Habit of Mind

Life can be real rough—you can either learn from your problems, or keep repeating them over and over.

Marie Osmond

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TERM!

In my first term as Principal of Mitchelton State High, there have been many highlights and I know that all staff and the school community have worked hard to make learning a success for our students. Building a learning culture is always an on-going process. I would like to particularly thank my two Deputy Principals, the Heads of Department and House Coordinators for their strong focus on driving improvement in the school. We have seen an improvement in attendance; period and whole day unexplained absences; lateness to school; work completion and uniform standards.

We know, however, that it is the teachers, teacher aides and support staff that work with students in classes every day that make the most difference to children’s learning. I would like to thank all staff for their relentless focus on student achievement. As Principal I strongly believe that if we have a strong focus on “High Expectations” in everything we do in the classroom, ALL students will achieve highly.

To grow a “High Expectations Culture” at Mitchelton State High, we first have to get the little things right. As the Principal I know my staff do not tolerate lateness to class; students not bringing correct equipment; use of iPods/phones in class; sub-standard note-taking in student workbooks; disrespectful use of language; calling out; tasks not being completed; no homework, incomplete or late assessment items and not working right up until the bell goes. We must always have our “foot on the accelerator” when building a “High Expectations Learning Culture”. I thank all parents and the school community for their support as we continue to strive for what is in the best learning interests of our students.

For me there have been many highlights in what has been a very busy term. Thanks to all staff and the school community for all your hard work and below is a list of some of the successful activities and events that have taken place:

- Rock Eisteddfod State Winner
- Nanryo High School Study Tour
- Broncos Mentoring Program
- Literacy and Numeracy Week
- 40 Hour Famine at Mitchie
- Year 11 Leadership Camp
- Hospitality Tuckshop Project
- Ken Talbot Memorial Project
- Talent Quest in support of the Chaplaincy service
- QLD Core Skills Test completed by our University bound Year 12 students
- High School Experience Days with the Year 6s and 7s from Mitchelton State School
- Excursions in Art, Biology, Mathematics
- Year 10-11 Subject Selection Evening
- District Sport Finals and Athletics Carnival
- Intensive Reading Program developed
- Quadrennial School Report Draft document produced
- Intermediate Music Camp; Band Tour and Recital
- Part Day Truancy Process developed

There are many more successful programs in place at Mitchelton High that... please turn over...
have added value to the education of many of our students. However, I am particularly pleased with the improvement in results we are seeing by students in their subjects. Learning is our core business and we will continue to work strongly on the quality of teaching in the classroom with a relentless focus on individual student achievement.

SEPTEMBER VACATION & TERM 3 2012
The first day back at school in Term 3 is Monday 8 October. There is NO student free day at the start of Term 3. I would like to wish all those families taking holidays over the Spring Vacation, a happy and safe time!

Best wishes,
John Searle—Principal
Email: jsear13@eq.edu.au

Thank You!

I am writing on behalf of all staff, students and community members of Mitchelton State High School to express my deepest gratitude for your recent donation of a fridge to our school. Generous gifts from people such as Brett Young and Angelo Galano of Better Build Constructions Pty Ltd provide ongoing support to an entire community. The fridge has found a new home in our hall kitchen and will be used on a regular basis.

John Searle—Principal
Email: jsear13@eq.edu.au

> Performing Arts Update

Rock Eisteddfod Update
We are still waiting for information from the Rock Eisteddfod organisers about when we will appear on Go channel – it will be in November sometime. This is when we will compete (via the video they produced from our performance) in the National finals. Keep checking the website (www.rockchallenge.com.au/) and under ‘Student’ and then ‘Global’, search ‘library’. Our video is not there yet but will be soon. All participation certificates have arrived so please have your son/daughter collect from P/Arts staff. The judging feedback has arrived and our scores in each category were high but we were thrilled to see a perfect score 15/15 for Performance Skills which included “execution of choreography … effective and sustained characterisation and commitment to performance”, so our students really should be proud of themselves.

Go Mitchie!
Tracey AhBoo

Drama/Dance Update

Date claimers:

Dance Night
Wednesday 17 October
Year 12 Drama Night: Wednesday 31 October
Venue: Hall
Cost: Gold Coin Donation

Next term will be busy for Performing Arts students as rehearsals for Dance Night and Drama Night are underway. Dance Night will showcase classwork from Year 9-12 students. The audience will be delighted by the variety of dance styles performed: from Contemporary, to Contact; from Musical Theatre to Dance Through the Ages. The Year 12 Drama class has scripted their performance, “Who’s Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf” and this Brechtian piece is a mature, dark, complex and controversial (M 15+) examination of psychopaths and victims – which is a fitting performance for Halloween. We hope to see you at both performances.

Ms AhBoo and Ms Scholtz

> Afternoon Tea with The Premier

On Friday 14 September, Lucy D and Jayson B were asked to represent the school at a forum run by the Ashgrove electorate Youth Parliament Representative to find out what the youth in the Mitchelton area thought about issues such as education, transport etc. We canvassed the staff and students for responses on these issues so we were informed on what the youth were thinking. The guest speaker for the afternoon was The Hon Campbell Newman, Premier of Queensland and member for Ashgrove. Students from both primary and secondary schools in the Ashgrove electorate were represented. It was great to actually see how the democratic process of law making is put into practice.

> Did You Know?

Did you know the blue whale can produce sounds up to 188 decibels? This is the loudest sound produced by a living animal and has been detected as far away as 530 miles.

Ashlee Finnigan—Grade 11
UQ Science Ambassador 2012
**International Connections**

…and Iced Chocolate

Mainstream students studying hospitality put their communication skills and knowledge to the test last Thursday afternoon as they invited 24 international students from the HSP centre into their kitchen. Insisting on high standards of health and safety, proper technique and good presentation the mainstream students guided their visitors through all the steps involved in making restaurant quality iced chocolates.

The results? “Delicious!” said Natsumi from Japan. “Christabel was so kind and helpful.”

“It was fun,” said Du from Vietnam.

The preparation, drinking, washing-up and the completion of worksheets provided not only a valuable educational experience, but also a chance for sharing and fostering international understanding. Our thanks go to Mrs Fenoglio and her great team of hospitality students for enabling this beneficial integration experience.

Anne Jones—HSP Teacher
Email: ajone292@eq.edu.au

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**Combined Schools Band**

Our next performance for our combined schools concert band will be on Saturday 20 October at Mitchie Fest at 2 pm at Mitchell State School. Information will be sent home during this week.

We are also looking forward to performing at our annual awards night on Wed 14 November.

*Please Note:* Lessons and band rehearsals will resume with Penny Hall on Thursday 11 October. Strings lessons with Terri Giesen will resume on Tuesday 9 October.

If your child is interested in learning a strings, woodwind, brass and percussion instrument please contact Penny Hall.

Viva la musical

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**HSP News**

At the end of last term HSP students enjoyed an excursion to the Roma Street Parklands and State Library. It was a wonderful day. The weather was glorious. The students enjoyed a typical Australian BBQ and then explored the mysteries of the State Library. Of course one of the most popular experiences was eating lunch and chatting (in English of course).

During the excursion the students took a walk around the beautiful Roma Street Parklands and got up close to water dragons. They helped cook the sausages and kebabs but strangely went missing when the cleaning up started. Then we all walked to the State Library. The library was explored thanks to the guidance of Nathan, who showed us the many floors and sections of the building. Did you know there is a whole area for design and Asian texts? It was amazing.

The students were encouraged to ask questions and read all the signs and information panels. Mrs Harch said, “The weather was perfect for a BBQ. The students enjoyed the opportunity to chat and cook together. I think they really enjoyed it.” The excursion was best summed up with the words of Yu F who said, “I really liked today. I liked seeing the park and cooking a BBQ.”

Andrea Pugh—Director of Studies (HSP)
Email: apugh2@eq.edu.au

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**Casual Position Available**

The Cheesecake Shop at Mitchell is looking for casual staff for after school, weekend and holiday work. Applicants should have a cheerful disposition, the ability to handle money and interact with clients and a good work ethic. Please contact Bernadette (0408 068 361 or 3354 4800), or drop your resume in to the store at 640 Samford Road Mitchelton.
First Aid:
Be prepared in the event of an accident or emergency with the ultimate, nationally accredited First Aid training course. For just $49 you will learn CPR and emergency care in this in-depth, two-day program held at BNIT Caboolture campus.

Art of Espresso:
For just $80 learn to make the perfect espresso at home or boost your chances of a job in hospitality with this nationally accredited, single day master class. Classes are held at BNIT Bracken Ridge campus on Fridays.

Licence to Serve:
Have you got your licence to serve? For just $45 you can get a Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) Certificate and the basics you need for a job in clubs, pubs, bars or licensed premises. These highly popular single day courses are held at BNIT Bracken Ridge campus.

**Enrol now!**
131 248
www.bn.tafe.qld.gov.au

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**Auto Xperts**

Servicing all makes and models

Need your car serviced? Why not go along to Auto Xperts at Fairfield behind the Fairfield Gardens Shopping Centre and have Adam and Susan Tanner service your vehicle. Susan is a past Mitchie student and they are offering great deals to new customers.

**MINOR SERVICE**
- 4 Cylinder Petrol $69
- 6 Cylinder Petrol $79
- 8 Cylinder Petrol $89

Specials on diesel, 4wd, light truck and commercial servicing available

*Some makes and models may be excluded from the special, please contact for Terms and Conditions

36c Brougham Street
Fairfield QLD 4103
07 3844 5594

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**Pedestrian access change postponed**

Based on community feedback, we have decided not to progress with the removal of the pedestrian maze at the outbound end of Mitchelton station, in order to undertake further assessments of community and passenger impacts.

Any further steps will be determined by the outcome of these assessments.

For safety, before you cross the tracks:
- Wait until the pedestrian gates have fully opened
- Avoid distractions
- Look both ways and ensure no trains are approaching in either direction.

For further information please email communityengagement@qr.com.au or call (07) 3235 1519.
A presentation by
Anna Tullemans

Anna is a consultant in Autism Spectrum Disorder,
Asperger’s Syndrome, and Autism.
She is also the author of 9 books

Thursday 13 September 2012
10.00 am to 1.00 pm

Do you want to know why your child has difficulty with...

- Going to bed and sleeping?
- Putting away the game console?
- Going shopping (supermarket and for clothes)?
- Going on holidays?
- Playing with his/her siblings?
- Meltdowns at inappropriate times!
- Do you want a better understanding of how stress affects your child and what you can do about it?
- Do you want to know why everything has to be exactly right before your child can attempt new things?

These are all behaviours which are telling us something. We just need to understand how to decipher and interpret this behaviour so we can help our children. We will look at 5 key strategies which will help you and your child.

This workshop will give you an understanding of what individual behaviours mean, and how that behaviour is your child’s way of telling you how he/she feels and what he/she needs. It will focus on giving you ideas to try and opportunities to share ideas with other parents of what has worked for you and your child.

For bookings please contact ASA on 07 3865 2911

Following the workshop, there will be opportunities for follow up individual consultations with Anna at the Asperger Centre, Unit 1, 16 Yarraman Place, Virginia

BOOKING FORM

ASA Subscriber: $45.00 Non ASA Subscriber: $85.00 Concession: $60.00

Only prepaid seating is available

ASA subscriber? Yes □ No □ Parent/Carer □ Teacher □ Health Professional □

School/Organisation Name: ___________________________ Dietary Requirements: ________

First Name: ___________________________ Surname: ___________________________ email: ___________________________

Address: ___________________________ Town: ___________________________ State: ________ Post Code: ________

PAYMENT DETAILS: send no cash Credit Card/Cheque/Money Order/Bank cheque/online booking www.asperger.asn.au

Direct Banking: Westpac Bank BSB 034-254 Account No 114716

Credit Card: Master Card □ Visa □

Cardholder’s No: ___________ Expiry date: / Cardholder’s Name: ___________________________

Office Use Only:

Receipt No: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________ Card: ___________

Amount: ___________________________ Registration No: ___________________________