FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Time is certainly flying by and it is hard to believe we are already over halfway through term three. The last four weeks of the term is a very busy time as year 12's will be working hard to complete assessment and sit the Queensland Core Skills Test. We certainly wish them all the best in their endeavours and will be providing the highest level of support possible.

Our current Year 10’s will be going through a very rigorous program of choosing their senior program for the next two years. We will be providing an extensive careers day, parent information evening and will be interviewing all year 10 students and their parents. This process supports our philosophy of ensuring each student has an individual pathway and that we have provided the best support for all students and their families. It is the most important time for our students and we appreciate the support of our parents.

Our current Year 8’s and 9’s will also be involved in subject selection processes for 2012 towards the end of the term. More information will be sent to parents in the near future and will be made available on our website.

Our Homework Centre has been in full swing this term, I am pleased to report that we have over 40 students who regularly attend. Again I encourage all students who would like tutoring or support with assignments and study to attend. The Homework Centre is open every Monday and Thursday from 3.00pm to 4.30pm. Our teachers should be commended giving up their private time to ensure the success of our students.

We have had students representing our school in various events and competitions and I am very proud to report to you all that we have had some amazing results.

Our Performing Arts students have led the way with our Drama students winning the Junior Drama Fest competition, our intermediate and seniors were very unlucky not to be winners as well. Our band students have been outstanding and received some wonderful accolades with their performances in particular the strings ensemble won first place at the recent Gold Coast Eisteddfod. Our sports stars have been busy at our track and field carnivals, running, jumping and throwing their way into the record books. These are just a few of our success, I look forward to our awards nights next term when we will be able to formally recognise the staff and students who have gone above and beyond in their pursuit of excellence.

We are also busy preparing for 2013, in saying this we have some very exciting developments that will ensure that we are the leading academic school on the Gold Coast. These developments are being finalised and we will endeavour to keep you informed in the near future.

In closing I would like to continue to draw your attention to the outstanding work of our staff in ensuring that all students have the best education on the Gold Coast. I am very proud that our outstanding results in all fields are starting to reflect the dedication and commitment of our staff. Together we are ensuring that our children have the best chances both now and in preparing for life after school.

Mr Steve McLuckie
PRINCIPAL

Calendar of Events

The following are proposed dates on our school calendar

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<th>AUGUST</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
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<td>Year 11 QCS Workshop</td>
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Eisteddfod

Written by Rebecca Dodds-Gorman (Yr 10 Instrumental Music Student)

The Gold Coast Eisteddfod has been and gone for its 31st year and Southport State High School Music students performed well, winning several accolades. This year the school was well represented by its Instrumental Music Program with entries from the Wind Ensemble, Stage Band and String Ensemble.

The Wind Ensemble opened our participation in the Eisteddfod, performing extremely well in the ‘High School Wind Ensemble Section B Grade’ receiving an award of Highly Commended. The Stage Band followed the next day, placing with a Very Highly Commended in the section of 8 schools. The students performed magnificently and should be very proud of themselves.

We also had a Year 12 student Kalia Baldan, singing with the group in ‘All That Jazz’, which was sung beautifully. Closing our endeavours in the Eisteddfod on a high, the String Ensemble performed a few days later in the ‘String Ensemble and String Orchestra Section’. The group performed particularly well on the day and received a 1st place trophy for their hard work and commitment. In an unprecedented shout out in the adjudication, our viola player was congratulated for his beautiful solo in “North Country Legend”.

All students who participate in the Instrumental Music Program need to be congratulated on their dedication to their chosen instrument/s and thanks needs to be passed on to the Instrumental Music Teachers for their devotion to the growth of the program. Thank you to Miss Jodie Ralph, Mrs Stacey Bray and Mr Andrew Stubbs and also to those who supported the groups by giving up their time to watch the performances.

Senior Drama Fest

“Ghost of the Tree” Senior Drama Festival 2012

This year, the Senior Drama Festival entry “Ghost of the Tree” saw a group of Year 11 and 12 girls embark on a challenging journey of self-discovery as they delved into the futile relationship of mothers and daughters.

“Ghost of the Tree” follows the lives of seven generations of women in the same family tree. Their hope of a changing future is crushed by a sordid past that sees each girl trying to change their destiny, so they don’t end up like their mothers. It is a story of women’s dreams, temptations, strengths, and most importantly, their secrets. The play moves back in time as a journey of discovery unfolds and as the years melt away, we learn the tragedy that hangs over this particular family.

The girls demonstrated professionalism and maturity as they made this journey memorable. We were awarded with a plethora of highly commended certificates for the entire ensemble, in addition to individual performances. The cast of Casey D’Arcy, Shana Steel, Siobhan Sheehan, Sian Tucker-Williams, Saeran Tanton, Bianca Cole, Abbey Williams, Robyn Must and Kalia Baldan performed to an incredible standard and had the audience and adjudicator talking extremely highly of the show. The play won the Best Dramatic Performance of the section in addition to Runner-Up Best Play.

Overall, a wonderful year full of memories, laughs and a little craziness. Thank you to all the girls involved for trusting my vision and sticking by me through thick and thin. You are my inspiration.

Ms Cara McLennan
Drama Teacher
Junior Drama Fest

GOLD COAST SECONDARY SCHOOLS DRAMA FESTIVAL ANNOUNCE CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY JUNIORS AS WINNERS

At the beginning of August our Year 8 drama festival group kicked off what would become an incredibly successful year (yet again) for Southport High in the largest Drama festival of its kind in the southern hemisphere.

The Year 8 students auditioned in February and began the gruelling task of rehearsals each week until August, where they fine-tuned their skills, developed as actors and learned to work as a team in order to produce the winning performance in this section, “Playing from the Heart”. We were very pleased to again bring home the winning trophy, following on Ms Maslen’s success in 2011.

The Adjudicator who rated their performance as “intricate, passionate and detailed” afforded the group Highly Commended certificates for the ensemble as well as to many individual actors. A special mention must be made of Isabella Poole-Richardson’s performance that attracted the Adjudicator to award her an Outstanding Actor trophy. This highly sought-after award is one of only six granted in this entire section.

As the Director of the piece (who was ably supported by the Arts team) I was thrilled that the students hard work, determination and resilience saw them recognized as the very best school on the Gold Coast for the fostering of Junior Drama talent. We are so very proud that they are able to continue the immense success of the Creative Arts Academy in the Drama realm.

Mrs Rachel Cutajar
Drama Teacher

‘Playing from the Heart’ Year 8 Drama Festival WINNERS!

Written by Taylor Carlson (8A)

This year, Gold Coast Secondary Schools Drama Festival celebrated their 40th anniversary, an enjoyable event, with 18 different schools across the Gold Coast participating; Southport High School being one of these schools. The junior division, Year 8, was spread across two nights, with 12 schools performing.

Southport SHS Creative Arts Academy put up an ‘engaging’ and ‘moving’ piece, Playing from the Heart, a story about Dame Evelyn Glennie, who recently showcased her phenomenal abilities at the London 2012 Olympic Opening Ceremony. The percussionist’s talents are even more remarkable due to her being profoundly deaf since childhood. This piece showed Evelyn’s life from when she was slowly losing her hearing up until when she became profoundly deaf and was playing at the Royal Albert Hall in London. This piece, directed by Mrs Cutajar, won the section, with Isabella Poole-Richardson (Evelyn Glennie) winning best supporting actress.

Thank you to Mrs Cutajar, who spent every Monday afternoon helping us perfect this performance, we are truly grateful, and could have never achieved our success without you.
‘The Falling’ Intermediate Drama Festival

It’s hard being a teenager. It’s stressful, demanding, emotional and exhilarating and teens often find it difficult to juggle who they are and balance their multiple lives with their family, friends, school life, part time jobs while somewhere in there, try to figure out who they are as an individual. Teenagers just want to grow up and be independent and they just want to live their life the way they want to.

The Year 9 and 10 Drama Festival students explored these notions through their play ‘The Falling’, which follows a teenage girl, Sam, who decides to make her own decisions in her life and not let her parents tell her what she needs to do all the time. She decides to create her own path…. But it doesn’t go very well and she quickly discovers that she doesn’t know it all and she has to say those words that we often have difficulty saying “I was wrong” and “I’m sorry”. On Friday 17th August at TSS the ensemble competed in the Intermediate Drama Festival and performed an inspiring and life changing story that had many teens and parents rethinking their relationship with their friends and family.

The ensemble was awarded the ‘Best Dramatic Performance’ Trophy and Nicole Amaya was awarded one of only six Outstanding Actor Trophies for her portrayal as the mother. ‘The Falling’ also received 6 highly commended certificates that acknowledged Tiana Storm, Ethan Hough and the Multimedia team who consisted of Joshua Pattison, Lara Filmer and Sara Soler-Torrijos.

Overall I was so proud of the students and their hard work on this piece. We received such great feedback from everyone on the night with audience members impressed at the level of our students’ abilities and the important messages the piece portrayed. Well done and congratulations to such a hardworking, dedicated and talented group of students.

Ms Kelly Sparke
Drama Teacher

Dream Business – Education Queensland Leadership Day

Young Leaders from Education Queensland schools across the South East converged on Dreamworld last Monday to gain inspiration and advice enabling them to ‘dream big’ tapping into the limitless possibilities which await students in the 21st century.

The day commenced with students from neighboring Brisbane and Redland Bay drumlins and dance troops showcasing their talents, creating an atmosphere of excitement and energy. This was followed by the inspiring tale of leadership, author of 100 Things, who discussed the transformation of his life view following the tragic loss of a childhood friend, enabling students’ time for reflection upon their own goals, visioning a future of opportunity and achievement.

Students were then afforded the opportunity to expand their own individual leadership skills and expertise, devising plans to inspire and transform their school environment. Southport High junior leaders involved in the day, Chloe Fox-Horn, Lara Filmer and Tiana Storm endeavouring to operate as peer mentors, embarking on a guided reading project within both our junior school and primary feeder schools as part of Southport’s Reading Revolution.

The day finished with a showcase of young Australian leaders whose personal dreams have led to them influencing local and global agendas achieving change and the actualization of dreams that one would ordinarily believe were unachievable by individuals.

Overall, Dream Business proved to be an inspiring and valuable experience for all students involved.

Ms Julie Strong
HOD English
Science Fair

On 4th August, students from Year 11 science studies (as well as Mr Foreman and Mr Kayahan) were invited to go to the science fair, which included free entry and free courtesy transport by the organisers (“StudyGoldCoast” a not-for-profit member based organisation and GCCC).

The event provided local education providers, industry representatives, industry leaders and innovators alike the opportunity to showcase their organisation, projects and services to likeminded students and individuals along with encouraging the local community to engage within the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) industries.

Students were also invited to take up the challenge of making a clay barge (2kg) able to carry the most numbers of marbles before sinking – much was learned from our experience of what is possible and what is, well let’s just say sailable. The students efforts did not make the final round but considering the short notice to build such a craft, it was an admirable effort – congratulations to the Year 11 Physics students, particularly Brianna Cumberland, Michelle Ferrer and Laken Kelly.

We hope that this will become a regular event in the school calendar and may include other year levels in future events.

Mr Gunay Kayahan
Science Teacher

Industrial Design and Technology

We have undertaken a bold step by inviting our industry partner MATCAM into our Faculty to become a school-based training partner for CNC (Computer Numerically Controlled) manufacturing. Faculty staff members Mr Balas, Mr Crick and Mr Cronin worked tirelessly to build an office in the manufacturing shed for MATCAM staff, Gary Lane (our machinist) and student trainees. The philosophy around this partnership is that by working directly with industry the students will have direct access to people with expertise that would not normally be on a school site. We can also develop our training around ‘real world’ projects that are constantly being machined on site. The school also benefits from a portion of machining income that is derived from machining services provided by the school and MATCAM and this enables our training courses to be self-sufficient. Having industry working from within a school is a concept that has the potential to be of great benefit to all stakeholders and we will continue to work hard on making this a great success story.

Our Year 12 Construction students have been busy building and fitting out seats for student use under the verandah of H Block. They have done a very good job, the seats look great and many students are making good use of them. Well done. These students are also designing and producing play equipment for young children that will be donated to child care centres in our local community. Congratulations to all students involved and to their teachers Mr Balas and Mr Crick.

The Year 11 Construction students are about to commence some concreting work, creating a path that will connect the manufacturing shed to the main part of the school. This type of project is important in developing practical construction skills and the students will benefit greatly from the experience and the guidance given by Mr Cronin.

Our junior subjects are flourishing with Mr Crick and Mr Balas creating some challenging new projects this year. I am sure the students are enjoying these experiences.

We have continued on our journey of incorporating current technologies in many of our courses. This year we have added a CNC 3D printer, capable of creating 3 dimensional shapes from computer generated images. Students can now design an object and have it manufactured by this machine. Another addition to our stable of CNC equipment is a sticker printer & cutter. This machine is capable of printing and cutting stickers, decals, business cards, iron-on fabric designs and other forms of artwork from design software such as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

We are looking forward to using some of these technologies with our Year 7’s in 2013.

Mr Tony Lawrance
HOD Industrial Design & Technology
Advertising

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**YOGA**

**WEDNESDAY 6.15 PM**

Southport State High School  
Enterprise Centre  
Cnr Brooke & Lionel Aves

0431 53 23 65

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**Southport School Tennis Academy Program**

- Tennis Coaching Squads
- Before School 7:55am-8:55am
- After School 3:00pm-4:00pm
- Inter School fixtures
- Private lessons
- Full time tennis and education option
- Scholarships available for players.

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‘AUSTRALIA’S LEADING TENNIS ACADEMY’

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**YOUTH CONNECT - GOLD COAST**

Youth activities and support run every weekday 3.30pm - 5.30pm (1.30pm - 5.30pm on school holidays) at Lynne Richardson Community Centre, 2a Gidgee Court, Molendinar.

Call Wade or Emma for more details: 55975622 or www.YouthConnectGC.com. Great for after school and holiday activities.

See Guidance Officer for a flyer.

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**Excursion Payments**

Payments for excursions will no longer be processed for students that have outstanding fees, unless an active payment plan is in place.