Principal's Message

Dear Parents

Our Parent Information sessions will finish this week on Thursday with our Prep evening. Once again, thanks to parents for attending these very important meetings and congratulations to all our teachers on conducting such informative and professional meetings.

Mr Hardy has had to take leave due to family responsibilities and our HPE teacher, Mr Jared Fraser is acting as Deputy Principal for Years 5 and 6.

On Wednesday we had our first P&C meeting for the 2015 school year. We discussed a fund-raising calendar for the year, our new tuckshop convenor, Sharon Dick presented her report and we thanked uniform convenor, Mrs Fiona Steele for her valued contribution to our school. Mrs Steele is resigning from the position. I spoke about our Enrolment Management Policy, updated parents on news about being an Independent Public School and our entitlement to a new teacher and a fourth Deputy Principal. We really value parent involvement and input into decision making at our school so please come along to these meetings. Our next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 March in the staff room. As it will also include an AGM meeting, we will commence earlier at 6pm.

Thank you so much parents for your voluntary contribution this year. This money enables us to install air-conditioners and classroom dividers through the school. I have attached a map of the school showing where these are placed. Our teachers are most appreciative of both the air-conditioning and dividers as they have a very positive impact on student learning.

We now have a small group of parents and community members who are keen to establish a Gardening Group at our school. Please contact the school office if you would like to help. A meeting will be held on Monday 16th Feb 3:10pm in the SEP. All are welcome to attend to discuss any concerns/feedback you may have so far. It will only be a short meeting to discuss feedback and ideas about the parent group.

Thanks parents for ensuring that your children wear full school uniform, including plain black shoes (leather or joggers are acceptable). We are doing regular uniform checks on students and several have already had their names picked out of the box outside the tuckshop and have won a free ice-block.

Chappy Doug has been absent all week due to illness. When he returns to work, his days will be Tuesday to Friday.

This Friday is our school’s Investiture Assembly for our 2015 student leaders. Congratulations to Tiani,
Oliver, Alyssa, Alahni, Ryan, Hayden, Tina and Ailsa. Special guests for this special ceremony will include Member for Currumbin, Mrs JannStuckey, Kids Hope Coordinator, Mrs Jan Drury and former school captain of ElanoraSHS, Mikey Mendoza. The assembly commences at 9.30am in the PAC.

On Tuesday 10th February Elanora State School students in years 4-6 were most fortunate to receive a visit from players from the NRL All Stars V Indigenous All Stars game. The players took part in a fantastic parade to outline why health & fitness is important to them. Each player was able to talk to the students about the challenges in their day to day commitments as professional athletes and how hard work and perseverance lead them to living successful lives.

Warm Regards,

Tricia Neate
Principal

Coming Up:

Friday 13/2    Student Leaders Induction
Interschool Sport Trials

Monday 16/2 Lions’ Breakfast
            3.10pm Parent Gardening Group (first meeting)
Tuesday 17/2  3.10pm BBQ for all our Indigenous Families –
Beyond Prep Red

P&C News

Hi All

How good do our senior students look in their new sports shirt?! Students love it and are wearing it with so much pride. The P & C had a small committee who pulled this together. Thankyou very much to Nick Pearce of Aesthetic Design & Marketing for his time creating the shirt design. Thank you to Fiona Steele, Leah O’Reilly, Sonja Masia and Jacqueline Holland for overall decision making and organising the project.

Melanie Allen
P&C Secretary

PE Extension 2015

Try-outs have started for this year’s PE Extension class. Students will be tested on the number of push ups in 30 seconds, the number of sit-ups in 60 seconds, the distance gained in a Standing Long Jump and the Beep Test which involves a repeated 20 metre shuttle run. When all test results are in, 30 students will be chosen from the Year 6 classes and these students will then take part in an extra hour of Physical Activity each week with an emphasis on developing personal fitness. Students who gain selection will also be expected to have a high standard of behaviour and commitment to classroom studies and homework. Over the 4 Terms of study, students will experience a wide range of physical activities including fitness circuits, boxing drills, yoga, bootcamp style circuits and the like. One of the highlights of the program is the day we spend at the Runaway Bay Sports Centre in September.

More information will follow when the group is chosen. I will publish the names sometime over the next 4 weeks or so. Best of luck to your son or daughter if they are interested in being part of the group this year.

Mrs Penfold
Teacher, PE Extension
**Successful Co-Parenting**

**Wednesday**

25th March

Palm Beach

Neighbourhood Centre

9:15am (Registration)

1:30pm

The focus of this workshop is to:

- **Build resilience in your children**
- **Protection for children around loyalty conflicts**
- **Critical thinking skills for children when one parent has anti-social behaviour**
- **Promoting flexibility in difficult co-parenting communication**
- **Honesty between parents and children**
- **Strategies to assist parents who are dealing with challenging ex-**

For more information please contact Melita from the PNNC team on (07) 5598 1505.

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**HAPPY PARENTS HAPPY KIDS**

Free Parenting Course

YOUR PARENTING IS ABOUT TO GET A WHOLE LOT EASIER!

- A basic two to three session course that will give parents information regarding skills they need for a healthy, peaceful, active, courageous and living family in a changing world.
- Course content covers: parenting styles, strengthening child-parent relationships, understanding differences in children and how these differences impact the way they behave.

Location: Palm Beach Neighbourhood Centre
16 Third Avenue, Palm Beach

Date: 4th and 11th or 18th March 2015 (the second session date parents attend will depend on the energy type of their children)

Time: 9:30am – 1:30pm – 4th March 2015
9:30am – 12:30pm – 11th and 18th March 2015

This course runs for 3 sessions over 3 weeks.

Bookings are essential (07) 5598 1505
A Message From QLD Health - Tobacco Law Changes

Tobacco Law Changes – 1 January 2015

From 1 January 2015, a number of changes to Queensland’s Tobacco laws commenced. The changes are aimed at reducing the uptake of smoking and making it less socially acceptable to smoke given the long-term adverse health effects. While Queensland Health widely publicised the changes in the media during December and January, you have been sent this communiqué to enable you to assist your staff, parents and visitors to comply with the new laws.

Schools & Hospitals
The Tobacco law changes affect smoking in and around schools and hospitals/healthcare facilities. From 1 January 2015, it is illegal to smoke on hospital or school grounds (public or private/independent) and within 5m beyond their campus boundaries.

A summary of amended Queensland tobacco laws can be viewed at:

Schools:

Hospitals and healthcare facilities:

The above links also provide access to downloadable no-smoking signage. It is recommended that signage be placed at strategic points around the facility, including at entrances to the campus.

E-cigarette
As part of the Tobacco law changes, e-cigarettes are now subject to the same laws as regular cigarettes. The change means that e-cigarettes, which the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998 (TOSPA) defines as ‘personal vaporisers’, cannot be used anywhere it is illegal to use regular cigarettes including on hospital or school grounds and within 5m beyond their campus boundaries.

Enforcement of the new laws
Queensland Health Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) appointed under TOSPA are authorised to issue on-the-spot fines for persons found to be smoking on hospital or school grounds and within 5m beyond their campus boundaries (fine amount $226). As part of the introduction of the new laws, EHOs will, in the first instance, provide education and issue warnings to persons found in breach of the legislation. Repeat offenders and persons refusing to comply with a lawful direction can expect to receive an on-the-spot fine.

Request for Assistance
During the introductory phase of the new laws, EHOs will be conducting surveillance around hospitals and schools at peak times (for schools this will be at the commencement and completion of the school day). To assist with this task, an EHO will be in contact with the school to seek information about what information has been provided to staff and parents and also to request advice about the actual boundary of the school grounds (ie a map of the school property boundary). Your assistance with this request is appreciated.

Further Information
Should you require further information or advice, please contact the Gold Coast Public Health Unit on 07 5568 3700 or email EH_GoldCoast@health.qld.gov.au

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www.goldcoast.health.qld.gov.au
Japan Trip 2015

The planning stages for the Japan Study Tour in September 2015 are well underway, as a number of parents and students have expressed interests in participating this trip.

This year we will open the Study Tour to Year 5 and 6 students who meet the selection criteria. This consideration has been made as our study tour is biannual and there will be no trip to Japan when current year 5 become year 6. We will be hosting our Japanese friends from our sister school in 2016 instead.

Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 February at 5.30 pm in the resource centre. Interested parents and students are invited to this meeting.

Our agenda for next Tuesday will be to discuss the following:

- Draft Itinerary
- Proposed Travel Dates
- The Application Process for Students
- Financial Timeline for Deposit and Payments
- Anticipated Costs

For the purpose of arranging the seating, please contact me on ytatt1@eq.edu.au

Yumi Tatton
Language Teacher

Uniform Shop News

To Parents and Caregivers

My name is Leah O'Reilly. Some of you will already know me. I have been volunteering in the uniform shop for a number of years now. This year I have been given the opportunity to become Elanora State School's new uniform shop convenor and the P&C administrator. I am honoured to take on this position and I look forward to working with our school and the community.

I would like to thank Fiona Steele for her many years of service to Elanora State School. Fiona will surely be missed. She was an integral part of our school community. On Wednesday 25th February, 11am, we will be having a morning tea for Fiona. It shall be hosted in the new P&C room (beside the uniform shop). Please join us in wishing Fiona all the very best in her new endeavours.

Grade 5 and 6 Sports Shirt - 2015

A new sports shirt has been introduced for Interschool sport for 2015. The shirt will be worn by students every Friday for Interschool Sport regardless of which sport they choose to participate in. The shirts are available for purchase from the uniform shop. Cost $38.00.

For all grade 5 students this will be a compulsory purchase; however for grade 6 students this will be optional. Please note that students in grade 5 will need a shirt by the beginning of Interschool sport, which commences on 20th March.

Any questions please email schooluniform@elanorass.eq.edu.au or see Fiona or Leah in the Uniform Shop.

Volunteers Wanted

Thank you to those parents who volunteer in the Uniform Shop, your help is invaluable and the shop
could not operate without you. We are currently seeking a few more volunteers, so if you could spare any time, particularly between 8.15am – 9.00am please contact Leah in the Uniform Shop.

Thank you

Leah O'Reilly
Uniform Shop Convenor

Tuckshop News

Wednesday sushi is coming soon! We have sourced and tested a very reputable owner/operator for our sushi. Sushi will be available starting Wednesday 25 February. To guarantee you get sushi we recommend you pre-order at our tuckshop. Otherwise we will have a small stock of fresh sushi on hand for our online orders.
We are phasing our brown paper bag ordering by Term 4 of this year. Please see me if you need help with online ordering through flexishchools.

Don't forget to come and have a laugh at bootcamp on Wednesday afternoons. Register your name at Tuckshop and bring a towel and water bottle.

Eat clean!

Sharyn Dick
Tuckshop Convenor
tuckshop@elanora.eq.edu.au

Frosty Fridays

FROSTY FRIDAYS
BEAT THE HEAT THIS FRIDAY and QUELCH YOUR THIRST
PURCHASE A FROZEN FRUIT STICK AT THE UNDERCOVER TUCKSHOP AREA AT 2.45PM
COST $1 and a SMILE
ALL PROFITS GO TO SUPPORTING OUR CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM