Thought Provoking Principals' Conference

A message from the Principal...

I attended the State Principals’ Conference last Thursday and Friday. The conference was opened by the new Minister for Education Ms Kate Jones. She conveyed her passion for public education and announced two initiatives:

- Funding the position of president of the Secondary and Primary Principals’ associations and the need to consult frequently with the associations in the development of policy.

- $8 million to encourage schools to partner and innovate.

The key theme of the conference was “Collaborate, Innovate and Elevate”.

We were encouraged to use the data sets we have available, to better diagnose individual student learning needs and to craft learning opportunities to meet the needs of each student, in order to “elevate” the outcomes for all students.
It was great to hear Dr Yong Zhao describe education as being about “human improvement” and enhancing the human talents of all students. Dr Zhao emphasised the need to develop creativity in 21st century learners so that they can be entrepreneurial in the sense of being future job and opportunity creators. He talked about not focusing on testing and rewarding ability to find answers, but instead emphasising the ability to ask questions which take us forward as a society. Dr Zhao made the point that we underestimate: children’s desire to learn; children’s desire to be good; human diversity and the rapidity of change, and overestimate the power to control others; power to see the future; the value of what we know and what we know about learning. Such talks are very thought provoking.

We were also reminded that “the teacher standing next to you, the school leader sitting opposite you, the school down the road, are our collaborative partners” and there is synergy when, as State school educators, we work together to educate all Queensland children.

Parents are also our partners in the education of children. I encourage you to be involved in the school by attending P&C meetings. The AGM will be held on Wednesday 18 March 2015 6:30 pm library. Harmony Day will occur on Friday 20 March 2015. Parents are welcome to attend events on this day.

Jeanette Gentle | PRINCIPAL

P&C MEETINGS | THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
6.30PM | SCHOOL RESOURCE CENTRE (LIBRARY) | ALL WELCOME
NEXT MEETING: 18 MARCH 2015

What's On

2 - 20 March 2015

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**CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR CAFE IBIS MENU**

**CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR UNIFORM PRICE LIST**

**2015 NAPLAN Test**

The National Assessment Program Numeracy and Literacy Test, better known as NAPLAN, is to be held on Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th May 2015 for all Year 7 and 9 students. For those students absent due to illness a catch up on Friday 15th May will be arranged.

Information brochures for parents and carers can be found by going to [http://www.nap.edu.au/](http://www.nap.edu.au/) and following the parent/carer support links.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding NAPLAN please feel free to contact the Junior Secondary Deputy Principal Mr Kiss.

_Shave Kiss | Acting Deputy Principal - Junior Secondary_
P&C News

Tuckshop
A reminder that the Tuckshop menu for 2015 has been officially launched and the ladies in the tuckshop are working tirelessly to ensure that our kids have great healthy food, prepared fresh everyday. Volunteers are always welcome and we invite you to become part of a small team who make a great contribution to the school environment. To register your interest, please contact Sheree our tuckshop convenor on
sdshstuckshop@hotmail.com

As a growing school we recognise the need to have a menu which reflects four main criterias - healthy choice, affordability, variety and demand. As such, the menu contains the stable regular items which are always available, but please be aware that there are daily and weekly specials; which include some old favourites and new items. These will be advertised initially in the tuckshop precinct, and as we move further into the year - also in newsletters and social media. If you have any queries or suggestions - please contact the P&C on pandcexecutive@sanddistshs.eq.edu.au

2015 Next Step Survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2014. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician's Office to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Thank you for your support of the Next Step survey in 2015.

Further information on Next Step is available online at www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or on toll free telephone 1800 068 587.

Senior School News

Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program
The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program ceased as of 31 December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed by schools.

How students can apply for a TFN from 1 January 2015:

The Australian Taxation Office, in partnership with Australia Post, is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN. Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC27248'

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC22604'

Cert III Aged Care School Based Traineeships

Masonic and Anglicare are currently offering school based traineeships within their facilities at Sandgate and Taigum to interested Year 11 students.

The students are given the opportunity to gain a valuable, nationally recognised qualification, earn 8 QCE points and get paid while doing so. The Certificate III in Aged Care is a great pathway for any student interested in Health as a career. If you require further information or would like to apply, please see Sam in AG 10 for details. Applications close Friday 13 March 2015.

Samantha Churchill | Teacher Aide Senior Schooling

Lions Youth of the Year

Congratulations to our three Year 12 students (Rachael Patterson, Jasper Childs and Rosie McCrossin) who recently represented Sandgate DSHS at the Bramble Bay Lions Youth of the Year. The Lions Youth of the Year competition requires students to participate in an interview, complete two impromptu speeches and deliver a prepared speech of five minutes. Our students participated with flair and confidence with Rachael Patterson declared the overall winner and Jasper Childs being the public speaking champion for the local district. Rachael now goes to the zone finals and we wish her all the best with her preparation and presentation for this.

Shane Kiss | Acting Deputy Principal

Getting What You Want in Life!
Speaking affects just about every area of our lives but few go on, beyond the fundamentals, to improve or excel at it. Be it conversation with friends, job interviews or addressing assembly at school, speaking plays a key role, and your skills in this area contribute to you getting what you want in life.

On Monday February 16, 3 students from Sandgate District High went way beyond the fundamentals of speaking, to seize first place and runner-up at Lions Youth of the Year. Rachael Patterson, Jasper Childs and Rosie McCrossin stepped-up to present three remarkable performances that left the judges with little choice.

Lions Youth of the Year encourages young people who seek to improve their skills before entering the workforce or other endeavours. It provides a forum, in which students can explore leadership, personality, sportsmanship, public speaking and good citizenship. Monday night’s event was hosted by the Lions Club of Bramble Bay.

Congratulations also go to author and speaker, Stephen Outram, who worked with Sandgate High’s students, “I was delighted to see and hear the change that Rachael, Rosie and Jasper were willing to have with their speaking. We did a final session on Sunday, to review their prepared speeches; they were brilliant.”

Are you interested in getting what you want? Well, the next time you see Rachael, Rosie or Jasper stop and have a chat; they probably know a thing or two.

Mrs Jeanette Gentle (Principal), Rosie McCrossin, Mr Stephen Outram, Jasper Childs and Rachael Patterson
YSC Program Logo Design Award

Collaborating with families, community organisation, TAFE, job seeking agencies, flexible learning programs and other stake holders, the YSC (Youth Support Coordinator) program supports young people to remain engaged in education or further learning.

Department of Education Training and Employment is delighted to announce Jacques Borreye a year 12 student at Sandgate District State School, the winner of the Logo design competition for the YSC program.

Jacques competed against 26 other regional State High Schools to take this award.
Music Notes

- We now have 34 students going to Adelaide with us. If your student is coming with us, please send in an Expression of Interest as soon as possible (available from the Music Staffroom). Payment of the $60 deposit is now due by March 30 at the very latest.

- **We are about to put in an order for music shirts** so please hand in order forms this week. THE ORDER FORMS ARE IN THE Instrumental Music Handbook and are available from the Music staffroom. If you are unsure of sizing, we will have some to try on in the music block on Thursday (March 5th) second break. Please contact me if you need more information doshe5@eq.edu.au

- **Instrumental Handbooks** have been distributed. If you did not receive a copy, please email me and I will shoot you an electronic copy. If you do not have access to email, drop me a note and I will send one home for you. As our performing groups are extending to include a **choir** this year, some of the information in this book is relevant to choir members. If you child is in the choir, I will happily send you a copy of the booklet (again just email me).

- It isn’t too late to join our wonderful new **choir**. Rehearsals are on Wednesday after school, 3.15 – 4.15. Just come along and you will be welcomed!!!

- All Instrumental and Choir students will receive a note this week regarding communication and email addresses. I will be creating comprehensive email lists and need your help. Thank you in advance! Choir rehearsal will continue all term, even though Miss Mackay and Mrs O’Shea will be away for several weeks (attending music conferences overseas).
• Remember to bring your music gear on your instrumental lesson day. (Be Work Ready!) I have a saying – ‘Have a little play, each and every day!’ I realise we are all time poor, but if you could encourage your child to get their instrument out and just have a bit of a play (I prefer PLAY to PRACTICE) most days, you, and they, will be surprised how much better they will become.

• The Stage Band played at the opening of the new RSL building early in February and they did a wonderful job. Miss Mackay has been told that even RSL members from the Geebung branch were raving about the performance in the weeks after the opening. A big thank you to Mr Van and the Stage Band students – you make us very proud.

• Beginner concert band Year 7 and 8 started Tuesday, March 3rd and will continue Tuesday mornings at 7:30am. All year 7 students and year 8 students playing an instrument this year (regardless if they have been playing in SWE or not) should attend the concert band rehearsal Tuesday.

• SWE rehearsals have already commenced and we are getting the music ready for Anzac day and also our Open Day in May.

• A reminder to all woodwind students (& parents) that if the students cannot make a lesson, they should go and see their Instrumental Teacher that morning before school and if possible the teacher will re-arrange the scheduled lesson for them.

• If your child is using, or is going to use a school instrument, please ensure that the instrument loan form has been returned to school. If they have not received an instrument loan form this year, then they need to see their relevant teacher to obtain one.

“In music, a mistake is a mistake; the instrument is in tune or not, the notes are well played or not, the entrance is made or not. It is only by much hard work that a successful performance is possible. Through music study, students learn the value of sustained effort to achieve excellence and the concrete rewards of hard work”:

http://childrensmusicworkshop.com/advocacy/12benefits.html

Debbie O’Shea | Music Teacher

School Based Youth Health Nurse News

Tips for Meeting New People

Meeting new people can often be tough. Check out some tips for what you can do to make the process a bit easier.

Whether you’re shy or outgoing, meeting new people can sometimes be scary. The hardest part, I think, is just getting out there and forcing yourself to meet new people. Maybe you’re starting school with a new group of kids, maybe you’re going to camp, or maybe you’re just looking for some new friends? Whatever it is, it can definitely be a stressful time and that’s understandable.

Top tips:

Meeting new people is something everyone goes through, so it’s always good to find out tips that might make it a bit easier.
• **Listen and ask questions.** It shows that you care about what the person is saying and also that you are interested in them. Make eye contact while they are speaking and follow up with a couple of questions. If all goes well, the conversation will flow nicely. If not, it is okay to try again!

• **Give a compliment.** Have you ever received a compliment? Doesn’t it feel great?! Giving a compliment to someone naturally gives them an ego boost and they appreciate what you have to say. Try going up to someone and complimenting them on their shoes or their haircut. This could also provide as a conversation starter. Try following this up with some questions.

• **Detach yourself from technology.** If you are constantly on your phone/computer and distracted by emails and text messages, you may not notice if someone is interested in you. It also makes people think that you are unavailable and not interested in chatting. Make a mental note of the people around you and spend a little time getting to know them rather than hiding behind your phone or computer.

• **Join a team or club.** Having something in common with others immediately gives you something to talk about. No matter what it is, it can be fun to pursue things with other people and also gives you a great sense of community and belonging. Investigate some clubs at your school or local youth centre. You are bound to find people who are interested in the same things as you are, no matter what it may be.

• **Volunteer.** Having a strong desire to help others is often attractive to other people. You can volunteer in your school, community, or church. Chances are there will be loads of people your age also volunteering their time.

• **Laugh and smile.** Always looking gloomy or cranky makes you seem unapproachable. It can really help to laugh with people at a joke or even just smile at someone to let them know you are interested in what they think. Plus, laughing is the best medicine you can offer to your body. It makes you less tense and will help loosen you up in most situations.

Remember, the hardest part is starting up the conversation, but once you get over that road bump you will find yourself getting better and better at meeting new people. The only thing you have to lose is the possibility that someone might not be interested in making a new friend, but that just means they weren’t the right person for you anyway! Someone who isn’t open to meeting new people may not be who you want to hang around. It is best to find friends who will accept you for who you are, whoever you are.

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Mandy Trempus | Youth Health Nurse

Chaplaincy News
FREE PARENT EVENING

Bracken Ridge, Sandgate, Pine Rivers and Bray Park, Dakabin High School communities

Come along to hear professional speaker Michelle Mitchell give practical and easy to understand tips on how to improve the relationship with your teenager.

Michelle will be speaking on: Understanding Self-Harm and mental illness. Followed by a Q&A on stress management and dealing with kids with mental health challenges.

Michelle’s information nights will have you laughing out loud, nodding and most importantly, going home with strategies to implement in your home. These presentations are for parents who want to know what really goes on in the world of teenagers, as Michelle doesn't pull any punches. She uses real life examples, including social media screen shots and case studies to give insights into your teenager’s world. Michelle will be speaking on:

When: Monday 9th March 2015
Time: 7pm- 830pm
Where: Pine Rivers SHS auditorium, Gympie Road Strathpine
Cost: Covered by Chaplaincy Services (free)

Tea and coffee will be provided.

We encourage all parents to come to this special evening, to hear how you could have the greatest relationship with your teenage son/daughter possible.

If you would like any more information please contact the local chaplain of Bracken Ridge, Bray Park, Sandgate, Pine Rivers or Dakabin High School.

“Michelle was recently awarded Inspirational Speaker 2013 by the state government. She has also appeared on Today Tonight, The Today Show and Channel 10 morning news. http://michellemitchell.org”

S.C.C.E. Scholarships

Click here to view a clearer image of this flyer.
Annual S.C.C.E. Scholarships

For Selected Years and Special Categories

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange has long appreciated the dynamism, courage and motivation of some of our best students to want to immerse themselves in a different culture and increase their global intercultural understanding. Established to recognize this desire for experiential learning, Southern Cross Cultural Exchange Scholarships have long been sought after by students seeking to join the thousands of students S.C.C.E has sent overseas since 1983.

To facilitate this even more, S.C.C.E., with the continuing support of our airline partner Singapore Airlines, is pleased to announce a range of S.C.C.E. Scholarships for students currently enrolled in Year 9, Year 10, and Year 11 & 12. We are also featuring 5 new Special Categories for Year 9 to 10 students: S.C.C.E. Sports Scholarship, Creative Arts Scholarship, Community Service Scholarship, a Regional Scholarship and the very special Francisca Davison Scholarship. Holders of the Special Category Scholarships will also get to experience life in a different culture as exchange students in their country of choice, living with a volunteer host family and attending school overseas in similar programs to the Year Level scholarship holders.

As S.C.C.E. Scholarship Awards comes with a unique on-the-job opportunity to live and study overseas for between 2 to 5 months in the country of the winner’s choice on an S.C.C.E. exchange program. Most assuredly, he or she will gain experiential learning in an overseas school and culture, develop essential life skills as well as foreign language skills for future careers. In general, exchange students gain vital awareness as global citizens, enhance their problem-solving and decision-making skills as well as increase their sense of confidence and independence.

For all details regarding scholarships applications and essay criteria, please go to www.sccce.com.au and download an Application Kit.

Year 9 Scholarship for Next January Semester Program

To France, Germany, Italy or U.S.A.

Join thousands of S.C.C.E. students in their desire to make a difference to their future with a prime opportunity to go out and experience the culture of Year 10 from next January in France, Germany, Italy or the U.S.A. through this program. The students will return home at the end of June to attend the second semester of Year 11.

This full scholarship for an S.C.C.E. program for a semester (5 months) in the winner’s destination country of choice will be awarded based on the winning essay. Knowledge of a foreign language is not required in the scholarship selection criteria.

Scholarship application deadline: 15 September
Full Scholarship: NO COST

Year 10 L.C.C.E. Scholarship for an August/September Semester Program

To France, Germany, Italy or U.S.A.

Traditionally, the launch of the S.C.C.E. Year 10 Scholarship for a semester (5 months) of cultural exchange is marked with anticipation by students, including those doing a foreign language. However, this program has now done away with the separate language requirement for the students to choose their language of choice. Normally, this scholarship is given to those who have submitted their applications on time but are unable to attend due to other commitments. The Year 10 Scholarship for 5 months will take the student who wins the winning essay to France, Germany, Italy or the U.S.A. Knowledge of a foreign language is not required in the scholarship selection criteria.

Scholarship application deadline: 30 March
Full Scholarship: NO COST

Sports Scholarship (Year 9/10) for an August/September Semester Program

To France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Scandinavia, Japan or the U.S.A.

You don’t have to be a star runner, swimmer, or athlete to be considered for the S.C.C.E. Sports Scholarship. It is designed for all students to be considered for the S.C.C.E. Sports Scholarship, only you and the destination country of your choice will make the final decision.

Scholarship application deadline: 30 March
Full Scholarship: NO COST

Community Service Scholarship (Year 9/10) for September/Semester Program

To France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Scandinavia, Japan or the U.S.A.

If you are actively involved in any field of community service, and want to help change the world, make a difference to the lives of people around you, you may be dreaming of the S.C.C.E. Community Service Scholarship. This half scholarship for an S.C.C.E. program for a semester (5 months) in the winner’s destination country of choice will be awarded based on an essay and subsequent visit for judges to appreciate your community involvement.

Scholarship application deadline: 30 March
Half Scholarship: 50% PROGRAM FEE

Francisca Davison Scholarship (Year 9/10) for an August/September Semester Program

To France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Scandinavia, Japan or the U.S.A.

English Literature and History students in Year 9 & 10 are encouraged to apply for the Francisca Davison Scholarship, established to highlight the outstanding work of a respected and committed teacher dedicated to education, and who also holds strong cultural and international experience in the fields.

Scholarship application deadline: 30 March
Half Scholarship: 50% PROGRAM FEE

Regional Scholarship (Year 9/10) for an August/September Semester Program

To France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Scandinavia, Japan or the U.S.A.

If you live outside the metropolitan areas of a capital city, whether in a farm in remote areas or in a regional town and attend a school in a rural or remote area, you may submit an application for the S.C.C.E. Regional Scholarship. This half scholarship for a semester (5 months) program will be awarded to the winner’s destination country of choice based on your winning the winning essay.

Scholarship application deadline: 30 March
Half Scholarship: 50% PROGRAM FEE

Absentee Phone Line 3869 9802

Sandgate District State High School has established a phone line to report student absenteeism. Please phone **3869 9802** directly to advise the school that your child will absent.

You will be directed to a message bank, please leave a message ensuring you clearly state the student's name, year level, reason for absence, dates absent and your relationship to the student.

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### Subscribe to our ENewsletter

We are excited to introduce you to our interactive, graphically rich, full colour, professional electronic newsletter.

To receive this service you will need a computer with internet access and email.

If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically, please use the link below to add your contact details.


This link is also available on our School Website at [www.sanddistshs.eq.edu.au](http://www.sanddistshs.eq.edu.au)

Paper copies are available for collection (each fortnight) from the student foyer, for families who do not have access to the internet.

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### Sandgate DSHS Online Communities

In 2012, Sandgate DSHS launched into the 21st Century and set up official Facebook and Twitter accounts. Regular updates from the school calendar and messages about upcoming events are fed into the social network. Direct links to the official Sandgate High Twitter and Facebook pages can be accessed through the school's website ([https://sanddistshs.eq.edu.au/](https://sanddistshs.eq.edu.au/)). Alternatively, please click on the links below to access the portals.

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### Community Notices

Mercy Community Services Foster and Kinship Care Advertising
Your Heart... Their Home

Become a Foster Carer

Do you enjoy interacting with children and can give a child or young person a nurturing home?

Care to join us?
www.mercycs.org.au
Logan & Southern Brisbane
3340 5600
North Brisbane 3267 9070