



Mount Gravatt High School

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Term 1 is drawing to a close with our students continually receiving recognition for their high standard of presentation, behaviour and work ethic.

Tuesday 17 March saw the official opening of the Sorensen Centre. This function was very well attended by members of the school community and it is now fantastic to see students in the rooms of the Centre utilising the innovative technologies available. Our special guest was Mrs Noela Sorensen who said that Mr Sorensen "would have been very honoured to be remembered in this way."



Noela Sorensen and Stephen Drew in the new Sorensen Centre

In Term 2 our Year 9's will participate in the National Test for Literacy and Numeracy skills (NAPLAN). In 2008 our Year 9 students performed well above the State and National averages and were particularly strong in the writing component of the tests. Next term our Year 9's will complete a practice test on 28 April before completing the actual tests on 12-14 May. Attendance at these 3 days is very important. I would like to thank our English and Maths teachers who are currently working very hard in Year 9 classes to ensure students are immaculately prepared for the tests.



Our P&C Annual General Meeting was held recently. My sincere thanks go to outgoing P&C President, Stephen Drew, as my thanks go to our 2009 P&C Executive - Mahmoud AboElwafa (President), Dianne Sargent (Secretary), Stephen Drew (Vice President), Wayne Bisset (Vice President), Helen Koppenol (Treasurer).



L to R: Mahmoud AboElwafa, Dianne Sargent, Helen Koppenol, Stephen Drew, Wayne Bisset

District trials have concluded for most sports and Metropolitan East sides have been chosen. Congratulations to the following students who have been chosen in Met East sides:

- Daniel Beale (Hockey)
- Josh Beale (Hockey)
- Paul Joseph (Rugby League)
- Jake Knezevic (AFL)
- Megan Ryan (Soccer)

Our school cross country is being run this Thursday through the bush at Nathan. Good luck to all participating students and I hope the training you have been doing before school with Ms Kelly pays off.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and guardians for your support during Term 1 and wish everyone a happy, safe and restful holiday.

NEXT P & C MEETING

Wednesday 22 April - 7:00pm

Administration Building

Scot Steinhardt
Principal

DEPARTMENT IN PROFILE: HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HPE for Term 1 at Mount Gravatt High has been a busy and active one.

Year 8 students have settled in and are enjoying high school life and what HPE has to offer. They have been busy recording and analysing their diets and learning the basic skills of volleyball and basketball.

Year 9 students have been studying Drug Education (Alcohol) and Assertive Behaviour. In practical lessons they have been playing a variety of cricket and/or softball games.



Year 10's have been learning about alcohol education and the ways that they can say "no" to peer pressure. In prac they are revisiting the basic volleyball skills from Yr 8 and extending these skills to include the overhand serve and spiking.



Year 11 PE students have been enjoying learning about the skills, strategies and tactics of netball. The Year 12's have been using last year's experience to further improve their netball skills. From the students' comments, they seem to be really enjoying the challenge of the game.

The Physical Recreation students of Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 have experienced a variety of alternative sports such as Table Tennis and Golf. The Year 10 "Reckers" have been looking at sports injuries and how to prevent and treat sports injuries, while the Year 11 and 12 Rec Studies students have been looking at the Recreation Industry.

Ms M Kelly - Sports Co-ordinator

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS - Quality arts experiences everyday



Year 10 Music Students participate in the African Drumming Workshop

Film, Television & News Media – The Search for the Next Spielberg

2009 has seen creativity flourish within this new subject. The Year 11s are well and truly into filming and editing their first production – scenes from an original film inspired by classic Hollywood genres. They have mixed drama, suspense, crime and even comedy. The year ahead will explore Australian cinema, analyse our culture's fascination with the internet, plus students will create an original television series! - Mr Germain - FTVNM teacher

Free Tickets for Families - Supported by the Year of Creativity, *Test Drive the Arts* is an exciting initiative that gives members of the general public free tickets to performing arts events. To register for these FREE tickets and to see other offerings, please log onto <http://www.testdrivethearts.com/>

DATE CLAIMERS:

- 12 Drama *Performing Shakespeare* Workshop – H Block – 29 April
- 10, 11 & 12 Drama Excursion – QTC Billie Brown Studios – 22 May
- PAN (Performing Arts Night) – School Hall – Friday, 29 May
- Vocal Night – Pit Theatre – 6:30pm 11 June

2009 Performing Arts Staff - Anthony Pirovich, Ethan Arnow, Gloria DeSouza, Brock Germain, Sarah Mijatovic, Nick Robke, Natalie Richards, Juliet Sterling, Nicole Stock and Michael Wray.



Year 12 Drama Performance – (L-R) Oliver Ulloa, Megan Vessi and Asher Lowe

YEAR 12 MATHEMATICS A BOAT LICENCE

On 16 and 17 March, Mount Gravatt High School Year 12 Mathematics A students navigated their way out of the classroom.

Students were given the opportunity to complete a Recreational Marine Drivers Licence as a "hands on" means of mastering the topic *"Maps and Compasses – On Water Navigation"*.

"Their success rate was excellent with this year's group all passing," said Mrs Brewster, Acting Head of Maths and IT at Mount Gravatt High School. "Our students enthusiastically take to the water and immensely enjoy the challenges in and out of the classroom."



The project brings together the teaching and mathematical skills of staff and the expertise of Boat Licence Instructor, Darryl Greentree, of Allstate Boat Licensing and Training at Manly, in a course which combines classroom instruction with practical sessions on the water.

This year's group of 34 keen students first had to pass a theory paper and then demonstrate competency in handling a powerboat on water. This means thoroughly familiarising themselves with the IALA buoyage system, concepts of safe and responsible boat handling, on water first aid, weather,



tides, safety equipment and Department of Transport regulations, as well as gaining practical skills. Students also gain broader mathematical knowledge of distance, speed, bearings, position fixing and navigation in their classroom work.

In 2010, Year 12 Maths B students will also be able to undertake this course, provided that they complete the theory component independently.

Mrs K Brewster- Acting HOD Mathematics

CHESS NEWS

This term has been a very successful one for the chess club at Mount Gravatt High School. Players took part in two different tournaments. The first was at Somerville House over two Friday nights and two teams from school were entered. Both teams performed particularly well, with the C grade team finishing in second place and the novice team in sixth. There were over 150 players in this tournament which is run by the South Brisbane Junior Chess Club and the competition was very strong.



L to R: Ahmed Mahmoud, John Amolat, Anees Ahamed, Ali Mahmoud

The second tournament was at Sunnybank Hills State School and was the first round in the Greater Brisbane High Schools chess tournament organised by Gardiner Chess on behalf of the Brisbane Chess Club. The competition in this tournament was, if anything, even stronger. Mount Gravatt High entered three teams in this event. Again the results were outstanding with one team finishing in outright second and another tied for third. The remaining team finished down the list but was handicapped by being a player short through illness. Ahmed Mahmoud and Anees Ahamed were outstanding in this tournament with Anees finishing second in the individual results and Ahmed fifth. Harry Roberts from Year 9 finished in the top ten and is improving with each game.

Chess is a valuable learning tool. Tournament chess promotes mental and physical self discipline and it also provides a wonderful way for students to make friendships outside their own school. The chess club meets every Monday afternoon after school in the Resource Centre for an hour from 2:45 to 3:45pm. Players of all strengths are welcome.

Mr K Botsman - Chess Co-ordinator

OPEN DAY
Thursday 07 May 2009
9:15am to 11:00am

All interested parents and students are invited to attend.
This provides an excellent opportunity
to view classrooms, facilities and a selection of
activities.

Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day

This special event, when Year 8 students invite special guests to come to school to share some time with them in their new high school environment will take place next term, on Friday 08 May in the school hall from 11:30am to 1:15pm.

Information regarding this day will be posted to the home of all Year 8 students early in Term 2.

Guidance News

- Nursing and Health Expo, 26 April, 10am – 3pm, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, for more information visit www.rcna.org.au
- Year 12 students interested in studying Medicine or Dentistry need to sit UMAT. International students may need to sit ISAT. Registrations are open 2 April, visit either umat.acer.edu.au or www.acer.edu.au/isat. Registration for UMAT **close 5 June** with the test date on **29 July 2009**. ISAT test dates run from May to October. Information booklets can be ordered or downloaded from the ACER websites listed or collected from the Guidance Office or Resource Centre. For preparation courses, search the Internet or Universities. The following are a selection of UMAT preparation course providers:
 - www.medentry.edu.au
 - www.premed.edu.au
 - www.medical-entrance.edu.au
 - www.icarus.edu.au
- Griffith University is holding creative short courses - some of the introductory courses are listed below (for more courses and information including costs visit www.giffith.edu.au/qca):
 - Digital Photography (April 18 and 19)
 - Animation (over four Tuesday evenings starting April 28)
 - Fine Art Practices (each Saturday over 14 weeks starting July)
 - Jewellery Fundamentals (each Wednesday evening starting July)
 - Documentary Film Making (two weekends in August)

Ms M Huestis - Guidance Officer

A Message from the School Health Nurse

Did you know that you can lose up to 90% of Kidney function before feeling sick – and by then it's too late. There is no cure. Dialysis or a transplant are the only options once your kidneys fail. **You can reduce your risk of kidney disease by:** Maintaining a healthy weight. Staying fit. Eating a healthy diet. Drinking lots of water instead of other drinks. Being a non-smoker. Drinking alcohol in moderation. If you want more info go to www.kidney.org.au or 1800 682 531.

Take care from Elaine

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tues 21 April	Students resume Yr 10/11/12 Work Exp
Mon 27 April	Yr 9 Dance Excursion P3 & 4
Tues 28 April	Yr 9 Practice Literacy & Numeracy Test
Wed 29 April	Yr 12 Shakespeare workshop P1 - 2
Thurs 30 April	District Cross Country
Tues 05 May	Parent/Teacher Night Yr 12 Writing Task Workshop

TERM DATES 2009

Term Two:

Tuesday 21 April to Friday 26 June

Labour Day - Monday 04 May

Queen's Birthday - Monday 08 June