

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

13 March 2009

The past 2 weeks have had an international flavour here at Holland Park High. We hosted visits from a large group of **Bangladeshi Science teachers** completing studies at Griffith University 2 weeks ago. Last week we received the **Deputy Minister of Education from Brunei**, visiting with a delegation to look at Sports Schools and support for elite sports students. Ours was the only school visited in Queensland, and they were impressed with our programs and our teachers and students. Jess Ryder gave them a student's perspective while A/Head of Department Craig Dawson and Co-ordinator Kerri-Lyn Ross gave the teachers' perspective. I think they would happily poach our teachers and students!

This week we welcomed our annual group from our sister school **Tennoji Senior High School**, Osaka, Japan. Their teacher Go and his eager students are settling into Aussie life well. Thank you to our Japanese teacher Annette Goodman for organising their program and acting as hostess and tour guide!

Our **School Development Committee** has been meeting regularly to plan our **True Blue Carnival**, which will feature the official opening of our very own Sports Shed, now that the landscaping contract has been let. We decided to celebrate this by honouring that great Aussie icon, the backyard shed, with a Carnival that features lots of True Blue fun, food and activities: think thong throwing, teacher dunking, chook wheel, backyard cricket.... We have selected **Tuesday 19 May 5.00-7.30pm**, so get your best Aussie gear out – there'll be a prize for the best dressed. The evening will culminate with the **Shed opening** and a volleyball match between our elite volleyball players and our teachers! The P & C will need volunteers to help with catering and cooking so phone/email the school with your availability.

Parents may have noticed a lot of activity around primary schools as the Federal Government's "**Building the Education Revolution**" strategy starts refurbishment and building work across the nation. Secondary Schools aren't missing out – all schools can expect to receive \$200,000 for refurbishment/minor projects. As well, some secondary schools (approximately 25%) will receive new science or language laboratory facilities. Our school will definitely be applying, as these areas are our strengths! For example, the proportions of students studying a Science to Year 12 level are 73% (2008), 74% (2009), 65% (2010); LOTE 11% (2008), 5% (2009), 12% (2010). The percentages of LOTE students in the junior school are 29% (Year 10) and 35% (Year 9). These statistics are extremely good, and reveal the high value of our Science and LOTE programs in the eyes of our students. **I would like to apply for a 2 storey Science/LOTE Centre, to be built on our netball courts area!** We also have competing priorities with Art and Instrumental Music outgrowing their facilities, and Manual Arts and Home Economics in desperate need of upgrades!

I will be taking some **Long Service Leave** from Wednesday 25 March to Friday 1 May – I'm off to Paris to practise my French! During my absence, Ms Morton will be Acting Principal, Mr Dawson A/Deputy Principal and Mrs Ross A/Head of Department HPE. Head of Departments Mrs Haggett and Mrs Curtis are taking small amounts of leave at the end of term (7-9 days) and they will be replaced by Mr Reddy A/Head of Department Science and Mr Walker A/Head of Department Maths & ICT. Contract teachers are currently being employed to cover 3 positions created by these changes. I am confident that I am leaving the school in good hands.

Best wishes

Jocelyn Roberts
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Wed 18/3	Yr 12 Music Excursion to Great Symphonies Concert	Tues 24/3	HIP Meeting 7pm B Block
Wed 18/3	Yr 11 AHI/Yr 10 HIS Seminar 9.15-11.30am	Wed 25/3	Yr 8 Volleyball Day P1-6
Wed 18/3	Summer Sport – Girls travel – Mt Gravatt SHS	Wed 25/3	Summer Sport – Boys travel – Cav Road
Wed 18/3	Yrs 8 and 11 Debating	Wed 25/3	Yr 10 & Senior A Debating
Wed 18/3	P & C Meeting 7.30pm Admin Building	Thurs 26/3	Yr 10 EEE to Ideas Festival
Tues 24/3	Open Morning Tour 9.15pm	Fri 27/3	Yrs 11/12 Chemistry/Physics to CSIRO
Tues 24/3	School Development Committee 3.15pm	Fri 27/3	Newsletter

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FUN RUN

Holland Park High School was once again represented at the International Women's Day Fun/Walk Run by an enthusiastic contingent of teachers, mothers, students, sisters, daughters and friends. The event this year, in support of "chicks in pink" drew a huge crowd of supporters who walked or ran along a 5 km route that took in two of the city's bridges, the City Gardens and the Bougainvillea Walk at South Bank.

UNIFEM WOMEN'S BREAKFAST 2009

Last Thursday, nine students accompanied Mrs Polson to the International Women's Day breakfast. While enjoying breakfast, we listened to speeches given by prominent women in Queensland. This year's guest speaker, Lulu Mitshabu, the Africa Program Co-ordinator for Caritas gave an emotional speech which ended with a standing ovation of 1200 people. She informed us about her life in the Democratic Republic of Congo and explained the terrible conditions that women there have to ensure every day as they fight against sexual abuse. The whole experience was very enjoyable and I would encourage students to participate when they have the chance.

Laura Kelly, Year 12

YEAR 9 FOOD STUDIES

By the end of Week 9 the students in this class will have prepared as many as ten different dishes utilising a wide variety of fresh vegetables. The purpose of this term's unit "Veg Out", is to identify ways to prepare vegetables so as to appeal to adolescents.

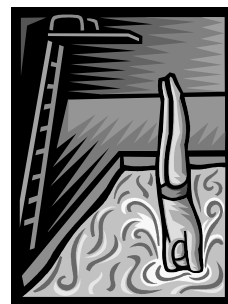
As in all our food classes, the students have the opportunity to practise skills and be exposed to many ingredients used in food preparation at minimum cost and inconvenience for families. We ask for your support in ensuring that your student has contributed to the cost of these ingredients with your Term 1 payment at the Resource Centre. All classes will commence new topics in Term 2.

Dianne Polson, Home Economics Teacher

2009 OPEN NATIONAL DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ethan Warren Year 12 competed in the 2009 Open National Diving Championships achieving the following outstanding results:-

2 nd	1 Metre
4 th	3 Metre
4 th	10 Metre



Well done Ethan.

HEAD LICE

It has been reported that some students may be suffering from headlice. Please check your student and take the appropriate steps before they return to school.

CHANGES TO MATHS ASSESSMENT CALENDAR

Due to a science excursion on March 27, there have been some changes to Mid-Semester Exam dates. The new exam dates are as follows:

Year 11 Maths A	Part A	Tuesday 24/03/09
	Part B	Thursday 26/03/09

Year 11 Maths B	Part A	Thursday 26/03/09
	Part B	Tuesday 31/03/09

Year 12 Maths A	Part A	Tuesday 24/03/09
	Part B	Thursday 26/03/09

Year 12 Maths B	Part A	Thursday 26/03/09
	Part B	Tuesday 31/03/09

Julie Curtis, HOD Mathematics & ICT

LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

This year Holland Park State High School was proud to have 5 contestants in the Club judging of the Lions Youth of the Year Quest sponsored by the National Australia Bank and the Holland Park Lions club.

Contestants and their speeches were –

Grace Mullins	“The curse of Age”
Brady Sionetali	“Multiculturalism”
Morgan Howie	“The Value of Mateship”
Laura Kelly	“Pressures on Teenage Life”
Kane Estall	“Learner Legal Limits”

Two contestants from Mt Gravatt SHS also competed. Grace Mullins won the best speech on the night and all competitors are to be congratulated on their presentation and performance.

Lynne Drillis, Deputy Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICE

Holland Park State High School family of 4 requires a house to rent from 4/4/09. Minimum 3 bedrooms, close to Holland Park High School, prefer furnished. Non smokers, no cats or dogs. Careful, quiet tenants. Please contact Bernadette or Stephen on Phone 3161 5746.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS

Rehearsals and lessons are progressing smoothly and we have held our very successful Instrumental Music Supper. This night featured information about the Instrumental Music Program in the form of talks and performances from students who are already members of the program. Each parent was also given an Instrumental Music Handbook. This handbook is available for perusal from the school website, or you may obtain a printed copy by contacting the Music Department.

Music Camp forms are due in as soon as possible so that we can confirm numbers and organize tutors. Money should be returned to the resource hire room and permission forms to Mrs Blurton. We look forward to having a fantastic time and learning to play some great music.

The next HIP meeting will be held on **Tuesday 24 March, 7pm upstairs in B Block**. We look forward to seeing lots of new faces there as we work towards building the Instrumental Music Program at Holland Park SHS.

If you would like any further information about the Instrumental Music Program or would like to be a part of the music program, either as a beginner or an experienced student, please contact the music department. Mr Bryer (Woodwind teacher) is at school on Tuesday, Ms Robson (Strings teacher) is at school on Thursday from 12 and Mrs Bryer (Brass & Percussion teacher) is there on Friday. If you would like to be added to the Instrumental Music email list, please send an email to kbrye4@eq.edu.au.

Karina Bryer, Instrumental Music Teacher

UNIFORM SHOP DESPERATELY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!!!

This is a great way to help the school, meet school staff and teachers and be involved with your student/s school life.

No previous experience required – cheerful on the job training provided.

It's a fun way to fill in an hour or so once a month. Please leave your details with the office and you will be contacted.

Thank you.

VOLLEYBALL NEWS

Wow, what a great finish to last year for Holland Park's High Performance Volleyball Programme! **Five teams went to Melbourne for the National Volleyball School's Cup Competition and five medals were won.** This is truly an outstanding achievement and one in which the students and all those involved can be most proud.

Our **Open and Year 10 Girls Teams are now National Champions.** Whilst they didn't have it all their own way at the start of the week, losing some tough matches, they hung in there and by the end of the competition they simply outplayed and outclassed their opposition. It was great to see our younger teams doing well also, with three silver medals to their credit.

The **Year 10 Boys** went through undefeated until the final match, beating arch rivals Craigslea along the way. The Year 9 Girls were narrowly defeated in their final in a nail biting three set match against Sunbury Downs College. There was quite a bit of disappointment after this match, which showed the passion and commitment with which they played. They've vowed to come back this year better than ever. The **Year 9 Boys** were simply awesome for the entire tournament and won each match comfortably, until the pressure got to them in the final. They too are now eager to have a stronger season this year.

The Gold Medal winning Year 10 Girls started their campaign slowly, but soon grew in confidence to be very dominant in their final match against Brighton. I had the privilege of sitting on the bench during the Open Girls Honours Final, which was one of the most dominant displays by any team over another in Melbourne finals history. One could almost feel sorry for Brighton, who fought bravely against our girls, but not quite...

In breaking news, we have just had confirmation by our sponsors that they will support us again for another year. At this point we would like to thank **Cartridge World, MTB Constructions and PhysioFix** for their support and encourage you to support these local businesses whenever you can.

In other news, we have finally begun using our new Volleyball Shed for some HPE/PED lessons. Students who have been in there for lessons so far have been very positive about the space as a quality training and playing facility. We hope that our goal to continue as a force in Qld Volleyball will strengthen with this great new 'Shed' and that we further develop new coaching techniques to match the growing needs of our players.

With that thought in mind, we have some exciting plans for the programme ahead. Some of these plans include:

- Purchasing Slow Motion Time Delay Software to be used for video analysis of player performances
- Developing and manufacturing a specialist setting machine
- Building blocking and spiking 'platforms' for developing defensive techniques
- Purchasing specially weighted Setter's Volleyballs for building strength and correct technique
- Purchasing a scoreboard for when we play games in the shed
- Possibly even eventually installing a Data Projector and screen in the Shed for instant player feedback using video footage

None of these plans come cheaply, thus we are seeking to add further names to our sponsor list. If any parents or friends of the school can assist us by "spreading the word" about our plans for the future to prospective sponsors - and by letting us know if you hear of anyone interested in sponsoring us - it would be a great help.

At this stage we are planning to begin training for the season, leading up to our Toowoomba Trip, by week 8 of the term (that's in two weeks' time). Players will get a letter outlining training times and teams next week. Stay tuned for that one. At this point I ask that you get your uniform orders back ASAP and that you start small deposits into your child's account at the resource hire room so that you don't get caught short later in the year when deadlines occur.

Finally, we have included some great photos of our gold medal winning teams in action and we look forward to another great year!

Keep watching this space for photos of our other medal winning teams. We intend to write a regular article featuring all of our teams and their progress during the year.

See you courtside

Craig Dawson, Volleyball Co-Ordinator

GERMAN NEWS

It is **an old German tradition** that school children get a big cardboard cone filled with sweets, but also some stationery and books, when they start primary school. This so-called *Zuckertüte* is supposed to "sweeten" their first day of school!

Many thanks to **Mrs Anita Bailey**, mother of Eloise and Dana, who turned up last week with enough mini versions of the *Zuckertüte* – filled with healthy snacks – for **Year 8A German**. Not only did the students thoroughly enjoy the tasty treats, but they also learned about this wonderful custom and some of the other major differences between the German and Australian school systems. *Wir danken recht herzlich!* (Thank you so much!)

Furthermore, all **Yr 10 and 11 students of German** have been issued with application forms for a **Goethe Scholarship** to study German in Germany for four weeks. Our school can nominate one student and the Goethe-Institut will make the final choice. Please note that the forms must be handed in to me no later than **Friday 20 March 2009** to ensure enough time for processing.

Toi! Toi! Toi! (Good luck!) to all the candidates!

Frau Wucsits, German Dept

EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS

I was very pleased to welcome Ms Margaret Fien, a midwife for 48 years (33 years at Royal Brisbane), now retired, and grandmother of Cassie Fien-Carr, Year 11, to our Early Childhood class. Margaret played a large part in setting up the Birth Centre at RBH and was able to share, with the class, information about a nursing career in this area as well as many stories related to her birthing experience. It was particularly pleasing to observe a student who not only was very proud of her grandmother but also knew quite a bit about her career.

Dianne Polson, Early Childhood Teacher

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES WHO
ARE PROUDLY SUPPORTING HOLLAND PARK HIGH
VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM**



Telephone: 3397 0566 (Greenslopes)



Telephone: 3349 1554



SHAVE FOR A CURE

Ben Tuckwell, Year 11 student together with his support member Mr Mitchell agreed to Shave for a Cure. Ben shaved his lovely curly hair on Thursday night. On Friday's assembly Mrs Photinos used her hairdressing skills to shave Mr Mitchell's lovely long locks.

Together Ben and Mr Mitchell have raised \$1,100 but Mr Mitchell has agreed to shave his beard as well next Friday if donations increase by \$400 making a total of \$1,500 for this very worthy cause.

TUCKSHOP NEWS

A big thank you to those people who have volunteered their valuable time to help out in the tuckshop, it is very much appreciated and I can't tell you what a difference it makes.

Our busiest time is in the mornings from 8.30 to 10.00 racing the clock to get a good variety of food prepared for the students when they come out at morning tea which seems to be when they are the hungriest. If you think you would like to help out, you only need to put your name down for one morning a month or alternatively one Friday a month from 11.30-1.00pm which is burger day and when we assemble up to 100 burgers. Please feel free to ring me at the tuckshop on 3347 0108 or drop in at any time and we can work out a day that suits you.

Thank you,

Donna Phillips, Tuckshop Convenor

TUCKSHOP ROSTER	
Tues 17/3	Christine Strong
Thurs 19/3	Nona Shoutay
Fri 20/3	Alayne Reid
Fri 27/3	Judi Summers

