Habit of Mind

Life without endeavour is like entering a jewel mine and coming out with empty hands.

Japanese Proverb

Important November Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THUR 01</td>
<td>Year 11 Explore Uni Day</td>
<td>8.30AM—2.30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 02</td>
<td>P&amp;C Bingo and Big Raffle Night</td>
<td>7PM—9PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAT 03</td>
<td>Possible airing date for Rock Eistedffod Performance</td>
<td>2PM—3PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>05-09</td>
<td>Year 12 Exam Block</td>
<td>ALL WEEK</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAT 10</td>
<td>Possible airing date for Rock Eistedffod Performance</td>
<td>2PM—4PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED 14</td>
<td>Final Year 12 Assembly</td>
<td>10.30AM—11AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED 14</td>
<td>Awards Night</td>
<td>7.15PM—9PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 16</td>
<td>Final Day for Year 12</td>
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<td>FRI 16</td>
<td>Graduation &amp; Senior Formal</td>
<td>5.30PM—8.30PM</td>
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<td>TUE 20</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting School Library</td>
<td>7PM—8.30PM</td>
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> From the Principal

Quadrennial School Review:

Today the Assistant Director General from Education QLD signed off on our QSR process and Strategic Plan (2013-2016). Below is a description of what the QSR entails and the requirements of our school. The School Planning, Reviewing and Reporting Framework (SPRR) 2012-15 sets out planning, reviewing and reporting requirements for schools.

“Schools review the School Plan annually to gauge the effectiveness of its planned strategies in terms of progress towards the achievement of objectives, and to identify any changed conditions, needs or priorities that require adjustments to the plan. It is an opportunity for a school to consult with the community, reflect on its data, and review improvement planning processes.

The Quadrennial School Review (QSR) is scheduled every four years. The QSR process includes:

- Community consultation
- Internal school review
- Consideration of the achievements of the previous School Plan
- Consideration of previous Plan priorities requiring renewed strategic focus
- Consultation with the Principal’s supervisor
- External review (Curriculum, Teaching & Learning Audit)
- Risk assessment process
- Verification of the review process
- Endorsement of the “School Plan”

Each school must then develop a Four-Year School Plan which details:

- the school’s vision describing the school’s aspirations
- the school’s strategic direction - improvement priorities /strategies/ goals and performance measures and targets
- priorities aligned with Education Queensland’s agenda for improvement outlined in United in our Pursuit of Excellence key strategies for school education
- priorities and strategies in response to the Teaching and Learning Audit (if in use)

A copy of our Strategic Plan (2013-2016) has been posted on the school’s website and will be unpacked at the next P&C meeting on Tuesday 20 November.

Curriculum Teaching and Learning Audit

Last week we had a very successful Curriculum Teaching and Learning Audit. We had two auditors (who are also current High School Principals) in the school. They spoke very highly about the successes at Mitchelton SHS. I would like to congratulate all staff and students in the school who have worked hard since our last audit, which was 2 years ago, on improving so many areas that it moved us into the high categories in most of the things that the auditors were looking at. The auditor said “that this is a little gem of a school”, and he commended us on our strong focus on literacy and particularly the reading program, our successful pathways for students and the great work of our teachers, particularly the learning support and special education teachers, in working with individual students in improving their learning. I will provide a more detailed report in the next newsletter, once the executive summary is posted on the school’s website.
Busy Time for our Senior Students

Term 4 is the time of year where we celebrate the successes that our students have achieved this year. We begin this at our Awards Night on Wednesday 14 November, where we will recognise the outstanding academic and citizenship achievements of our students. I invite you to join with staff and celebrate the successes of our many exceptional students. The evening starts at 7.00pm in the hall.

We farewell our Year 12 students at the Graduation Ceremony on Friday 16 November. This is eagerly anticipated by students and families alike. I look forward to seeing all Year 12 students and their parents/carers at the Graduation ceremony. Year 12 end of year exams will commence on Monday, November 5 and Year 11 exams on Monday, November 26. Parents are reminded that these students must attend school for their scheduled exams and they must be in full school uniform, including correct footwear.

Positive Finish

Finally, I cannot emphasise enough the importance of students attending school and working right through to the end of the term. Many students switch off early in Term 4 and this has very negative effects on their school performances. For our Year 12 students, this is especially important as continuing to work hard right up to the end of the year is critical for a successful transition into work or further study.

Student of the Month


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

5-9 November 2012

The Year 12 end of year exam block will be held during the week November 5-9. In order to allow time for exam and study preparation, normal scheduled classes are suspended during this time. When students do not have a scheduled exam, they are required to be studying and preparing for their assessment. Students who have completed all assessment and outstanding work have the option to either:

- Study at home with parental permission *
- Attend school from 8:45am-2:45pm to attend to their studies in an allocated study room*

Students who have any outstanding assessment in ANY subject or outstanding work for vocational subjects MUST remain at school to complete all the required work. These students will be notified by Thursday 1 November and must attend school from 8:45-2:45 during the exam block. Catch up sessions for these students will be held in either the Senior Schooling Room or the School Library. We request that parents and caregivers of students with outstanding assessment support their student and the school by ensuring this work is completed promptly. We thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on (07) 3550 1111.

*A letter was issued to Year 12 students during Access on Friday and in CARE on Monday. If the slip is not returned the student is expected to be in attendance.

Shelley M Bampton
Visual and Creative Arts Teacher & Acting Deputy Principal
Email: sbamp1@eq.edu.au

Youth Parliament Visit

Phase two of the Youth Parliament project occurred over the September holidays when Michael A, Erika S and Jayson B supported Caitlin (Youth Parliament Representative for Ashgrove) as she delivered her thoughts and issues to Parliament. After the adventure of getting to Parliament House, the students were able to enjoy the session of Parliament. They were seated in the Legislative Assembly Public Gallery Chamber to view the proceedings. Some of the topics under discussion were discrimination, electricity and education. Later they were given the opportunity to look inside the Legislative Council. After some information from Mr Smith on legal history, the student’s contribution to the process was concluded.

Jayson Burow
Year 11 Student

Schoolies and Alcohol

Supplying alcohol to minors is no minor offence

With Schoolies Week just around the corner the State Government is reminding parents of the legal implications of supplying alcohol to minors. This year increased fines include a penalty of up to $8800 for the irresponsible supply of alcohol to people under 18 years of age. Under new laws introduced in 2008, adults must provide responsible supervision if supplying minors with alcohol to consume at a private place. It remains an offence to supply alcohol to minors on licensed premises or in a public place. For more information please visit the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation website at www.olgr.qld.gov.au.
We need your help to gain a grant for a permanent vegetable garden for our Horticulture students. Voting ends this Friday (November 2) so please visit www.cuacommunitycare.com.au and vote for Mitchelton State High School. You can also vote at the Chermside CUA. One vote per email address is permitted as well as one in-store vote. Please also ask your friends and relatives to vote. Thank you to everyone who has already voted—we appreciate your support.

Marilyn Milner
Teacher
Email: mmiln6@eq.edu.au

Warehouse Shopping Tour
Come along and join in the fun!
Saturday 24 November, 2012
Cost: $40 includes lunch
A time to grab lots of bargains in time for Christmas. Have fun with a wonderful group of ladies—no men allowed (except the bus driver).
Funds raised will aid our sponsored children and families in Thailand.

RSVP: By 10 November
Angela 0407140110  angmcleod@hotmail.com
Wendy 0402089450
$10 non-refundable deposit at time of booking is required to secure your spot on the coach as numbers are limited. So get in quick!
Final payment due 17 November.
On the day be at the church at 7:45am to check in. The bus will leave at 8:00am as we have lots of places to go!
Arana Hills Church of Christ Ladies Outreach

Peta Matthewman
Guidance Counsellor
Email: pmatt5@eq.edu.au

An innovative new online awareness campaign for young people highlighting the risks associated with cannabis use was launched last Friday by Minister for Mental Health, Mary Wooldridge. This combined initiative between the Victorian Government and the Australian Drug Foundation aims to ensure that young people aged 13–18 and their parents are informed about the health impacts of cannabis use.

The campaign is interactive and has a number of elements:

For young people

- Facebook page www.facebook.com/dreamsupinsmoke that features campaign materials, information to generate conversation and access to a competition
- Somazone campaign page that provides young people with the opportunity to ask questions, share stories and get help for mental health issues, sexual health, relationships, abuse, body image and drug use
- short film—“Dreams” with secondary students talking about their dreams and hopes
- postcard competition: Reach for your dreams where young people can submit drawings/photos/graphic art etc. that reflect their dreams. Some great prizes are on offer including a high-definition video camera and iPod Nanos, as well as 10,000 copies of the winning design to be printed and distributed throughout schools and cafes in Melbourne via Avant Card
- 4 short films for young people on cannabis (i.e. effects of cannabis, seeking help, and helping a friend)—2 released on Friday 12 October, and 2 released late October. They are available to view via the campaign Facebook page www.facebook.com/dreamsupinsmoke and Somazone.

For parents

- DrugInfo campaign page, where a new cannabis FAQ section for parents has been added
- 2 fact sheets for parents on cannabis—Cannabis and young people: the facts, released on 12 October, and another to be released in late October.
- 2 podcasts for parents: “Talking to your kids about cannabis” by Michael Carr-Gregg, released on 12 October, and another on “The effects of cannabis” by Dan Lubman—to be released in late October (both also available through iTunes).

For more information or to enter the Reach for your dreams competition, visit www.facebook.com/dreamsupinsmoke or www.somazone.com.au.
Mitchelton State High School

PROJECT: Permanent Vegetable Garden

- Install permanent structures for vegetable gardens
- Implement lessons on sustainable living
- Teach our kids about the importance of caring for the environment
- Encourage students to eat fresh and healthy food on a budget
- Maximise our use of scarce resources

With the help of the CUA grant, we would like to install permanent structures for our vegetable gardens. Our Horticulture students are currently working with improvised gardens; installing permanent structures would allow us to implement lessons on, and be an example to the broader community for sustainable gardening practices, healthy food options on a budget, respect for the environment and maximising our use of scarce resources.

SUBMIT YOUR VOTE TODAY
www.cuacommunitycare.com.au