FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Great Results Guarantee
Our school has finalised our Great Results Guarantee for 2015 and we will be focusing on the areas of Reading and Numeracy, while extending those students who have achieved in the upper two bands in previous NAPLAN testing. We will continue with our MULTILIT program that commenced in 2014 and have introduced 8 classes in Years 7, 8 and 9 to work specifically on key literacy and numeracy skills. We are also closely tracking our Year 12 students in order to assist them in attaining their QCE.

Assessment Calendar
Assessment Calendars have been mailed home, please ensure that you have received one for every student, if not simply contact the school office and we will arrange a replacement. The purpose of this calendar is to assist in planning for upcoming assessment and is a great guide for parents and students on study focus.

Year 12 QCS Program
Our school this year is offering a QCS enhancement program for all students in Year 12 who plan to sit the QCS test. This program contains 9 sessions spread over 3 terms and will utilise Friday morning sessions as well as weekday afternoons. I strongly encourage all Year 12 students who plan to sit the QCS to participate in this well-resourced, targeted QCS preparation program. This program is offered at no cost to all participating students and catering is provided prior to afternoon sessions.

Junior Masterclasses underway
Our first Masterclasses for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 conducted by Elevate Education have been held. These Masterclasses provided students with some excellent study skills to apply to all subjects that they encounter and they were exposed to a number of practical strategies. These Masterclasses have been supported through our Great Results Guarantee funding for 2015.

P & C Meeting - Parental Involvement
Our first P & C Meeting for the year was held on Wednesday February 18 and it was great to meet some of our Year 7 parents. At this meeting we discussed the school’s 2015 School Priorities and how we will utilise our Great Results Guarantee funding in 2015. The P & C is an excellent avenue to contribute to the school and I strongly encourage all interested parents to attend. Our next meeting is our AGM on Wednesday March 18 and a special invitation goes out to our new Year 7 & 8 parents whom we welcome into the Elanora SHS community. The school tuckshop is also an excellent opportunity to be involved in school life. Any volunteers who could help out would be greatly appreciated, a special thank you to the parent volunteers who assisted with timekeeping at our swimming carnival.

Yours in Education
Cameron Hodges
Principal
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

NAPLAN Practice and Tests
This year will be the first year we have two year levels completing NAPLAN. NAPLAN results along with other testing provide important data for staff to be able to support classroom learning. Results help teachers to differentiate learning in the classroom so students are extended to reach their potential. There is a common misconception around the test that NAPLAN is only used for a league table to measure performance between schools. This competitive side of the test is not the reason schools place emphasis on practice and ensuring students have exposure to the skills required to successfully manage the test. It is very much around providing another rich source of data to help teachers plan and equip students for learning. We combine this information with Torch, PAT-R and PAT-M as well as ongoing class results. Data collection is now at such a sophisticated level teachers can look at the students individual results for each question in NAPLAN to determine any individual strengths and weaknesses as well as any trends across the school with how questions are approached. NAPLAN helps to round out the picture of student achievement. To this end, it is important for all students to participate in the series of tests. As students receive an individual result the report can also be used in future part-time job applications.

This year, in the writing test, students are given a stimulus prompt and will need to be able to respond appropriately using either a narrative or persuasive genre depending on the nature of the prompt. We need to give students practice of this under similar test conditions. Two practice writing tasks (one narrative and one persuasive) will therefore be held during class time on Friday 6 March and Monday 9 March for Years 7 and 9. Staff will be in-serviced on the marking criteria of the test at the staff meeting on 9 March and all teaching staff given a number of writing responses to mark. In this way all teachers become more attuned to the literacy requirements and can embed the practices in their lessons. Staff will be able to provide relevant feedback to students in a timely manner. Literacy is the responsibility of all staff.

Students will have further practice with language conventions (reading) and numeracy (calculator and non-calculator) on 30 and 31 March. The tests proper are held between 12-14 May. All parents are reminded it is essential for all students to come to all of their Maths classes with a working calculator. We are also in the process of developing consistent writing frameworks across the school and these will be rolled out in the near future. As they are developed I will discuss them in the newsletter.

Mediation
Conflict is a natural part of human interaction. If we did not have conflict we would not learn and change behaviour. It is HOW we handle the conflict though that says we can grow as a result of the experience or stay stuck emotionally. Students and parents are reminded mediation is a valuable strategy that we employ here at Elanora to help resolve conflict. It is a powerful process because the people with the problem take responsibility for their own behaviour which contributed to the conflict and also responsibility for enacting the solution. The process helps to model to the student respectful problem solving which is a life-long skill. Students are encouraged to see their Year Coordinator or Dean of Students if they feel they are in a conflictual situation they need some help to resolve or has the potential to get out-of-hand. It is much easier to fix the problem when it is small than when it is escalated.

Ms Kym Dickinson
Deputy Principal (Junior Secondary)

YEAR 12 BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
Mr Howard has organised an excursion for Year 12 Business Management to Di Bella and Ikea in Brisbane. The topic they are presently studying is Operations Management, students will experience seeing the production process, store location and layout.

YEAR 11 BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
Professor Evan Douglas will be a guest speaker in Year 11 Business Management class on Tuesday 10th March. Professor Douglas will talk to the students on their next topic to be studied: ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

GRIFFITH BUSINESS DIRECT ENTRY PROGRAM
Congratulations to the following students who are enrolled in the Griffith Business direct entry program. The students will gain admission to university if they satisfy academic criteria and complete 3 days of lectures and tutus at Griffith. The program sees great outcomes for the students involved: Bachu Saji, Brie Hancock, Michael Merlo, Tamika Wilcox, Mackenzie Frost, Jade Evans, Claudia Gregory, Jaime Ellaway, Kirsty Doyle, Sophie Doyle, Carlie Elliott, Rowan Best and Joel Novis.

MINI WHITEBOARDS
A classroom strategy being used in junior and senior classes in the Business/IT Department has been very successful. Students are utilising the mini whiteboards to express their thoughts visually to the teacher and their peers. An innovative teaching strategy to support formative assessment.

TECHNOLOGY DIGITAL DESIGN
Is a Year 7 and 8 Program offered to students covering Hospitality, Manual Arts, Business and Information Technology. Students have the opportunity to be involved in a range of experiences in workshops, kitchens and the business world.

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>
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<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>Years 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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Student Resource Scheme</td>
<td>All year levels</td>
<td>$310/$320</td>
<td>Due now</td>
</tr>
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<td>2015 Subject Fees</td>
<td>Years 9 – 12</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Due now</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Homestay families Wanted—Share your home with an International student

Homestay families are required to provide a quality, caring home for our International students.

- Introduce your family to another culture
- Learn another language
- Make long term international friends
- Share our Australian culture and lifestyle
- Students will attend Elanora State High School
- Students range in age from 14-18 years

Host families can also enjoy:

- Students from a variety of countries
- Short or long term stay

Without financial burden to the host family.

"I personally invite you and your family to become involved in this wonderful opportunity to host our International students."

Victoria Malizis—International Student Coordinator
For your opportunity to be part of this cultural exchange experience please complete this form and return to:

Ms Victoria Malizis—International Student Coordinator
Phone: 5568-4333
Email: vmali3@eq.edu.au

Gold Coast Health Oral Health (Dental) Services

Gold Coast Oral Health Services are offering free dental check-ups to students in all years (7, 8, 9 and 10) Elanora State High School.

This service will be provided on site by MDC 86A. Hours of operation for this clinic are Monday – Thursday 8:00am – 4:30pm

To arrange an appointment for your child telephone:
The Oral Health Client Service Centre
1300 300 850
Monday – Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm
Excluding Public Holidays

Child Dental Benefit Schedule Vouchers are accepted. When your child’s $1000 cap is reached, there will be no out-of-pocket expenses provided your child meets eligibility criteria.

* Eligibility – All Queensland resident children aged four years or older who have not completed year 10 of secondary school.

Further information on public funded oral health services can be accessed via URL: http://www.health.qld.gov.au/goldcoasthealth/html/services/oralhealth.asp

CAREER NEWS

Trainee Receptionist - Cert III Business
Type: Full-time
Location: Gold Coast - South
Seeking a recent school leaver to undertake a traineeship in Business. This is a fantastic opportunity to start your career in office administration. Duties will include reception, data entry, creating files, scheduling, general admin and adhoc duties. Career progression is available for the right person. The successful applicant must have sound computer skills, professional telephone manner, excellent communication skills and strong customer focus. Position is full time Monday to Friday general office hours.

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School students in Years 11 & 12
Gold Coast Health will be conducting Work Experience Workshops for any students interested in careers in nursing/midwifery, education and research in the medical industry.

Dates available: 8 July, 15th September, 22 September and 10 November 2015.
Where: Lecture Room Clinical Education & Research Centre at Robina Hospital
Time: 7.30am to 2.30pm

Career presentations on the day will include medicine, nursing, dietetics, occupational therapy, social work, physiotherapy and other simulation activities.

See Mrs Hargrave for documents if intending to apply. Don’t delay as the first two workshops have been fully booked.

How to Help Your Teen to Find a Book

In recent years, the number of titles available for young adult readers has grown at an exciting pace, but the sheer number of books out there creates a challenge for adults trying to help teens find the right books to read. The following tips will help you find the resources necessary for choices that will appeal to the teen readers in your life.

Ask a librarian or teacher— Librarians and teachers know what books appeal to and are appropriate for teen readers.

Go to the blogs— Teens want to read what their peers are reading. There are many wonderful blogs where teens can read and chat about the books they and their peers enjoy.

Peruse the aisles of your library or bookstores— Bookstores organize stock by level of age-appropriateness, as well as by subject matter and type of book.

Find out what books your teen has enjoyed in the past— One way to help out is by choosing other titles by the same author.

Check out graphic novels— There are many great, high quality graphic novels appealing to a wide range of readers. If your teen read Maus, a graphic novel account of the Holocaust, check out Persepolis, a graphic autobiography of a young girl growing up during the Iranian revolution.

Address problems with books— Teens who are exploring and perhaps struggling with their identities or personal problems might like help choosing books related to those issues.

Free autism workshop for families in Tweed Heads

Like all school aged students, children with autism spectrum disorder benefit from strong, positive relationships between home and school. Positive Partnerships uses evidence based materials and practical resources to help support these relationships by facilitating workshops for parents and full time carers in your local community.

Details for the upcoming 2 day workshop:
Dates: March 24 and 25th 2015
Venue: Twin Towns Club & Resort
Cost: FREE including resources, lunch, morning tea and refreshments.

Full details and online registrations at www.positivepartnerships.com.au
http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au

This workshop is funded as part of an Australian Government Department of Education initiative to support school age children with ASD across Australia.

2015 Next Step Survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2014. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Thank you for your support of the Next Step survey in 2015.

Further information on Next Step is available online at www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or on toll free telephone 1800 068 587.

Master Class Boot camp 17/2/15

Last Tuesday the Year 7 and 8 Excellence classes had the privilege to attend the Runaway Bay Master Class Boot Camp which included Mind Olympics, word challenges and archery. In the Mind Olympics students were asked to do various things like spinning plates and cracking safe boxes under pressure. For the word challenges everyone had to run around to different locations of the sports centre to obtain letters from sheets to spell their word according to the colour they chose. During the archery session everyone channelled their inner Katniss by firstly shooting their arrows at the target with full concentration, followed by trying to hit the target under the extreme conditions produced by the musical instruments of the other students. Students were inspired by the Leadership Team from the Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre and learned some valuable lessons about success and perseverance. A very enjoyable day had by all.

TAX FILE APPLICATION INFORMATION

From 2015 students can apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office. Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for ‘QC2245’. Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for “QC22604”
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>
</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>
</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>
</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>
</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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<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>
</table>
| 1 day per fortnight            | 20 days per year | 4 weeks per year | Nearly 1.5 years | Your child ******
Other children **********
Equal to finishing in grade 11 |
| 1 day per week                 | 40 days per year | 8 weeks per year | Over 2.5 years | Your child ******
Other children **********
Equal to finishing in grade 10 |
| 2 days per week                | 80 days per year | 16 weeks per year | Over 5 years | Your child ******
Other children **********
Equal to finishing in grade 7 |
| 3 days per week                | 120 days per year | 24 weeks per year | Nearly 8 years | Your child ****
Other children **********
Equal to finishing in grade 4 |

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!