



## CALENDAR

27 June last day  
of Term 2

### Holidays!

### Jeans for Genes

1 August

Wear denim and  
donate a gold coin  
(greater if you like)  
for the Children's  
Medical Research  
Institute

### Arts Council 'Sarah's Heavy Heart'

Tuesday 12

August

11.45 and

1.30pm

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

SAFE

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very successful first semester of the 2014 school year. We have had many new enrolments all of which have settled into school extremely well and we have said goodbye to many long term community members and students as well.

The success of our athletics carnivals and cross country was resounding achievement. The beginning of the development of our Positive Behaviour Systems through SWPBS is gaining great momentum and I have seen a noticeable drop in negative behaviour in the playground and visitors to detention. The most exciting development is the putting into practice of our Great Results Guarantee program. I am seeing a lot of movement in academic achievement of the targeted students. **Congratulations to ALL our teachers for the great work they have been doing over the first six months of the year.**

#### Report Cards

We will be sending out report cards in the first two weeks of next term because the curriculum is extremely busy and we need the full term to teach and assess the units of work.

#### Attendance

Currently our attendance rate as a whole school is sitting at 91.5%, our target is to get up to 97%. Remember every day counts. Congratulations to Karly K and Brock H on 100% attendance for the year so far.

I hope you all have a great break and look forward to working with you in the second half of the year.

Regards  
David Routh  
Principal

## **HOC NEWS**

Dear Parents and Carers,

If you don't read to and with your children they are held back in their learning. Thankfully the great majority do and I thank you for that. Later your children will thank you too. Keep it enjoyable! This week I want to bang on a bit about reading again, I want to explain a bit more about the report cards that our teachers are currently completing.

**Report Cards, Semester One will be sent home in Week 1 next term.** Please remember the following message in regards to your child's report card.

### **Understanding Your Child's Report Card**

As you are aware, students and teachers this year have been working with the relatively new Australian Curriculum, as interpreted through Queensland's C2C curriculum resources. Whilst the Australian Curriculum is similar in many respects to the previous Queensland curriculum, there are some differences which have required adjustments. For example, some concepts are covered earlier than previously expected, there is a stronger focus on specific areas and in some cases a different standard of work is expected of students.

For Semester 1 report cards, teachers are evaluating student work based on our C2C units and assessment tasks from Term 1 and 2 in English, Maths, Science, Geography and History. The other reported subjects are not in the C2C yet but are reported from criteria from ACARA (Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority)

Due to the implementation of a new curriculum, report card results may also reflect students' 'learning curve' in terms of the change in expectations for learning in their year level. This is not cause for concern, as teachers are adapting and adjusting their teaching/learning to ensure that students receive the necessary prior knowledge and are supported through their learning tasks.

Also, C2C units are an ongoing review and adjustment, based on feedback from teachers. However, it is worth noting the fact that report card results in English, Maths, Science, Geography and History this semester are based on the new content descriptors and year level Achievement Standards from the Australian Curriculum, and as such may not be reliably compared to previous years' results. For further information on the Australian Curriculum standards visit the online curriculum at <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/>

Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland are gradually becoming more familiar with a 5-point scale (e.g. A-E) process for reporting in all schools. Our younger classes still use verbal descriptors, Very High (A), High, Sound (C), Developing and Support Required. There is also an 'N' if there is insufficient evidence for reporting.

The new system schools are using refers to attainment standards called "benchmarks of achievement" or "criteria." So what makes an "A", "B", "C" etc is predetermined by a scale of achievement. Any student who shows evidence of meeting a particular level, deserves that benchmark grade.

This is what you could consider the new difference for a "C" really means:

A “C” means that the **student has met the criteria** for a learner to be at the appropriate age level.

A “C” means that the **student is doing everything required at their Year Level** at school. **The best description is to say that a “C” means that the student’s academic development is exactly where it needs to be.**

That means attaining a “C” for Achievement means you are **ON TARGET** for your age level!

With all of this in mind, we must accept that it may be harder to get an “A” or “B”. These grades are not awarded simply to the top students in the class. They are only given to students who show that they are independently capable of working beyond the criteria required for their Year Level. **Hopefully this helps make it clear when you receive your report.**

Have a safe and happy holiday break.  
John Hancock  
STLD:HOC



## TENNIS UPDATE

Tennis classes will start back up in the second week of Term 3. Classes will run for 8 weeks and cost is \$80. Junior racquets and grips available for sale. New students welcome to join. Contact Angie Draheim on 0409 971 401 for details.



# Does Attendance Really Matter ?

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but .....

If your child misses ...	That equals .....	Which is .....	And over 13 years of schooling is ....	Which means the best your child might perform is .....
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years	Equal to finishing year 11
1 day per week	40 days per year	4 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years	Equal to finishing year 10
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years	Equal to finishing year 7
3 days per week	130 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years	Equal to finishing year 4

**If you want your child to be successful at school then YES, attendance does matter!**

# EVERY DAY COUNTS!