



# celebrate

A publication for Students, Parents and Friends  
ROBINA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

AUGUST 2008

## from the principal...



Two weeks in Beijing! As I write, past student, Dylan Grant, is representing the nation in the 4 x 400m relay in the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. Dylan is one of those quiet achievers who represent us and inspire us all so well. His long term commitment to success, his invisible hours each week spent on training, the heartache regarding injuries and his attention to appropriate recovery strategies and the personal commitment to having his heart in a project which is meaningful and rewarding are all inspirational. He brings much credit to us all.

Further, it is with much pleasure that I announce that a number of our teachers have been nominated by students and parents as inspirational teachers in the National Teaching Awards this year. Congratulations and sincere thanks to these committed staff members who have been so recognised by our young people and their families - Cathie Brennan, Sarah Dobbie, Leonie MacKenzie, Louise Traill, Jerry Antoniuk, Selina Jones, D Ison, Adam Quirk, Jodi Swain, Mayumi Logan, Danielle O'Dwyer, Julie Swift. I am proud to say that I can not think of any higher recognition for our staff throughout their careers.

Finally, I would like to wish Year Leader and English teacher, Adam Quirk, the very best as he represents the school in the Gold Coast Teacher of the Year Awards this year at a glittering function to be conducted at Royal Pines. He has been chosen by his peers for this honour and I believe he will represent the school very well indeed at such a prestigious event next month.

Inspirations - one and all.

Ross Smith  
Principal

## 2008 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Dave Purnell  
Sports Coordinator

One of the most anticipated days on the school calendar each year has to be Athletics Carnival. Tuesday, 5 August, our school oval was a blaze of colour as students gathered in their Houses to battle it out in the track and field events. Many students dressed for the occasion wearing spectacular outfits to support their House.

For the second year running, Gooding House took away the House trophy. Congratulations must go to the Gooding girls, and in particular the 16 yrs girls, who far outperformed the other Houses in regard to participation in events. Once again it has been evident that participation plays a major part in determining overall House placement.

One of the highlights of the Athletics Carnival is the running of the Robina Gift - where the winners of each of the age 100m races are handicapped off the start (a special formula used by Maths teacher Graham Herlihy). It's always a tight race and draws a lot of interest. The girls' race was won by Sam Woods (Open girls), while Ben Mitchell (Open boys) won the boys' race for the second year in a row. Congratulations to each of the respective age champions for their commendable performances throughout the carnival.



### HOUSE RESULTS

1st	Gooding	1202
2nd	Franklin	932
3rd	Laver	930
4th	Hinze	780

### AGE CHAMPIONS

BOYS			GIRLS	
	NAME	HOUSE	NAME	HOUSE
13 YEARS	Nick McDonnell	Gooding	Erica Panther	Gooding
14 YEARS	Jesse Kerrison	Hinze	Maya Sidhu	Laver
15 YEARS	Hayden Sumner	Laver	Chloe Tory	Laver
16 YEARS	Brandon Sherwood	Laver	Jaiden Macknamara	Gooding
OPEN	Cameron King	Hinze	Samandra Darke	Franklin
	Matt Harris	Hinze		

## what's inside...

- Athletics Carnival Wrap-up
- Teacher of the Year Nominee
- Drama Studio Opened
- Dance Night
- Rugby Students Training Initiative
- Greening Robina



For your chance to win Great Prizes  
see back cover..

## from the dean's desk...



Scott Ison



Kin Leamon



Jenny Tobin



Megan Tyne

It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity to introduce myself to the wider Robina State High School community. My name is Kim Leamon and I am the acting Deputy Principal working with Years ten and eleven. Firstly I would like to acknowledge Anita Sgalippa for the wonderful work she has done over the last two years. I am very grateful for the path that she created for me to follow. Secondly I would like to thank the staff for their warm welcome and their assistance and support whilst I found my feet.

I came to teaching later in life, after having careers in administration and human resources. Both parents are teachers with my brother and many uncles, aunts and cousins also in the teaching profession, so it was inevitable that one day I would join the ranks. My teaching background is Special Education. I have worked with a wide variety of students and with all year levels at Coombabah and Miami State High Schools. For the past eighteen months I have acted as Deputy Principal at Coombabah State High School and was fortunate to be offered the chance to join the Robina administration team for Semester two.

In my short time here I have been impressed with the dedication and professionalism of the Robina staff and have no doubt that they are committed to providing quality outcomes for our students. The students themselves reflect this dedication and display the values promoted by the school. I met some parents at the recent parent teacher interview night and look forward to meeting more during the rest of this Semester. My door is open to both students and staff and I encourage you to contact me should you have any questions, concerns or comments.

Subject selection handbooks for 2009 are now in the hands of students. Please take the time to help your child make wise choices.

Kim Leamon  
Deputy Principal

## TEACHER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

Laurel Raethel  
Publicity Manager

We are proud to announce that Mr Adam Quirk is our nomination for the 2008 Gold Coast Teacher of the Year Award. The 15 State Secondary Schools on the Gold Coast each nominate one of their teachers with the overall winner announced at the Gala Ball held at Royal Pines on Saturday night, 6 September.

Adam has been teaching at Robina High since 2002, with two years (2004-2005) spent teaching in England. Over these 6 years Adam has taught English and Maths to students in Years 8-12. He has been Year Leader since 2006 taking our current Year 12s from Year 10 to where they are today. In 2007 Adam completed his ICT Pedagogical License and this year took up the role of regional Smart Classrooms Mentor. This responsibility sees Adam visiting schools within the South Coast region and supporting them with the implementation of the Computers for Teachers program, eLearning and teachers seeking to attain their ICT Pedagogical License. He is an active part of our school community and we wish him well with his nomination.



## YOUNG PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

Paul Bullpitt  
HPE Teacher

Our Year 10 League for Life class has undertaken their Term 3 HPE project in conjunction with Australian Rugby League Development (ARLD). The project was originally based on a coaching assessment they did in the previous term where they had to devise and run a rugby league coaching session.

The class linked up with ARLD, and their primary schools program, and took their coaching session over to Mudgeeraba Creek State School. They facilitated some skills-based rugby league drills on the oval during one lunch time. The primary students participated enthusiastically in each of the activities the high school students ran.

A lot of the students were very keen to return to their old primary school and to coach the younger boys and girls. Our boys responded very well, showing great maturity and initiative in directing the various activities. One of their former primary teachers said, "it's great to see that the boys have developed into such fine young men".

Reflecting on the event, Nathan Tevelue commented, "it was great to go back to Mudgy Creek and it felt funny almost being like a teacher now and not a student. They actually listened to us and did what we asked. It looked like they were really enjoying it".



## DRAMA STUDIO OPENING

Peter Morrissey  
Drama Teacher

Lunchtime on Thursday, 26 June, saw the official opening of the recently revamped Performing Arts Centre (PAC) Drama Studio (formerly known as 'the front room' or the 'PAC foyer'). The upgrading of the facilities has seen the previously carpeted (and slightly dowdy) class-room space transformed into a fully equipped multi-media theatre space with a floating timber floor, video projector, remote controlled movie screen, stage curtains, air-conditioning, lighting and sound system.



Community Liaison Officer, Di Loddon, performed the official cutting of the ribbon ceremony while Mr Ison, Acting Principal, addressed students and guests. Guest speaker, Adam Drake, from Zeal Theatre said some kind words about the Performing Arts program at Robina State High School before Mr Morrissey expressed his gratitude to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund of Queensland, along with the school's P & C Association, for funding the project. The cherry on the cake, though, was a screening of Year 12 Applied Drama film acting scenes and a great stage performance of some physical theatre by Year 9 students Crystal Landers, Renee Collard and Erin Francis.

## DANCE NIGHT 2008

Christine Storey  
Dance Teacher

Robina State High School Dance Night was initiated in 2002 and since this time has clearly established itself as a highlight of the school calendar and is continuing to develop in popularity and size. The Robina Community Centre once again provided a professional venue for showcasing the achievements of both students and teachers work.



The night consisted of an entertaining blend of musical, contemporary, tap and hip-hop dance sequences that were expertly performed by students from all year levels. It also provided an opportunity to showcase dance sequences developed specifically for the Brisbane and Gold Coast Dance Eisteddfods. The junior dance troupe students gained fourth place in May this year in the senior hip-hop section at the Brisbane Eisteddfod. Their item was a fitting closure for an exciting evening that also included the inaugural performance of the League for Life boys 'street hip hop'.

Dance Night 2008 was yet again a highly successful night with our special guests Clover Hill and Mudgeeraba State Primary adding an exciting new dimension to the evening. Congratulations to the team of students and staff who volunteered their time and of course the very dedicated dance teachers; Christine Storey, Allison Gleeson and Cathy Harwood who made the night possible.

## profile...



Year 12 student, Madeliene Rossely, has joined the small group of people who can claim to have competed in, and finished, the very demanding Kokoda Challenge. Madeliene was amongst those who lined up at the Village Green, Mudgeeraba at 7am on Saturday 19 July, and who was at the finish line at Nerang Velodrome the following day. Competitors were allowed 39 hours to complete the gruelling 96 km non-stop hike through the Gold Coast Hinterland. Madeliene says that her team, consisting of 3 adult men plus herself, were rapt to have finished in 27 ½ hours.

Adhering to a rigorous 4 month training regime equipped Madeliene with the physical skills required to undertake the Challenge, however, she was surprised at the mental demands that were made of her. Reflecting on the weekend, Madeliene said, "I totally enjoyed it up to the 70km point but after that it was a real mental challenge to keep going. I realise the value of team support and also the importance of inner mental strength. I'm pleased to know that I could push myself for that long and stay committed." Madeliene now hopes to one day walk the Kokoda Track in PNG.

## community & care...

### NATIONAL TREE DAY

Leonie MacKenzie  
Year 9 Leader

National Tree Day is Australia's biggest community tree-planting event and is a day where all Australians are asked to help out by planting native trees and shrubs. National Tree Day seeks to inspire, educate and recruit Australians to actively care for our unique environment and create native areas for use for future generations. Annually the event involves 200 000 Australian schools.

This year, as part of our PROMOTE program, Year 8, 9 and 10 students undertook tree planting around the school grounds. Students will continue to monitor and nurture these trees throughout the year to ensure their growth and survival. Thank you to Robina Town Centre for the kind donation of native plants.



## what's new in education...

### QUEENSLAND COMPARABLE ASSESSMENT TASKS (QCATS)

Jenny Tobin  
Deputy Principal

Queensland Comparable Assessment Tasks (QCATS) are designed to contribute to student learning. QCATS provide information on what students know, understand and can do, in a selection of Essential Learnings. Additionally they support teachers' assessment practices, and help schools work towards consistency of teacher judgments and comparability of reported results. QCATS are intended to promote consistency of teacher judgments across the state. QCATS are not examinations or tests - they are performance-based assessments.

During 2006 and 2007, over 150 schools trialed QCATS in the key learning areas (KLAs) of English, Mathematics and Science at Years 4, 6 and 9. These trials have helped the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) to refine the model of assessments for QCATS.

In September/October 2008 there will be an expanded trial of QCATS. At Robina High, Year 9 students will complete the English QCAT. Multiple QCATS will be undertaken when QCAR is fully implemented.

More information about QCAT implementation in our school is available from Deputy Principal, Mrs Jenny Tobin or Head of Department, Mrs Alison Kennan.



### key dates...

Friday, 22 August	Yr 8 LOTE Sports Day
Friday, 31 August	Gold Coast Show Holiday
Tue/Wed, 2-3 Sept	QCS Test
Mon-Thur, 8-11 Sept	Yr 12 OP Exam Block
Friday, 19 September	Last Day Term 3
Monday, 6 October	First Day Term 4

### entry form...

#### Lucky Celebrate Draw

Thanks to the Robina Town Centre, we are giving away a \$50 voucher to spend anywhere in the Centre. The draw takes place once a Term. Please complete this entry form (including a parent/caregiver signature) and put in the box in the Resource Centre. Limit one entry per student.

Name.....

Year.....

Parent/Caregiver Signature.....

**THE ULTIMATE FATHER'S DAY GIFT...**

**WIN A ROUND OF GOLF WITH THE TITANS**

PLUS A SIGNED JERSEY AND FOOTBALL



**SPEND \$50 IN ANY STORE AT ROBINA TOWN CENTRE & PRESENT YOUR RECEIPT TO THE CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!**

\*Competition opens 8.00am Thursday 21st August and closes 5.30pm Saturday 6th September 2008. See Customer Service for full terms and conditions.

### community partners...

"The Radisson" and "Lakelands Golf Club" - official sponsors of League for Life

