



PIONEER STATE HIGH SCHOOL

PIONEERING

PO Box 8279 Mt Pleasant QLD 4740 Ph: (07) 4955 9222 Fax: (07) 4955 9200

Newsletter 14

28 August 2009

www.pioneershs.eq.edu.au

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Last weekend, our instrumental music ensembles participated in the Mackay Orchestras and Bands festival, earning excellent results. I had the great pleasure of watching the symphonic band practise recently, and was greatly impressed by their obvious teamwork and their dedication to excellence. Being strongly dedicated to improvement, is a trait that all of us should admire, whether it be a musician, a sportsman or a student.

When you observe the conscientious student, working in partnership with the committed professional teacher, great education is happening. It is inspiring to go into classes where everyone is "on task", all engaged in learning – all committed to doing their best! Pioneer High deliberately sets out to honour those students who achieve excellence, to respect their achievements, and to celebrate their success. Our Awards Night, Consistent Effort awards, and our assemblies all seek to publicly recognize success and participation. Despite the embarrassment some students may feel, we intend to continue these public acknowledgements.

I can assure parents that our teachers are dedicated educators, who willingly give extra time and effort to providing enrichment opportunities for Pioneer students. On the recent student free day, these teachers put together some wonderful recommendations for the Senior Phase of Learning in the future. Their willingness to contribute, their preparedness to make changes, and their commitment to "doing it better" were just as inspiring as our symphonic musicians in full flight. Dedication is so uplifting, and the cornerstone of success.

Paul Staples
Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

August	29	Optiminds
August 31 – Sept 3		Year 7 Enrolment Interviews
September	1 – 2	Year 12 QCS Test
September	3	Year 11 Indigenous Leaders workshop
September	7	Scholarship Awards Ceremony
September	9	P and C meeting



OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

8.00am- 4.00pm

STUDENT ABSENCE

PH: 4955 9260

*Please leave: Name,
Care Group, reason
for absence and length
of absence.*



Eftpos available at
Accounts Office

RELIEF CLEANERS

Are you interested in becoming a relief cleaner for Pioneer?

When one of our regular employees is away, you will be contacted to seek your availability to work.

Cleaners work 2 split shifts, one in the morning commencing at 5.30 am and they work through until about 8.30 am.

The afternoon shift commences at 2.00 pm and they work through until about 5.30 or 6.00pm.

If you think you could work during these hours, or even some of them, you may be able to assist us.

Relief cleaners are very valuable people, so please consider the above offer to become a casual relief cleaner for this school.

There are some requirements so please contact me if you are interested in the first instance.

*Catherine Searle
Business Services Manager
Pioneer State High School
Ph: 49559210
csear15@eq.edu.au*

PSHS HALL HIRE

Our Hall is now available for hire by community organizations, associations or other such groups. A vacancy now exists on Thursdays after school hours.

Our Hall is a wonderful venue, outfitted with a sprung timber floor and sporting facilities.

For further information, please contact the Business Services Manager, Mrs Cathy Searle on 49559210 during working hours.

SMOKING POLICY

This Monday, the School Council will consider changes to the School's Responsible Behaviour Policy in relation to student's smoking. The definition of a 'smoker' will be carefully considered, as will the consequences for this illegal act on school premises. The suggested changes would mean an automatic suspension for a first offence, and further consequences for 'cockatoos' who stand by and watch students blatantly break the school rules, and the laws of the land.

The new changes, if approved, will be widely advertised and brought to the attention of parents and all students, well before implementation at the start of Term 4. Cigarette smoking is banned on school premises, so any infringement is breaking the law.

Paul Staples

YEAR 7 TRANSITION DAYS

On the 13 and 14 August, the year 7 Transition days were held to show grade 7 students the excellent art facilities of Pioneer SHS. Students came from Andergrove, Beaconsfield, Slade Point, Eimeo and Bucasia. They were shown around the school by student volunteers and participated in 45 minute workshops rotating between dance, drama, music and visual art. The year 7's were impressed by the fact that we had individual rooms for each subject and had a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Sean Slattery

MACKAY ORCHESTRA BANDS

On August 22 and 23, the Mackay Orchestra and Bands Competition was held at the Conservatorium of Music. Sixty students participated across three separate ensembles. The Symphonic Band performed exceptionally well, winning a gold award. The Stage Band and the String Ensemble also shone on the day, netting themselves a pair of shiny silver awards. Any number of bronze, silver or gold awards can be awarded in any category, depending on how well the students played the given music.

Sean Slattery



CHAPPY NEWS

Everyone has been very busy knitting rugs. Last week two rugs went to Rest Haven, making a total of eight rugs handed out – a fantastic job.

The string ensemble played at the Chaplaincy Dinner and Hayley Long sang at the Celebration of Praise for Chaplaincy. Thank you to all involved I really appreciate the support you have given to Nick and I.

Camp Eagle will be on the 29 October to the 1 November, forms will be available soon.

Thought:- Happiness is not the absence of problems but the ability to deal with them

*Maggie Kirby
Chaplain*

MREAL Traineeships & Apprenticeships

Full Time

Apprenticeships

- 2 or 3 yr Brick/Block Laying
- 1 & 2 yr Chef
- 3 or 4 yr Heavy Vehicle Mechanic
- 3 or 4 yr Fitter & Turner
- 3 yr Carpenter

Traineeships

Transport & Logistics
(Warehouse & Storage)
Information Technology

School Based Positions

Hospitality Operations
Chef
Plasterer (Wall & Ceiling Lining)
Glass & Glazing

Further information contact
MRAEL – www.mrael.com.au
Ph 49579800

Chefs Future Program

Free
16 November 2009
(4 week full-time program)
+ 13 week job support
at

MRAEL Limited
5 – 7 Tennyson Street
Mackay

Further information contact
Diana Carmichael – 49579811
Lenice Crawford - 49579846

MAGPIE NESTING SEASON

Magpie breeding season is from the start of spring to early summer. Only a percentage of magpies swoop. They do this to defend their nest and chicks from perceived threats. Swooping activity is within about a 100 metre radius of the nest site. Certain steps can be taken to ensure your safety and encourage harmonious coexistence with magpies.

- o Avoid the attacking birds and their territory
- o Wear hats and sunglasses
- o If swooping, move quickly but don't run – keep an eye on the magpie and surrounding traffic if any
- o Do not harass the magpie
- o If attacked by a magpie while cycling, dismount bikes and walk through the area of swooping magpies

PIONEER'S GOT TALENT

On Thursday, August 6 and Friday August 7, the first "Pioneer's Got Talent" show was held in the theatre at lunch time. There was a great line up of acts, including a rendition of 'AveMaria', sung in Italian by Miss Moore. The very large audience did a great job of supporting the talent show entrants.



Each student gave a gold coin donation to enter the show, raising nearly \$600 over the two days, to go towards sending students overseas on an AFS exchange.

The judges of the show had a difficult time deciding who the winners should be, but awarded third prize



to Gordon Lowe for his guitar playing and singing. Second prize went to Enselika Kisina and Teale Howie for their self-choreographed dance and first prize went to Taryn Ngaitai and Ben Hungerford who also danced up a storm.

Well done to all those who participated in the talent show and I think it's safe to say that Pioneer definitely does have talent!

*Megan Herbert
Teacher*

FOGS INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT & CAREER EXPO

The FOGS Indigenous Employment and Career Expo was held at the Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre on Wednesday 12 August 2009.



The Expo was designed to encourage indigenous job seekers and school leavers to meet some of Queensland's most prominent employers, education and training providers.

A variety of professions that were on display included;

& Construction, Mining, Defence Forces, Emergency Services, Postal, Airlines. The guest appearance of Former Origin Greats on the day was also inspiring.

Students from Pioneer who attended and participated in the Expo were Gilmore Levi, Jacob Holden, Lisa Oosen, Michal Little, Telitah Bernard, Tekani Gible, Elise Dunckis-Irving, Jasmin Mills & Stephen Eworho.

Peter Ahmat



HEALTH FOCUS

SWINE FLU ADVICE

What should I do if I have flu symptoms and not in an at risk group?

Most people, who aren't at risk of complications from human swine flu and are otherwise fit and healthy, will experience mild illness.

General advice is as follows:

- Stay at home and rest
- Avoid people who may be at increased risk of serious illness from human swine flu
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Speak to your doctor about symptom relief
- Do not smoke as it is very irritating to airways that are already damaged by the virus
- Ask for help – if you are a carer until you are feeling better

For further information

- Ph 13HEALTH (13432584)
- See your doctor
- Go to your local hospital emergency department – please call ahead before you visit if you have symptoms
- Visit the Queensland health Human Swine Flu website:

www.health.qld.gov.au/swineflu

For further information or support relating to any health concerns contact

Rosanne Houley

**School Based Youth Health Nurse
49559222**

Community News:-

GORDON WHITE LIBRARY

MOVIE NIGHT

'The Chronicles of Riddick'

Age: 12 – 18 years old

When: Friday 28 August 2009

Time: 6.00pm – 8.30 pm

For enquiries & bookings phone: Mackay Regional Council Libraries on 49619387 or 49619300

PCYC

BLUELIGHT DISCO

When: 11 Sept 2009

Time: 6.30pm - 9.00pm

Theme: Dress as your favourite Hollywood Star

Cost: \$3 members

\$5 non-members

LAPTOP CLASS 2009

This semester some very lucky year 8 students began laptop classes for English and Maths.

It is great fun and the class are always on task. It is very rare you hear someone complain about what the teacher says we have to do.

In English what we have been working on is a unit called "stories of life". So far we have completed diary entries and biographies. Right now we are writing a diary entry to go with a diorama or diagram of a kid's room that we make up our selves.

In Maths, we are working on whole numbers, decimals as well as area and volume, in a program called OneNote; it makes Maths a bit more fun. We are all definitely enjoying Maths a lot more this semester!



Ms Roper, Laptop teacher of English says, "The students are really making the most of the activities, and are not only learning in new ways but are enjoying themselves also."

Mr Gnanakan, Laptop teacher of Maths says, "It's going well, it's a great way to learn, you can do a lot more things on a computer that you can't on paper. It gives

you more learning opportunities and puts more fun in maths!"

So let's hope that in the coming years our school grows step by step into the world of technology.

*Meaghan Lowth and Alex Lawrence
Year 8 students*

TRY A TRADE



Students from Pioneer attended the Manufacturing and Engineering Gateways Schools – Try a Trade Program Industry Tour conducted at Hail Creek



**GEORGE STREET
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE
EXPO - ADULT LEARNERS**

WEEK 2009

Date: 3 Sept 2009

Time: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Where: George Street
Neighbourhood Centre
4 George St
South Mackay

FOR SALE

Ashton Clarinet.
Perfect for a beginner
excellent condition
Standard of Excellence – Book 1 & 2
Music Stand, Discs and Sheet music
\$200 the lot
Ph Bylynda - 0427657006 or
49550272

FOSTER CARERS

Ever considered becoming a Foster
Carer?
For information
ph: 49535097

**PIONEER SWIMMING
CLUB**

**'Home of the Dolphins'
Club Sign On**

When: Thurs 10 September

Time: 4.30 pm

Where: Pioneer Swim Centre
Malcomson Street
North Mackay
Further information phone
Morgan 49540960
Nola 49426048

POSITIONS VACANT -KFC

September & Christmas holidays
Collect Application form from
Manager at Nebo Road store or
email your Resume to
pburnett@collinsfg.com.au

**NATIONAL CHILD
PROTECTION WEEK**

White Balloon Day
Tues 8/9/09
Display a White Balloon on your
letterbox to show your support

YOUTH WEEK 2010

10 - 18 APRIL

POSTER COMPETITION

FULL DETAILS visit website
www.communityservices.qld.gov.au/youth/youthweek/poster-competition/index.html
or contact Olivia Mason (07)32248415
submission deadline 16/10/09

YEAR 12 QCS REQUIREMENTS

Do not leave it to the morning of the QCS test to acquire this equipment. Please also ensure that your calculator has a new battery.

Paper	Essential equipment	Optional Equipment	Forbidden
MC (both papers)	2B pencils Sharpener Eraser (white gum) Ruler Calculator (approved)	Fluorescent marker Transparent container to carry equipment	All else, including Mobile phones, iPod, translator, computer
SR I & II	Pens (black ink) Pencil (for drawing, sketching etc but not for writing) Protractor Drawing compass Eraser (white gum) Coloured pencils (including red, green, blue, yellow) Ruler Calculator (approved) All in a plastic bag or transparent container	Other equipment normally used in courses of study, eg fluorescent marker, Set square Correcting fluid/tape Template Sharpener	All else, including Mobile phones, iPod, translator, computer
WT	Pens (black ink)	Pencil Sharpener Eraser (white gum) Correcting fluid/tape Transparent container to carry equipment	All else, including Mobile phones, iPod, translator, computer

Exam Requirements:

1. Read your exam timetable carefully and note all exams. This is YOUR responsibility.
2. Turn up in plenty of time - half hour before most exams or at 8.25 am for morning exam
3. Wear full uniform
4. Phone the school if you are going to be late or are ill. Illness will require a medical certificate to be presented when you return to school.
5. Bring all necessary equipment - spare pens, calculators, rulers, erasers, extra batteries etc in a clear container. You will not be allowed to borrow anything during the exams. Do not bring other materials into the exam.
6. Line up in alphabetical order so that rolls can be marked. This order is also the order that you will sit in for the exam. Follow teacher directions.
7. Dispose of any notes before you enter the exam room.
8. Once you enter the exam room you must remain silent and not communicate with any other student in any way. To disrupt an exam is a serious breach of the behaviour code.
9. During perusal, you may not write. Remember perusal means read thoroughly, not skim.
10. Read the whole paper during perusal.
11. Do not ask teachers how to answer questions - they cannot tell you and it wastes you valuable time.
12. You may not leave the exam room until the set time, ie the end of the exam.
13. No food is to be taken into exam rooms and water bottles must be kept on the floor.
14. If you wish to speak to a supervisor you must stand in your place. Do not raise your hand.
15. MP3s, iPods, Mobile Phones etc are strictly forbidden in the school at all times.
16. We are under State and National requirements for the qualifications gained by senior assessment including exams - these require the school to conduct exams under strict, secure, ethical conditions.

**Mackay Musical Comedy Players Inc
Present**

**THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM
COUNTY SPELLING BEE**

MACKAY ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

THURSDAY 3rd - SATURDAY 5th SEPTEMBER

BOOKINGS PH: 49619777 www.mackayecc.com.au

Come along and see Pioneer's very own
Renae Covey & Paul Johnston performing in this production

10 YEAR REUNION OF THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 1999

A reunion has been planned for students and staff of the Pioneer SHS Yr 12 Class of 1999. This is to be held on Saturday 19 September 2009. The day will commence at 2 pm at Pioneer State High School with a tour, followed by a dinner at Skys Function Room at Magpies beginning at 6.30 pm. This will be a time to catch up and share in the memories 'of the good old days'.

Dress for the dinner is semi-formal.

The cost to attend the dinner will be \$55 per head (includes 3 course meal and entertainment).

If you are interested in attending the event, please RSVP prior to Friday 4 September 2009.

Further Information or RSVP

Daniel Smith (w) 49631666
(M) 0400666811

Alison Bray (H) 49546237
(M) 0407165573

Maree Steen (M) 0417761934