**DEPUTY'S DESK**

Recently Year 11 Legal Studies students had the great pleasure of experiencing a Court Discovery Day at Bond University. This event was hosted by the Law Faculty at Bond and its aim was to give students first-hand experience at the facilities and content as well as meeting some of the academic staff.

First the students were separated into 3 groups of 7 and were given a guided tour of the law faculty by some of Bond’s senior law students. Our students were able to ask questions about life at Bond as well as about studying law and law related subjects. They were then taken into one of Bond’s moot courts, and listened to a formal presentation by one of the senior law academics. This was followed by an actual criminal law case presented by senior law students who are just about ready to undertake their law firm practice. The case was a theft scenario and some students were selected to be on the jury, to decide the verdict of the accused. The presiding judge addressed the student body at the conclusion of the case and students once again had the opportunity to ask questions. Overall it was a very interactive and informative day.

*Mrs Briffa*  
Teacher Business Education

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**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**YEAR 12 EXAMS**  
7 – 12 NOVEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 November</td>
<td>Year 6 into Year 7 Enrolment Information Evening 5.30pm – 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 November</td>
<td>Year 7 into Year 8 Enrolment Information Evening 6.30pm – 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 – 12 November</td>
<td>Year 12 Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 November</td>
<td>Remembrance Day Service</td>
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**DEAR PARENTS**

This week has seen much celebration at school with the school’s Sport Awards being held on Tuesday evening. The evening highlighted both the level of participation by students and the outstanding levels of achievement. The video presentations highlighted the evening as they captured the joy, excitement and commitment of our sports person's.

The following night we celebrated the academic and cultural achievements of our very successful students. It was extremely pleasing to see the high levels of both academic and vocational achievement that will guarantee success in the student’s future pathway.

My congratulations to the school’s Dux, Michael Muni who exceeded all boundaries with his extremely high level of achievement. on the night we also announced both the Junior and Senior School Captains and Prefects for 2015. My sincere congratulations to all our school leaders. Our 2015 Junior School Captains are Julia Bejleri, Sarah Jackson-Ettridge, Suzanne Soudah and Dimitri Simjanovski.

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**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**  
MR CHRIS TOBIN

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**Court Discovery**

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**OCTOBER**  
31 OCT 2014
Our Senior Captains are Gemma Bowie, Tyrel Del Rosario, Anneka Patricks and Kobi Rogers.

Thank you to the many parents who enjoyed the night by celebrating with the school.

Chris Tobin
Principal

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**Principal’s Message**

The jacarandas are in bloom and that indicates 2 things to a Queensland student – exams are approaching and it is spring! As our senior students, particularly Year 12s, prepare for their final exams for the year, it is an ideal time for Years 8 and 9 to make the most of new opportunities. The final school days for 2014 are as follows:

- Year 12 on Friday 21 November
- Years 10 and 11 on Friday 28 November
- Years 8 and 9 on Friday 12 December

Please remember, students are required to attend school every day until their designated break-up date. The remainder of Term 4 is an ideal time for the junior students to utilise school facilities without having to compete with the senior students. In the library there are Kindles available for students to borrow and read before and after school, and during breaks. If you are in Years 8 or 9, and haven’t yet familiarised yourself with the school’s kindle resources, why not do it now? See Ms Jones in the library and find a comfy spot in the library or quiet reading room for some e-reading. Ms Jones can also show students how to register with Borrow Box – our school’s electronic library. Students can then read and listen to novels downloaded onto their laptops. They can continue reading at home.

Don’t forget Homework Club continues to operate on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in the library, so you could enjoy some free afternoon tea before continuing to read on your kindle or laptop. What a perfect way to end the day. See you in the library soon!

Karen Farrow
Deputy Principal

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**Deputy’s Desk**

KAREN FARROW

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Borrow Box and Kindle Book Titles

These are just a few of the books available for loan either on Borrow Box or Kindle devices. What are you reading?
The junior students have really benefited from two big purchases made this year. The department has acquired two MakerBOT dual nozzle 3D printers. Harnessing this and other digital manufacturing technologies is a great step forward for us but one that must be made with caution. Embedding these into our daily practice is a delicate operation which we feel the students have really benefitted from.

To hear about the 3D printing technologies and the capability of printing anything from plastic parts to concrete modular housing to titanium heals, hips and replacement knees and even bio organic human organs is just mind blowing so it is great that we can expose our students to this almost limitless design tool.

We have been able to introduce printed parts into our paper rocket design task, while also digitally machining other decorative pieces. No doubt as we all continue to grow with this technology so too will the impact on the students.

Aaron McMahon  
HOD Technology/Home Economics

Gold Coast Oral Health Services

Did you know Year 8, 9 and 10 students are entitled to FREE dental examinations and full courses of general dental care until students complete Year 10. 2014 Year 10 students are only eligible for a few more weeks so get in quickly!

To organise an appointment parents need to ring 1300 300 850.

Patients are entitled to an examination every 6 months if they choose to take up the opportunity.

Nurse Jackie  jatki89@eq.edu.au  0432 005 265
Griffith University has invited 7 of our students to the International Student Symposium and Competition on ‘Creative Technologies for a Clean Environment’. This is part of the G20 programmes.

During the two days, students will compete against each other and share creative ideas and talents, related to environmental issues. There will be various awards and scholarships sponsored by governments and Griffith University.

Event 1: Creative Technology Challenge for a Clean Environment
Each team will design, build and present their creative inventions at the venue. Students will be allowed to bring all the (not yet assembled) materials needed to build their invention. There is no limitation on the type or size of the materials. There will be various awards and scholarships available for this competition.

The final outcome may be:
- Junk robot made of recycled materials
- Sustainable house/buildings
- Smart home/vehicle
- Cleaning robots
- Planting robots
- Clean energy power plants
- Recycling and reducing waste
- Pollution Monitoring System, etc.

Event 2: International Student Symposium on ‘Technologies for a Clean Environment’
Each group will be given 15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for discussion. Every presenter will have a certificate after the symposium. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:
- Environment
- Robotics
- Smart Building/House/Vehicles
- Smartphone Technologies
- Clean Energy, etc.

Congratulations to our senior Tourism students who have completed their Certificate II course this year. Students have been engaged in this certificate course over the last two years and their final assessment is now complete. Our Tourism students under the expert guidance of Mrs Thompson, Mrs Wood and Mr Rujak undertook a course of study designed to build competencies across a wide range of Tourism specific industry standards. In doing so, our tourism students gained access to some of the Gold Coasts biggest tourism attractions in a number of excursions this year. These students are now able to use their certificate to obtain credit to further study or move directly into the tourism workforce after graduation.

At this time of the year our senior teachers are asked to undertake the arduous task of choosing their best overall students in their respective subjects. A big thank you must go out to senior teachers for taking these students through the last two years of study. The winners of the academic awards for Year 12 subjects in 2014 are:
- Modern History: Aadil Master
- Geography: Emily Smith
- Philosophy and Reason: Michael Muni
- Economics: Shannon Minehan
- Tourism: Senita Rose

These students have shown a tremendous amount of effort and dedication over their two year course of study at Merrimac State High school and fully deserve the accolades they have received at Presentation Night.

Peter McVeigh
HOD Social Sciences (Acting)

Year 10 Summit Science class, along with Year 11 and 12 IPT students, attended a working lunch with Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate to celebrate their winning efforts in the Gold Coast Science and Technology Fair.

Year 10 student Katerina Trajkovski shares her thoughts on the luncheon below: “Following the recent win at the Gold Coast Science Fair, a few lucky students from Merrimac State High School were given the opportunity to have lunch with the Honourable Mayor of the Gold Coast, Tom Tate. During the lunch, Mayor Tom Tate informed us on how he became the mayor of Gold Coast and what his job requires. At the end of the lunch, Mayor Tate farewelled us with some final words of wisdom, reminding us to always be true to ourselves and always try our hardest.”

This luncheon was a memorable experience for our students and his key message – be yourself and maximise on your strengths – is one that I am sure they will find valuable in the years to come.

Anjuli M Dillon HOD Science
YOUR PATHWAY TO BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION

12 WEEK PRE-APPRENTICESHIP COURSE COMMENCING 2015
FUNDED BY CONSTRUCTION SKILLS QLD (CSQ)

BRICKLAYING . CABINET MAKING . CARPENTRY . PAINTING . PLASTERING . RENDERING . SHOP FITTING

In partnership with Construction Skills Queensland (CSQ), TAFE Queensland Gold Coast’s TRADE START is your pathway to a building and construction career. To get a better understanding of what is involved and if this is the path for you, register to attend our info session (details below).

On successful completion you will graduate with:

- Certificate I in Construction
- Construction White Card
- 4 weeks on-the-job experience with a construction organisation or contractor.
- Applied Life and Work Skills
- Applied Environmental and Green Skills
- Ready for work kit

INFORMATION SESSION
Monday 24th November 2014
6pm—7pm
Ashmore Campus
CNR Benowa Road & Heeb Street, Ashmore

COURSE COMMENCES JANUARY 2015

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST
Email: schools.goldcoast@tafe.qld.edu.au

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