Habit of Mind

REMAINING OPEN TO CONTINUOUS LEARNING
“To learn is to change”
George B Leonard

Focus on learning and finishing well
We are already three weeks into an important term for our students and it is vital that they finish the year’s learning program well. We will pause several times to recognise the achievements of our students – on Wednesday 29 October at our Drama Night (7.00pm – 8.30pm); on Friday 31 October at our Positive Behaviour Awards (9.00am – 9.45am) and on Wednesday 19 November for our Annual Awards Evening (7.00pm start). I hope you are able to join us for a number of these celebrations. I am looking forward to announcing our 2015 School Captains and Leaderbody as well as recognising the outstanding work by many students.

In fact, it is the balance among work, planning for next year and celebration that I am keen to reinforce this term. There is a very definite order – we celebrate after we finish. We want to finish strongly.

Key message for our graduating class of 2014
I’ve been talking to all of our Year 12 students about the need to understand that these few weeks can make a difference to their final results. Even one great piece of work can help a student move their place up and influence their final result. At worst, a great piece gives us evidence to maintain a student’s place as we moderate results and negotiate around the quality of student work and the standards set. The message is clear – keep working at your best until we are finished… then… we’ll celebrate.

Sun Safety and Uniform
With the warmer months now upon us, UV rays are at their strongest for longer periods of the day. Therefore, we want to continue to encourage both Senior and Junior students to wear their school hats any time they are outdoors.

Students are reminded that they are required to be in the correct school uniform every day. All students must arrive and depart the school grounds in their correct uniform. If there are any issues with your child wearing the correct uniform, students are required to attend the “Uniform Correction Room” prior to their first lesson where they will be managed by one of the school’s Year Level coordinators. A note or phone call explaining the uniform issue is requested. Thanks for your on-going support of the school’s Dress Code.

John Searle
Principal
Email: jsear13@eq.edu.au
**P&C News**

**Raffle - please help us sell the tickets.**
The P&C is currently conducting a fundraising raffle. The major prize is a Weber Q barbecue kindly donated by our local Member for Ashgrove, Campbell Newman. The raffle will be drawn at supper on Awards Night on Wednesday 19 November. We will be selling tickets in local shopping centres over the next three and a half weeks.

Please contact me if you would like to take a book (or more) of tickets to sell, would like to buy some tickets, or would like to help out with selling tickets in shopping centres. The more tickets we sell, the more money we will make and the more we will be able to help our school.

**Tuckshop**
The Tuckshop is open from 8.00am to 1.50pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. On Wednesday and Friday, the Tuckshop closes at the end of first break (11.15am). Food and drinks (other than water) will only be served to students during authorised breaks. Pre-orders can be placed before school.

While the Pre-order Promotion has finished, pre-ordering is still encouraged. Pre-ordering enables you to specify what you want (eg delete salad items & seasonings that you don’t want) and also guarantees that you don’t miss out. It helps the Tuckshop by minimising wastage because we don’t have to guess how many of each item we will sell.

**Uniform Shop**
The Uniform Shop is open from 8.00am to 11.00am on Monday and Thursday. Another day will be substituted when students are not present due to a Public Holiday or Student Free Day.

There will be additional trading days and hours at the end of the year and at the beginning of the new school year. Further details will be provided in coming weeks. We will need volunteers to assist at these times. Please contact me if you are able to help.

**Next Meeting**
The next meeting of the P&C will be held in the Library on **Tuesday 25 November**. This will be the final meeting for the year.

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**G20 Public Holiday for Brisbane Schools**

With the G20 Leaders’ Summit being held in Brisbane in November, our school is taking this opportunity to help our students further explore the world they live in and Australia’s place in the world through this important global event.

Parents and families are reminded that Friday 14 November has been declared a public holiday to ease the impact on the city and help minimise any potential disruptions, and our school will be closed on this day.

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**> Homework Club**
The Homework Club is for students who require help in completing homework and assignments or general support in areas of concern and runs on Monday afternoon from 3pm to 4pm in D Block classroom 6. We have the support of Mitchelton State High School staff who have volunteered their time.

Heather Blake
Deputy Principal
Email: hblak2@eq.edu.au

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**> Guidance Officer News**

**THE BULLY, THE BULLIED AND THE BYSTANDER**
BASED ON THE WORK OF BARBARA COLOROSO, 2002

**Update Three: Girls and Bullying**

There can be a culture of indirect aggression among girls that harms others through damage to relationships or feelings, friendship, or group inclusion. Girls can perpetuate relational aggression, and covert bullying by betrayal, social out-casting, and exclusion.

Research has shown that girls are likely to hurt someone if it means becoming popular. This might come from the tendency of girls to value relationships and understand themselves in context of relationships. For many girls, alienation is the
biggest fear, and while it may seem that girls are obsessed with being popular, this desire might actually be secondary to an intense fear of isolation.

From a victim’s perspective, the effects are multilayered, as she not only loses companionship, but also self-esteem. When popularity and the need for social success are thrown in the mix, girls not only get hurt, they also get a skewed notion of friendship and learn to distrust and manipulate others. This can have a long-lasting negative effect on self-esteem and sense of worth.

It is vital to value adolescents’ experience, and not to view their emotions or pain as “just a part of growing up” or undermine the severity of relational aggression. In the classroom and at home, teachers and parents should encourage girls to feel and express a wide range of emotions, including negative emotions. It is not healthy for girls to be encouraged to be silent.

It’s important that girls develop an authentic sense of self and not to view and experience relationships as manipulative. This can lead to a pattern for girls to expect these things, to see themselves as “dispensable,” and loved conditionally, characteristics associated with future relationship violence and other internalising disorders.

Ann Howlett
Guidance Counsellor
Email: ahowl0@eq.edu.au

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Year 12 Drama presents..... Excess Baggage

Mitchelton SHS Hall
Wednesday, 29 October, 2014
7.00pm - 8.30pm
Gold Coin Donation