FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Attendance – Every Day Counts
As a school we have an Attendance target for every student of 95%. In order to meet this target students need to attend every lesson, every day, on time. This includes all school days, sporting carnivals and weekly interschool sport. If a student’s attendance is below 95%, their studies will suffer and if they are students in the senior school they will be jeopardising their enrolment and the privilege of graduating. If your child is away, please ensure you contact the school by one of the following options as soon as possible:
1 Phone the school on 07 5568 4333 and select Option 1
2 Reply text to the absence text message
3 Email absences@elanorashs.eq.edu.au - please include Student Name, Form Class, reason for absence, contact number for verification (if required) and dates covered.
4 Send a signed note detailing Student Name, Form Class, reason for absence, contact number for verification (if required) and dates covered.

Medical certificates where appropriate should be attached to the note or scanned and attached to the email.

Senior Exam Block
Our Senior Exam Block will be held on Wednesday March 25, 26 & 27. Students will only need to attend for their scheduled exams and Interschool Sport on these days. The exam schedule will be provided to all Senior students and posted on our school website. On March 30 & 31 all Year 12 students involved in the QCS preparation program will be sitting a full scale practice test. This test will be marked and students will receive individual feedback on their performance.

Preparing for 2016
With the first term well and truly underway we have commenced our preparations for our next intake of Year 7 students in 2016. On Monday March 9 we held our Year 7 2016 Excellence Program Information Night in which all of the key dates and processes for applying for our 3 excellence programs and scholarships were outlined. This night was very well attended and we have already had significant registrations for the upcoming testing. Our key testing dates are:

ACADEMIC: Thursday 26 March 4.00pm
SPORTS: Tuesday 28 April 4.00pm
DANCE: Thursday 30 April 7.45am
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE: Thursday 26 March

Click here to register for testing. If you would like additional information including the presentation from the evening and application form, simply go to the home page of our school website www.elanorashs.eq.edu.au and follow the links.

National Action Day of Bullying
At our school we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone. Sometimes it can be difficult for parents or carers to know what to do when their child talks to them about bullying. You are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it happens. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

If your child talks to you about bullying:
1. Listen calmly and get the full story. Your calm response is important to allow your child to tell you all about the situation. After they’ve told you their story, ask questions to get more details if you need to: who, what, when, where. Although you may feel some strong emotions about your child’s experience, try to keep calm to avoid more distress to your child.
2. Reassure your child they are not to blame. Many children blame themselves and this may make them feel even worse. You could say things like, ‘That sounds really hard to deal with. No one should have to put up with that.’ or ‘I’m so glad you told me. You should be able to feel safe at school; that’s not fair at all’.
3. Ask your child what they want to do and what they want you to do. A critical part of your response is to avoid jumping in to solve the problem. While it is natural to want to protect your child, helping them to find their own solution is a better option. It helps them feel they have some power in the situation.
4. Visit www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies. The website has tips and ideas for different bullying situations. One idea is to practise strategies at home to help your child feel more confident.
5. Contact the school. Your child may be reluctant for you to do this, so discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help. Make an appointment to meet with the relevant school staff and, if you need to, ask to talk with the Principal. Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child’s safety.
6. Check in regularly with your child. Keep the conversation going. It can take time to resolve issues, so check in regularly with your child about their experiences and their feelings. Your ongoing support is important.

Don’t forget, our school is taking part in the 2015 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Friday 20 March. Our school diary clearly outlines to students and parents alike our schools policies and procedures in creating a safe and supportive school environment.

P & C Meeting - Parental Involvement
Our P & C AGM will be held on Wednesday March 18. Please come along and see how you can contribute to our school. The P & C has funded a number of key projects for the school and has been highly supportive in the introduction of our new Junior Secondary Uniform. Meeting will commence at 5.30pm in the Staff Common Room, look forward to seeing you there.

Yours in Education
Cameron Hodges
As part of their Senior Secondary studies, students in Years 10, 11 and 12 are allocated a LUI (Learner Unique Identifier) by the QCAA (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority). This 10-digit number is on the back of each student’s ID Card. In addition, students have been issued with a paper version to keep in their diaries. Students have also been encouraged to put this LUI number into their mobile phone.

Why the fuss?
The QCAA uses this LUI to identify each student from all other students in Senior Secondary in Queensland.

It gives each student access to their Learning Account via the Student Connect website (www.studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au)

Learning Accounts contain:
- enrolments and results
- can be used to check personal details as recorded by the school
- track progress towards a QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education)
- check OP eligibility

The Student Connect website also contains information and links to help students explore their future education, training and career pathways.

The Student Connect website can be used to access OP results at the end of Year 12.

Please encourage your child to keep their LUI in a safe spot, activate their Learning Account via the Student Connect website and check their Learner accounts regularly.

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT—Year 12 Indigenous Tourism Camp

So much life is right in front of you, but most of us don’t appreciate and understand our natural surroundings. The Balunjali Indigenous Cultural staff assisted Elanora High students in discovering the natural wonders of the land and sea on South Stradbroke Island.

The group embarked on a kayaking tour along the Broadwater, Wavebreak Island and South Stradbroke Island. Students snorkelled, fed the local fish and listened to some indigenous history through storytelling.

Thai Hague made the most of his experiences on the water by kayaking with his Tangalooma partner Mr Hogan. All students struggled against the current when paddling across the seaway, towards South Stradbroke Island, but nobody gave in to the out-going tide and ate a well-deserved lunch upon arrival.

After a feast and plenty of water the group pushed on for a final kayak session to the camp site, followed by an indigenous animal tracking tour. Students were taught many different ways of identifying animals and their movements. Other educational outcomes were the medicinal and food resources of many different plants on the islands.

The finale of Day 1 was the Indigenous Master Chef Extravaganza. Students were split into 3 teams and each team was responsible for a meal for the night: entrée, main and dessert. The food was of a high quality and each dish represented different aspects of Indigenous culture. Students also created very interesting stories that were meant to spiritually connect with the food.

There was not a lot of sleep in unfamiliar surroundings, but a hearty hot breakfast re-energised the group for another tour of the area where students were exposed to more plants that local indigenous people have traditionally used effectively for shelter. Later that day, students were challenged to identify a selection of plants which indigenous people use for various purposes.

Back at the campsite two goannas and three wallabies joined us for lunch.

The group departed South Stradbroke after lunch and kayaked across to the mainland.

All senior students should experience this two day camp because the teaching of the land and sea, through the eyes of indigenous people is truly inspiring.

Mr Hogan

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT—ANZAC DAY ESSAY COMPETITION

Our school has been invited to participate in the ANZAC Day Essay Competition, marking the 100 year anniversary. Students select from two topics, being “The Significance of ANZAC Day”, or “My ANZAC Day Hero is…”. This competition has been sponsored by the QLD Government and Palm Beach RSL. The successful students will be invited to read their entries at ANZAC services in our electorate.

The competition is open to our junior Secondary students in Grades 7, 8 and 9 with a 200 word limit.

All entries need to be submitted by Wednesday 1st April 2015. Please see Miss Davies for entry form and further information.

This is a fantastic opportunity and we hope to see a number of students enter this competition!

Miss Davies

FINANCE UPDATE

The Finance office is open to accept payments Monday to Friday 7.30am to 3.00pm.

Payments can be made by cash, cheque, eftpos or via the internet. Internet payments can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The school bank details are:
Elanora State High School General Account
BSB: 064 404
Acct: 00090717

Reference: student name

If paying by direct deposit please ensure you use your child’s EQ ID number and a short description (for example X12345675RS). If the cashier is unable to determine what the payment is for it will be automatically applied to the oldest debt on your account. To assist families the following table provides a summary of fees/excursions/activities that are due:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
<th>AMOUNT DUE</th>
<th>DATE DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding 2014 Student Resource Scheme</td>
<td>All year levels</td>
<td>$310/$320</td>
<td>Overdue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding 2014 Subject Fees</td>
<td>Year 9 – 12</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Overdue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 Year Book</td>
<td>All year levels</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>Due now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Student Resource Scheme</td>
<td>All year levels</td>
<td>$310/$320</td>
<td>Due now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Subject Fees</td>
<td>Year 9 – 12</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Due now</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you know someone who deserves recognition? If you someone who deserves a special "thank you" for their contributions to our local community nominate them for a 2015 McPherson Community Achiever Award by returning this form to Karen Andrews MP.

The McPherson Community Achiever Awards 2015

Official Nomination Form

The person nominated (the nominee) must be enrolled in the Federal Electorate of McPherson

☐ McPherson Community Achiever – someone who has made a significant contribution to the community and has demonstrated energy, vitality and admirable community spirit.

☐ McPherson Young Community Achiever (under 25 years of age) – someone who has made a significant contribution to the community while demonstrating a commitment to their vocational, academic, sporting, artistic or business growth.

☐ McPherson Surf Lifesaving Community Achiever – someone who has made a significant contribution to lifesaving and demonstrated commitment to public safety and rescue related activities.

DETAILS OF NOMINATOR

Your Name

Your Phone  Your Mobile

Your Address

Your Email

I would like to nominate the following person for a McPherson Community Achiever Award 2015 (category above)

DETAILS OF NOMINEE

Name

Phone  Mobile

Address

Email

Details of nominee’s community service (attach extra pages if necessary)

__________________________________________________

__________________________________________________

Please return this completed form to Karen Andrews MP, PO Box 409, Varsity Lakes 4227
EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING TEA 
@ THE CHAPPY ROOM

YOUTH HUB
FOOD. SHARING & FUN
WITH YOUR LOCAL
YOUTH LEADERS
Made with PicLab

Find us at:
Thrower Drive, Salk Oval
Palm Beach

Thrower House is a community facility designed for the whole community to access for a broad range of activities.
The Thrower House drop in and after school program is run Tuesday - Friday between 12pm - 5pm, each week during the school term for young people aged between 12 and 17 years.
- Organised youth program for 12-17 year olds
- Computers with internet access and Microsoft Office suite
- Sports equipment including basketball and tennis table
- Preparation for learner drivers test
- Help with resume writing and homework help
- All activities are FREE!

Contact us:
At: 9468 734 048
E: ThrowerHouse@goldcoast.qld.gov.au

Tallebudgera
NETBALL

Tuesday Night
Tallebudgera Leisure Centre
$750
Early Bird registration: 7th March $700

Starts: March 24th
56 Weeks of 40 minute games
Between 7:30 - 8:10
Mixed Teams and Individual

Website: www.goldcoastnets.com.au
Ph: 0411 372 910

Touch Rugby League at Tallebudgera

Where: Tallebudgera Leisure Centre,
Gold Coast Highway
When: Starts Tuesday 19th February
       Starts: Thursday 24th February
       Games played between 6pm-8:30pm
Cost: $630 per team
Format: 11 weeks of 40min games
       6 a side Men's & 7 a side Mixed comp

Website: www.trlgoldcoast.com.au
Ph: 0411 372 910
Every day and every minute counts
What sort of start is your child getting?
Just a little bit late doesn’t seem much but ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing just...</th>
<th>This equals...</th>
<th>Which is...</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s...</th>
<th>Which means the best your child can perform is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly half a year</td>
<td>Your child ******* Other children *********** Equal to finishing in Grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 year</td>
<td>Your child ******* Other children *********** Equal to finishing in Grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 and a half years</td>
<td>Your child ******* Other children *********** Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 and a half years</td>
<td>Your child ******* Other children *********** Equal to finishing in Grade 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is a requirement under the Queensland Education Provisions Act 2006, that parents and carers ensure children of compulsory school age are in attendance at school every day. Some circumstances, such as illness, may prevent 100% attendance but all parents should be aiming for maximum school attendance for their child/ren.

THEIR FUTURE LIFE CHOICE OPTIONS DEPEND ON YOU!