FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Senior Schooling
As usual Term 3 has been extremely busy with our Year 12 OP students preparing for and completing the QCS test. Congratulations on their commitment to this rigorous pathway and I am sure they will keep working hard until the end of next term. Year 12 students on a training and employment pathway have also been working hard toward completion of all course requirements and are on track as a cohort to achieving rewarding outcomes.

We have a number of fantastic successes with our Year 10 and 11 students accessing great opportunities with school based apprentices and work experience options. Year 11 students on an OP pathway have commenced QCS practice this term and they have worked extremely well and are to be congratulated.

Junior Secondary
This week our fabulous Excel (extension) class showcased their Academic Challenge and Enrichment program project, *Who am I?* to parents, staff and their previous primary school teachers.

The event, wholly organised by the students, displayed work from across four curriculum areas, English, Maths, Science and Social Science and incorporated a collage drama piece from the Year 8 Performing Arts Excellence students.

Students demonstrated and explained their projects incorporating tasks involving establishing their own businesses, creating an online educational studio, investigating and journaling the experiences of immigrant ancestors, and creating a digital representation of themselves.

Springwood State High School is ready for Year 7 in 2015 and we will not only offer an academic extension program to Year 7 students but will also have sport and performing arts extension programs for our Junior Secondary students. Make sure if you are yet to enrol with us you make an appointment through the office as soon as possible.

Julie-Ann McCullough
PRINCIPAL
FUTURE LEADERS LUNCH AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE

On Tuesday the 26th of August our Springwood SHS school leaders Renee Holdstock (Captain) and Irirama Keepa-Winiata (Vice Captain) along with Ms Leanne Townsend (Acting Deputy Principal) were invited by the Honourable MP John Grant (Member for Springwood) to the Queensland Speaker’s Future Leaders Lunch.

Over eighty people attended this prestigious event as guests of members of Parliament from Metropolitan and Regional areas. The Principals, teachers and students from as far as Great Keppel Island enjoyed inspirational words from the first ever female Queensland Speaker of the House – the Honourable Ms Fiona Simpson. Also there to spread the good word was ‘Head Frog’, from the Red Frog Chaplaincy, Andy who now helps young people at Schoolies and over 20 other youth events around the world.

Thank you again to the Honourable MP John Grant, Ms Townsend, Renee and Irirama.
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT - BRISBANE WRITERS FESTIVAL EXCURSION

On the 3rd of September, Year 8 Excel English students from Springwood State High School, as well as Ms Kahl and Mrs Veckranges, attended the Brisbane Writers Festival. It was an amazing experience which started off with meeting Will Kostakis, who kept us enthralled with humorous stories about his Grandmother, who is the inspiration for his new novel, The First Third. We were able to ask Will questions, as well as meet him after the session and have our newly purchased books signed. He even joined us for an impromptu chat during our lunch break.

The next session was Hip-Hopology & the Power of a Poem with Omar Musa and Scott Sneddon. This interactive session introduced us to the aspects of performance and slam poetry, something most of us had never experienced before. The performers also talked about the struggles involved with being a poet, and the bullying they have experienced over their chosen profession. Their freestyle poems, made up on the spot using random information provided by the audience, were particularly amazing.

After a quick lunch break and a chance to check out the State Library bookshop, we attended our final session with James Phelan, on Thrills, Spills and Paying the Bills. James, one of Australia’s most prolific thriller writers, spoke to us about his new series for Scholastic – The Last Thirteen. He also detailed the sacrifices he has made to follow a career in writing, including giving up a career in Architecture in his twenties and moving home with his parents to save money. While that wasn’t particularly appealing, the fact that he can travel the world for research and write it off as a tax deduction when he puts in a book certainly was.

All four presenters were very different but equally amazing. They focused their sessions on the hard work, perseverance and sacrifices they have made to follow their dreams, leaving us with a very clear message - be true to yourself, work hard and never give up.

Both students and teachers left the festival feeling very inspired, and were grateful for the opportunity to attend the festival.

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION RESULTS:

Early this term 100 of our top Mathematics students were invited to participate in the 2014 Maths Competition. Congratulations to the following students who attained a top 3 placing in their year level. Well done Kira and Caitlin tying with the top points score and to Rue who won the Prudence Award (most answers correct in a row). All students who score a Credit (top 20% in state and country) and Distinction (top 10%) will receive their certificates on year level parades – all other certificates will be distributed during your Maths class.

Thank you to Mr Simons for running the event.

Regards,
Leanne Townsend
YEAR 8 GIRLS’ FUTSAL

Six of our Year 8 girls participated in an invitational futsal (five-a-side soccer) tournament for school teams on 14 August. The girls played as an U13 team in the combined U13/U14 Girls’ competition. The girls performed well throughout the day and were only really outdone by the two finalists – Robina SHS U14 and Genesis Christian College U13.

As a result of their performances during the day, the girls finished as the second-highest placed U13 team. This provided an opportunity for a play-off against Genesis Christian College in the U13 Final. Despite another spirited performance, our girls were unable to match the experience of the Genesis girls and came away as worthy runners-up.

The team was (l-r) Vrinda Eswaran, Kyara Bergmanas, Nicole McLaughlin, Mayce Hammond, Abigail Marshall and Kaitlyn-Renee Osborn (not pictured).

Congratulations to all the girls for your sterling efforts throughout the day.

2014 AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS STUDIES COMPETITION

Earlier this year, 10 students from the Year 12 Business Communication and Technologies class entered into the Australian Business Studies Competition conducted by the University of NSW. The competition is conducted annually and covers a wide range of business topics using a multiple choice format in which students lose a quarter of a mark for each incorrect response (to discourage guessing). The aim of the competition being to assess students on their general knowledge of topical business issues and current affairs, and their analysis and reasoning in a business context.

The participating students received the following certificates in recognition of their performance in the competition:

Certificate of Participation
James Wetherbee
Kristen Murray
Nadine Marchant
Jake Maguire
Isabelle Harris
Renee Holdstock
Kaitlyn Burgemeister

Certificate of Credit
Elle-Jade Archer

Certificate of Distinction
Ashley Cripps
Sebastian Cassinelli

Congratulations and well done to all the participating students.

GRIFFITHBUSINESS YEAR 12 PROGRAM

Congratulations to two of our Business students, Elle-Jade Archer and Kaitlyn Burgemeister, who have successfully completed the GriffithBUSINESS Year 12 Program at the Griffith University Logan Campus.

The GriffithBUSINESS Year 12 program is an initiative by the Griffith University Business School to provide the opportunity for high achieving students undertaking a business subject in Year 12 to experience university life. The program aims to assist students in making the transition from the supported framework of a school environment to the flexible and autonomous environment of tertiary education.

By successfully completing the program, Elle-Jade and Kaitlyn have earned the opportunity to apply for a guaranteed offer of entry into Griffith University business degree or double degree.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS

Tenterfield Tour

Thanks to all the students and their families for supporting our very successful 2014 Instrumental Music Tour (11 – 13 August).
We travelled to Warwick West SS and performed for their students, then onto Mingoola Public School, which boasts a very proud student body of 7 students. On our return to Springwood we stopped at Mummulgum SS where we had 22 students enjoy our concert. The best fun was Mingoola SS where the very proud 7 students played for us on their homemade marimbas. Their concert was wonderful to see. We enjoyed a wonderful homemade morning tea and had a tour of the school and played soccer with the kids. We also have to thank our coach driver Ross, he was included in all of our activities and packed the trailer impressively so that we were able to take all of our required equipment.

Thanks to the families of SSHS who supported the tour this year. The plan is to go away again next year when we have a larger contingent of new students coming up to join the program. Where will visit??

Thanks to Mrs Mareroa and Mr Scheerle for coming on the tour. It was fun and the students enjoyed your company.
Thanks finally to the school P&C and IMPS (Instrumental Music Parent Support group) for contributing money to cover some costs for our families. These well thought our plans certainly enabled us to take more students along. That is the most important thing to encourage students to enjoy the joys of their music education at high school.

Thanks to all.
IM Staff
FAREWELL FROM HENDO

I started teaching at Springwood High in 1981. I was 25 and after spending time at Tara Secondary Department, my first year at Springwood was my 5th year teaching. I came from a school of 100 students and 10 teachers to a school of 1500 students and around 90 teachers.

The 1981 Year 12’s were the first Year 12 cohort, and this group started Year 8 in 1977 when the school opened. I have seen 34 Year 12 cohorts go through Springwood. I have always said that Springwood High is a great school.

There are two main reasons for this, the staff (including teachers, administration and non-teaching staff), and the students. The quality of the staff over the years has been exceptional. There have been so many fantastic people at Springwood over 34 years and the current staff is no exception. The number of friends I have made through this staff is something to be treasured.

School staff today have an enormous amount of pressure compared to 30 years ago, and sometimes the “fun” can be taken out of our job because of time lines and work program commitments.

I have remained friends with quite a number of students over the years. Some are now into their late 40’s and early 50’s. I have been to 18th, 21st, 30th and 40th birthday parties, engagement and wedding ceremonies, and unfortunately last month, I attended an ex-student’s funeral. He was 44.

I have always appreciated being out in the community and conversing with ex-students.

My last teaching day is Friday the 19th of September. I will never forget my years at Springwood High and I look forward to whatever the future holds.

Hendo
**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

**Student I.D Numbers**
A friendly reminder to Parents/Caregivers to use your student’s I.D number as a reference, when making payments via internet banking. The correct I.D number is 10 digits with a letter on the end (eg. 1234567899X). The old six digit student I.D number is now obsolete. This is particularly important when making payments via internet banking so that the school’s Finance Department can apply the payment.

If your student does not have an I.D card or you are unsure of your student’s I.D number, please do not hesitate to contact our Administration Department. I.D cards can be collected from the Payment Window.

**Paying via Internet Banking:** Direct Payment into School Bank Account
- School’s Bank Account Name: Springwood State High School
- BSB Number: 064-170 (CBA Branch Springwood)
- Account Number: 00090094
- Reference/Details: Please record the student’s I.D number in the reference/details section so that your payment can be recorded correctly.

If insufficient details are supplied, payments will be applied to the oldest debt for that Family/Customer.

**Paying by phone:** Payment by Credit Card ONLY
Call the school on 3380617 or 33806111 Tuesday to Friday between 8am - 12.00 midday. (Closed Mondays)

Please have the account and your credit card details with you when you call. VISA or Mastercard accepted.

Cheques and Money Orders made payable to Springwood State High School.
Post to PO Box 77 Springwood QLD 4127.

**Paying in Person:** Payment by Credit Card, Debit Card, Cash, Cheque or Money Order:

- Payment can be made at the school Payment Office Tuesday – Thursday 8am – 12.00 midday (Closed Mondays and Fridays)
- Credit Card and Debit Cards (EFTPOS), Cash, Cheques and Money Orders are accepted.

PAYMENT WINDOW CLOSED EVERY MONDAY AND FRIDAY

**HAVE YOU MOVED?**
If you have moved, changed jobs, changed your telephone number (including mobile) or if your emergency contacts have had any changes to their contact details we need to know. Please send a note to the office with your child or phone the office on 3380 6111 to let us know of any changes.

**MEDICATION**
Just a reminder that if your child needs to take medication of any kind while at school we can only administer prescription medication. This medication needs to be in the original box/container with the chemist label adhered to it. Students are not permitted to hold medication of any kind in their bag.

All medication must be brought to the office, authorisation forms filled out and signed by parent, guardian and students then come to the office for staff to administer the medication. Should you have any queries please don’t hesitate to contact the office.

**MOBILE PHONES AT SCHOOL**
Students are to be reminded that it is at their own risk if they choose to bring a mobile phone to school. It is understood that some students have a mobile phone for safety purposes whilst travelling to and from school, however, it is this school’s policy that phones are to be switch off and out of sight during lesson times.

If a mobile phone is used during class time, then the teacher may take the action of confiscating the phone. Students are encouraged to hand their mobile phone in to the office for safe keeping during the school day.

**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, this includes no writing on protective case.
- Do not put stickers on the laptop.

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 prior to the completion of each school year for annual software updates.

**Pleasing Note:**
STUDENT ABSENTEE LINE
Telephone: 3380 6103
or
Email absences to:
attendance@springwosh.eq.edu.au

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**
Do you love the colour orange?
Terrific – so do our school leavers every year!

New Volunteers are currently being recruited to register as Schoolies Support Team (SST) Volunteers for the annual Gold Coast Schoolies Community Safety Response.

In November each year following the conclusion of Year 12, thousands of school leavers descend on the Gold Coast to celebrate their achievements. As a result the Queensland Government coordinates a Safety Response.

In excess of 1,000 Volunteers from all walks of life and a variety of community organisations participate each year to support the school leavers enjoy their celebrations safely.

Annually the SST Volunteers assist with authorised wristband distribution, conduct street and beach patrols and provide walk home services, a friendly smile and a wise ear to school leavers. The SST Volunteers wear bright orange tabards whilst on shift in order to be easily identified and provide important information about the schoolies hub, safety response and overall experience.

Volunteers are being sought for this year’s Safety Response. Some Volunteers are required during the day on the first Saturday with the rest of the week involving night time work 6pm to midnight approximately. You can volunteer for as little as one shift or if super keen you can participate every day!

All Volunteers are required to hold or obtain a Positive Notice (Blue Card) for Working with Children from the Queensland Governments Public Safety Business Agency. You will be assisted to obtain your Blue Card, free of charge, as part of the volunteer recruitment process.

Being an SST Volunteer is a fantastic way for parents of school leavers to connect with the safety response without cramping the style of their children. Often Mums and Dads also volunteer in the years prior to their children leaving Year 12, so that they can experience the safety response directly and be more assured and prepared for the day their own child wants to join in the excitement.

Consider volunteering today. Visit the website for more information or to register your interest: [www.schooliesvolunteer.com.au](http://www.schooliesvolunteer.com.au) or call Crime Stoppers Queensland who are the SST Volunteer Coordinators on 1300 309 355.

Crime Stoppers Queensland is a registered charity and community volunteer organisation.
# 2015 School Calendar

## Queensland State Schools

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### Staff Professional Development Days
Staff professional development days for teachers are January 22 and 23, and October 19, with three additional flexible days. Schools are able to decide when their flexible days will be held, as long as they are in the school holidays or out-of-school hours.

### Public Holidays
Public holidays are set by the Industrial Relations Minister. Public holidays for a local show are not shown due to diversity of dates across the state.

### Final Dates for Student Attendance
November 20 is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement. November 27 is the final date for student attendance in years 10 and 11.

Some schools in regional, rural and remote areas will close for the Summer holidays on December 4.

All other state primary, secondary and special schools will close on December 11.

In 2016, all state schools will re-open for students on January 25.

The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication (August 2014) but may be subject to change.

For more information and the latest version of this calendar, visit [www.education.qld.gov.au](http://www.education.qld.gov.au)

**Great state. Great opportunity.**