



Mount Gravatt High School

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to a new term and a new semester! This term is considered one of the busiest of the year with many activities occurring within a short timeframe. Most importantly it is a term which has a big impact on students. Academic achievement is paramount to Mt Gravatt High School and students actively engaged in learning forms our core business. For our students, both the school and parents must reinforce the message that today's learning is the foundation for tomorrow's future.

Congratulations to Megan Ryan who has been awarded the Pierre de Coubertin Award. Pierre de Coubertin was the founder of the modern Olympics and each year this prestigious award is presented to students in secondary schools who show both sporting excellence and the ability to uphold the fundamental principles of sportsmanship.

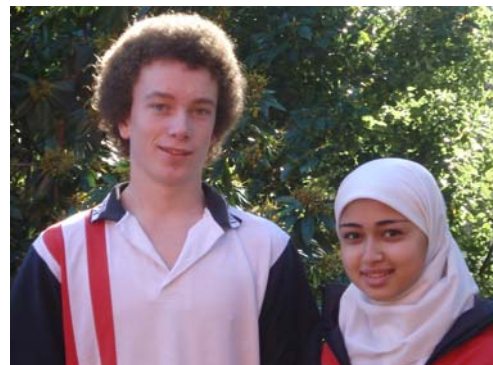


Megan Ryan

Two of our Year 11 students have won the prestigious Joe Baker Outstanding Achievement Award during the QPIF Science Competition. Vidhi Shah and Aesha Patel won this Queensland wide competition by designing and conducting an experiment analysing the properties of grains.



Aesha Patel and Vidhi Shah



Alex Roberts and Sabrina Oishi

Alex Roberts Year 12 and Sabrina Oishi Year 10. Congratulations to these students who won a Microsoft Package for their excellent achievement in Semester 1 - IT Courses. The Microsoft package was donated by Microsoft as a Semester 1 award for our two top students in IT subjects.

Our Annual Community Planning and Review Day is Saturday 8 August. This is an important morning where we as community members evaluate our progress as a school and plan for the future. The venue will be the Mt Gravatt Hotel and all interested parties are welcome to attend.

Year 8 enrolments for 2010 are filling extremely rapidly. If friends or relatives are interested in an interview please ask them to contact the school's office to request an appointment.

STOP PRESS

Congratulations to BANYULA House who narrowly won the School Athletics' Carnival over TANGARI. The day was an outstanding success. More details in the August newsletter.

NEXT P&C MEETING

Wednesday 19 August - 7:00pm
Administration Building

Scot Steinhardt
Principal

DEPARTMENT IN PROFILE: STUDIES OF SOCIETY AND ENVIRONMENT

Anzac Day parade, Friday 24 April 2009: The students of Mt Gravatt High School had the pleasure of listening to Mr John Martin speak and recount what Anzac Day meant to him. The entire school body was moved by his words and his story - so much so that some Year 8 students, who were studying Australians at War, felt that they should write to Mr Martin and thank him. Mr Martin was overwhelmed with the letters he received and replied to every student's letter. Below are extracts of a couple of the responses the students received.

I would like to extend a great big Thank You for the letters you have sent me. They have brightened up my otherwise boring life considerably. ... you have given to me a restoration of faith in you, the coming generation of Australians.

Yes, the Aussies were cheeky fellows and the Kiwis were very polite and well-behaved; but with all their cheekiness and recklessness they went through two World Wars with "Mates helping Mates" and just like Rolf Harris sang that song about "Two little Boys..." which went on to say "Do you think I would leave you dying when there's room on my horse for two.." That's a part of the "Spirit of Anzac"! A helping hand when needed.

....Personally I think you should know about it all, the good, the bad, the ugly, from those of us who are prepared to talk about it..... how else can we rise above the brutality of war and help towards an everlasting peace without that dreadful knowledge.

Mr S Tucker - HOD SOSE Department



Year 8 SOSE class

EVENING OF EMINENCE



Nathan Strating as Beethoven

Evening of Eminence, celebrated this year on Tuesday 16 June, is a Year 9 English extension activity. Over the course of six weeks, a group of high-achieving students selects and closely studies the lives of eminent people. The evening itself serves as a showcase for the students to display their knowledge to an appreciative audience of family members and other interested guests.

The evening is always a spectacle with the "eminent" people very much disguised in eye-catching costume. Was it really Nathan Strating in that garb or perhaps Beethoven himself? If one peered closely at Galileo, it is true that a Tim Clowes could be detected - - - just!

It was interesting that this year we had some eminent people we have never seen before. Confucius, Jimi Hendrix, James Herriot, Paul McCartney and Cesar Millan were first time guests with whom we are all at least acquainted. Less known new eminent

people chosen this year were a Japanese drift-king, a native-American heroine and an 18th century female French painter, Elizabeth Vigee. I'd like to thank the parents who, in some cases, spent many hours helping their sons and daughters prepare their props. Your efforts made the evening memorable and added to the spectacle. We appreciate what you have done.

Mrs C Christy - Extension Teacher



Tim Clowes as Galileo

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



As part of their study of Cells, all our Year 8 science classes participated in an activity in which students, working in groups, had to design and make a 3D (3 dimensional) model of a plant or animal cell. The best three models from each class then went forward for final judging. This year there were some excellent models produced with the students shown being the final place winners.

Year 8 Science Award Winners: L to R - Back row - Sara Roberts (3rd place), Mikaela Williams (3rd place), Timothia Yates (2nd place), Mikayla Dungworth (2nd place), Christina Nguyen (1st place), Guy Lightfoot (1st place), Front row - Dana Coles (3rd place), Zara Lai (1st place) Absent - Zane Gaffney-Wright (2nd place)

SPORT NEWS



Laura Kerlin and Sam Smith with Mr Steinhardt

Mt Gravatt High School has just finished its 6th week in the Winter Interschool Sport Competition. The finals are fast approaching and we have the Year 8 Boys Basketball and the Year 10 Girls Basketball in contention for making the finals. All other teams are competing well and playing in the good spirit of the game.

Congratulations to Laura Kerlin and Sam Smith, our sport stars of the month.

A special mention and congratulations needs to go to Megan Ryan of Year 12 for receiving the prestigious Pierre De Coubertin Award for excellence in Physical Education and Sport. Well done Megan.

Ms M Kelly - Sports Co-ordinator

READERS CUP NEWS

On 17 June ten teams of keen readers from secondary schools in Brisbane South region gathered at Morris Hall at the Anglican Church Grammar School for a quiz testing their knowledge of six books that they had studied closely last term. These books were:- Abrahams, P. - Down the Rabbit Hole, Ashley, B. - Angel Boy, Bancks, T.- Rules of Cool (Mac Slater, Cool Hunter 1, Funke, C. - Thief Lord, Higgins, S. - Moonshadow: Eye of the Beast, Lawrence, L. S. - Escape By Sea



Readers Cup Team 2009 - L to R: Lauren Rogers, Sho Eba, Scott McLachlan, Hayden Adams (at front), Erin Leadbetter and Ms Russell

It was a case of lightning action in front of an audience of family, teachers and friends. Year 8 students Erin Leadbetter, Lauren Rogers, Hayden Adams, Sho Eba and Scott McLachlan represented our school and were the winning team on the night. Congratulations to our team and the best of luck for the State Final. The students will now read a different set of books and compete against teams from across Queensland on 9 September at St Laurence's College at South Brisbane.

The experience of Readers' Cup is a great opportunity for our more able readers to develop their planning and study skills and meet others with similar interests. The students learn to communicate more effectively, work together as members of a team and have heaps of fun. Although an extra curricular activity, it complements other reading promotion initiatives within the English curriculum at Mount Gravatt High.

Ms J Russell - Teacher-librarian

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS



DATE CLAIMERS

- * Year 10, 11 & 12 Drama Excursion – QTC Billie Brown Studios – 7 August
- * Music Extension Performance Night – Pit Theatre – 28 August
- * Year 12 Drama Night – Pit Theatre – 7 September
- * Instrumental Music Camp – 14-16 October
- * PAN (Performing Arts Night) – School Hall – Friday 6 November

Pictured left: Brass Students - Anahita Satta and Jake Aspinall making music with Mr Wray

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

Guidance News

- 29 July, UMAT Test Date, umat.acer.edu.au/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=2&Itemid=4
- 31 July, Griffith University interview applications close for Bachelor of Medical Science, www.griffith.edu.au/programsandcourses
- 1 August, Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University audition applications close, www.griffith.edu.au/music/queensland-conservatorium
- 2 August, University of Queensland Open Day at St Lucia Campus, 9:00am - 3:00pm, www.uq.edu.au/opendays/
- 16 August, University of the Sunshine Coast Open Day at Sippy Downs, 10:00am - 3:00pm, www.usc.edu.au/Students/Future/Info/OpenDay/openday.htm
- 19 August, University of Queensland Open Day at Ipswich Campus, 3:30 - 7:30pm, www.uq.edu.au/opendays/
- 23 August, University of Southern Queensland Open Day at Springfield Campus, www.usq.edu.au/openday
- 23 August, University of Queensland Open Day at Gatton Campus, 9:30am - 3:00pm, www.uq.edu.au/opendays/
- 29 August, Christian Heritage College Open Day at Mansfield, Brisbane, 10:00am - 2:00pm, www.chc.edu.au/eventsview
- 30 August, Endeavour College of Natural Health Open Day at Brisbane & Gold Coast Campuses, 10:00am - 2:00pm, <http://www.endeavour.edu.au>
- Some Griffith University scholarships close during term 3. The Griffith Connect Academic Excellence Scholarship Scheme closes 28 August (for students who believe they will be OP 1–6, www.griffith.edu.au/griffith-connect). The Griffith Connect Guaranteed Admission scheme closes 31 August (Arts Admission requires application and portfolio by 30 June, www.griffith.edu.au/griffith-connect).
- The Brisbane City Council is delivering free on-line home tutoring to families with children aged 9 – 17 years. Visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/libraries, click on *YourTutor*. Enter your library card number, select your level and subject and then click *go*.

Ms M Huestis - Guidance Officer

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thurs 30 July	Chemistry Quiz
Thurs 06 August	District Athletics
	Aust Maths Comp
Fri 07 August	English Competition
Mon 10-11 August	QCS Practice 2
Thurs 13 August	Surf Camp/ Student Free Day

TERM DATES 2009

Term Three:

Tuesday 14 July to Friday 18 September
Wed 12 August - RNA Show Day
Thurs 13 August - Student Free day
Students resume - Monday 05 October

A MESSAGE FROM THE YOUTH HEALTH NURSE

It is so important with all the cold and flu bugs around that we look after our health. We can boost our immune systems by maintaining a healthy lifestyle. We can achieve this by: maintaining a healthy weight, eating a balanced diet with lots of fresh fruit and vegetables (go for 2 & 5), drinking lots of water, getting regular exercise (30 minutes most days), and good stress management. So give your immune system the best chance to resist invading germs.

Take care from Elaine

A QTAC information session will be held for parents of Year 12 students on Wednesday 26 August from 5:00 – 6:00pm in the Sorensen Centre. This session will provide information on the QTAC application process for students wanting to attend university, TAFE or a private college. Please RSVP to the school office by 19 August.

✂ _____ ✂
I will be attending the QTAC information session on Wednesday 26 August from 5:00 – 6:00pm.

Name:

Student in Year 12:
