

From the Principal Tim Farrell

11 August , 2009

**Showcase Award for Excellence Finalist**

It is with great pleasure that I announce our school's inclusion in the State Finals for the Showcase Awards for Excellence in Schools. Our submission, *Music – the Virginia Way* focuses on our comprehensive music program which incorporates entire families (parents and grandparents) and community members learning music and touring the State together. Our school's program has been identified as one of the best in the State for excellence in innovation. A gala dinner will be held on 29 October to announce the 8 State winners. To date, we have been awarded \$6000 for our achievements. Congratulations to Mrs Mac and her musicians and all support staff!

**Languages other than English (LOTE) in Year 1**

As part of the Kedron Cluster of School's strategy to improve student outcomes in LOTE and to increase the numbers of students studying LOTE at secondary school level, our school has commenced 30 minute weekly LOTE lessons with our year 1 students. Our LOTE (Japanese) teacher, Sensei Nonaka is pleased with their enthusiasm and he says that his students greet him each lesson with a big konnichiwa (hello). Sensei will focus on basic aspects of Japanese and its culture including greetings, self introduction, origami and body parts. Students have started learning the story of SADAKO, a man who died from leukaemia caused by the atomic bomb in Hiroshima in 1945. Classes have also started making paper cranes for contributions to peace, which was Sadako's wish. Sensei will continue to provide many authentic Japanese experiences for his year 1 students.

**Premier's Reading Challenge**

The Premier has challenged all young Queenslanders to read 20 books in 15 weeks and discover the joys of reading. The challenge has been extended to all Queensland students from Prep to Year 7 and will run until 21 August. The Premier's program aims to improve literacy, cultivate a passion for literature and encourage children to read for pleasure and learning. It's not a competition but students who meet the challenge will receive a certificate signed by the Premier. Please ensure that all reading records are returned to your child's teacher by Monday 24 August. Spare forms and details about the challenge can be found on our school's website – [www.virginiass.eq.edu.au](http://www.virginiass.eq.edu.au) Happy reading!

**Australian of the Year Awards 2010 open now**

Nominations are now being accepted for the Australian of the Year Awards 2010. The awards recognise and celebrate the achievements of people who inspire us to contribute to a better Australia. You might know a person, whether they are a colleague, friend, family member, community leader or public figure, who through hard work and determination has contributed to the growth and success of our community. There are four categories, Australian of the Year, Senior Australian of the Year, Young Australian of the Year and Local Hero. The Queensland recipients will be announced at a function in November and will become national finalists in the awards announced on Australia Day eve. For more information and to download a nomination form visit the National Australia Day Council's Australian of the Year website at: [www.australianoftheyear.org.au](http://www.australianoftheyear.org.au) Nominations for the awards close on Monday 31 August.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING  
IN THE MONTH OF:****August**

12 <sup>th</sup>	Show Holiday
13 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Free Day
18 <sup>th</sup>	Australian Youth Choir Auditions
19 <sup>th</sup>	ICAS Mathematics Competition
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Working Bee
26 <sup>th</sup>	P&C Meeting
31 <sup>st</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	September Life Ed Van

**September**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Fathers Day Stall
8 <sup>th</sup>	Prep Open Day 9-11am
10 <sup>th</sup>	Prep Open Day 9-11am
14 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup>	Junior Music Camp
16 <sup>th</sup>	-Disco -P&C Meeting
17 <sup>th</sup>	-Junior Music Camp -School Cross Country

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Principal

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**FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**



Science *International Competition and Assessment for Schools [ICAS]*

Earlier this year, Years 3 to 7 students participated in the Australian Science Competition run by the Educational Testing Centre at the University of New South Wales.

Of the 28 students who participated, 1 gained a Distinction [top 10% in the state] and 12 gained Credit Awards. The students who received Distinctions are listed below. Certificates for all participants were presented on assembly on Friday 7 August.

Congratulations to:

*Distinction: Jack Hedley-Smith*

*Credit: Thomas Hawker, Corey Fry, Brooke Hafner, Lizzy Bennett, Tia Istria, Darius Khan, James Farrell, Emilio North, Tyla Williams, Emily Margerison, Luke Miller and James Semmens*

Lorelle Holcroft  
A/Deputy Principal

Whilst school traditionally focussed on the first two, teachers now have a broader understanding of learners. One of the most remarkable features of the theory of multiple intelligences is how it provides at least seven different potential pathways to learning. If a teacher is having difficulty reaching a student in the more traditional linguistic or logical ways of instruction, the theory of multiple intelligences suggests several other ways in which the material might be presented to facilitate effective learning.

Both children and adults are generally strong in two of these areas and weak in another two. However, learning to work across all areas helps to learn in a variety of situations not just in a classroom.

A search of the web will provide endless opportunity to explore this area. Two simple websites to check are:  
[http://www.thomasarmstrong.com/multiple\\_intelligences.htm](http://www.thomasarmstrong.com/multiple_intelligences.htm) or  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theory\\_of\\_multiple\\_intelligences](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theory_of_multiple_intelligences)

This website will allow you to find out your own strengths with a simple test.  
[http://www.bgfl.org/bgfl/custom/resources\\_fnp/client\\_fnp/ks3/ict/multiple\\_int/](http://www.bgfl.org/bgfl/custom/resources_fnp/client_fnp/ks3/ict/multiple_int/)

Lorelle Holcroft  
A/Deputy Principal

**2009 BOOK FAIR**

Our Book Fair is a special event that celebrates books and reading, where children, parents, teachers and community members can purchase quality books while raising funds for our school. It is also a great opportunity to purchase gifts for your children or friends.

The Book Fair this year will run from:

**FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER to WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009**  
**From 8:15am-8:45am**  
**3:00pm-3:30pm**

Please see the attached brochure for some of the books that will be available.

**YEAR 7 CANBERRA TRIP**

Year 7 students from our school have recently undertaken an educational tour of the national capital, participating in a variety of educational programmes focussed on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. They visited Parliament House, Old Parliament House, Australian War Memorial, the Electoral Education Centre and National Museum of Australia.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist our families in meeting the cost of this excursion the Australian Government contributes funding under the Parliament & Civics Education Rebate (PACER) programme towards the travel expenses incurred. This is paid directly to Virginia SS upon the completion of the tour.

We wish to thank the Australian Government for their support of this programme.

**BAND & SCHOOL LEADER PHOTOS**

Order forms for Band and School Leader Photographs are available from Mrs McLennan's room or the office. Please return these with payment to the office by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August. These orders will then be collected by Advanced Photography for processing.

**TUCKSHOP ROSTER**

Monday	Wednesday	Friday
	<b>12 August</b> SHOW HOLIDAY	<b>14 August</b> Melissa Calkin Debbie Lumsden Annabel Florence
<b>17 August</b> Louise Doherty	<b>19 August</b> Eiko Nakamata Rebecca Bignami  <i>HELP NEEDED</i>	<b>21 August</b> Debbie Lumsden Kathy Eastlake  <i>HELP NEEDED</i>
<b>24 August</b> Iona Broadley	<b>26 August</b> Julie Melton  <i>HELP NEEDED</i>	

**REUNION NOTICE**

*1969 – 40 YEARS ON*

The 1969 Senior Year students of Banyo State High School are holding 40 year reunion on Saturday, 15 August 2009 with a lunchtime river cruise followed by dinner.

Some of the past students have not been located or contacted. If any newsletter readers know of any 1969 Banyo year 12 students, or their whereabouts, please ask them to contact George on 0419 788-440.

More information about the reunion is available at <http://tinyurl.com/BSHS1969>

**CHOCOLATE DRIVE**

The Cadbury Chocolate Drive has been a great success so far. Many boxes of chocolates have been sold (and consumed!). There is just one week left to go in the chocolate drive.

Congratulations to Casey HUGHES who won a movie voucher from the first weekly prize draw.

**All money or unsold chocolates must be in by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August.**

Continue to help raise money for your school and enjoy a yummy chocolate, or two, while you do!

**BRAMBLE BAY DISTRICT SPORTS**

42 Virginia students have been competing in the Bramble Bay District Athletics at Nudgee College over the past 2 days. All have represented our school very well both on the field and with their behaviour. As this "Informer" goes to print we have 3 students who have been selected in the Bramble Bay team to compete at the Metropolitan North Regional Sports. Congratulations to Joe Dale, Jamie-Lee Harten and Thomas da Forno.

YMCA 32663159 0400099656 <b>OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE NEWS</b>		
<p>'Playing Safe and Having Fun'</p>		
<b>IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM THE COORDINATOR...</b>  <b>Hi AND WELCOME TO THE YMCA.</b> <b>OUR PROGRAMS THAT WE RUN ARE FOR EVERYONE, WITH ALL IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS COMING FROM THE CHILDREN IT IS TRULY THE CHILDRENS SERVICE.</b> <b>IF YOUR INTERESTED IN COMING DROP ON IN AND HAVE A LOOK.</b> <b>WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.</b>	<b>COMING UP AT OSHC...</b>  <b>FACE, FINGERS AND FEET WEEK, WHERE ALL THE ACTIVITIES USE YOUR FACE, FINGERS AND/OR FEET! ☺</b>	<b>JOIN US FOR:</b>  <b>DUSTER HOCKEY</b>  <b>FACE PAINTING</b>  <b>FINGER KNITTING</b>  <b>PLAYDOUGH</b>  <b>TOUCH FOOTY</b>  <b>...AND MUCH MORE!</b>

**STUDENT POEM**

**The Pencil Poem**

Some pencils are red  
And some times they need lead.  
And some are pacers  
And they go in pencil cases.

Some people use pencils  
To draw around stencils.  
We use them for school  
Because they're kind of cool.

We use pencil grips  
And they go near pencil tips.  
Some of them have pictures.  
And they come in different colour mixtures.

By Lisa Fry 46

