them with feedback and developing ways and support structures to assist them in their professional growth as educators. The professional conversations around improving student outcomes, of personalising learning and of developing effective practices have benefitted all involved, school students included, not just the preservice teachers.

Concurrent with their university studies and their attendance two days per week in the school, the preservice teachers have been participants in a Seminar Program organised by the Centre to complement their studies and their growth as professional teachers. Topics in the seminar program have included analysing student achievement data to improve student outcomes, methods to personalise or tailor teaching to address the needs of all students in a class, and utilising new technologies and resources to engage and extend student learning.

Griffith University has established for the Centre a presence on its extensive website. For those interested to learn more of what we are doing in partnership with Griffith, please take a look. Any enquiries, concerns or comments from the school community would be very welcome.

Please feel free to contact me regarding any matter to do with the Centre.

Kim Alden
Head of Mentoring
Benowa Teacher Education Centre of Excellence

Email: kalde3@eq.edu.au
Vocal Workshop
We were honoured to host a vocal workshop on Tuesday, May 29, which was organised by The Blenders for interested male students. The Blenders is an all-male barbershop chorus from the Gold Coast, who enjoy singing a large repertoire of a cappella music. The 90-minute workshop had no cost and was for male students who enjoy singing, or like to experience singing in a large ensemble. The workshop concluded with students combining in a 60-voice a cappella performance.

Evening of Song
The Evening of Song is a traditional end-of-year performance which showcases the achievements of the school’s vocal students and choirs throughout the year. This year, the Evening of Song will be held on Tuesday, June 4, in Arts Benowa, starting at 6pm. Sadly though, we will be farewelling Mrs Mia Yaniw, our vocal teacher of 4 years, as she will soon be heading to Europe to further pursue her opera career. Entry for the evening is $5 per person which is to be paid at the door. Light refreshments will be available for purchase.

Sydney Tour
The school’s bands have been eagerly preparing for their upcoming trip to Sydney. During the first week of the school holidays, students from the school’s Big Band, Clearwater Wind Ensemble and String Orchestra will travel to Sydney to compete in the Australian International Music Festival which is presented by World Projects South Pacific. Their week will comprise of many competition performance opportunities, including a performance in the Sydney Opera House. We wish all students and teachers involved in this, the best of luck.

A bullying reporting link appears on the Benowa State High School intranet site.

Students who wish to report ANY form of bullying are encouraged to log on to the intranet site OR email: reportbullying@benowashs.eq.edu.au

Please note that whilst the strictest of confidence will be exercised - you do actually have to tell us who you are OR if you have witnessed an event, details (names) of those students involved when e-mailing.

Mr Maher in the RTR (Responsible Thinking Room) monitors the e-mails.

For latest school news and upcoming school events check our ‘Latest News, Upcoming Events and Newsletters’ section on our website - www.benowashs.eq.edu.au