Thank you all the teachers who organised and supervised at the camp and for being away from their families during this time.

Next year the camping program in Year 8 will provide a few more challenges for the students.

Russell Pollock
Principal

Deputy Principal’s Column

As we move towards the end of Term 1, I am continuously reminding senior students of our expectations of them working for at least 2 hours per night on homework and study. Recent research from New Zealand shows some important aspects of brain function in relation to homework. Researchers found that for a word or concept to move from our short term memory to our long term working memory, it needed to be experienced three times in about 48 hours in multiple contexts. This is why we sometimes have that “aha” moment when we hear a new word for the second or third time in close succession. I think teachers have known this intuitively as our homework cycle usually involves:

- Working on a concept in class
- Asking students to practice or engage with it for homework
- Checking of homework on the concept during the next lesson

In this way, the student has had the concept reinforced at three separate times in more than one physical location in a space of roughly 48 hours.

Our senior leaders have had a fantastic start to the year with their organisation of both the Valentine’s Day event and first School Dance. The teamwork they have displayed so far has been outstanding. Many of our leaders have also assisted through attending Primary School leader’s induction days. On many occasions they have needed to give speeches and by all accounts these have been fantastic.

Congratulations also to the Year 11 students, Karlee Hogan, Sofie Stark and Shaunee Girven for organising the World’s Greatest Shave events on Thursday 12 March. These students enthusiastically organised a number of activities to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation. It is fantastic to see students...
developing their organisational skills and abilities and getting involved in the life of the school.

**Darren McGregor**  
**Deputy Principal**

**Parent Teacher Interviews – please note these dates in your diary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Where</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7, 8 and 9</td>
<td>Thursday 28 April</td>
<td>J A Robertson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Teacher</td>
<td>from 3.30 pm to 6.30 pm</td>
<td>J A Robertson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interviews</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10, 11 and 12</td>
<td>Tuesday 5 May</td>
<td>J A Robertson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Teacher</td>
<td>3.30 pm to 6.30 pm</td>
<td>J A Robertson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interviews</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The instructions on how to book your Parent Teacher Interviews online will be emailed to you and included in future newsletters.

- **Year 7, 8 and 9 Parent Teacher Interviews** can be booked from **7.00 am Sunday 19 April to 6.00 pm Friday 24 April**. If you have any problems please call the school office.
- **Year 10, 11 and 12 Parent Teacher Interviews** can be booked from **7.00 am Monday 26 April to 6.00 pm Friday 1 May**.

The Term 1 Interim Reports will be emailed home for all students. The interim results provide an indication as to how students have progressed in the first 10 weeks of the year. Any final results from assessment (assignments, tests or examinations) will be used to determine Semester 1 results. The Term 1 Interim result is determined from only limited assessment and as such is only a guide to student progress.

**Technology News**

**Year 7 Food Studies**

The Year 7 Food Studies students have been investigating the Technology Process and how this process is used to design and create solutions for real situations. The students are looking forward to developing some basic food preparation and cooking skills in the coming weeks.

**Year 8 Food Technology**

Year 8 Food Technology students have been enjoying their practical food lessons. Workplace hygiene and safety procedures were investigated before moving onto basic food preparation skills. Students have been working in groups to make a platter of vegetables and dips, before moving on to make an Oriental Salad. These tasks form part of the students’ exploration of the Technology Process. Over the coming weeks, students will use their imagination and creativity to design and produce nutritional and healthy food solutions for real situations.

**Year 9 Food Studies**

This semester these students are developing basic to more complex food management and preparation skills through a variety of individual practical tasks. Students are investigating food preparation techniques to design food solutions. The recipes chosen are to teach practical principles which align with theory. Students are required to bring ingredients and a take home container each week. Each student has been issued with an ingredient list which lists the weekly requirement for the semester. If you have any inquires please contact the Home Economics Department.

**Year 9 Home Economics**

These students have started the year with a Textile Design Technology Unit. Students have been investigating the properties of fibre and fabric and applying this knowledge to decisions made about design. They are looking forward to designing and creating two textile projects this semester.

**Home Economics Staff**

Mrs Sandra Todd, Mrs Therese Flanagan and Ms Sandra Leadle

**Head Of Department**  
**Ross Duncan**

**Next Step Survey 2015**

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2014. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.
Thank you for your support of the Next Step survey in 2015. Further information on Next Step is available online at www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or on toll free telephone 1800 068 587.

Humanities Students of the Week

The History/Senior Humanities Student of the Week Award is an acknowledgement that, in their classes or year level, students have excelled in some way. As the recipients of this award for the week ending 27 February 2015, we are pleased to commend the following students to the whole school community:

7A Brodie Baker        8A James Palmer
7B Claudia Cuttriss    8B Lana White
7C Thane Owen-Cooper   8C Noah Childe-Freeman
7D Ewan Thomas         8D Nuno Teixeira Diniz
7E Erin LeBoutillier   8E Maya Sherwood
7F Natalie Newton      8F Kealen Woodward
7G Christian Callaghan
7H Daniel Sheldon
7I Beth Ryan
7J Ella Clifton

Year 9s: Drew Christie, Hannah Everingham, Alex Gardiner, Hannah McGregor-Jones, Callum McNeilage, Zoe Rudge, Keeley Turner and Callum Williams.

Year 10s: Siena Adams, Millicent Brown, David Chinpala, Piper Fleming,

Xylia Knight, Amee Lu, Jaidyn Manley and Dan Zaikin.

Year 11 Humanities Student: Olivia Oakley

Year 12 Humanities Student: Yasmine Steiner

Excellent effort, students. Congratulations.

J Cameron
HoD Humanities

POPARTS Committee News

Trivia night

This will be held on **Friday 13 March at 7.00 pm** in the JA Robertson Hall at The Gap State High School. Doors will open at 6.15 pm.

Trivia Night is about “Trivia” of course, trivial questions in an atmosphere of friendly fun. We are pleased to once again have Andrew McMicking, a well-known Trivia night presenter as our host for the evening.

“Table groups” of eight (8) persons are encouraged to decorate their table and to come dressed in a theme to add to the fun of the evening. High School students can either arrange a student table with friends or remain with family. Entry prices are Adults $15.00 and Students/Concession $10.00. Primary aged children and younger benefit from free entry. Some take it very seriously, others come for the fun.

There are breaks between rounds for scoring when you can mix with families from other tables or get yourself a cuppa. **Please bring your own food, nibbles and drinks.** POPARTS provides tea and coffee throughout the night at the hall kitchen. Some groups bring gastronomical delights, some bring bags of chips and lollies - it’s up to you. You will need to remember to bring
your own glasses if you don’t want to drink out of disposable cups.

So talk to your friends and to school families and get a table together or when making your booking ask to be put on a table with other ‘new’ families giving you the opportunity to meet other Gap high families. Tickets can be booked and paid for at the school office or Uniform shop via cash, cheque and credit or debit card, or over the phone. Please remind your child to collect the tickets from the office; this will prevent delays at the door on the night.

Hope you can come and join with parents of performing arts students, our regular trivia night junkies, students and Gap community members (the night is not limited to Gap High parents so bring friends neighbours or relations). We look forward to seeing you there.

**Practice times**

Instrumental music lessons, ensembles and choir practices are well underway. Lesson timetables are on the notice board in N Block hallway. This information also appears in the handbook given to parents of Year 7 students in week one.

Students who play trumpet, trombone and saxophone have been invited to attend the Stage Band rehearsal to see if they would like to be a member of this ensemble as well as Concert Band.

All students are asked to have their names clearly displayed on their instruments and folders. This can be either on a name tag or written directly on the instrument case.

**Music uniform**

There is a new music uniform for new students, available for purchase from the Uniform Shop. Students who already have a performance uniform do not have to purchase a new one. The new uniform will be phased in over a number of years. Colours available are cerise, jade and purple and students are allowed to select whichever colour takes their fancy!

**Intrumental Music Performances**

Please find below, a schedule of proposed instrumental music performances. Please note that events and/or dates may change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ensemble</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28 Jan-4 April</td>
<td>22 April-27 June (10)</td>
<td>14 July-19 Sept</td>
<td>7 Oct-12 Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important requirement**

All students MUST have their names clearly displayed on the outside of their instrument case and their music folders. Teachers will be checking at next week’s rehearsals and as an incentive to meet this requirement; students should note that they will have to carry their instruments with them throughout the day rather than leave them in the instrument store room, if the instrument and folder are not clearly named. Some students also like to place easily identifiable ribbons etc. on their cases this is a good idea, but they must also have their name.
| Symphonic Wind | Camp - 16 to 20 February Concert Thursday 19 March – TGSHS Saturday 2 May Ashgrove Fete Tuesday 11 August- EKKA (tbc) Friday 28 August-Cabaret Night | Monday 26 Oct – ‘Finale’ Wind |
| Divertimenti | Camp - 16 - 20 February Concert Thursday 19 March – TGSHS Thursday 28 May – Open Night Tuesday 11 August- EKKA (tbc) Friday 28 August-Cabaret Night Monday 2 Nov – ‘Finale’ Strings |
| Chamber Strings | Camp - 16 to 20 February Concert Thursday 19 March – TGSHS Thursday 28 May – Open Night 4 September – Concert – Robertson Hall 2 Nov – ‘Finale’ Strings |
| Stage Band | Wednesday 20 May – Open Night (rehearsal) – N Block Wednesday 20 May – Open Night (rehearsal) – N Block Friday 4 September – Concert – Robertson Hall Monday 26 Oct – ‘Finale’ Wind |
| Big Band | Camp - 16 to 20 February Concert Thursday 19 March – TGSHS Saturday 2 May Ashgrove Fete Tuesday 11 August- EKKA (tbc) Monday 26 Oct – ‘Finale’ Wind |
| Asymmetry Percussion | Camp - 16 to 20 February Concert Thursday 19 March – TGSHS Thursday 28 May – Open Night Australian Percussion Eisteddfod – Monday 21 to Thursday 24 Sept - Sydney Cabaret Night Friday 28 August- TGSHS Thursday 5 Nov – ‘Finale’ Percussion |
| Judd Percussion | Singapore Choir-Saturday 21 March Saturday 25 April-ANZAC Day Cabaret Night Friday 28 August Thursday 5 Nov – ‘Finale’ Percussion |
| Choral | QPAC performance – Sunday 31 May daytime | Wednesday 28 October – Senior Awards Ceremony Wednesday 4 Nov – ‘Finale’ |
Rehearsals Monday 25 May and Thursday 28 May – evenings,

Vocal Ensembles Singapore Choir - Saturday 21 March
QPAC performance – Sunday 31 May daytime
Rehearsals Monday 25 May and Thursday 28 May – evenings

Saturday 25 July- Xmas in July
Wednesday 4 Nov – ‘Finale’

Small Ensembles Autumn Fair – 28 March - Uniting Church
Open Night - 28 May – TGSHS
25 July- Xmas in July
Monday 26 Oct – ‘Finale’ Wind

Cabaret Night
Friday 28 August- TGSHS
Friday 30 Oct - Percussion
Monday 2 Nov – ‘Finale’ Strings

POPARTS Committee Meeting

Please note that the POPARTS Committee Meeting has changed from the Tuesday 17 March, to the Tuesday 10 March 2015. We would love to see the same great attendance as before. All are welcome.

Sandra Leadle - HOD Music Department
Sandy Riggien - POPARTS Committee, Communication

P & C News

P&C AGM is approaching – Monday 9 March at 7.00 pm

The P&C AGM is fast approaching and will be held on Monday 9 March at 7.00 pm in the A Block Conference Room (upstairs in the Administration building).

All new and renewing parents must complete an application form which is attached in this newsletter. You can bring it on the night but it might be easier if you complete it now, scan and email it to pandcsecretary@thegapshs.eq.edu.au . Even if you are unable to attend the AGM, the application form is valid for an AGM meeting and your membership will be in place for all other meetings you attend.

Please also note the code of conduct – which can be read in the Appendix of the P&C constitution which is accessible from this link -

Thank you
Ross Utting
P & C Secretary

Science News

Already the end of week 6, the term is flying by! Now would be a good time to check in with your student to see how they are going with their Science assessment with reports, assignments and exams currently underway or on the horizon.

Last Friday 27 February, the Year 11 Biology students went to Nudgee Beach for their Biological Field Studies. A number of measurements were taken in the mangrove environment to investigate the relationships between the abiotic (non-living) and biotic (living) components of the ecosystem. This information will then be analysed and presented in the form of a scientific field study report.

Students also had a tour along the boardwalk from the staff at The Nudgee Beach Environmental Centre learning about the flora and fauna unique to the area. A great day was had by staff and students with beautiful weather and minimal insects!!

Science bytes...

Our Year 9 scientists have been busy doing experiments on chemical reactions while the Year 8s, from their recent studies, have found out that there is more than one way to be a “rock star”. The Year 10s can now use the tool of genetics to explain why they are the only member of the family with brown eyes and are now moving onto evolution.
Next week, a special on the newest members of our scientific team...the Year 7s.

Amanda Ross  
Science Teacher

SHAPE Committee News

Cross Country/adidas fun run

Our fun run packs for fund raising have arrived and will be distributed over the next week, so keep an eye out from your form teacher. Once I have put them out we will inform you in the daily messages.

Online fundraising is now available, go to schoolfunrun.com.au/students for the sign up page. Create your own login and start fundraising. It takes about 5 minutes to set up.

Remember there will be a prize for the student who raises the most amounts, and other spot prizes so good luck to all.

Our next meeting will be in the Sports Hall on Monday 16 March at 7.00 pm, all are welcome to attend.

Contact us at SHAPE@thegapshs.eq.edu.au

Leon Bailey  
Chairperson

Date Claimers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Friday 6 March     | W1 SE Queensland Futsal  
|                    | Super 7s Netball                                                   |
| Monday 9 March     | P & C Meeting and AGM in Conference Room – A Block  
|                    | W2 SE Queensland Futsal                                            |
| Tuesday 10 March   | POPARTS Meeting in N Block (please note date change from 17 March)  
|                    | W2 SE Queensland Futsal                                            |
| Wednesday 11 March | W2 SE Queensland Futsal                                            |
| Thursday 12 March  | W2 SE Queensland Futsal  
|                    | Year 12 Economics students RBA talk at Marist 9.30 am  
|                    | Year 11 SOS students to UQ                                        |
| Friday 13 March    | Futsal finals  
|                    | Year 11 Physics Excursion to Dreamworld  
|                    | Trivia Night                                                      |
| Monday 16 March    | Year 11 Drama Realism Performance in Auditorium 7 pm  
|                    | SHAPE Committee Meeting                                            |
| Tuesday 17 March   | Year 12 Drama Excursion to Billie Brown Theatre 6.30 pm  
|                    | Open Lions Cup AFL Round 1 to Yeronga AFC                        |
| Thursday 19 March  | Advanced Ensemble Concert – Hall                                   |

Chinese News

While many of the Year 7s were away on camp this week, Julie Williams was busy learning about the long history of Chinese characters. Julie quickly picked up on the beauty of the Chinese writing style as she practiced life-sized calligraphy with our specialised brushes.

Julie wrote her calligraphy with water, watching each character slowly disappear as it dried. This is a common practice in China; many masters practice for years to become proficient in the art of calligraphy. They spend hours outside painting on the pavement only to watch their work disappear almost as fast as they create it.

Many say the masters practice in this way because beauty is fleeting, others believe they offer the earth their words.

What do you think?

Caitlin Goldston  
Chinese Teacher
Community Notices

Ferny Grove Junior Australian Football Club

The Ferny Grove Junior Australian Football Club is seeking players aged 5-13 years. The Falcons are a Community Club that focuses on developing players’ fundamental skills and game sense abilities by creating an enjoyable and challenging experience for the players to learn. Coaches aim to develop young people into responsible contributing members of society through the principal of NED – Never give up! Encourage others! Do your best! Phone 0435 977 500, e-mail fernygrovejuniors@aflbj.com or visit www.falconsfooty.org for further information.