We have the official opening of our new tennis courts this Friday at 10am. I encourage all who would like to attend to please come to the front office and receive a visitor’s pass. We have a small ceremony planned and are very proud of this wonderful achievement. We hope to see you there. In closing I would like to thank you for your continued support of our teachers and our wonderful school. It is pleasing to see so many outstanding achievements and success of our very talented staff and students. In saying this there is so much more to achieve and I look forward to reporting these to you in the newsletters to come.

Mr Steve McLuckie
PRINCIPAL

From the Deputy Principal

Don’t forget to claim your Education Tax Refund

With the start of a new financial year it’s time to start thinking about whether your family is eligible for an Education Tax Refund.

The Education Tax Refund lets you claim up to 50 per cent of eligible education expenses for school children.

If you are eligible, you can get back up to $397 for each primary student and up to $794 for each secondary student.

Refunds can be claimed on a range of school items including computer equipment and textbooks. From 1 July this year, the Education Tax Refund will be extended to include schools uniforms.

Remember, you need to keep all receipts for expenses you claim.

To check your eligibility and the full list of what can be claimed visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au or phone 13 28 61.

A Flying Start for Queensland Children

Recently the State Government announced that Year 7 will become part of high school in Queensland by 2015.

The introduction of Prep in 2007 and raising the Year 1 entry age by six months the following year in 2008 means that by 2015 our Year 7 students will be in their eighth year of schooling and more than half of these students will turn 13 during the year. This is the right time for them to start high school. These students are looking for new learning challenges by this time.

From the Principal

Welcome back to Semester 2. I hope you all had a relaxing break and enjoyed some quality time with your family. Term 3 is always the busiest term of the year and already we have been extremely busy in analysing the performance of students in the school. Exit levels of senior school students will largely be determined by their efforts this term. We will certainly be doing all that we can to ensure their success.

You would have now received your child’s first semester academic report. This report will give you a great insight into the performance and productivity of your student. I was very pleased to see so many students and their parents/carers at our recent Parent Teacher Interview Evening. If you were unable to attend and would like feedback on your student’s report please do not hesitate to contact the school to arrange an interview.

We are also trying to guarantee that we are keeping all parents/carers informed about student progress in our school. We will now be sending out in the post a series of letters to parents/carers that highlight important information that will assist you in supporting your child’s education. These letters will provide information on things such as incomplete assessment, students at risk and outstanding performance. This is just another example of our commitment to improving student results.

We have had a positive response to our new school Appearance Policy for 2012. Again I appreciate our wider school community contributing to our school and ensuring that we have an Appearance Policy that is current and reflects the values of our school community. To refresh your memory the following updates will be enforced from 2012 and will give all our families the chance to prepare for the new improvements.

1. Students will not be permitted to wear any form of facial piercings to school. This includes but is not limited to nose, lip, or eyebrow piercings.

2. All light blue (pre 2011) uniform will not be permitted. This includes light blue skirt, light blue PE shirt and shorts and light blue jacket.
The decision to move Year 7, and introduce Junior Secondary in state schools to support the transition of Years 7, 8 and 9, was made after extensive consultation last year during forums with parents and school communities around the state. Junior Secondary will be introduced by 2013 for Years 8 and 9, and will be in place to welcome our Year 7 students in 2015.

This important reform is of great benefit to students because it means they will have the same learning opportunities as their interstate counterparts once the Australian Curriculum is introduced. High school is a good environment for this age group in terms of their social, emotional and academic development.

This is an important reform that is strongly supported by Queensland’s key education stakeholders for the benefits it will bring to young people in the future.

For more information please visit www.qld.gov.au/flyingstart

Money for healthy schools, workplaces and communities

The 2011 Healthy Queensland Awards are open and it’s time to put your best ideas forward.

The Queensland Government has partnered with Keep Australia Beautiful to find the state’s healthiest school, community and workplace.

The awards are open to a range of organisations including community groups, clubs and associations, local government, businesses, charities and, of course, schools.

Winners will share in a total prize pool of $1.6 million to install “healthy” infrastructure that promote improved health and well being.

Entries close Wednesday 31 August.

For more information visit www.kabq.org.au or phone Keep Australia Beautiful Queensland on 3252 2886.

Ms Neroli O’Neill
ACCTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Upcoming Events Calendar

The following are proposed dates on our school calendar

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<th>JULY</th>
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<td>Wed 27th</td>
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<td>Year 12 (A) Marine and Aquatic Coastline excursion</td>
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<td>Year 12 (B) Marine and Aquatic Coastline Excursion</td>
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<td>Australian Maths Competition</td>
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<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Science Week Instrumental Music Eisteddfod (15th - 19th)</td>
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<td>Year 12 Marine Studies Boat Day</td>
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<td>STUDENT FREE DAY RNA SHOW</td>
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Senior Schooling

School Based Traineeships

Congratulations to the 30 students who are completing school-based traineeships in a variety of workplaces. These students are completing Certificate II and III qualifications whilst gaining valuable experience in the work force. For more information about school-based traineeships contact Mrs Graham on 5509 1203 or cghra24@eq.edu.au.

Wednesday QCS Practice

All Year 11 and 12 students who intend sitting the QCS test in 2011 or 2012 must attend QCS practice on Wednesday afternoons during period 4. This includes both OP eligible students and those students wanting a rank. Students who do not intend to sit the QCS test may choose to go home or remain at school to work on assignments.

Year 12

This term is extremely important for Year 12 students. The QCS test is fast approaching (August 30 and 31) and there are assessment items due at various times of the term. I urge Year 12’s to look after their health by eating healthy food and getting sufficient sleep on a regular basis. Effective time management can help reduce stress and increase productivity. A simple way to manage time and workloads is to use a diary or calendar to record all due dates (including draft dates) as well as any other important school dates. Having a visual reminder of upcoming assessment and due dates is a good way to ensure that tasks are handed in on time and time is put aside to study for exams. I urge all Year 12 students to take advantage of the Homework Centre this term.

TAFE Applications

A reminder to Year 9, 10 and 11 students that there are a wide variety of TAFE courses available starting next year. Information and application forms can be obtained from Mrs Graham in F13.

Year 12 students have the opportunity to gain direct entry into a variety of TAFE courses next year. Don’t miss out on this fantastic opportunity – come to F13 and get an application form. Applications close soon!

Mrs Marg Tonge
HOD SENIOR SCHOOLING
PH 5509 1259
EMAIL: mtong4@eq.edu.au
From the Guidance Officer

University Queensland Young Scholars Program

The University of Queensland is once again delighted to offer Southport High the opportunity to participate in the Young Scholars Program (YSP).

YSP is designed to nurture and develop exceptional Year 11 students, the program presents students with a unique opportunity for academic extension and enrichment. UQ Young Scholars will discover, learn and engage with UQ’s academic community, leading thinkers and like-minded students from across Queensland.

The 2011-2012 UQ Young Scholars Program involves:

- A five day (four night) residential camp at the St Lucia campus (Sunday 27 November – Thursday 1 December 2011)
- A two day (overnight) residential camp at the St Lucia campus (Monday 25 – Tuesday 26 June 2012)

During participation in the program, UQ Young Scholars are challenged to think critically about today’s major global issues and are exposed to a wide range of potential study areas and career opportunities. They will engage in discussions and collaborative forums in group settings and enjoy a range of complementary, social, sporting and cultural activities.

See me in my office for a brochure and further details.

2011 Griffith Guaranteed Admission Scheme

The scheme grants appropriately qualified students, based on Year 11 and Semester 1 Year 12 results, guaranteed admission into Griffith University Programs.

The programs include Humanities, Business, Education, Health, Law, Queensland College of Art, Science, Engineering and Technology. Admission into all programs listed, also requires that applicants are current OP eligible students who have besides the early admission criteria, listed at least SAs in other subjects, and meet the program prerequisites. Humanities and Law have additional requirements.

Applications close at the end of August please come to my office for an application form.

Information for Parents of Year 12 students.

This term I offer a lot of support to the Year 12 students to assist them with planning for the future, whether this is to gain work or pursue further study. The Year 12’s have received their Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre book, which gives details of all Degree and Diploma courses available next year, as well as how to apply online. Online applications are the only way a Year 12 student can apply. There are many other responsibilities facing the Year 12 students in Term 3 so I ask you as parents/carers to suggest to your Year 12 student to see me as early as possible in Term 3 if they want some assistance with future planning.

There are deadlines applying to some courses. Scholarships are also available for students to apply for in Term 3.

Good luck with your planning and organisation for the rest of the year.
Science

GLYCOMICS VIP STUDENT DAY, Thursday July 14, 2011

Two Year 11 students, Holly Biddle and Shaylor Wells, were selected to attend the Griffith University Glycomics Day. Both girls show a keen interest in pursuing a science based career and this day offered them the opportunity to spend time in a biomolecular research laboratory. A limited number of students from across the Gold Coast participated in a series of hands-on lab activities, completing specific sets of experiments at each of four lab stations, each representing a key stage in the drug research and development process.

Go Health Go Griffith Experience – Year 10

On the last Thursday and Friday of 2nd term, Year 10 Chemistry and Biology students from Miss Duguid’s and Mrs May’s classes attended Go Health Go Griffith. The students got to experience lab sessions, tutorials and clinical skills in exciting areas of health and science at the Uni. These included DNA extraction, heart dissection, ECG/peak flow, CPR, fitness testing, nursing, microscopy making medicine and dentistry. The students had a wonderful experience, were very interested in the sessions and behaved exceptionally well. They came out of it excited to be studying Chemistry and Biology in Year 11 next year!

Interact Club

INTERACT CLUB WANTS YOU!

Around 15 students currently meet on a weekly basis to discuss and organise fundraising events for local community charities. Interact club is a group of regular students with the belief that through the small acts of many, big and significant changes can be made in our community. Already this year they have managed to raise over a $1000 through tasty food sales and will be presenting the gift to a suitable charity by the end of term.

“Often when employers are sifting through the resumes of a hundred applicants all with similar qualifications and experience, it is groups like INTERACT that will prove the difference between getting an interview or going in the bin” says Rotarian representative Allan Gerrard. With the majority of current members graduating at the end of this year, there is great need and opportunity for other students to get involved. INTERACT is open to all students but it is this year's 10s and 11s that would benefit the most from this hands-on leadership experience. With the general goal of one fundraising event per term, now is the best time for you to check it out while our current leaders, who have represented our school so well, can show you the ropes.

Maybe next year you can take up their baton. Interact club meets every Monday, first break in the conference room above the admin. See Michael Mandalios or Sarah-Jane Fish for more information.

Mechatronics

On the Saturday before the start of Term 3 I hosted a meeting of colleagues from Griffith University and several other local high schools. Dr Jun Jo of Griffith University is currently President of the International Robotics Olympiad Committee and after hosting the Asian-Pacific Competition round at Tallebudgera last December has been keen to establish a local infrastructure to promote this interesting area of education. An interschool competition is currently being planned for next year as the first step to including high school students to competition on an international level.

So, “what is mechatronics?”, I hear you ask. This subject weaves together the curriculum areas of science, mathematics and information processing technology. It teaches mechanical construction, physical concepts such as velocity and electronics and logic through several computer programming languages. This subject is currently running in Year 10 providing a pathway into senior programming courses and it is envisaged that in the next few years a senior Mechatronics course may be offered at Southport State High School. This course will be designed to give pathways straight into computer programming and electrical engineering courses at Griffith University and in fact, some of the senior units will be accredited towards a university degree. Units on electronics will be taken straight from the TAFE syllabus and consequently offer an alternate tertiary pathway if desired. Participating students may also be considered for preselection into appropriate bachelor degree courses.

As an academic school, the addition of a Mechatronics course to Southport State High School promises to provide students with exciting new opportunities to develop learning along productive pathways with excellent educational outcomes.

Mr Greg Lloyd
MECHATRONICS TEACHER

Mr Paul McGuire
CHAPLAIN
The Gold Coast State Secondary Teachers Excellence Award

We would like to congratulate Jeanette Karl who has been nominated by her colleagues for the prestigious 2011 Gold Coast State Secondary Teachers’ Excellence Awards.

The Award is open to all teachers currently teaching in State Secondary Schools in the Gold Coast Region and recognizes:

- Success in student achievement
- Commitment to providing quality service to parents and students
- A positive image for teachers
- An outstanding role model for students
- Excellent classroom teaching practice
- Significant contribution to other aspects of school life
- Quality relationships with students, parents and other members of the teaching staff
- Achievements in any field of education.

The achievements of the sixteen nominee finalists will be showcased and the overall winner of the Award will be announced at the Gala Awards Ball to be held at Conrad Jupiters in August.

Events like this would not be possible without the continued support of education organisations and local businesses. Major sponsors of the 2011 Gold Coast State Secondary Teachers’ Excellence Award include Griffith University, MSP Photography, Harvey Norman Bundall, Queensland Teachers Union and Toshiba.

Good Luck [Jeanette Karl]!

Athletics

- Full school Athletics carnival to be held at Griffith Uni Tue 9th August.
- All students are expected to attend and be involved in some way.
- Whilst the focus of any athletics carnival is to see who is the best, our carnival has a very strong focus on just participating. Any student who participates in an event will get points for their house.
- Students can dress in house colours, red, green, blue or yellow or wear their school uniform. It is not a free dress day and students inappropriately attired will be sent home to change or go back to school.

Transport

- All students must be there by 8.50am for roll marking.
- Students should if possible make their own arrangements to get too and from the venue.
- If this is not possible a Bus will leave from Brooke Ave, at 8.20am. Those students who wish to travel by bus must put their name on the list outside the PE staffroom by Monday afternoon. As they will arrive after roll marking.
- The Bus will cost $2.00 per trip.

Food

- Students are able to take their own lunch or buy food at the venue.
- Staff will be supplied with lunch (salad roll + drink – delivered at approx 12noon).
Ski Trip to Mt Hutt

Ski Trip 2011 a massive success.

If ever the gods were smiling on a group of people wanting to travel overseas it was us. So many factors were conspiring to make our annual trip to New Zealand a ‘failure’ this year and yet we ended up having the best trip ever.

We were on the only plane to fly out of Coolangatta and go to New Zealand on Sunday 26th June. We were the first school ‘up the mountain’ on Monday morning (the first day Mt Hutt opened for the season) and even ended up being interviewed by the New Zealand media, because we were so important. We got lots of snow, thirty centimeters in one night, and rode the slopes all day every day in very, uncrowded conditions. On our down day we somehow ended up at The Antarctic Centre and got free rides and presentations that we weren’t meant to get (a slight stuff up in emails on someone’s behalf). Basically, everything went well from an organisational point of view.

The students were fantastic, always very keen to be pleasantly dragged out of their slumber at 6am by a gentle ‘knock’ on their respective doors, always keen to be constantly asked “helmet, gloves, boots and ticket”, always keen to avoid the medical centre, always keen to eat whatever was offered and always keen to go quietly to sleep when asked. Thanks guys you were great.

A huge thank you to Mr. Lappi, Miss Ware and Miss Wilmot as they were the perfect colleagues to travel with and I am certain that the students thought so too. And the good news, planning for the 2012 trip will start very soon.
Fundraise for the School!!

There is still time to order your 2011 | 2012 Entertainment™ Book!
Make sure you don’t miss out by ordering your copy now.

The new Gold Coast Entertainment™ Book features many of the most popular businesses in the area like...

- Oskars on Burleigh
- Omeros Brothers
- Vie Bar and Restaurant
- Room 81
- O Bar and Grill
- Titanium Bar
- Carmody’s
- Alto Cucina and Bar
- Ristorante Fellini
- The Groove Train
- Hog’s Breath Café
- Outback Jacks Bar & Grill
- The Lost City
- The Tandoori Place
- Montezuma’s
- Food Fantasy
- Pancakes in Paradise
- Barchino
- Hungry Jack’s
- Cold Rock Ice Creamery
- Subway
- Nando’s
- Baskin Robbins
- Marie’s Pizza
- Domino’s
- Oporto
- Souvlaki Hut
- Ella Baché
- King Tut’s Puff Puff
- Event Cinemas
- Splash Day Spa
- Gold Coast SUNS
- Hayman
- Hamilton Island
- Crown Towers
- Dreamworld

The best part is that for only $55, you’ll be helping us fundraise, with $11 from every Book sold contributing to our fundraising.

Southport State High School
Books are available from Donna Thompson or Ph: (07) 5531 1744

I would like to order: ____ x Gold Coast @ $55 each (GST incl.) = $_________

Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Class: ___________________________

CASH □ CHEQUE □ VISA □ MASTERCARD □
Credit Card No: __________/_________/_________/_________ Exp Date: __________/_________ CVV: __________

Cardholder’s Name: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________

$11 from each Book sold contributes to our fund-raising. Thank you.
ENGAGING ADOLESCENTS™
PARENT COURSE

Parenting skills for resolving teenage behaviour problems
A three-session program for parents and carers
at Studio Village Community Centre
87 Village Way Studio Village
on Wednesday Evenings from 5:45 pm to 8:00 pm Starting 17 August
or Thursday Mornings from 9:30 am to 11:45 am Starting 18 August or 17 Nov

Learn:
✓ Some common ground shared by parents & reasonable expectations to hold about adolescents
✓ New understandings of adolescence
✓ A three-option model & flow chart for decision-making
✓ Self check-in, first - for parents.
✓ Building relationship with your teenager and making the best of your non-crisis conversations with them
✓ Skills for tough conversations for handling those problems you just can’t ignore

Registration Fee
The course costs $15.00
Register for this course contacting Nikki Condon at Village Family Support Program on 07 5529 8253

What parents have said...
A step dad recalled an incident at the weekend with his 12 year old step daughter. He said that the input he had received the previous week from the course helped him keep his cool and brought a more favourable outcome.

A single Mum who had presented as quite anxious on the first night told the group in week 2 that she had made an appointment with her 15 year old son during the week and had had a far more favourable discussion with him than would previously have been the case.

Who’s running it?
The trainer for this course is Nikki Condon who completed Parentshop’s Engaging Adolescents training on 22 June 2010. Studio Village Family Support Worker, Nikki has worked with families, children, young people including teen mums, and the community since the 1990’s with a special interest in building parents confidence to raise happy children.

For more information contact Nikki
phone: 5529 8253 email: family@studiovillage.com.au
Village Family Support Program is funded by the Department of Communities

- An end to the arguing and yelling! - It saved our lives - Simple, sane, effective -

This course is being run by a Parentshop® licensed practitioner. www.parentshop.com.au