14 October 2014

From the Principal

I have had a wonderfully rewarding time as the Principal of Mansfield State High School, one of Brisbane’s truly outstanding schools.

I have always endeavoured to firmly position students as the focal point within the school community. Your children are, after all, the reason the school exists! I have sought to always find ways to improve the school, as I believe that everything and everyone can improve. To improve however requires change and risk! There is safety in what you know, reassurance in the predictable, and comfort in the routine. There is something in this that while tempting, does not meet my desire to develop as a person and to expand my professional growth as a principal.

I have sincerely tried to make a difference in the lives of the students at Mansfield State High School; however it is now time for me to move on. I have been recently appointed as the Principal of both Moreton Bay College and Moreton Bay Boys’ College.

Mansfield High School is ideally positioned for the arrival of Year 7 students into the school. School improvement efforts through the delivery of the School Strategic Plan are nearing completion and all the key indicators of success in this have largely been met. As parents you can be assured that your representatives on the Parents and Citizens’ Association Executive, and the School Council Chair, will be consulted during the selection process of my successor.

While my last official day as Principal is Friday 17 October 2014, I will attend Mansfield High School’s annual Presentation Evening on Wednesday 22 October. I warmly invite parents to attend this special function to celebrate some of the many successes at our school. As well as this, I have given a commitment to attend the Senior students’ Graduation Ceremony on Friday 21 November.

Furthermore, I would like to invite you and your children to a function to allow me to say thank you and farewell. It will occur on Friday 31 October in the school hall from 3.15pm until 5pm. If you wish to attend, please by Friday 24 October email info@mansfieldshs.eq.edu.au and inform us how many people will be attending.

I have been humbled by my fortune to be the Principal at Mansfield State High School and I am enormously privileged to have been your child’s high school principal.

Keep shining!

Mansfield and the Queensland Pops Orchestra

On Saturday afternoon and Saturday night, over 100 of our students took to the Concert Hall stage at QPAC. They joined the QPAC Choir to form a massed choir for the Queensland Pops Orchestra’s *Best of British* Concert for which tickets at a cost of $75 person had been purchased by a capacity crowd.

At one stage, the voices of about 75 of our male students (and Mr Paul Holley, our Male Chorus’s conductor extraordinaire) joined the male QPAC choir members for the two Welsh songs which opened the second half. It was just marvellous! Many of our students also toured with the Queensland Pops Orchestra to perform a concert at the Caloundra Events Centre on Sunday.

This experience was something that our students would never have thought possible. It was inspirational.

However this sort of opportunity would not have been possible, had it not been for the dedicated work of our music teachers in cultivating the talent that students bring to our school and the other professional skills of our teachers including networking.

To all of our music teachers, and to all of our staff who support them and our students, THANK YOU! Special appreciation goes to Mrs Marg Overs for organising yet another amazing opportunity for our students. The picture might give you some idea of the magnitude of this event.

Below is an email received from a QPAC Choir member:

Great state. Great opportunity.
I am a member of the QPAC Choir, and have just enjoyed a fantastic weekend of music making, singing in a massed choir with pupils of MSHS at the Queensland Pops Best of British Concerts. I wanted to let you know just how terrific your students were in the concerts and the rehearsals. Their professionalism, discipline and musicianship were exemplary at all times. They are great ambassadors for your school. It was also great to see the interaction between the music staff and the students which appears to have a strong basis in a shared love of music and respect for the individual. Congratulations to you all!

Opti-MINDS Success

Over the weekend Mansfield High School’s two Opti-MINDS teams participated in the Opti-MINDS Australian Final. The Year 10 team won Honours and the Year 9 team won the Spirit of Opti-MINDS Award. 109 teams competed. Both of our teams were outstanding over the weekend - exceptional in every way and a real credit to our school. The presentation the teams created for the Saturday Ideas Forum was extremely well received by other teams, the judges and the teachers. It was about the power of words - using language creatively and positively, helping everyone to improve their vocabulary and to be able to express themselves clearly. The two teams spent an exhausting weekend at the Final. Huge congratulations to Mrs Narelle Richards who devoted much energy and time to coaching the teams to their success.

Mr James Sloman, Principal

Deputy Principals’ News

Presentation Evening – Wednesday 22 October 2014 7pm

Our school’s 2014 Presentation Evening promises to be a great showcase of wonderful achievements at Mansfield High School in the areas of: academia, cultural activities, service to others, and sporting performances. This is a formal event.

We are making every effort to demonstrate the wonderful work of students who have been ably supported throughout the year by staff, parents and their peers. Please note this date in your diary. On the evening, all Academic Awards, in addition to Gold level awards and above in the various areas, will be presented. All students wishing to receive awards need to be present. Only under extenuating circumstances would this not be the case and a completed form needs to be collected from, and returned to, Deputy Principal, Mrs Anghel prior to the evening, when possible. We encourage parents to come to this wonderful event.

Students receiving the most prestigious awards will not be informed until their names are announced on the evening. Silver, Bronze and Merit Awards will be presented after the evening at assemblies or in SDP classes.

Letters About Uniform Try-On Nights / Music Auditions

Uniform try-on nights will be Monday 3 November, Tuesday 4 November and Wednesday 5 November. Letters will be mailed to all new students to Mansfield High School in 2015 on Wednesday 15 October regarding:

- Bookings for the uniform try-on nights;
- Ordering of textbooks and stationery for 2015; and
- The music auditions for students to be allocated to the appropriate ensemble.

Ms Barbara Clarke, Deputy Principal

Faculty News

English

Literary Tour

Over the holidays Mrs Vallis, Mr Austen and I had the privilege of taking 28 students to England for a Literary Tour. We had a marvellous time walking in the footsteps of such literary luminaries as Shakespeare, Dickens, Jane Austen, the Bronte sisters and Wordsworth. We envisaged life in different eras by visiting the houses of all of these authors and seeing the sights that inspired their writing. This experience will greatly enrich the future studies of literature for these students.

One of the highlights for the students was Harry Potter World where studio sets from the films were displayed and students were able to spend their pocket money on Harry Potter memorabilia. Having the opportunity to visit places such as Oxford, Bath, Stratford-Upon-Avon, York, Haworth, the Lake District and, of course, London, with such enthusiastic, informed and entertaining travelling companions was a real treat.

The students were wonderful ambassadors for Mansfield High, with tour guides, bus drivers, hotel and restaurant staff all commenting on their outstanding conduct and presentation. Because of the rewarding learning experiences this tour offers, we hope to establish it as another Mansfield tradition every second year. So stay tuned for more information on the possibility of a 2016 Literary Tour.
Mr Austen in his Mansfield jersey reading Mansfield Park by his ‘Aunty’ Jane Austen outside her museum in Bath.

Mr Austen familiarising himself with the family home whilst catching up on a little bit of reading.

English ICAS Competition Results

Congratulations to the following students who attained High Distinction for this year’s ICAS English Competition:

Ji-Yin Park – Year 8
Rebekah Weaich – Year 9
James Calligeros – Year 10

Congratulations, also, to the 60 students who attained a Distinction. This is a fantastic result for our school. Certificates will be issued on Assembly shortly.

Ms Carissa Bladin, Head of Department (English)

Languages

Student Exchange to Rouen France

The Year 10 French Immersion class surprised their friend Karina Diaz with a farewell party. Karina has been selected to participate in the extended exchange with our sister school in Rouen, France. Karina will be attending classes there and living with her French host family. She will also be visiting England and Switzerland. What a great experience for a well deserving student! Enjoy your stay Karina and take advantage of every opportunity to practise your French language skills and immerse yourself in the French culture.

Alliance Francaise - Song and Poetry Competition 2014

Le concours de Chansons et de Poésie 2014 was held on Saturday 23 August at Alliance Française of Brisbane. Six of our students recited a poem in front of a jury composed of two French teachers. This was a great opportunity for our French students to step out of their comfort zone and practise their language skills.

Congratulations to Alexandra Radke who was awarded the ‘deuxième prix’ (second prize) and to Emily Rietberg for being awarded a ‘mention bien’ (highly commended).

We would also like to thank Sunset Felton, Breeanna Nibbs, Brianna Holness, Sihan Yue and Pavleen Pabla for participating.

The students were all a bit nervous to start with, but enjoyed this experience in the end. We are very proud of them!

New Caledonia School Visit

Mansfield High has negotiated a visit of 21 students from the École International James Cook, New Caledonia. This is an exciting opportunity for our French students to experience a visitor from a French-speaking country in their own home to practise the language.

The visiting student will be here for just under two weeks and will be involved in school activities and excursions organised by the school during that time (Monday 27 October until Thursday 6 November; 10 nights including one weekend).

We need eight more host families. The host family is responsible for providing accommodation and meals and the visiting student will cover all other costs. This is a voluntary venture for 2014.
Expressions of interest are sought from parents and students who would like to consider this opportunity. At this stage, it is only an expression of interest and does not commit you to anything. Please return the slip below to the Languages Department in B13.

Ms Agnes Patte, Acting Head of Department (Languages)

Health & Physical Education

NRL Grand Final

Congratulations to two past students who played in the NRL Grand Final on Sunday 5 October. Corey Thompson (Senior 2007) represented the Canterbury Bulldogs on the wing and Alex Barr (Senior 2013) played for the NYC Brisbane Broncos.

Representative Sport

Year 9 student Sebastian Berwick took part in the Australian Junior Road Championships in September in Toowoomba. Sebastian is 14 years old and competed in the U17 Division. In the 70km road race, Sebastian came 7th and 12th in the 15km time trial, being the fastest Queenslander. Congratulations Sebastian on your fantastic results – today Toowoomba; tomorrow Tour de France!

Congratulations also to Year 8 student Chloe Blee who is trialling with Diving Australia. Good luck Chloe!

Mr Nick Kalpakidis, Sports Coordinator

Music News

Music Newsletter #5 has now been emailed to families. Hard copies are available from outside the Music staffroom.

Important Term 4 Dates

- **Tuesday 14 October** – Big Band and Brass Ensemble performing at Wellers Hill and Mansfield Primary School.
- **Wednesday 22 October** - Orchestra (Opening), Chorale, Cantabile & Male Chorus (performance within the event), Camerata performing at Presentation Evening
- **Friday 24 October (6.30pm)** - Mansfield Music 2014 Concert 1 featuring Wind Ensemble, Chamber Winds, Museaus, String Orchestra, Stage Band, Junior Combo, Male Chorus, Percussion Ensemble 2, Cantus & Cantrice.
- **Saturday 25 October (6.30pm)** - Mansfield Music Concert 2 featuring Orchestra, Concert Band, Symphonic Winds, Chorale, Cantabile, Big Band, Jazz Ensemble, Combo, Percussion Ensemble 1, Camerata, Sinfonia & Celtic Strings.
- **October / November - Music Fest** involving String Orchestra, Museaus, Sinfonia, Wind Ensemble, Chamber Winds & Percussion Ensembles 1 & 2. Timetable is in the music newsletter.

Mrs Marg Overs, Head of Department (Music)

Senior Schooling News

Mansfield Champions Series Continues

Last week Mansfield welcomed Alexander Robey as the second speaker in the Mansfield Champions series that is a part of the Year 12 Student Development Program. Alex began his working life digging holes. Fresh out of high school, he found this job gave him the opportunity to meet a lot of different people and think about what was most important to him. Since then he has worked in Outdoor Education as a photographer, has completed an apprenticeship as a stone mason and has obtained degrees in Business, Psychology and Law. During the week, Alex works as a Pyscho-therapist, Mediator, Coach and Motivational Speaker. In his spare time, he takes photos, develops his farm and climbs mountains. He recently returned from Europe after conquering the Matterhorn with his best friend. Alex told the students that in order to succeed, they had to make a decision and start. However, he warned them that sometimes what they think they want, will change. He encouraged them to get some work experience, either paid or voluntary, to show people that they were motivated and to surround themselves with people whom they want to be like. Thank you to Alex for sharing his time, his adventures and his experiences.

Ms Peta Wenzel, Acting Head of Department (Senior Schooling)

Guidance News

**Griffith University - Queensland**

**Conservatorium Rock School 2015**

Rock School is a studio based program conducted at the Gold Coast campus from Monday 5 January to Friday 9 January 2015 at a cost of $535. Application forms need to be returned to the University by 12 November.

Further information and application forms are available from our school’s Guidance Office.

**Experience Griffith 2014**

Experience Griffith is a practical and engaging way for secondary school students to get a taste of life as a university student. The program is available for Year 10 and Year 11 students. The day is divided into two sessions:
Session One—Quest for Knowledge (9.20am)

This session is an interactive ‘scavenger hunt’ campus tour. Students are to choose one study area and they are given a taste of the many study options in that area. Students will choose an area of interest.

Session Two (11am) and Session Three (1pm)—Program Experiences

These sessions will run for 45 minutes. Sessions give students a chance to dive deeper into their chosen interest area. Through workshops, lectures, tours and practical demonstrations, students will learn about their options for study.

Registrations close Thursday 18 October. Students must see the guidance officer to register their attendance and choose their interest area.

University of Queensland- Economics Scholarships

Applications are now open for UQ Economics scholarships. To be eligible, students need to apply by the closing date and then be accepted into the UQ Bachelor of Economics program for 2015.

Scholarship applications close Friday 21 November 2014. For information contact Alysha Hilevuo on 3365 4959 or email a.hilevuo@uq.edu.au . http://www.uq.edu.au/economics/scholarships-prizes-bursaries

Agribusiness or Science

In 2015 the University will be awarding up to six UQ Merit Scholarships, valued at $6000, for Year 12 school leavers and gap year students who are keen to pursue studies and a career in agriculture or a related discipline.

All students who are applying for entry into the following programs at UQ and who expect to achieve an OP6 or better are encouraged to apply:

- Bachelor of Agricultural Science;
- Bachelor of Agribusiness; or
- Bachelor of Science (Gatton majors).

To apply, complete the Application Form located on the Academic Scholarship website. Applicants will need to list one of the above programs as their first and/or second QTAC preference to be eligible for consideration, but will not need to complete the leadership or community service sections unless they also wish to be considered for an Academic Scholarship.

Applications close 5pm Friday 31 October 2014. Successful applicants will be notified within a week of the release of Year 12 results. For information contact Jackie Mergard on 3365 4959 or email science.enquiries@uq.edu.au .

Mrs Karen Agnew / Ms Kamal Mistry, Guidance Officers

Youth Health Nurse

World Osteoporosis Day

Osteoporosis is a ‘silent disease’, a chronic condition caused by the slow loss of bone density, which results in bones becoming fragile, porous and brittle and hence more prone to fractures, usually in the wrist, spine and hips.

World Osteoporosis Day held on the Monday 20 October highlights the importance of bone health and the debilitating effects of osteoporosis.

See the 5 STEPS to BETTER BONE HEALTH: http://www.worldosteoporosisday.org/5-steps-better-bone-health

You can get ALL the calcium you need from certain fruits and dark, leafy green vegetables:

BROCCOLI, ASPARAGUS, SPINACH, ROMAINE LETTUCE, KELP, KALE, COLLARD GREENS

and these fruits:

BERRIES, ORANGES, TANGERINES, KIWI, PRUNES, DATES, FIGS, APRICOTS.

Mrs Regina Tyson – School-Based Youth Health Nurse

Community News

The Next P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held on Thursday 23 October at 7pm in F Block – F4. New members are always welcome to attend.

Rauchle Service Club

Soap Drive 2014 – Orders are now being accepted!

This is the final week that soap orders are being accepted so why not start your Christmas shopping early by purchasing some soap and supporting the Rauchle Service Club Soap Drive! The natural handmade soaps from The Speciality Soap

Nathan - Monday 1 November
Logan - Tuesday 6 November
Gold Coast – Wednesday 1 November
South Bank – Friday 24 November

http://www.nutritionaustralia.org/national/recipes

For more information visit www.worldosteoporosisday.org
http://www.nutritionaustralia.org/national/recipes
Shoppe are made with the best quality ingredients and contain no phosphates, no sodium lauryl sulphates, no parabens, no petro chemicals and they come individually wrapped. There are lots of new varieties to appeal to people of all ages and tastes; there’s even one for the dog. Why not take the order form to work with you - EVERYONE needs soap. All orders and payments are to be returned to the UPPER OFFICE or to Mrs Holley in Upper Admin by Friday 17 October.

New and Second-Hand Textbooks Books
Attached are details for new and second-hand books for 2015. Please note that orders for NEW textbooks and stationery must be placed with SEQUEL by 30 November 2015 at the latest.

Second-Hand Books
If you have second-hand books that you would like to sell, you must provide a signed agreement form when you leave them at the canteen. The forms can be found at the bottom of this article. Dates to drop off books at the School Canteen are as follows: Year 12 - Week Commencing Monday 10 November; Year 10 and 11 - Week Commencing Monday 24 November; Year 8 and 9 Week Commencing Monday 8 December. Books can only be dropped off between 7.45am and 9am. All books MUST have a signed agreement form accompanying them at drop off time.

Mrs Sue Holley, Community Liaison Officer

### Canteen Roster

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Canteen Coordinator – Vacancy

This role presents an opportunity for someone with a passion for both food and business – is this you? As Canteen Coordinator, you will be responsible for the operations of the canteen and our wonderful staff and volunteers each week day. Working up to 35 hours each week you have a unique opportunity to transition the canteen service prior to, during and after the canteen renovations. You will be expected to work closely with our existing staff and provide a service to our school students and staff. The position is up to 12 months with the possibility of extension. For further information please contact Sue Holley on sholl143@eq.edu.au

Mrs Debbie O’Neill, Acting Canteen Convenor
Telephone: 3452 5323

Calendar of Events

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| Tuesday 14 October | Yr 12 Driver Education Course
                        Newsletter available on website and email
                        Environmental Council Meeting 1.10pm
                        Yr 8 students – English performance – Per 4 – Hall |
| Wednesday 15 October | Women in Sport Breakfast
                          Yr 12 students – English performance – Per 1 – K Block
                          Yr 11 students – English performance – Per 2 – K Block
                          MAP Block 3 Week 5 |
| Thursday 16 October | Reading Group 3.10pm in Resource Centre
                          Prefect Interviews |
| Friday 17 October  | DANCE NIGHT - 6.30pm in Hall – Entry by Gold Coin donation
                          Prefect Interviews |
| Monday 20 October  | STUDENT FREE DAY |
| Tuesday 21 October | Instrumental Music assessment this week |
| Wednesday 22 October | MAP Block 3 Week 6
                        TIP Leaders’ Meeting 1.10pm
                        Presentation Evening 7pm in Hall |
| Thursday 23 October | Prefect Meeting 1.10pm
                        P&C Meeting 7pm in F04 |
| Friday 24 October  | WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY
                        Mansfield Music – 6.30pm Junior Ensembles Concert |
| Saturday 25 October| Mansfield Music – 6.30pm Senior Ensembles Concert |
| Tuesday 28 October | Newsletter available on website and email
                        Student Council Meeting (final) |