SPRINGWOOD HIGHLIGHTS

Our vision: The highest expectations

Five Platforms: Academic Excellence, Student Wellbeing, Community, Sport and the Arts, Pathways

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DATE CLAIMERS
2013

Friday 19th July
Jazzin Up the Mall

Monday 22nd July—Friday 26th July
Yumoto High School group from Japan visit
School Athletics Carnival

Tuesday 23rd July
Careers Expo

Wednesday 24th July
Yr 12 Biology Excursion

Monday 5th August—Thursday 8th August
Sue High School from Japan visit

Thursday 8th August
Logan District Athletics

Sunday 11th August—Saturday 17th August
Heron Island

Monday 12th August
Show Holiday

Thursday 15th August
Cheer Squad—Beenleigh Eisteddfod

Tuesday 20th August
P & C Meeting
6.30pm Common Room
Administration Block

Thursday 26th August
Yr 11 & 12 Golf Excursion

SPECIAL MID-YEAR EDITION

At Springwood State High School our vision is “The Highest Expectations”.

Springwood State High School is committed to being a school of choice. Teachers are adept at working with each student and their parents to understand the learning needs of the student and the best pathway to achieve their ambition.

Our focus is on all students developing skills that are highly valued as they move through secondary school and transition to further study, training and the workplace. Our whole school approach supports the development of students being independent learners, strong communicators, understanding and resolving complex problems. Our expert teaching team collaborates to shape curriculum delivery, utilising a range of teaching methods and ensuring our subject offerings are relevant and in line with the career market. Teacher leadership is a key part of the delivery of high quality programs.

In line with our vision, Springwood State High School has launched a new website that provides an up to date calendar of events, important information about the school, our strategic plan, student assessment dates, enrolment details and access to the new QSchools app; that allows parents, teachers and students to have instant access to live school updates and information, connecting the school community.

Our learning focus is supported through our Five Platforms of excellence – Academic Excellence, Sport and the Arts, Community, Wellbeing and Pathways.

We are very proud of our students and our school community. To support our focus on achieving success for each student we strive to ensure our students work in a fantastic learning environment. To achieve this we have facilitated the upgrade of a number of our buildings. Our tennis courts have been resurfaced, our shower and amenities block have received a complete makeover, the junior secondary block has been completely refurbished including new furniture, many buildings have had general upgrades, the art block has been repainted and our administration block is receiving an overdue facelift.

The next round of the laptop scheme will also be rolled out over the next few weeks with students in Year 9 able to hire the latest version for school and home use.

The school opinion survey will be conducted next week and will involve randomly selected parents and students. If you receive a survey it would be great if you are able to fill it out. Staff and students are working hard to ensure that we maintain our high standards and we also continue to look for opportunities to make our great school an even better place to learn and achieve.

MCCULLOUGH, Julie-Ann
Principal
Academic Excellence Platform

Springwood SHS has introduced award ceremonies to recognise academic excellence of our very talented students. These awards also include students who excel in community service and those students whose overall performance has shown significant improvement. Last term thirty seven students were recognised for Academic Excellence, receiving awards at our Junior School and Senior School assemblies. These students achieved a minimum of 4 As and no mark lower than a B on their report cards.

Our ACE Program, created to develop not only academic talent but also leadership, resilience and persistence, supports the enhancement of each student’s ability to achieve success at school and beyond. Year 8, 9 and 10 students are placed in ability-grouped classes in the four key learning areas of English, Social Science, Maths and Science and undertake a range of activities to challenge and extend their capabilities. For example, Year 10 Japanese student, Ilona Rudanec, achieved in the top 1% of competitors in the ‘Language Perfect’ competition – a world-wide language learning competition.

In response to changes initiated by the introduction of the National Curriculum, the ACE program will be redesigned in 2014 and become the EXCEL program. Similar to the current program, students will be placed in ability-grouped classes, where they will interact with other motivated and equally capable students. Students in Year 8 will also be extended through academically challenging and enriching cross-curricular tasks, which will be delivered one period a week and culminate in a showcase presentation. Central to the new EXCEL program will be the focus on technology, with the majority of lessons within each of the four curriculum areas being timetabled to computer labs.

Sport and the Arts Platform

Springwood State High School has continued achieving in the sporting arena with several great achievements. This year we set the scene by winning the Logan District swimming carnival for the 20th year in row.

Students in interschool sport have shown great efforts with the Year 8, 9, 10 and Open Boys Volleyball, Junior Boys Touch and Senior Boys B Futsal all making it to the Logan District finals, with the Year 8, 9 and 10 Boys Volleyball making it to Metro Finals.

The Springwood State High School team also came third in the Logan District Cross Country with the Senior Girls winning the Senior Girls Trophy.

Springwood SHS is also preparing teams for the upcoming All Schools Touch and Qld Junior Schools Cup Volleyball in Term 4. The Volleyball teams are also preparing for the National Schools Cup in Melbourne later in the year.

Congratulations to Bryce Poland who has received support through Future State Greats, under its Aspirations4Kids in Sport program in the section titled Spirit of Sport. Bryce has been selected for the Queensland U16 School Boys Volleyball Team and has also been selected in the U17 Queensland team. Earlier this year he also made the Australian National Volleyball Youth Squad.

Springwood State High School is proud of our excellent music and arts reputation within the wider community. This year has already seen a number of key performances and successes for our talented students. Our fabulous String and Percussion students performed at the ENABLE Dux Dinner at Windaroo High School for the Minister, local MPs and Principals. We are fortunate to be able to host an Open Stage Residency each year where selected students participate in a week long residency with 5 artists from Opera QLD. The week culminates with a concert for family and friends.

Our Instrumental Music program is of high quality and this year some of our students will participate in the World’s Biggest Orchestra Guinness Book of Records attempt. Springwood High also boosted a talented Vocal Ensemble, a Hip-Hop Dance Group and a very talented Cheer Squad. Our Cheer Squad participated in the World Cup and Cheer Dance Competition where they won “Most Energetic Routine”. The squad will also participate in the Spirit Competition on August 4th. Two of our talented percussion students (Marcus Hollstein and Alyssa Poland) will participate in Creative Generation-State Schools Onstage. Our Arts Faculty are very community minded and in Term 3 will commence a joint art mural project with Springwood Central.
Community Platform

On Friday 11 October we will be opening the 1988 time capsule and we are excited to see what was happening in the school twenty five years ago. There have been a number of past students expressing an interest in attending and all will be welcome. This will also coincide with celebrating a number of fantastic upgrades to our facilities. We have fantastic and well maintained grounds and are fortunate to be in a wildlife corridor.

In 2013 the school has introduced a Student Representative Council that includes students from all year levels. Students are able to participate in providing advice regarding key initiatives across the school and from 2014 junior school captain positions will be introduced.

The Student Chamber of Commerce continues to operate as a school-based, community-focused organisation that provides opportunities for students to gain exposure to business activities and to develop business skills.

During the first semester, several students gave their time to represent the school at a number of business and community activities. This included Ryan Biss (President) and Robbie Farn (Vice-President) regularly attending Logan Chamber of Commerce business breakfasts, and Stefi Anderson assisting at a Rotary Club fundraising barbecue.

As we commence the second semester, the students are gearing up for a series of upcoming community activities. On 28th July, a number of students are planning to assist the Loganholme and Beenleigh Rotary Clubs by assisting with registrations and start/finish area marshalling for the Logan City Charity Bike Ride. The following week on 3rd August, the students will be operating the fundraising barbecue at the Bunnings Underwood store on Kingston Road. In addition, a third event is planned for 18th October when the students will hold their annual Trivia Night fundraiser in support of Bravehearts.

Wellbeing Platform

This year has seen the introduction of our BLAST (Building Lifelong Aware Successful Teens) program promoting a comprehensive, whole school approach to social and emotional wellbeing, enhancing the development of the school environment where young people feel safe, valued, engaged and purposeful. The program aims to equip students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and strategies to understand and manage themselves and their relationships both individually and in collaborative environments. The focus for this year includes:

Cyber Safety - detailed lessons focusing on the issues that impact on young people and strategies young people can use on a daily basis to protect their digital footprint.

SenseAbility – Essential skills that explore a range of life and interpersonal skills that uses a strength based approach to help enhance and maintain resilience and psychological well-being of young people by building their social and emotional skills.

BRAKE – The BRAKE program focuses on the behaviour of young drivers when faced with hazards, the risks associated with those hazards. It looks at the attitudes of the young people, and attempts to increase their knowledge through a process of education.

Career Pathways Years 10, 11, 12 - A comprehensive program that focuses on future pathways of all students, exploring the world of work and further education to make informed choices for the future. Curriculum components include: Subject selections, Senior Education Training Planning, QCS, Certificates in Workplace Practices, University Options and application processes.
Pathways Platform

Students at Springwood State High School are supported to ensure that they reach their potential and are able to successfully transition from secondary education into either further study an apprenticeship or traineeship or employment. In 2012 98% of our Year 12 cohort attained a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and 100% of students attained a QCE and/or OP and/or nationally recognised VET Certificate. This had meant that all students achieved some form of qualification on exiting secondary school.

Last year 75% of our OP eligible students achieved an OP 1-15, making them highly competitive with other students across the state for entry into university courses. 145 nationally recognised Certificate I, II and III level qualifications were issued to Year 12 students in the areas of Automotive & Furnishing, Business & Hospitality, IT & Workplace Practices, Sport & Community Activities, Music and Visual Arts.

Our 2013 Year 12 students are on track to achieve similar successes in attainment of OP outcomes and VET certificates. In 2013, 170 students from Years 10-12 are combining their school-based learning with a TAFE course, school-based apprenticeship or traineeship or university early entry program, achieving outstanding results!

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS

TUESDAY & FRIDAY - 7:30am to 9:00am

VOLUNTEERS needed and welcomed on these days. Please see Gloria in the Uniform shop.

NEW SCHOOL CAPS, SPORTS SHORTS & SPORTS POLO SHIRTS NOW HERE (caps $10)

Please contact our Administration Department on 3380 6111 and leave your contact details and we will endeavour to organise a suitable appointment time or alternately download an order form from the school website and email to Uniformshop@springwoshs.eq.edu.au

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

RE: NATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS COMPUTER FUND - STUDENT LAPTOPS

A reminder to students that the laptops are the property of The Department of Education and Training. It is the student’s responsibility to take care of the laptops.

General precautions are:-

- Food or drinks should never be placed near the device.
- Plugs, cords and cables should be inserted and removed carefully.
- Devices should be carried within their protective case.
- Devices should never be carried with the screen open.
- Ensure the battery is fully charged each day.
- Turn the laptop off before placing it in its bag.
- Do not graffiti or deface the laptop or bag.
- Do not put stickers on the laptop.
- Do not write on the bag.

The $90 fee for the laptop is an annual resource fee and subject to change. As per the Laptop agreement, students who complete their schooling or transfer from school must return the laptop to the school or the school will initiate recovery procedures. If the Laptop is not returned in the condition it was loaned to the student, reimbursement will be sought. Laptops must be returned to the school I.T. Department by the completion of each school year.

TIME CHANGE FOR P AND C MEETINGS

Starting time will now be 6:30pm as of April’s Meeting. Next P & C meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th August in the Administration block, common room. All welcome to attend.