Message from the Principal

What a month it has been. NAPLAN assessments for our Year 7 & 9 students were successfully completed, our Athletics Carnival highlighted the athletic strengths and united spirit of our school; last but not least, we welcomed neighbouring friends and families to join our OPEN DAY on 14 May 2016. Each of these events highlighted the united, determined and selfless spirit of our school community – showcasing our values in action.

As many of you know, our high expectations culture is an integral part of our school culture. Every day, everywhere we place an important emphasis on respectful behaviour, personal presentation, dress codes and attendance. We ask that parents/carers join us in raising the bar and communicating the importance of aiming high so that your child/ren can achieve their personal best at our school.

Make Every Day Count

With regards to attendance, did you know that our school’s target is 96%? Attendance is crucial to your child’s education and we ask that you help to make every day count. Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including QCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

We are here to help – if you’re having attendance issues with your child, speak to us about ways to address those issues.

What’s coming up?

A reminder to all that our Chaplain, Cate Struik is hosting Trivia Night this evening at the school starting from 6pm. Tickets are just $10 per person and tickets are available at the door. Please come along and enjoy a night of fun, brain strain and laughter.

Our next P&C meeting is being held on Tuesday, 31 May 2016 starting 5pm in our Administration Building. We are always appreciative of parent involvement in the important decisions that are made to drive our school forward and we’d love to see some new faces.

Enrolment Interviews. We are preparing to accept 2017 enrolments for all students starting Year 7 in the New Year. If you missed Open Day and the chance to collect an Enrolment Pack, there is still time. Please contact our Enrolments Officer, Mrs. Joanne Morley on jmorl0@eq.edu.au to request an enrolment pack and a copy of our Prospectus. A reminder that we welcome out-of-catchment applications provided students meet certain criteria, including eligibility with regards to our Excellence Programs. Please ask Mrs. Morley for more information.

Lastly, don’t miss the chance to book tickets to see our upcoming Theatre Show ‘Ma Baker’s Tonic.’ Our Performing Arts students have been rehearsing around the clock to make this glitzy performance one to remember.

Final words

With just four weeks to go until the end of Term 2, we ask that your children make that extra effort to be punctual, attend school daily and give their very best. #highschoolofchoice

Great state. Great opportunity.
Nominate a Great Teacher

Our school is filled with amazing teachers, and we’d like your help to say thanks. Nominate them today at adaymadebetter.com.au and we could win a prize pack valued at $5,000!

Nominate a great teacher at Wellington Point State High

No plans this evening?

Join our Trivia Night

This evening (27 May 2016) our School Chaplaincy is hosting Trivia Night. Where? In our Sports Hall (MPS). When? 630PM – 9PM. Tickets are available at the door for just $10 a person. BYO your own snacks; free tea and coffee available, with light refreshments available for purchase from the Canteen. All money raised goes towards the work of the Chaplaincy at Wellington Point State High School. Come and join us for a great night of fun, laughter, games and trivia. For more information, call our School Chaplain: Cate Struik on 3820 4224.

Join our Trivia Night this evening

What you missed on Open Day

It was a glorious sunny autumn morning on 14 May 2016 for our annual Open Day. We welcomed prospective students and their families from nearby suburbs and those further afield, including: Wakerley, Gumdale, Chandler and Manly.

Some of the well-received attractions were our Screen Printing station with the art department, our science stall where children made their own slime, school tours by our Student Leaders, and of course the Enrolments desk.

If you missed the chance to drop in and meet our staff or collect an Enrolment Pack, you can always request a copy. Please contact our Enrolments Officer, Mrs. Joanne Morley on 3820 4222 or e-mail: jmorl0@eq.edu.au to lodge your enquiry.

Payment Window Opening Hours

Many of you may recognise Mrs. McCallum – who does a wonderful job of taking care of students and receiving many of your payments. A polite reminder to all parents and students that the school’s Finance window is only open three days a week (MON / WED / FRI) between 8am and 11am.

Mrs. McCallum always provides a friendly smile at the Finance Window

Biology Excursion

This term the year 12 Biology Cohort have been studying Biodiversity. The assessment for this unit involves studying two ecosystems with a particular focus on human impact. To put this is in a real world context the students travelled to Nudgee Outdoor Environmental Education Centre where they completed field studies on the Mangrove ecosystem and the Nudgee Beach ecosystem. The students collected and organised abiotic and biotic data through conducting various fieldwork techniques such as sampling quadrats along a 100m transect in order to identify zonation patterns within the ecosystem.

Abiotic factors such as pH, temperature, relative humidity, gradients, light intensity, wind speed and soil compaction were also recorded and analysed. Biotic factors such as identifying various species of Mangroves and their adaptations to survive, invertebrates, birds and mammals were surveyed and recorded.

Overall the excursion was a valuable and enjoyable experience for both students and staff. The students’ participation and behaviour was commendable representing Wellington Point State High School with pride and maturity.
Dinner & Show:

Adult: $45  
Concession/student (over age 12): $40  
Child (under age 12): $25

Assessing ecosystems at Nudgee Outdoor Environmental Education Centre

Come and see this glamourous theatre performance

Student Leadership Day

On 18 May 2016, our team of Year 12 Captains and Vice-Captains took part in a Leadership program hosted by QT Mutual Bank at their office headquarters in Fortitude Valley. This occasion provided an opportunity for School Leaders to meet with Senior Management to discuss leadership skills, as well as tour QT Mutual Bank’s various departments (both front and back of house), followed by a team building exercise at Rock Sports of Fortitude Valley. This is just one of many opportunities that Student Leaders have throughout the year to develop core leadership skills and widen their horizons. A great day enjoyed by all.

Ma Baker’s Tonic

It’s not too late to order your tickets for this amazing Theatre Restaurant Performance, Ma Baker’s Tonic.

‘Set in Ritzy’s, a sophisticated nightclub of the roaring twenties, this funny and glamorous production has it all - glitter, gags, girls and gangsters!’ Performances will be held in the evening of 9, 10 & 11 June 2016 in the school’s Osprey Theatre.

‘Dinner & a Show’ tickets available as well as ‘Show Only’ tickets. Purchase your tickets from the school’s Finance window Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays between 8am and 11am.

TICKET PRICES

Show Only:

Adult: $15  
Concession/student/child: $10

Congrats Dominic Scocchera

Well done to year 9 student Dominic Scocchera for taking home a silver medal in the Met Finals 4km Cross Country Run. You must be fast on your feet Dom! Big round of applause from everyone at the school.

Well done on winning a Silver medal

LEAP students shine at WPSS

In mid-May, a number of our Year 7 LEAP students took part in leading a workshop for Year 2 students of Wellington Point State School. This hands-on workshop provided an opportunity for our students to practice their leadership skills and share knowledge with their junior peers. What a positive occasion it was as they led a series of science experiments on the topic of forces – push and pull. To make learning fun, our LEAP students made use of parachutes, bouncing balls, pulling boxes and more. Well done to our LEAP students and to the group of Year 2 students who enjoyed learning from one another.
P&C Meeting – You’re Invited!

31 May 2016

You are invited to join us for the upcoming P&C Meeting on Tuesday, 31 May 2016 starting at 5pm in the Administration Building. The P&C plays a very important role in supporting the students at Wellington Point State High in many different areas. Our P&C Association run the uniform shop, the canteen and other initiatives to enhance student’s educational experiences. We are always appreciative of parent involvement in the important decisions that are made to drive our school forward. The P&C meets on Tuesday’s starting 5PM every 4-6 weeks and we’d love to see some new faces.

Fun & Games

The Running Man Challenge

You may have seen over the past month that “The Running Man” challenge has become a viral sensation across the globe. We know the importance of mixing a bit of hard work with play at school – and where better to take part in a media challenge than in the Media Studies classroom. Here’s a look at some of our students transforming their classroom into a dancefloor.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zU2VS7ckC1A

Can You Host a Japanese Student?

6 – 17 August 2016

We are seeking host families for Japanese Students from Saturday, 6 August 2016 – Wednesday, 17 August 2016 (11 nights).

Guest students from Suzuka High School are aged between 16 and 17 years old. The students will attend Wellington Point State High School on weekdays.

**Host Family Requirements:**

- No other Japanese person staying with the family
- 3 meals per day
- Own bed, but can share a room with host family member(s)
- Family members over 18’s holding Blue Card or willing to apply through us
- Safe travel to and from school
- $440 will be paid to host families to cover the cost
- 24/7 Friendly Bilingual Support Available

Please contact Ms. Mami Yoshino on myosh15@eq.edu.au to express your interest.

Music Camp

United Ensemble at Thunderbirds Park

From 2 – 4 May 2016, our band and strings instrumental music students went on a music camp to Thunderbirds Park at the Gold Coast Hinterlands. We had an amazing time, not only learning our music pieces for Fanfare (our upcoming Eisteddfod) but also participating in team building activities. The students got to try the high ropes courses and play laser skirmish. Every day we got to eat in a fine dining restaurant and at night we played music trivia and sung by the campfire. We even took a walk to the cedar creek falls and saw some beautiful sites!

Music camp was lots of fun and it was great seeing everyone joking around together and making friends. Thank you to Mr King who helped out Miss Schmidt and I with the running of the camp. You rock Mr King!

**Well done team on your behavior, jokes and team spirit!!!**

**Miss Jessica Steffen**

Girls Excel

PCYC Redlands Confidence Building Program for Young Women

PCYC Redlands are currently recruiting interested participants (young women aged 13-16) to participate in a 10 week program
called "Girls Excel". This is a confidence building course that covers a range of activities starting 13 July 2016.

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact PCYC Redlands Youth Development Officer Cyril Brown on 3245 4639 contact one of our Guidance Officers, Mrs. Roxanne Franke at the school

Free Community Day

Yulu-Burri-Ba

Yulu-Burri-Ba is holding a free community day on Saturday, 11 June 2016 between 10am and 2pm. Mark your diary and head on down to 55 Lower Esplanade, Manly.

A big round of applause goes to our School’s softball players who participated in the Golden Glove competition. Our girls’ team took home the title for the 5th year running and our boys’ team just missed out on the top spot, taking home the runners-up title. Congratulations to all on your amazing effort and achievement!
Athletics Carnival

Leichhardt the winning house

On 13 May 2016, Wellington Point State High held their annual Athletics Carnival. The event was fantastic and it was wonderful to see and hear so much school spirit and encouragement. We are so proud of each and every student for their commitment to filling every race on the day and in all our lead up events; a special thank you to our year 12 student leaders and all staff who helped with official duties.

Congratulations to the following students who were successful in achieving Age Champions on the day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Runner Up</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>16</th>
<th>Opens</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>Jai Brady</td>
<td>Kyran Molander</td>
<td>Dom Scocchera</td>
<td>Mason Landers</td>
<td>Konnor Ross</td>
<td>Callum Jackson</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charlie Menzies</td>
<td>Hayden McShane</td>
<td>Reece Holder</td>
<td>Kyle Van Jaarsveld</td>
<td>Brock Barber</td>
<td>Josh Crambie</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>Zoe Carter</td>
<td>Grace Browning</td>
<td>Abbie Jennings</td>
<td>Renee Rivers</td>
<td>Paris Mantell and Jo Gover-Coope</td>
<td>Charlie Holland</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tali Dugandzic</td>
<td>Chelsea Winn</td>
<td>Tiana Bugden</td>
<td>Angelique Van Horssen</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tamiela Whitefield</td>
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</tbody>
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House Champion Points:

- **4th Place**: Bass (986 points)
- **3rd Place**: Cunningham (1027 points)
- **2nd Place**: Hume (1056 points)
- **1st Place**: Leichhardt (1242 points)

An extra special congratulations needs to go to our winning House – Leichhardt. It was an extremely tight competition all day and all Leichhardt are to be acknowledged for their excellent participation and cheering.

Just a reminder to any student who finished in the top 2 places for any event to collect a district athletics form from Mr Hutton in the MPS.

Ms Naylor

Great School Libraries in Australia

Our school has made the 2015 Honours list for Great School Libraries in Australia compiled by FAIR (Freedom of Access to Information and Resources). Entries were judged by whether the school had the resources, activities and staff to support student learning. Thank you to all the Wellington Point State High staff who help to make the library an inspiring place to work!

Ten Privacy Tips for Parents & Carers

Sharing personal information online can be risky and it’s important to educate your children on how to make good decisions and limit those risks. Your children need as much support online as they do offline. This fact sheet contains information and useful tips that will help you and your children protect their privacy when they interact online.

From the Guidance Officers: Ms Jan Drury & Mrs Roxanne Franke

Student Mental Health Support

If your child has a mental health diagnosis (like anxiety and/or depression) it is important to inform the Guidance Officer so that appropriate support can be provided, and any necessary educational adjustments can be made. The Guidance Officer will need a copy of a letter from your doctor or psychologist
regarding the diagnosis, and will then provide you with additional paperwork. Parents are invited to make an appointment to discuss this with the Guidance Officers so that any questions or issues can be answered and addressed. Parents are welcome to phone the school office to organise appointment times.

**Tax File Numbers**

A tax file number (TFN) is a unique nine digit number that the Australian Tax Office assigns to individuals and organisations for tax purposes. Students will need a tax file number for full or part-time work (including apprenticeship/traineeships), as well as for TAFE or uni studies.

The Australian Tax Office decided last year that schools will no longer facilitate the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program. To get a tax file number now, students need to apply online with the Australian Tax Office and then need to have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post Office. For more information on how to get a TFN see https://www.ato.gov.au/individuals/tax-file-number/apply-for-a-tfn.australian-residents---tfn-application/

For info on proof of identity documentation see: https://www.ato.gov.au/forms/tfn---application-for-individuals/?page=4

It is never a good idea to leave this application to the last minute. All students in grades 10-12 should already have a tax file number – if you haven’t got one, get on to it!

**Is your son/daughter an Australian citizen?**

Australian citizens are able to access HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP programs to assist with the costs of future study at university and TAFE. Students who are not Australian citizens may be faced with upfront fees for university studies. More information on the requirements of these programs can be found at http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helpypayingmyfees

**For New Zealand citizens:**


Non-Australian citizens may also face higher costs for TAFE studies. Please contact the individual TAFE colleges to ascertain this, prior to application. See:

**TAFE Brisbane:**

http://tafebrisbane.edu.au/

**TAFE Skillistech:**

http://tafeskillistech.edu.au/

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**Notice to Senior Students**

**Career Expo**

Mark your diary for 26 May 2016

**Year 12 students**

The QTAC online application is activated (2 August 2016) and you will receive your QTAC Guide in June to assist you make your choices for courses in 2017. In the meantime, you can visit Careers Expos and visit university/TAFE open days.

  Also, careers expos will be held in regional centres throughout Queensland (see http://www.qtac.edu.au/courses---institutions/open-days-expos).
- From May to August most of the institutions have open days at which you can obtain information about courses and check out the campuses. See http://www.qtac.edu.au/courses---institutions/open-days-expos for a list of dates.
- You will receive the QTAC Guide in June. This booklet contains information about courses and application processes.
- 16 – 17 July 2016 - Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO) at the RNA showgrounds. Interstate universities will be represented at this expo. See http://www.careersevent.com/tsxpo/.
- From 2 August 2016 you can access a range of up-to-date information about the 2016/17 QTAC application and offer processes and the courses offered from the QTAC website at http://www.qtac.edu.au/.

Take advantage of all these opportunities to plan your immediate future. If you intend to apply to QTAC for entry to tertiary courses in 2017, you need to submit your application by 30 September 2016 to avoid a hefty late fee.
Questions from Year 12 students

Q. - How do I apply to university for next year?
A. - You apply through QTAC for most Queensland tertiary courses. Applications to tertiary institutions in other states are through tertiary admissions centres similar to QTAC (see http://www.qtac.edu.au/applications/apply-here/applying-interstate for information about interstate applications). You apply directly to all other institutions.

Q. - What is QTAC?
A. - The Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) is a public, not-for-profit company that manages the application and offer processes for a number of universities, TAFE institutes and some private colleges in Queensland (three interstate institutions are also included). QTAC does not make the rules about entry to courses. The institutions make the rules and QTAC administers these rules.

Q. - How many courses can I apply for through QTAC?
A. - You can apply for up to six courses from any of the institutions that use QTAC. You receive only one offer (if you meet the prerequisites and have a competitive OP or Rank) at any given offer round.

Q. - When will I receive my QTAC application form?
A. - The QTAC application is an online application. It will be activated on 2 August 2016 on the QTAC website at http://www.qtac.edu.au/. The ‘on-time’ due date for applications is 30 September 2016. After this date a hefty late fee is applied.

Q. - How are applicants selected for courses through QTAC?
A. - There are usually more applicants than available places for many of the courses. Selection is based on meeting minimum entry requirements (prerequisite subjects, folio, audition, etc.) and on merit (OP or Rank). Once minimum entry requirements are met, applicants compete on the basis of merit for competitive courses.

Q. - What is the difference between undergraduate and postgraduate courses?
A. - The term ‘undergraduate’ is normally applied to diploma, advanced diploma, associate degree and bachelor degree courses. ‘Postgraduate’ usually applies to courses you can study after completing a bachelor degree, e.g. graduate certificate, graduate diploma, masters and doctorate.

Regular Attendance

School attendance is a habit. Missing school, means missing out on vital information that is required to be successful in schooling. The Education Department’s “Every day counts” gives some guidelines for student attendance. Parents and caregivers must send children to school every school day under Queensland law unless there is an acceptable reason such as:

- illness
- doing work experience
- competing in school sporting events

If your child is going to be absent from school, it is the parent/guardian’s responsibility to advise the school why the absence has occurred within two school days of their return. If possible, do this beforehand.

The Student Absence Line is: 3820 4266

Establishing good routines around school can assist with regular school attendance.

These include:

- have a set time to go to bed
- have a set time to get out of bed
- have uniform and school bag ready the night before
- have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast
- set a time for daily homework activities
- speak about school positively
- send your child to school every school day

If you are experiencing difficulty in sending your child to school, contact the school for advice and support. Your child’s education is important to us and we can assist provided we there is communication between us.