Cambodia Trip

During the September School Holidays eight of our Year 12 students, along with Mrs Daly and Mr Ralph travelled to Siem Reap Cambodia, to volunteer at the New Hope School. As part of our experience we got to help teach English to the students of New Hope, and were taken to visit some of the families of the students in the nearby villages. Whilst in Cambodia we visited the Temple of Angkor Wat, the Killing Caves and the Markets. We rode in Tuk tuks, on Cane Trains and on Elephants. We ate many of the local foods and got to experience one of the local dance groups. But the best experience, by far, was working with the children from the New Hope School. The whole experience was life changing for all of us and we would like to thank everyone who donated gifts, stationery or clothing to take with us. Thank you also to the many local groups who donated money which helped us to experience this amazing trip. Whilst in Siem Reap we donated 12 bikes, a large amount of clothes, stationery and toys and $1000 to the New Hope Cambodia. These donations will be used to help the poor and impoverished families from the villages around the school. Our students, Keir Tilse, Caitlyn Olufson, Waylon Anning, Neena Kanthanathan, Sarah Bradshaw, Nicolette Grundling, Paige Nicolaou and Fleur Walker were excellent ambassadors for Mareeba State High School. We would like to thank them for being so amazing and for helping to make this an experience of a lifetime. Mr Tim Ralph and Mrs Lucy Daly.

Biology Camp

Our Year 11 Biology Students have returned from a 3 day field study at Holloways Beach Environmental Centre. During the camp the students studied mangrove habitats and the lower reaches of the Barron River. The field study highlights included crocodile spotting, pumping for yabbies, bird watching and a mangrove mud crawl.

The students worked long hours to complete their field work and data booklets. A big thank you to Mr Richardson, Mr Andersen, Mrs Posselt and Ms Soothill for their tremendous contribution to this camp. Mr James Cochran.
Welcome back to Term 4. I hope everyone had a relaxing break and that students are ready for the learning challenges. It is really important that students continue to work hard towards meeting their learning goals for the year. For our senior students, in particular, it is a busy time. Our Year 10s will be finalising their SET plans on 24 October, setting their learning goals for the next two years; our Year 11s are working hard at completing the foundation work for next year and our Year 12s are working hard to ensure that they have an OP, a VET qualification and/or a Queensland Certificate of Education.

Shortly before the holidays I was invited to see one of our school captains, Eliza Michael, receive her Order of Australia Association Student Citizenship Prize from the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Penelope Wensley AO in the Old Parliament house in Brisbane. The award is given annually to students who have made a significant contribution to their community through service and involvement. Well done Eliza!

During the holidays I worked as a writing task marker for the QCS test (Year 12 test of literacy, numeracy and thinking skills). It reminded me of the importance of practicing writing regularly. By Year 12, students should be able to write a planned unseen response of 600 words in two hours - no small feat. The journey to being able to do this doesn’t start in Year 12 – it began for most people in primary school and then continued through to high school. I would encourage all students to write daily at home - even if you start with one sentence or paragraph and work towards expanding this to one page and then two.

Our school is preparing for the Australian Curriculum which will be introduced next year, and it is full steam ahead for our teachers who are currently receiving their planning materials for Term 1, 2012. Students in Prep to Year 10 will learn English, Mathematics and Science in 2012 using the Australian Curriculum, and History will be added in 2013. Queensland’s implementation of the Australian Curriculum will build on the strengths in the existing curriculum, retain the best teaching and assessment practices and focus on continual improvement. The Australian Curriculum will contribute to a world-class education in Australia by setting out the knowledge, understanding and skills needed for life and work in the 21st century and by setting common high standards of achievement across the country. Parents can further support their child’s education by familiarising themselves with the new Australian Curriculum by visiting www.australiancurriculum.edu.au.

Warm Regards,
Jo Soothill
PRINCIPAL
The year is flying by and it’s hard to believe we are nearly at the end of Year 9 already. It seems like yesterday they were fresh-faced from primary school and here we are looking down the barrel of Year 10 – the start of their senior schooling journey.

Some of the things we have done in Term 3:

**Academic Morning Tea** – a number of students were invited to a morning tea to celebrate their well-earned academic success in Semester One. Approximately 30 students achieved an average of a ‘B’ or higher across all their subjects which is a fantastic result.

**Ten Pin Bowling and Maccas visit** – in early August we all piled onto a bus and made the trek to Atherton where an enjoyable afternoon was had at the bowling alley (with Mrs McClelland smashing the boys) and then a leisurely dinner at McDonald’s.

**Tax File Numbers** – over 50 students completed forms to apply for their Tax File Number. These were sent away before the holidays and students should receive their number within the next couple of weeks. Students still have the opportunity to apply for their TFN – they simply need to bring in their birth certificate number, State and year of registration or if born overseas, their passport number and country. The form only takes them a couple of minutes to complete and is a much easier process than parents applying for it.

Term 4 is sure to fly by with another excursion planned for about week four and a day trip to round off the year.

Kim McClelland and Denise Lambert. Year 9 Coordinators

---

**Page Turners’ Book Club** - Meetings every second Friday. Harry Potter Movie tie-in excursion.

**Ribit Reading Program** - All Year 8 Classes have 1 Lesson per Week

**Author in Residence** - Jane Burke

**Book Week** - One World, Many Stories

Lucy Daly
Senior Teacher/Librarian
Our Maths Mania newsletter quiz will continue in our next issue all the way from Cambodia. Watch this space!

Orders are still being taken for Schola 2011. Students can pay $22.00 at the office and they’ll get their copy towards the end of November. Schola 2011 is an 80 pages full colour school magazine. We have currently presold about 80 copies so far and we need to get it up to about 250. Get your orders in soon!

**Schola 2011**

Forth coming events...
- School Dance – October 20th
- Crazy Pants day – October 28th
- Balloon Bursting Fun Activity – October 31st

Denise Lambert
Publicity Officer/Student Council/Year 9 Coordinator

---

**Maths Mania**

---

**1987 – 1991 20 Years Reunion**

Date – Friday 23rd December 2011 at 6:00pm to 11:30pm
Locations – RSL Club Mareeba
Cost - $18.00 per person for BBQ
RSVP – Chrissie Cosentino Di Salvo 9 (40 934 309)
Payment for BBQ – MSHS REUNION 1991 – Westpac Bank
BSB – 034-197 Account – 221952

---

**Student Council**

---

---

Important message to all Students, Parents and Guardians.
If a student is suffering from any known medical conditions, can you please contact the school office so that these students’ medical details can be updated. Thank you.