



# BRIGHT FUTURES

## Shailer Park State High School

Issue No. 13

“Good Teachers – Good School”

14 September 2006

### Maths on the mark at Shailer with High Distinctions

The hard work of Mathematics students and teachers of all grades has paid off on a national level with the recent good news of the Australian Westpac Maths Competition. For the first time in Shailer's history, two students received High Distinctions with several others also receiving impressive results.

Congratulations to Matthew Taylor and Graham Stevenson (both Year 12) who received the High Distinctions. These two students have entered this competition for many years, with these results being a fitting climax to their high school studies.

Congratulations also to Jaice Taylor, who narrowly missed a High Distinction whilst receiving the Prudence Award for the second time. Overall Shailer did very well with an impressive 37 Credits, 2 Distinctions and 2 High Distinctions out of the 85 students who competed. Congratulations to all who competed.

More good news has also reached the Maths Department, with the school agreeing to purchase new software! The program *Autograph 3* is a new dynamic software for teaching calculus, co-ordinating geometry, statistics and probability. It is a 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Graph Plotter for schools. With a host of dynamic features and 3D options, *Autograph 3* will be a beneficial tool for learning Mathematics. Two classrooms in G Block will be set up with data projectors and graphics tablets to enable teachers to integrate this impressive program and others into the classroom.

**Mrs Christopherson**  
Head of Department Maths

### NEWS FLASH

*Graham Stevenson wins  
Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship  
Full details – Page 4*

#### A Principal's Memories



He was the lovable larrikin, the wildlife warrior, a passionate conservationist, an Australian icon. Steve Irwin's tragic death hit us like news of Lady Diana's passing – young, a tragic accident; universal grief. What lessons might his life and times give to us?

Steve was passionate in everything he did. He gave it his whole heart. He reached out to people; they reached out to him. He embraced a life of adventure with the animals and creatures he loved. Like aboriginal people, he touched the earth lightly.

He was his own man. He marched to the beat of an inner drum planted by his mum and dad. In his trademark khaki pants and shirt he wooed the Americans in their millions.

Fiercely Australian, Steve was Australia's roving Ambassador to the world. We will miss the beaming smile, the high energy, the child-like wonder. Yet for us, the living legacy is to be good stewards of our natural world, carers of creatures great and small and protectors of the wilderness. Steve was one of us, a good bloke, shining bright, now gleaming star. It is nature's way.

Shalom

*In a moment of reflection we as a school community think of his wife Terri and children Bindi and Bob. May his life's work live in them.*



## ***Instrumental music program continues to impress***

The Logan Music Fest 2006 was a resounding success on Sunday 3 September at the Kingston Butter Factory.

Shailer Park High Music students demonstrated their dedication and enthusiasm to the music program by showing up for their performance on Father's Day with many students attending from 9:00am in the morning until 5:00pm.

Over 50 Bands, Orchestras and Choirs performed during the special Father's Day Music Fest. Kerry Holst, Executive Director Schools, said how proud she was to see so many groups from the Logan-Albert Beaudesert District playing at their best for the fathers of the District.

The Music Fest is co-presented by Education Queensland's Logan-Albert Beaudesert District and Logan City Council. It attracted nearly 1000 performers and over 2000 spectators on the day.

Congratulations to the Instrumental Music students who participated in the Quota International 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Eisteddfod.

First place was awarded to both the Concert Band and Stage Band with the String Ensemble and Quartet taking out second place in their divisions. This outstanding result was another example of Shailer Park's thriving Arts program.

Dozens of talented Year 7 students are enrolling to join us in 2007 with many high achieving students applying for the P&C Scholarship worth \$170.00 which covers the cost of the *Resource and Textbook Hire Scheme*.



**Scholarship winners will be announced in the next Newsletter so keep an eye out.**

## ***Outstanding results at Minister's Award Art Exhibition***

The Minister's Award Exhibition is an annual event which showcases the exceptional art work of Queensland's senior Art students from across the state. Regional areas have their own exhibitions from which the state representatives are then chosen.

This year our region's exhibition was held at Bond University on the Gold Coast on Friday 4 August. To be selected for the exhibition, work must be of an exceptional standard and demonstrate unique qualities in both concept and media use.

We are very pleased to announce that two of our Year 12 students, Samantha Hall and Craig Epps, were successful in participating in this exhibition with Craig's work, a mixed media sculptural piece, being short listed for one of these regional awards.

Congratulations on upholding Shailer Park High's tradition of success in this exhibition.



**Anne Maree King  
Year Level Coordinator  
Art Teacher**



## Technology takes you anywhere

On Friday the 25 August, Mrs Gurney escorted Charity Fa'agase, Sarah Samuel, Kristina Jergovski, Jada Palombo and I to the Ithaca Campus at Brisbane North Institute of TAFE, for an all-day excursion for girls in Years 10 to 12. The aim of the excursion was to provide young girls with a better understanding of opportunities available in Information Communication Technology and Biotechnology.

During the day our group, along with over 1000 other girls from schools all over Brisbane, participated in a variety of workshops. The main idea of the workshops was to let us know that "Technology Takes You Anywhere". We learned this with the help of some women and men from Universities, TAFEs and businesses who took forty minutes to go through a variety of exercises and lectures.

In our first session, a lecturer in Bioengineering from the University of Queensland (UQ) explained how they use computers to monitor people's breathing and heart rate in hospitals to show if they are healthy or not and to try and cure people with cancer and prevent SIDS. The second session we went to was with two women lecturers in Information Technology from UQ who showed us how to make a dance game using Macromedia Director. In our third session, another lady explained how she had been all around the world designing games and testing software. She told us about the range of jobs that are out there for anyone who has an interest.

We spent most of the day learning about all the opportunities we have available for us. We also learned how "work" can be an enjoyable thing and that there are so many people that love what they do. You don't need to be really smart to get a good job with a good salary. Plus we got freebies! Who doesn't love them?



Thank you Mrs. Gurney for taking us and thank you Jeff and Mr Ahrens for transport.

**Ellen Lye**  
**Year 10 student**

## Leadership Youth Congress

Four Year 11 emerging leaders, Andrew Isaac, Kirra Gold, Jessica Worboys and Elodie Wilson, proudly represented Shailer at the *Leadership Youth Congress* sponsored by Slacks Creek State School. Special guest was Her Excellency the Governor of Queensland, Ms Quentin Bryce, AC.

Students acted as facilitators, with leaders from each local primary school, to explore ways of becoming better leaders. Our students do us proud when they step out to represent the school with such assurance and skill.



## Quota International

As you have probably already heard, our school performed admirably in the Quota Beenleigh Eisteddfod this week. Except for the adjudicators, the eisteddfod is run entirely by volunteers from the 29 club members and other generous people that offer their time. We have around 20,000 entrants and run 5 venues. The cost for the Dance and Music venues **alone** is over \$21,000. Quota Beenleigh also supports our school by donating and presenting awards for our annual Awards Night.

We are running a raffle to help with our costs. First prize is 4 nights for 4 at Waterview Apartments, Caloundra. Second prize is a hall table donated by Rose Cottage Furniture. There are 6 other prize packs, containing between 5 and 11 prizes and vouchers each. These include dinner at Thai Orchid Chinese Restaurant, camera and frame gift pack, movie passes, video rentals, Hyperbowl family pass and dozens more.

If you can spare a dollar, please contact Glenda in the Bookroom for a ticket.

**Glenda Walsh**

## **Saturday election BBQ –Chaplaincy the real winners**

On Saturday 9 September, over a dozen student volunteers helped Jeff Sorensen, our chaplain, sell **57 kg of sausages**. The students put in a huge effort and many of them were there for more than 10 hours! It was a real credit to the students with their consistency and willingness to do whatever was asked of them – thanks very much.

Thanks to Foodworks Deli who supplied our sausages for a great price! They were very tasty, and many customers came back for more after trying one.

The Chaplaincy would also like to show their appreciation to the tuckshop for their willingness to sell our *Chocolate Choc Chip Chaplaincy Cookies*, and to the many devout cookie eating students. Thanks also to the many staffrooms for helping us out by eating our most delicious cookies.

**Karen Willcocks**  
Chair Chaplaincy



## **Graham Stevenson - Scholarship winner**

Congratulations to school vice captain Graham Stevenson on being awarded the **Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship** valued at \$20 000. This prestigious scholarship guarantees Graham entry to his preferred *Bachelor of Education - Secondary* course.

To apply for the Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship, Graham had to meet the following criteria:

- Academic Merit – academic achievements, merit awards and competitions.
- Personal Statement – acknowledgement of hard work and financial benefits
- Leadership – leadership positions, community service, employment
- Extra Curricular Activities – cultural or sports activities or the arts
- Community Service - community work / activities, volunteer work, membership of clubs
- References – outlining your suitability for the scholarship.



## Fuel for the brain



You thought they spent all day in the office. No! Our hard working Deputy Principals, Mrs Allison Crane and Mr Steve Beverley, showed their exquisite skills as chefs, cooking up a storm, or breakfast, for our Year 12 students before the Core Skills Test last Tuesday and Wednesday.

This tradition aims to show support for our academic achievers.



### Lost Property

The lost property box is overflowing! If your student has lost an item of clothing, please urge them to check the box (located in the First Aid Room in Admin) during lunch periods. We also have a large collection of watches, keys, jewellery and other miscellaneous items. Despite items being listed in the daily notices, no one has come forward to check for lost property.

### Events Calendar

DATE	EVENT
Fri 15 Sept - Wed 20 Sept	Exam Block Year 12
Fri 22 Sept	Maths Olympiad Years 7 & 8
Fri 22 Sept	End of Term 3
Mon 9 Oct	Start of Term 4
Mon 23 Oct	Student Free Day

Home of Wharfedale Park High School

Learn to swim at Wharfedale Park High School. We offer a range of swimming lessons for all ages and abilities. Our swimming pool is a fantastic facility for school and leisure. Highly qualified instructors who are experienced in teaching children. Please contact us for more information.

Tel: 01937 541111

www.wharfedaleparkhighschool.co.uk

**We need your help!**

School Watch is a community based awareness and crime prevention program aimed at safeguarding schools against vandalism, theft and arson.

We depend on students, parents and all members of the community to:

**LOOK, LISTEN and REPORT**  
**DO NOT take any further action**

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