

STEADFAST

MANSFIELD STATE HIGH SCHOOL



Edition 4 | Term 3 | 2026



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From the Executive Principal



Karen Tanks



It is through encouragement that we can lead others to achieve things greater than what they thought was possible.

▶ We really are Inspiring Tomorrow Together

Every term is busy at Mansfield State High School, but Term 3? That hits different. Not only is there a major assessment period, but it holds many, many opportunities, challenges, achievements and celebrations. Term 3 can feel like a never-ending rollercoaster for our young people, and for some, things can start to become a little too much.

As parents, you have undoubtedly seen the results of this intense period of activity in your child, and not always in the most positive of ways. Irritability with you or their friends, an increased need for canteen funds to be loaded onto their card, a sudden inability to complete regular chores like unpacking the dishwasher or putting dirty uniforms in the laundry ... All are calling cards of a tiredness only Term 3 can evoke.

Not only do we expect our students to achieve their best in every classroom, every day, but this is also a period of huge extra-curricular commitment, the culmination of many competitions and the beginning of new roles and responsibilities. Creative Generations, House Cup, sporting competitions, Maths Team Challenges, debating competitions (our Junior team are state champions!), Jazz Night, Leadership Camp, the Talent Show, Battle of the Bands and Father's Day have all been part of our Term 3 calendar.

It is at times like these that encouragement becomes particularly important for our children. It is one of the greatest tools at our disposal to build: it is through encouragement that we can lead others to achieve things greater than what they thought was possible. The celebrated psychologist Rudolf Dreikurs once said, "Like a plant needs water, children need encouragement." It literally means to "give heart".

If you are unsure how to encourage your child, think back to how you encouraged them when they were trying to walk: you encouraged that child so hard you nearly pulled them up with your own willpower. And when they fell over? You clapped and said something like, "Upsy daisy!" in a cheery voice. You didn't criticise. You encouraged them to try again; you showed your beautiful baby you knew they could do it. That baby might now wear a Size 11 shoe, but they still crave an 'upsy daisy'.

At times like the end of Term 3, when their workload is bigger and the stakes feel higher, ask yourself:

are you still an encourager to your child? Or do you nag? Do you focus with positive language on your child's efforts, point out their improvement, show your appreciation of them and confidence in their abilities? Or do you focus on what they bungled?

Every child needs someone in their life who says, "I know you can do this." Encouragement is powerful; it has a snowball effect on children's self-esteem and at this time of year, it can make the world of difference in helping them through. Focus on their effort and improvement. Show appreciation and display confidence in them.

Try these prompts when you next speak with your child:

- It is great to see you trying to...
- You have really improved in...
- Thanks for helping me to...
- I know you can do this...

One of the many events in Term 3 which demonstrated that young people can achieve amazing things when they are challenged and encouraged to do so, was our Year 11 Leadership Camp. Held at the Mapleton Education Centre, this is always a highlight in our calendar. The students participated in a wide range of interactive, challenging and motivating activities that brought them together: we could see their leadership capabilities grow by the end of each day. What we love most though, is watching the friendships form and teamwork flourish amongst these students, and sharing in their excitement, energy, enthusiasm and excellence. In my presentation to them beforehand about leadership, I spoke about one of my favourite athletes, Usain Bolt, and his quote: "Believe in your dreams and that anything is possible." It is such a fitting message for these students as they stand on the precipice of their leadership roles, and indeed to all our students.

At Mansfield, we are steadfast in the knowledge our students can achieve their dreams! They will stumble at some point, and almost certainly they will doubt themselves: the demands of school, extra-curricular activities and life sometimes feel like a lot. Our role is to continue to give them heart; to recognise their effort, point out their improvement, show how much we appreciate them and most of all, let them know we know they can achieve it.

▶ School Priorities

- Engagement
- Belonging



2026 Student Theme

2027 Student Leadership Team



Congratulations to our newly appointed Student Leadership Team. These Year 11 students will officially take on their leadership roles next term when we celebrate our Senior Investiture.

Selecting a small group of leaders from such an outstanding cohort is never an easy task. We commend all students who put themselves forward and demonstrated their willingness to contribute to our school community through the selection process.

We look forward to seeing our new leaders embrace their roles and make a positive contribution to our school in 2027.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS	SCHOOL VICE CAPTAINS	STUDENT COUNCIL
Elisa Foo	Dhanya Bharadwaj	President: Kavin Parthiban
Yasiru Wijesooriya	Shannon Livanos-Maywee	Vice President: Karis Tung



PREFECTS		
Amelia Abbott	Ellie Jones	Abby Scurr
Malak Abu-Omar	Ravneet Kaur	Raina Shih
Laura Anghel	Lucas Lam	Emily Thiele
Yashi Atapattu	Janya Madan	Rudra Tiwari
Leeroy Bingwor	Asher Morris	Sienna Tung
Eloise Brown	Kymani Ndenda	Inuki Wedalage
Mia Chalmers-Matsukawa	Vani Panchal	Jacqueline Young
Pranav Chandramouli	Charlotte Petersen	Christina Zhang
Evelyn Chen	Chelsea Petersen	Timothy Zhao
Jacob Chipperfield	Samuel Petin	
Jaime Fallis	Juliette Pieplu	
Siona Gulati	Caesar Pun	
Ayesha Hemani	Angel Puri	
Tam Minh Hoang	Felicity Schaeffer	

Outdoor Learning Area

From unused space to a vibrant Outdoor Learning Area. In Term 3 our new Outdoor Learning Area (OLA) was completed. What was once an unused, poorly draining area behind the Assembly Hall has been transformed into a versatile space featuring a range of seating areas, while retaining the established trees that provide valuable shade. New stairs also provide improved access to the oval beside the Terraces.

The OLA is already proving to be a valuable addition to our school grounds. Students enjoy using the space during breaks, while staff can use it as an outdoor learning environment and a break-away space for a range of learning activities. It has even provided the backdrop for our most recent school photo shoot!

This project was jointly funded through a Department of Education grant and the Mansfield State High School P&C Association.

We extend our sincere thanks to our P&C Association for their generous support. Their contribution helped make this project possible and has created a wonderful new space for our school community to enjoy for years to come. Our P&C Association members work closely with the school administration to identify areas of priority and invest the profit made through the Canteens and Uniform Shop into resources that benefit the whole school community. Thank you!



Before

After





Humanities Week

10-14 August 2026



Humanities Week brought history, culture, creativity and competition to life across the school in Week 6. Students took part in a fantastic range of activities, from Minecraft and Blooket competitions to mythology scavenger hunts, crime scene investigations, skirmish wargames, trivia and even a Humanities Escape Room. Students also put their creativity on display through journaling, sculpture, coin making and braiding medieval friendship bracelets.

A highlight of the Humanities Week was the annual teacher versus student debate, held on Friday 7 August. Debating the topic 'Power comes from really big hats' our student debaters successfully argued for the affirmative.

With prizes and plenty of opportunities to get involved, Humanities Week 2026 was a wonderful celebration of learning beyond the classroom.





Sea World Educational Program

The Sea World Educational program introduces students to the numerous ways humans are interconnected to the oceans and their inhabitants. Our Year 11 Science in Practice students engaged in inquiry-based learning activities to discover how Earth has experienced climate change previously, and how human actions are contributing. While at Sea World, students collected data on Sea World's Sustainable practices for their assignment.



Schooling in the 2036 Metaverse

On 16–17 July, Year 9 TIC students completed a two-day workshop at the Queensland Government XR Hub at The Precinct, Fortitude Valley. Trained in entrepreneurship, innovation and STEM by BOP Industries, students explored future jobs and prepared a pitch for Mansfield leadership on how to prepare for the students of 2036. They brainstormed what future schooling in the Metaverse could look like, considering campuses, classrooms, lesson content and equipment.



Women in Engineering

The University of Queensland (UQ) invited Mansfield State High School, along with other high schools, to participate in its “Women in Engineering” Experience Day. The event encourages female students to consider studying Engineering by providing valuable insights into the discipline and a firsthand look at what it is like to study Engineering at UQ.



Term 3 Learning and Teaching Conference

28-29 August 2026

Mansfield’s Learning and Teaching Conference reflects our commitment to ongoing professional learning and high standards. Led by our expert learning and teaching team, the conference explored research-informed strategies to strengthen teaching practice and enhance student engagement and learning.



Year 11 Leadership Camp



On Friday 7 August and Saturday 8 August, 150 Year 11 students embraced the rewarding experience of Year 11 Leadership Camp. Through a range of activities, team-building activities and shared experiences, students strengthened their leadership skills and built new connections with their peers. It was wonderful to see our students step outside their comfort zone and demonstrate confidence and collaboration as they transition into their role as Seniors for 2027.





Music

Sing! Sing! Sing!

Friday 7 August 2026



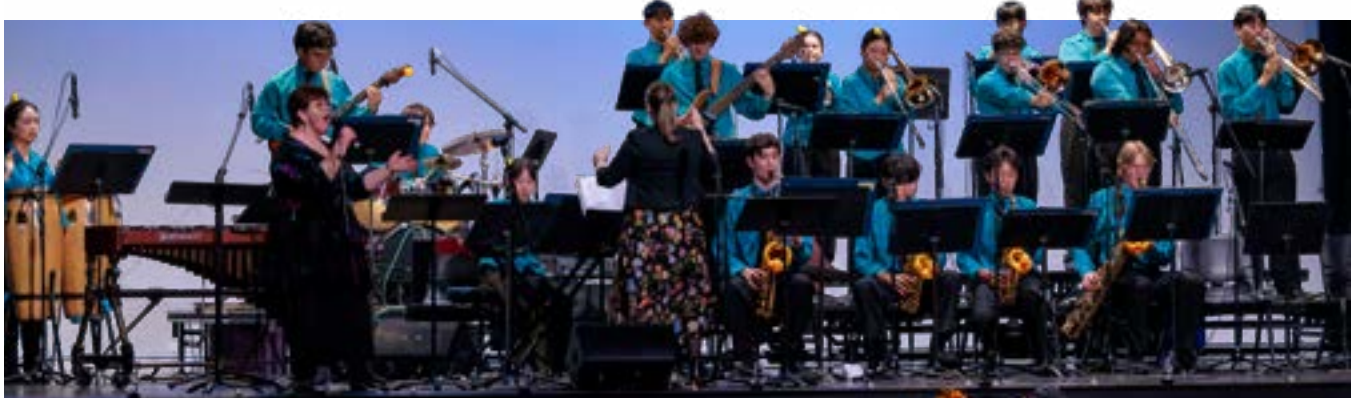
Battle of the Bands

Friday 14 August 2026



Jazz Night

Friday 21 August



Year 12 Trivia Night

Friday 17 July 2026



QDU Debating Competition Finals



Our Mansfield debaters had an outstanding 2026 QDU season, with eight teams progressing through to the knock-out finals rounds. We are incredibly proud of the commitment, skill and determination shown by all of our debaters throughout the competition.

A particular highlight was our Year 9.1 team, who took out the Grand Final in an incredible achievement. Beginning the competition among 170 Year 9 debating teams, our 9.1 team remained undefeated throughout the entire season.

In the Grand Final, the team argued the negative side of the

topic, “That access to humanitarian aid should be conditional on a country’s human rights record.” Speaking with poise, conviction and passion, the team defeated Mount Maria to claim the title.

Congratulations to Jessica Lin, Hanako, Muhammad Farhaj, Dana Hwang, Katie Moon and Erika Carey on this outstanding achievement.

We are so proud of all our Mansfield debaters and look forward to seeing what they achieve in the 2027 season!



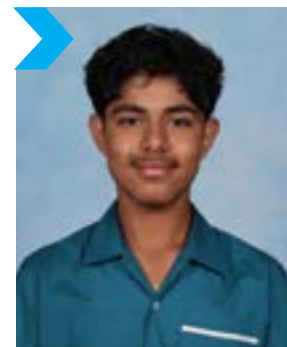
Jessica Lin



Erika Carey



Hanako



**Muhammad
Farhaj**



Dana Hwang



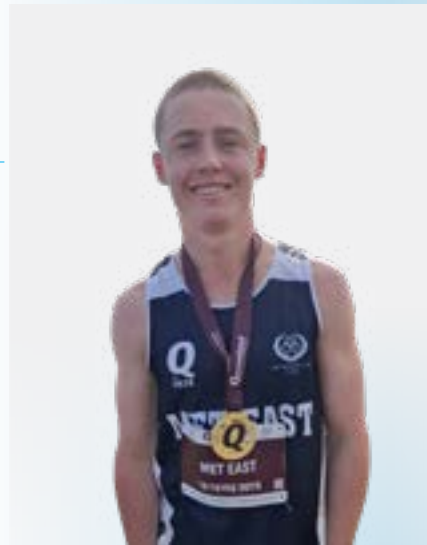
Katie Moon

Representative sport



James Booth

Congratulations to Year 12 Student James Booth who recently travelled to Sydney to compete at the National Schools Cross Country Championships. James had an individual finish of 8th with an overall time of 26.02 minutes for the 8km course.



Sahara Wright

Congratulations to Year 7 student Sahara Wright who performed on and off the field at the Schools Touch Football State Carnival in Bundaberg. Sahara helped her Met East team achieve a Bronze Medal at the State Championships and then won praise by her Coaches with the way she conducted herself during the Championships.



Lee Galea

Congratulations to Year 7 student Lee Galea who was part of the Queensland 12yrs Netball team that won Gold at the National School's Championships held in Darwin over the holiday break.



World's Greatest Shave

Tuesday 11 August 2026

Our students and staff bravely donated their hair and raised funds for the World's Greatest Shave, showing incredible generosity and support for people impacted by cancer. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make a difference!





House Cup - Junior Volleyball

Friday 31 July 2026



House Cup Senior Volleyball



Friday 17 July 2026





House Cup - Junior Touch

Friday 7 August 2026





House Cup Senior Touch

Friday 21 August 2026



House Cup Mansfield's Got Talent

Thursday 17 September



*Congratulations to our 2026 Mansfield's Got Talent winners
Aaliyah Trilford, Sahana Naidu, Samanvi Madiwalar, Chloe Zhang,
Olivia Lee, Amy and Sashini Bandara.*





Our 2026 runners-up
**Faith Chambers and
Holly Kindt.**



Emmanuel City Mission visit



Saturday 1 August 2026

Our students and staff visited Emmanuel City Mission, delivering another truckload of donations collected through the Mansfield Homeless Drive. While there, they cooked meals, helped clean and sort clothing, and spent time chatting with and supporting the many people who visited the Mission. It was a meaningful opportunity for our school community to turn generosity into action and make a positive difference to those experiencing homelessness.



Friendship Week



10 - 14 August 2026

Term 3 saw Rauchle Service Team raise funds for the PA Research Foundation through our annual Friendship Week. Students enjoyed a range of activities promoting friendship, while our donut sales and Friendship Week stalls raised an impressive \$1,160. An awesome result from an awesome week!



Year 7 Science Fair



Friday 14 August 2026

Science Week is always a highlight of the year, with our annual Year 7 Science Fair bringing the week to a spectacular close. Every Year 7 class competed, with the top 130 experiments selected to compete across four senior science categories.

Six external judges from UQ, QUT and Griffith University had the difficult task of selecting the top three experiments in each category. Gold medals were presented at the Year 7 Parade, with silver, bronze and the overall class trophy awarded in Week 8.

Our Year 7 students achieved some fantastic results. 7W and Mrs Treacy secured one silver and two bronze medals, while 7F and Ms Kenney were our standout class winners, taking home two gold medals. Congratulations to all our Year 7 students for their creativity, curiosity and enthusiasm for science!



RUOK Day

Friday 17 September 2026



Digital Solutions Mentorship

Our Digital Solutions Mentorship program facilitated one-to-one mentoring with industry and academic professionals providing our Year 12 students with confidence, practical advice and valuable networks.



Careers in the age of AI

During our Mansfield MyPath Careers Expo, our panel “Technology Careers in the Age of Cyber, AI and Quantum” was standing room only. Our panel members Rashan Senanayake (Inspired/QUT), Dr Steve Bickley (ARC BITA QUT), Guy Barry (Quantum Australia), Dan Boucaut (Cisco Systems) and Logan Daley (Sekuro IO) gave our students and families excellent advice. Stay informed, many future roles don’t yet exist, know your technology fundamentals and stay connected. Great advice and we are grateful to them for generously sharing their time.



UQ Science Festival

Eighteen Year 11 Biology students attended the UQ Science Festival, becoming scientists for the day as they explored how researchers detect harmful bacteria, develop new ways to fight infections, and create innovative solutions to protect people, animals and our environment.



Meet a Scientist

This term, we saw great interest in our final three Meet a Scientist sessions for 2026, exploring Mental Health, Addiction and Robotics. Held after school, these sessions give students with a passion for science the opportunity to hear from experts and explore fascinating areas of scientific research.



2026 Literary Festival



Congratulations to the winners and highly commended students from our 2026 Literary Festival.
The calibre of student work was outstanding.

COMPETITION	CATEGORY	WINNER	HIGHLY COMMENDED
Anthology Cover	All	Christina Zhang	
Comic CONversion	All	Tarini Saravanan	Ebaadullah Khan
Erasure Poetry	All	Tam Minh Hoang	Julia Chen
Photography	All	Hae-Yo Jang	Stella Tran
Poetry	Year 7-8	Lakshitha Sivakkumar	
	Year 9	Harleen Kaur Grewal	Ayrin Cleetus
	Year 10	Hanadi Khan	Haya Abdelrahman
	Year 11	Eric Yang	Prathibha Ranasingha Mudiyansele
	Year 12	Allegra Conlon	Jacqueline Liu
Micro Fiction	Year 7-8	Raahi Patel	Siena Sbaraini Mangabeira
	Year 9-10	Madeleine Sharp	Christine Chin
	Year 11	Kate Jeon	Nikisha
	Year 12	Ifra Khan	Arshiya Imran
Short Stories	Year 7	Izzy Azlan	Aliana Corey
	Year 8	Luci Walker	Kavya Patel
	Year 9	Christine Chin	Shreeja Shukla
	Year 10	Aisha Fairest	Hetanshi Joshi
	Year 11	Therese Bony	Emily Thiele
	Year 12 English	Giordan Diacopanagiotis	Annabel Bobby Alex Kan
	Year 12 Literature	Arshiya Imran	Zane Mosbergen



Anthology cover,
created by
Christina Zhang



Book in a Day

As part of the Mansfield Literary Festival, students took part in our 'Book in a Day' Workshop, creating and illustrating their own books from start to finish. Their creativity and imagination shone through, with vibrant illustrations bringing their stories and characters to life.



Chappy Day



Chappy Day 2026 was a fantastic celebration of community, generosity and fun, bringing students, staff and supporters together to raise funds for our school chaplaincy service.

Held on 23 July, the day featured a barbecue, fairy floss, sweet treats, soft drinks, Lob-a-Choc, table tennis competitions and live music from a talented student band. A standout was the Ray White-sponsored dunk tank, where brave teachers and a School Captain took the plunge into ice-cold water!

The success of Chappy Day was made possible by our generous sponsors, donors and volunteers, including local churches, parents and former students. As our only annual chaplaincy fundraiser, the event helps support a four-day-per-week chaplaincy presence and ongoing support for our students. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success!



Thanks to our Gold Sponsors of Community Spirit, Ray White Mt Gravatt



NAIDOC Week

The 2026 NAIDOC Week theme was '50 Years Deadly'. NAIDOC Week provides our school with opportunity to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island history and culture.

Many activities and events ran throughout the week. Students had the chance to play the traditional Indigenous game 'Tarnambai', run by our First Nations Prefect Mackenzie Ogilvie. Georgia Wockner also led a Torres Strait Island dance 'Sesere Eeye', in our new outdoor learning area.



Maths Challenge



Congratulations to our Intermediate and Senior Maths teams for their outstanding results in the Maths Team Challenge held at Canterbury College on Tuesday 28 July. Competing against other Brisbane schools, our teams achieved the following results.

	INTERMEDIATE (Year 9 and 10)	SENIOR (Year 11 and 12)
1st Place		Tracy Che, Aaron Dai, Setayesh Hashemy, Rudra Tiwari and Yasiru Wijesooriya
2nd Place	Upeja Arachchillage, Isaac Chan, Alson Fung, Enzi Gai and Ritika Joseph	
3rd Place		Alex Kan, Chanithu Loku Marakkalage, Carol Shu, Brian Tran and Angela Wang

