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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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### P&C Executive 2010

Congratulations to the new P&C Executive for 2010 who are:

President:	Kristi Walsh
Treasurer:	Gabby Muffin
Secretary:	Debbie McMillan
Tuckshop Convenor:	Helen Pitman
Uniform Convenor:	Patricia Girling

I am looking forward to working with our executive throughout 2010.

### Staff Planning

During the past week and for three days this week all of my classroom staff have been offline planning curriculum, teaching and learning in their teaching teams. This professional development, funded by the school, is an important part of the culture at Pacific Pines. My staff work together in teams to make a difference to students' learning. Through planning and working together, we share expertise, strategies that work, resources and skills that ensure that every student here receives the very best education possible. My staff are professionals who work way beyond expectations and are always willing to share their expertise.

### Parent/Teacher Interviews

It has also been a practice at this school for all parents of students in Years 1 to 7 to meet formally with their child's teacher before the Easter Vacation. Prep staff will not be having these interviews until just before the Winter Vacation at the end of June. Prep parents also see their child's teacher regularly as they have to sign in and out each day. Please take advantage of these interviews. We hold them early in the year so parents are made aware of their child's progress and any concerns can be dealt with as soon as possible.

### National Australian Curriculum

The National Australian Curriculum was released for public view on Monday 1 March. You can view the entire first four curriculum areas in English, Maths, History and Science by going to the web site at [www.australiancurriculum.com.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.com.au) You will need to register to gain access. Anyone can register. My staff have been looking at these areas and will be providing feedback to ACARA (Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority) before 23 May.

### Traffic and Parking

Our students' safety is paramount at all times. Please follow these simple road rules:

- ♦ *Do not call your child across the road to your car. Use the traffic crossing.*
- ♦ *Walk across the road with your child using the traffic crossing*
- ♦ *Park in designated areas. Do not park on the grassed areas, especially if you have a four wheel drive vehicle.*
- ♦ *Use the drop off zone for drop off and pick ups only. Do not park there and get out of your car.*
- ♦ *The back access road is not to be used for dropping off and/or picking up students.*

Finally, please do not drive your car through the gate which says "No Entry. Staff Only Access". This is the gate directly in front of the school near the courts.

I would like to thank those parents who do the right thing all of the time.

### Central Park

It has come to my attention that there has been a suspicious male person loitering around Central Park near the toilet block. If you do take your children over to this park, please be vigilant about them whilst they go to the toilet and that they are within your sight at all times. Thank you to the mum who asked me to place this warning in the newsletter.

## Read to Children Every Day

Parents and carers who read aloud to their children every day provide a strong, positive influence and help develop a life-long love of reading.

The Queensland Government has partnered with The Sunday Mail and Queensland bookshops to give parents the chance to stock up on kids books at reduced prices.

Each week during March, parents can collect a token from The Sunday Mail and receive 10 per cent off the price of a children's book at selected bookstores.

The initiative is part of the Government's *A Flying Start for Queensland Children* reading awareness campaign to help children learn to love to read.

Find out more at [www.thepremier.qld.gov.au/readtochildren](http://www.thepremier.qld.gov.au/readtochildren)

There are a number of things you can do to foster your child's love of reading:

- ♦ Read aloud to young children every day, if only for a few minutes, and let them hold the book and turn the pages.
- ♦ Visit the library as a family and let your child select books that interest them.
- ♦ Engage older children and teens in discussions and debates about the books or magazines they are reading.

For more tips and information on helping your child to read and for a list of age-appropriate books for children and young people visit [www.deta.deta.qld.gov.au/aflyingstart/read.html](http://www.deta.deta.qld.gov.au/aflyingstart/read.html)

## Inappropriate Content On Social Networking Sites

Social networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace and Bebo have changed the way young people communicate.

It's important you monitor your child's behaviour on these sites and ensure they are being used in an appropriate manner.

While these sites are an effective way to keep in touch, it is important for young people to be cybersmart and think before posting material online.

All web users have a responsibility to be mindful when publishing content online to ensure it does not breach social, religious, cultural or copyright standards.

If our school becomes aware of inappropriate content involving our staff, students or school, or images, banners, logos or our school crest are used without permission, we will take reasonable steps to ensure the content is removed.

Our school is committed to promoting a safe and supportive learning environment and students involved in the posting of inappropriate material on websites may be disciplined in line with our school's Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

We will continue to work closely with parents and students to address these issues as they arise, but appreciate your support in monitoring your child's internet activity and reinforcing this message at home.

For information, tips and advice to help you and your family make the most of being online, visit the Australian Government's CyberSmart website at [www.cybersmart.gov.au/parents](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/parents)

Cybersmart provides activities, resources and practical advice to help young kids, kids, teens and parents safely enjoy the online world.



Regards  
Kathy Edwards

## YEAR 7 CANBERRA TRIP 2010

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Year 7 students and their parents are invited to a Canberra information Sharing Evening on Thursday 25 March. This will be held at the tuckshop undercover area and will start at 6:00pm. Year 7 students have a note to return to indicate attendance so we can ensure we have enough seating available.

Canberra once again promises to be a sensational and valuable trip for all self managed students.

Angela Gooley  
Deputy Principal

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## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH TIMETABLE

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Pacific Pines Primary Schedule					
Tuesday 16/03/2010			Thursday 18/03/2010		
TIME	Photographer 1	Photographer 2	TIME	Photographer 1	
8:30	STAFF		9:00	3S	
9:00	Year 7		9:10	2J	
9:30	7A	7G	9:20	1B	
9:45	7K	7O	9:30	1H	
10:00	7P	7R	9:40	PREP ORANGE	
10:15	7S	6A	9:55	PREP RED	
10:30	6C	6F	10:10	PREP BLUE	
BREAK			10:25	PREP YELLOW	
11:30	6H	6N	10:40	PREP PURPLE	
11:45	6P	5A	BREAK		
12:00	5B	5H	11:30	1N	
12:15	5R	5S	11:40	1P	
12:30	5T	3C	11:50	1S	
12:45	4F	4K	12:00	1T	
1:00	4M	4G/H	12:10	2C	
1:15	4R/M	4B	12:20	2F	
1:30	3C/H	3N	12:30	2M	
1:45	7 Music groups & Student Council		12:40	2S	
			12:50	FAMILIES	

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## CHESS CLUB NEWS

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Congratulations to the thirty-seven chess club players who behaved and performed so well at the interschool tournament on Tuesday 9 March.

For the first time we will have a team representing us in the championship grade. The top four teams from South and North divisions are chosen. Our A grade team of Tony 7K, Takeshi 7G, Nathaniel 7A and Samuel 4M finished 3rd overall to achieve this. Our two other A grade teams finished 6th and 12th respectively.

Our B grade teams also performed extremely well. They picked up 3rd place as well as 12th and 15th out of 21 teams. Great individual efforts came from Joel 5B 3rd, Dylan 3C 15th and Daniel 5B 21st.

The C grade teams also performed very well, finishing equal 3rd but on count back being relegated to 4th.

The other two teams finished 8th and 11th out of seventeen teams. Great individual efforts came from Jayden 3S 8th, Kevin 2F 12th, Taine 1P 16th and Liam S 3C 18th. It was amazing that we had nine students in the top 28 out of 60 students.

The next tournament will be at Arundel on 15th June. Our Championship team will play on Wednesday the 16th June.

If you wish to check out all the results follow this link. [2010 North Term 1](#)



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## FROM THE BUSINESS SERVICES MANAGER

### **Refunds**

The school refund policy is under payment options on our website. Please note requests for a refund must be received within 2 weeks of an excursion/camp to allow finalisation of the activity. As stated in the policy it may not always be possible to refund the whole amount.

### **Late Payments**

Already this year we have had many students coming to the payment window well after the cut off date. These payments cannot be accepted as all camp/excursion numbers have to be finalised as soon as possible after the cut off date to allow confirmation of numbers to venues and bus bookings.

Obviously if we accept late payments and this necessitates booking an extra bus then the school will make a loss on a camp/excursion.

### **Internet Payments**

Internet payments must be made at least **2 days** before the cut off date of an excursion/activity to allow the transfer to our bank account.

If numbers have been finalised then late payments will be processed as a credit on your child's account.

**Eileen Dixon**  
**Business Services Manager**

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## FROM THE SPORTS DESK

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### **Pacific Pines Yr 4-7 Cross Country Thursday 18 March**

9:00am Teachers bring classes to the oval with hats and water bottles.  
Students assemble in age groups ready to begin.

**1000m Course:** 1 lap around oval; 1 lap around the course; return to oval to finish.

9yr girls  
9yr boys

**2000m Course:** 1 lap around the oval; 2 laps around the course; return to oval to finish.

10yr girls  
10yr boys

11yr girls  
11yr boys

12/13yr girls  
12/13yr boys

When all students have completed the course in all age groups, students will assemble in class groups and return to class.

The Year 4-7 Cross Country will be finished by 10:50am. Students may wear a shirt in their house colour.

### **Pacific Pines Yr 1-3 Cross Country Friday 19 March**

8:45am Teachers mark rolls, collect tuckshop orders etc, then mark student's hand with year level and house colour.

9:15am Teachers assemble classes on the bottom oval with hats and water bottles. Students assemble in year levels and house groups ready to begin.

**Course:** 1 lap around oval; 1 lap around the course; return to oval to finish.

Yr 3 girls – Hackett, Freeman, Rafter, Norman  
Yr 3 boys – Hackett, Freeman, Rafter, Norman

Yr 2 girls – Hackett, Freeman, Rafter, Norman  
Yr 2 boys – Hackett, Freeman, Rafter, Norman

Yr 1 girls – Hackett, Freeman, Rafter, Norman  
Yr 1 boys – Hackett, Freeman, Rafter, Norman

When all students have completed the course in all age groups, students will assemble in class groups and return to class.

The Year 1-3 Cross Country will be finished by 10:50am. Students may wear a shirt in their house colour.

**Josh Turpin**  
**Physical Education Teacher**

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## LEADERSHIP CAMP

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With heavy clouds and rain forecast a very excited 28 leaders and 3 teachers set off to Uki. The hour and a half bus trip was filled with camera flashes and giggling as we turned into Camp Interaction on the first of March. On arrival our team had their first challenge, to put up their new homes -tents. We met our instructors, Kate and Nathan, and with them we spent the afternoon doing team building activities. With wet and muddy clothes, the leaders had showers before lining up for dinner. After dinner, the 4 student leaders gave an entertaining presentation. The highlight of the night was the Jib jab ice skating routine presented by Mr Slinger and Miss O. It was hard not to notice Mr Slinger's bright red embarrassed face.

We woke on day 2, (Tuesday) to grey clouds and steady drizzle, but this couldn't wash away our excitement. We swung from trees like sugar gliders, built rafts, canoed and walked through rain forests. All of these activities help us get to know each other and our own strengths and weaknesses.

We were very pleased when we woke to sunshine on Wednesday – using maps and clues we did orienteering. Many of us had to face our fears of heights by rock climbing, while the wall looked tall from the ground, your belly really started to churn when you looked down from the top, there was a lot of support and

cheering as each person climbed and abseiled back down. With our bags packed and tents pulled down a sense of sadness could be felt as everyone realised our time together was over. As the bus pulled away we laughed as the rain once again poured down.

While the camp was a serious time for our new leaders to get to know each other and set the goals for the 2010 student council there were also many funny things and interesting facts that we learnt about each other, did you know that.....

### **Funny Fact File:**

Most Slip Overs: Brittny	First Leech: Beth
Cutest Baby Photo: Jon	Ate the most: Jordan
Funniest Laugh: Georgia (snorts)	Messiest Camper: April
Giggler: Amy	Best Singer: Tre
Best Beat Boxer: Laura	Worst Aim: Miss O
Non-stop Talker: Izzy	Reddest Face: Mr Slinger
Eel Supporter: Lachy	Most Hair Product: Sam S
Fear Fighter: Morgan	Morning Hair: Caitlyn
Best Jib Jab Dancer: Mrs Gooley	Quiet Achievers: Emma T & Nicole
Rock Wall Banger: Matt	Raft Idea: Lochie
Most Muddy: Aaron D	Most Showers: Grace
Lost Toothbrush: Chloe	Best Cricket Catch: Sam B
Forgot Undies at Shower: Sara & Emma H	Loudest Norman Supporter: Rachael
King of The Rafts: Jason	Team Player: Jade
Nature's Best Friend: Jamie	

All members of the student council would like to thank Mrs Gooley, Mr Slinger and Miss O for organising and supporting us at the leadership camp. We would also like to thank the 2009 student council who raised half the funds towards our camp and to the school for also contributing to the costs – we had also better thank our parents who are probably still trying to get the mud off our clothes! The 2010 student council are looking forward to sharing with the Pacific Pines Primary parents and community the great things that all our students are doing by having a regular article in the newsletter – look out for the students@PPP section.

**Emma**  
**Vice captain**  
**Pacific Pines Primary School**

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## **SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL WELLBEING MATTERS**

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### **Reducing Test Taking Anxiety**

Test taking anxiety is when a student excessively worries about doing well on a test. This can become a major hindrance on test performance and cause extreme nervousness and memory lapses among other symptoms. The following are tips on reducing test taking anxiety.

- ✓ Being well prepared for the test is the best way to reduce test taking anxiety.
- ✓ Space out your studying over a few days or weeks and continually review class material. Don't try to learn everything the night before.
- ✓ Try to maintain a positive attitude while preparing for the test and during the test.
- ✓ Exercising for a few days before the test will help reduce stress.
- ✓ Get a good night's sleep before the test.
- ✓ Show up to class early so you won't have to worry about being late.
- ✓ Stay relaxed, if you begin to get nervous take a few deep breaths slowly to relax yourself and then get back to work.
- ✓ Read the directions slowly and carefully.
- ✓ If you don't understand the directions on the test, ask the teacher to explain it to you.
- ✓ Skim through the test so that you have a good idea how to pace yourself.
- ✓ Write down important formulas, facts, definitions and/or keywords in the margin first so you won't worry about forgetting them.
- ✓ Do the simple questions first to help build up your confidence for the harder questions.
- ✓ Don't worry about how fast other people finish their test; just concentrate on your own test.
- ✓ If you don't know a question skip it for the time being (come back to it later if you have time), and remember that you don't have to always get every question right to do well on the test.
- ✓ Focus on the question at hand. Don't let your mind wander on other things.

✓ If you're still experiencing extreme test anxiety after following these tips, seek help from your school Guidance Officer.

I hope this is helpful.  
Until next time

**Julie Dixon**  
Guidance Officer

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Working for our future – today



**See where science  
can take you**

**FREE** for Gold Coast Students

- Two sessions per day:  
7 to 10 yrs and 11 to 14 yrs
- Fun, hands on experiments
- Delivered by CSIRO Education

✓ **Limited  
places**  
✓ **Bookings  
essential**

<b>Tuesday 6 April</b> Southport Library Cnr Garden & Lawson Streets, Southport (Free parking in library carpark) 10.00am 7-10 yr olds 1.00pm 11-14 yr olds Theme - Space 2hr sessions	<b>Wednesday 7 April</b> Broadbeach Library 61 Sunrise Blvd, Marmal Waters (Free parking in library carpark) 10.00am 7-10 yr olds 1.00pm 11-14 yr olds Theme - Crime Busting 2hr sessions	<b>Thursday 8 April</b> Nerang Library Cnr White & Price Streets, Nerang (Free parking in library carpark) 10.00am 7-10 yr olds 1.00pm 11-14 yr olds Theme - Rocks & Fossils 2hr sessions	<b>Friday 9 April</b> Elanora Library The Pines Shopping Centre Guineas Creek Road, Elanora (Free parking The Pines Shopping Centre carpark) 10.00am 7-10 yr olds 1.00pm 11-14 yr olds Theme - Cool Chemistry 2hr sessions
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**Book online at [www.techgc.businessgc.com.au](http://www.techgc.businessgc.com.au)**

or for further information phone Raewyn Wise on (07) 5581 7764

**Gold Coast City Council**

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## STUDENT ABSENCES

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Parents/Guardians, please remember to advise the school if your child is absent from school for three days or more. You can do this by using the student absence phone number. If notification is not received your child's absence is recorded as "unexplained". Letters requesting an explanation will be sent to parents/guardians when a child is absent for 3 days or more.

**Student Absence Phone Number (24hrs) 5502 5360**

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## KOOKABURRA TEXT BOOKS FOR SALE

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R.E. activity books for Semester 1 are available for purchase now from the payment window at the office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 8:15-10:00am

Year 1	Beginning with God	\$5.00
Year 2&3	Infant Connect	\$3.00
Years 4&5	Lower Primary Connect	\$3.00
Years 6&7	<del>Upper Primary Connect</del>	<del>\$3.00</del> <b>SOLD OUT</b>
Year 5	Reading Lab 2a-student record book	\$9.05
Year 5	Targeting Maths Dictionary	\$11.20
Year 4	Soundwaves Student Activity Bk.	\$13.85

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

16 & 18 March	School Photographs
18 March	Yrs 4-7 Cross Country
19 March	Yrs 1-3 Cross Country
22 March	Interschool Sport Commences (3 days 22/3, 19/4, 24/5)
25 March	Yr 7 Canberra Trip Information Sharing Evening - 6pm
30 March	Year 7 Culmination morning 9am-11am
<b>1 April</b>	<b>Last Day Term 1</b>
<b>12 April</b>	<b>Student Free Day</b>
<b>13 April</b>	<b>First Day of Term 2</b>

### EXCURSIONS/ACTIVITIES

<i>Year Level</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Excursion/Activity</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Payment Due by</i>
5	29-31 March	Yr 5 Camp to Tyalgum Ridge Retreat	\$225	19 March
6/7	1-3 March	Leadership Camp	\$32	19 March
5/6/7	22 March	Interschool Sport	\$30	19 March
Choir	28 April	Voice Fusion	\$12	26 March
<b>CHESS PAYMENTS FOR TERM 1 DUE NOW \$25</b>				

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