

Dear Parents and Students

I wish to inform you that Mr Jim Baker, Principal, Miami High School will assume the role of Acting Principal at Elanora High from Monday 16 February 2009. Jim is a very experienced Gold Coast educator and we will welcome his assistance as we come to accept the sudden and untimely death of Mrs Wilson.

Gary Dawes, Kym Dickinson and Shirley Booth
Deputy Principals

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Education a Partnership

We would like to welcome all Elanora High families to our Elanora High School Community in 2009. Our enrolment as of Day 8 was 1100 students. We had a very smooth start to the year and we would like to thank staff, students and parents for making that possible. Students began classes from Period 2 on the first day. They have received texts, student diaries, completed school photos and organised their sports for the term. House orientation day was in Week 2.

Year 8 students have met with their Year 12 QIP mentors and will experience a series of activities during CREW time over the coming term.

In this mailout we have included a copy of the Elanora Responsible Behaviour Plan For Students, Elanora SHS Dress Code, the Mobile Phone Policy, Resource Hire Scheme Information, Payment Options, P&C Letter, Tuckshop Price List, Volunteers Form, 2009 Immunisation Program and a 2009 magnetic calendar with important dates highlighted. Education is a three-way partnership between the student, parent and school and we ask that you re-read these policies and information and bring them to the attention of your son or daughter to ensure that we are providing the best possible learning environment.

Early Starts for Seniors / The Learning or Earning Day

Years 11 and 12 students at Elanora High are fortunate to be able to have access to a learning or earning day each Monday. To allow this to happen, the school day for the Seniors begins at 7.55am. It is essential that students arrive to class on time. Part of the role of school is to help students successfully transition into the world of work. Most work places begin by 8.00am. Students who are late disrupt the learning of others and importantly miss out on significant learning. Please help us to encourage students to be punctual.

Emailing of the Newsletter

Our newsletter is normally published each Friday. To help ensure that you receive this essential form of communication between the school and parents we are able to email the newsletter home. To ensure that you are added to the email list, contact the office on 5533 9299 or email admin@elanorashs.eq.edu.au and ask for your email address to be added if you would like this service. The Newsletter is also put onto our website at www.elanorashs.eq.edu.au each week.

Sun Safe Policy

Given our climate, it is important that students respect the damage that the sun can do to their skin. As such we have a clear policy around sun safe behaviour. We ask that all students come to school with a hat and when not in class that they wear it. This is particularly important for any students electing a sunny area to sit during breaks. It is best if this is accompanied by the application of sun screen.

Swimming Carnivals

On Wednesday 4 February we had a very successful Year 8 carnival. It was great to see students participating and being encouraged by our senior students to have a wonderful day. This event is followed by our whole school carnival on Wednesday 11 February at Miami SHS pool. Thank you to the staff and senior students who have worked hard to ensure that students have an enjoyable and successful day.

ACE Evening

On Thursday 5 February we ran an afternoon / evening in the Resource Centre for all Year 8 ACE students and their parents. I am very pleased to announce that we had 100% attendance from parents and staff of the class. Staff presented to parents an outline of the program for Term 2 and were able to demonstrate at this early stage some of the terrific work these students have already produced. It is great to see this level of parental involvement and the commitment of staff to this academic program of excellence.

P&C

We would encourage all parents to attend our P&C meetings. These meetings are an excellent way for parents to have a clear understanding of the direction of the school and to work in partnership with the Administration and staff to ensure quality educational outcomes for all students. The P&C meets the third Wednesday of each month at 5.30pm in the Administration Block. The first P&C Meeting for 2009 will be held on Wednesday 18 February. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mediation Training

On 3 March from 8.30am -3.00pm in the Resource Centre, Ms Kyme and Ms Dickinson will be conducting mediation training for staff and students. Ms Dickinson has recently received national mediation accreditation through the Australian Mediation Association.

What will students gain who participate in the training? Students who train as mediators will gain skills in the area of constructive conflict management. Research clearly indicates that these skills improve learning outcomes through improved group processes, and transfers to other areas for example, in work and social situations outside of school. Students will have an opportunity to demonstrate leadership abilities and improve their own skills as well as supporting their school community. Application forms are available from the Year Co-ordinators and/or the front office.

Uniform

It is very positive to see that the vast majority of students have begun the school year in the correct uniform. A small percentage however has yet to reach the standard we require with uniform. We request that where parents are having difficulty meeting uniform requirements that they contact the Year Co-ordinator for that year or the Deputy Principal to discuss the issue. We ask that all parents support us in ensuring that all students are appropriately attired. A copy of the Elanora SHS Dress Code is included in this mailing.

Student Leadership

Leading up to the School Captain and Senior Leader Induction Ceremony on 25 February, Ms Hamilton and Ms Dickinson will be conducting a leadership training workshop on 17 February for all Senior Leaders. At this workshop the Senior Leaders will commit to leadership projects they have been developing since the end of last year. The workshop is designed to help students develop an understanding of some of the complexities associated with leadership positions.

Senior leaders during 2009 will have an increased profile around the school. As well as their projects, they will be demonstrating leadership through helping to eradicate litter around the school. The students are very excited to be able to contribute to the growth of the school community during 2009 and we look forward to working with such a committed group of students.

Indigenous Student Leader

I have pleasure in announcing that Ethan Ziebarth will undertake the responsibilities of Indigenous Student Leader for 2009. Ethan will work with all students and the indigenous students in particular, to raise the indigenous profile within the school.

Our first indigenous parent meeting will be held in the Conference Room on 5 March.

Gold Coast Junior Council

We are looking for two representatives from Year 10 to represent Elanora State High School on the Gold Coast Junior Council. Meetings will be held four times a year and students must be able to make their own way to and from the Council which is at the Arts Centre in Bundall. It is an excellent opportunity for students who are interested in politics and/or community affairs. If students are interested they need to see Ms Dickinson or Ms Kyme.

Lions Youth of the Year

Two students will ably represent Elanora State High in the Lions Youth of the Year contest. Daniela Sunde-Brown and Jonathan Mace-Kaff will be involved in the first round of activities on Thursday 12 February and we wish them luck.



Best wishes to you and your family for 2009.

Ms Kym Dickinson, Deputy Principal

DISASTER RELIEF COLLECTION

The Student Council will be collecting donations for the fire and flood relief appeals on **Wednesday 18 February** during CREW Class. We appreciate it is a time of financial difficulty for a lot of families, but any donation you are able to give will be greatly appreciated by those affected by the recent fires and floods. Thank you.

INSURANCE COVERAGE IN SCHOOL SPORT
Parents are advised that Education Queensland does not have Personal Accident Insurance cover for students. Physical education, particularly contact sports, carries inherent risks of injury. It is a personal decision for parents as to the type and level of private insurance they arrange to cover students for any accidental injury that may occur.

**ELANORA STATE HIGH SCHOOL
PAYMENT OPTION**

PAYING BY INTERNET BANKING: Direct Payment into School Bank Account

- School's Bank Account Name: **ELANORA STATE HIGH SCHOOL** General A/C
- BSB Number: **064-404** (CBA Branch Burleigh Heads)
- Account Number: **00090717**
- Reference/Details: Please record both "Student/Family/Customer ID AND Reference/Item Code" in the reference/details section so that your payment can be recorded correctly. **If insufficient details are supplied, payments will be applied to the oldest debt for that Family/Customer.**

UNIFORM SHOP

Please note that the Uniform Shop will be open –
Monday 8.00am – 9.30am
Tuesday 7.30am – 9.00am
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 7.30am – 9.00am
Friday 7.30am – 9.00am

**MATHEMATICS B AND C
GRAPHICS CALCULATORS**



Years 11 and 12 Mathematics B & C students require a **Graphics Calculator (GC)** for their coursework and assessment. The GC our school uses is the **Casio CFX9850GPlus** (colour) model – as stated in the Senior Handbook. Last year it was sold through the school for \$185 but this year the cost will be **\$165**. (*Officeworks* no longer stocks this model and all the past students' second hand ones were sold last year).

To purchase your new **GC** please pay cash/cheque or by EFTPOS at the cashier's counter and bring your receipt to Ms Townsend in Staffroom 4. Year 10 accelerated students and International students should see me to borrow a **GC** through the hire scheme.

Please do not purchase any other model of **GC** before you see me to advise if it is compatible with our coursework.

Leanne Townsend HOD – Maths/Gifted Education

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Tuesday 17 February** – Year 12 Senior Leader Training
- Wednesday 18 February** – P&C Meeting
- Wednesday 25 February** – Senior Leader Induction Ceremony
First Round of Interschool Sport