From The Leadership Team

School News

From Years 3 and 4

From The Leadership Team

Term 3 Week 4  1/8/2013

Principal’s Message

The Queensland Plan – A 30 year vision for Queensland

Queensland is a great state and our future is full of opportunity. We need to work together to make the most of these opportunities and define a long-term vision for Queensland.

The Queensland Plan will outline our shared vision for the next 30 years and identify local and statewide priorities. It will harness the collective wisdom of Queenslanders and guide future activities delivered by all levels of government, business and the community.

Find out how you can get involved and have your say


Developing the plan

The Queensland Plan is being developed during 2013 through a collaborative process involving community members, business and industry representatives, state and local government officers and Members of Parliament.

Find out more about the journey so far

A second summit will be held in Brisbane in October 2013 when the results of the engagement from Queensland will be compiled. The Queensland Plan will be released in late 2013.

The Queensland Government will actively support the plan’s development and local communities will drive its formation, sponsored by their Member of Parliament. The Queensland Plan will not be a government vision; it will be Queensland’s vision.

Japanese Visit

This week students from Kokuren are visiting our school as part of their intensive English exchange. The Students have been made welcome by our host families and students at Helensvale. I thank our families who are providing a homestay as this provides a great opportunity for our visitors to see what life is really like in an Australian home.

AFL Success

Congratulations to our AFL girls team who yesterday won the state wide Gold Coast Suns Cup and have been crowned champions! Our school has a premiership winning cup to keep as well as a signed GC Suns Jersey-these will go on display in the near future.

New Website Live

Our new website is now live. The new website is based on EQs Websites for Schools format which will make the management of the site easier for school staff to keep current. Currently the website has been populated with basic information and over the next 2 weeks additional information will be added to provide a modern up to date point of reference for existing and new families. If you have any suggestions for the site please email admin@helensvaless.eq.edu.au

QSchools App

The new website also has a link to the new Q Schools App which enables mobile users to access information about the school and receive push alerts about school events.

The app is free and available from the App Store. The link below is a Channel 7 News report about the App.

School Opinion Surveys

The School Opinion Survey process conducted by Education Queensland each year in all Queensland schools has been ongoing over the last two weeks with students, staff and parents completing surveys. Forty parent surveys were issued in accordance with the audit requirements with about 18 still to be returned. If you have received a survey and are unable to complete it, please return it to the office so it can be allocated to the next family on the list. While these surveys are conducted annually parents are always welcome to tell us what they think about our school and make suggestions on how to make a great school better by emailing admin@helensvaless.eq.edu.au

Child Safety

The importance of child safety is paramount at all times at our school. Unfortunately on many occasions, parents place their children in danger when accessing the school grounds. Access to the school entrances via the PAC car park can on occasions be dangerous due to cars double parking, parking on the yellow line in the turn-around area and adjacent to the centre fence. On occasions this year, there has been a number of near misses with children walking through the car park while vehicles are moving in this area. The temptation to take the shortest route to the school is understandable, however it is not always the safest method for children or adults.

Homelines
Informed, timely and accurate information is critical for the effective management of any type of organisation. Our school newsletter, Homelines, provides this information each week but I am not confident that all families have provided the school with an email address to receive our newsletter electronically. Each week our office staff only receive requests for about 3-5 paper copies which does reflect the difference between the email addresses we have against the whole school population. I seek your help to address this issue. This week can you please ask at least one of your friends if they have provided an email address to the office and that they are receiving Homelines? This is such a simple task to complete to enable parents to receive up to date information about their child’s school.

**Travelling Safely**

A number of children travel to and from school by bus and generally their behaviour is excellent. Please remind your children who are bus travellers about the need to sit in their seat, use a low level voice for conversations then leave the bus safely and to always allow time for the bus to move on before crossing the road.

The same message applies to crossing the road, even on a marked pedestrian crossing. Children need to look at approaching cars to ensure they are stopping. These reminders may seem unnecessary if your child is used to the rules, however children as we know, are full of confidence, easily distracted and need reminders to ensure their safety.

**Thought for the Week:**

"People’s minds are like parachutes. To function properly, they must first be open."

WGP

Michael Shambrook

Principal

**From Years 3 and 4**

**Police Visit**

The Grade 3’s have been learning about the purpose of rules for a safe and happy classroom. To understand the importance and value of rules in the wider community, Mrs McAlpine organised a visit from Constable Jones on Monday 29th July. Constable Jones spoke with 3A and 3B regarding the law and how all citizens have a responsibility to abide by it. The students enjoyed asking questions and were very interested in the Constables utility belt. Students are now creating ‘classroom rules’ posters whilst justifying their decisions through this process.
From Years 5, 6 and 7

This term has been a busy and eventful one so far in 7E. It has been full of fun and lots of learning. Take a look at what we have been up to.....

MATHS – In Maths we have been learning about best buys, using shopping catalogues and calculating unit prices to compare the value of various items. We have also started a new round of ‘Tuesday morning maths groups’ where we all go to different teachers based on our skills and strengths. This term we are working through an investigation about petrol prices and learning a range of meaningful skills to solve this investigation.

ENGLISH – In English we are studying the Carole Wilkinson text “Black Snake – The Daring of Ned Kelly”. This is a hybrid text which means it combines chapters that are factual and informative with imaginative “if you were there” chapters. We are developing the skills to write our own imaginative recounts from the point of view of someone in the story.

READING STAMINA – 7E, along with all of the Year 7 classes, have started Reading Stamina sessions daily. Reading stamina aims to improve our reading focus and concentration so that we can read independently and without distraction for increasingly longer amounts of time.
HISTORY – This term Mr James has started as our History teacher. He is teaching us about history with a specific in-depth study of Ancient China.

SCIENCE – This term we are learning about the Earth, Moon and Sun system. We are investigating the phases of the moon, tides and eclipses. We have been amazed by the vast size and distance of our universe!

ART – Our classroom is bright with Aztec suns at the moment! We have studied warm and cool colours to create these vibrant pieces of art.

INTER HOUSE SPORT – Mr Cacciola has started our Inter-house sporting competition each Friday afternoon. We are all in House groups and each Friday we rotate around to a different sport. Some of the sports include foam hockey, continuous cricket, netball, dodgeball, Newcombe ball, badminton, table tennis and many more.
We are scoring each event and an overall House winner will be announced at the end. What a great way to finish our week!

School News

Dear Parents/Carers,

Due to the increase in our community accessing online banking to pay school activities our Finance Window will open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8am to 9.30am. If Parents/Carers would like any information on how to access online banking please email Tracey Smith on tsmit517@eq.edu.au or phone on 55561333.

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Student Absence Line

- 55561370

Don’t forget we have a convenient absence line for parents/carers to access 24/7. Parents can leave a message in relation to student absence for the class teacher on this line. Please phone and leave the following information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child/Childrens Name</th>
<th>Child/childrens class</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date of absence</th>
<th>Reason for absence</th>
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2013 school calendar now available

The 2013 school calendar can be downloaded at www.education.qld.gov.au/public_media/calendar/holidays.html
In 2013 the Labour Day public holiday will move to Monday 7 October and the Queen’s Birthday holiday will be returned to Monday 10 June.

**School News Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29th July-Fri 2nd Aug</td>
<td>Kokuren Junior Study tour from Japan visiting our school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 7th Aug-Thur 8th Aug</td>
<td>Gold Coast North District Athletics Carnival Ashmore Athletics Track</td>
<td>Ashmore Athletics Track</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 7th Aug</td>
<td>NAIDOC Assembly  2pm</td>
<td>Whole School PAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 9th,19th,20th,27th</td>
<td>Gold Coast Eisteddfod- GC Arts Centre</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 18th Aug</td>
<td>MLTAQ Japanese Speech Competition at Griffith University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 16th Sept-Fri 20th Sept</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp-Tallebudgera Beach School</td>
<td>Year 6 Last Payment 22nd Aug</td>
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Payment $2 due now
Helensvale's Got Talent is on its way in term four so start rehearsing now!! Heats will be a little different this year. They will be closed heats which means you will only be performing for a panel of judges and then have an audience if you make it through to the finals. Another change is that is it open to all students from grades 1 to 7. These heats will be held in the music room on a Tuesday and Thursday at morning tea. Students will be judged on set criteria and we will be looking for people who have a high level of skill in their chosen area eg. dance,
drama, singing, playing an instrument, verse speaking, gymnastics etc. and the top few acts will go through to the finals.

Students will know their heat week by the end of term three ready to begin in term four. They will need to check the timetable regularly on the music room window for any changes. Notes will be available from Miss Finter in the music room from Monday week 5 for anyone wishing to participate. All performers will need to have bought back this note before they can audition.

We look forward to witnessing all the amazing talent that Helensvale has to offer!!!

Miss Finter and Miss Purton

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**Gold Coast Health Service**

**District**

**Oral Health Division – School Dental Service**

The Child and Adolescent Oral Health Service has completed routine oral health care for students attending Helensvale State School.

Please consider attending your family dentist in-between offers of care by the Child and Adolescent Oral Health Service to assist in maintaining your child’s oral health.

A pain relief and trauma service operates between offers of care to provide emergency treatment only.

Contact the Oral Health Call Centre 1300 300 850 Monday to Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm excluding Public Holidays.

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**Helensvale State School Girls AFL team crowned the State Champions!**
On Tuesday 30th July the State-wide Gold Coast Suns Cup for Primary School Girls Finals were held at Metricon Stadium. Our team of girls having won the Gold Coast regional finals were now up against the best in the State. With the other teams flying in on the morning of the finals, our girls had the luxury of playing at “home” and turned up to the game very relaxed; there were a few hints of some nerves but that was combined with the excitement of playing for the title of best Primary School Girls AFL team in the state! All the girls turned up ready to play, with all the pre game strapping and anti flam on the muscles, the girls put on the Helensvale Jersey and were ready to strive to succeed!

With a flawless record, the girls went through the day unbeaten! The skills that the girls displayed were of such a high standard, the heart and determination that every player showed was flawless and with 11 superstar individuals combining as 1 champion team it was a pleasure to watch as they went about their business, quarter by quarter dominating every aspect of the game.

The girls were each presented with a premiership winning medal and got to meet some of the Gold Coast Suns Super Stars after the presentation and collected a few autographs as well. As a wonderful donation from the P and C, each player will keep their premiership winning jersey as a memory of this wonderful achievement. AFL QLD has also awarded our school a signed GC Suns jersey that will be on display.

It was an honour to coach these girls and be part of their journey to premiership glory! I wish each and every one of them all the best in their future sporting endeavours.

Michae Cacciola  HPE Teacher / Girls AFL Coach
P & C News

P & C’S WHACKY WEDNESDAY

On Wednesday, 24th July, your P & C held Whacky Wednesday and WOW what a wonderful day we had. We were overwhelmed by the Free Dress and raffle ticket support we received from families. It took us much longer to write out all the tickets and get them delivered to the classes, but this was finally done with the help of Julie, Chris and Tracy and by Sunday night all were written and then issued on Monday.

The Gold Coast Community Art Union with the following prizes – 1st Prize $20,000 Harvey Norman Shopping Spree, 2nd Prize - $1,500 Harvey Norman Shopping Spree, 3rd Prize – Framed Gold Coast SUNS Guernsey signed by all players and 4 x Gold A tickets to a game, value of $1,500, 4th Prize - $1,000 weekend getaway to Sofitel Broadbeach which includes accommodation and dinner will be drawn in early September outside the Harvey Norman store at Bundall. Students name and school contact number were listed on the tickets, so please be assured that all those who paid their $2 had a ticket written for them.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

We are still waiting on some Entertainment books that were issued to students to be returned. It is very important that these books are either returned or you contact the P & C to advise us on what has happened to the book. All books must be accounted for so please assist us in this matter

WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN

All the stickers we collected have been sent in and we are just waiting on confirmation of the number. Once this has happened, we will be able to choose items to order. If any parents have suggestions, please drop an email to pandc@helensvale.eq.edu.au

COOK BOOKS

We have had a hiccup with the printers and are still waiting on these to be printed. We apologise for this and are hopeful that all will be sorted and they will arrive, although delivery may not happen till the end of August.

Order forms went out last term but we are still taking orders, as we will have some for sale through the Uniform Shop.
PLAYGROUNDS

At the recent P & C meeting, a plan of all 3 playgrounds was presented. We had obtained quotes from a number of companies and then went through a Procurement Process which we are required to do by Qld Education. A company was chosen and they were endorsed by the meeting. As you will have noticed, the playground for Grades 1 and 2 has been underway and is nearing completion. Once this has been done, the company will start on taking away the old Grade 3 & 4 playground neat the Multi Purpose courts. A brand new playground and new shade cloth will be installed in this area. We apologise for any inconvenience this work may cause parents and children. I have spoken to the company installing the playgrounds and reminded them to take care when parking their vehicles so as not to restrict the drop off area. I would just ask that parents be patient with us during this process as the end result will be worth it.

Designs of the new playgrounds will be on display in the Community Notice Board for all to see. The final stage, will be the construction of a fitness playground for Grades 5, 6, and 7. This will be constructed under the present covered structure between the 2 storey building and the YMCA. We are trying to have all 3 playgrounds finished by the end of this term. If you have any questions with regard to these playgrounds, just email the P & C on pandc@helensvaless.eq.edu.au

Looking forward to your active participation in our P&C Association.

Leanne Watt

P & C President

Community News

Hockey Qld Coaching Camp

September School Holidays
The Coaching camp is for boys and girls aged 10, 11 & 12 and will be run by qualified Hockey Qld Staff, based around learning new skills and having fun.

Where: Tallebudgera Active Recreation Centre

When: 24, 25 and 26 September 2013 (Tues & Wed Live In)

Clinic includes: 4 x 1hr 30 mins Hockey session. 4 x 1hr 30 mins recreational activities, Mini Olympics

2 camp shirts, posters, hat, water bottle

Cost: $250 (includes all meals and accommodation)

Contact: Daryl Francey 3399 6577 Mob: 0424 012466

Download registration form: www.hockeyqld.com.au

Outside School Hours Care

As part of the tender process for the Outside School Hours Care for 2014, schools are encouraged to survey their parents to obtain relevant information that may form part of the Tender.

It would be of great help if you could answer the questions below and return to the front office by 9:00 am on Friday 2nd August 2013. Or you can email your answers/suggestions to admin@helensvaless.eq.edu.au

- Would you use the service and if yes, how many children
- How many times per week would you utilise the service.
- What features are important to you to have included in the service.

- What value added services would you like the operator to include in the service

Many Thanks

Terry Welch

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07 5556 1300
07 5556 1370

admin@helensvaless.eq.edu.au

http://www.helensvaless.eq.edu.au/

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