White Card
(Work Safely in the Construction Industry)

Throughout last year we supported a number of students in obtaining their White Cards. If your child plans on working on site, in industry or is in Year 10 and planning on doing Work Experience in these areas THEY WILL HAVE TO HAVE A WHITE CARD. We offer training throughout the year but students can easily obtain this certification at home as well:

What is a White Card?
The CPCOHS1001A - Work Safely in the Construction Industry “White Card” has replaced the old Blue Card, Red Card and Green Cards which are no longer issued. A White Card is a legal requirement for anyone who works, or intends on working, on a construction site.

Where is a White Card Valid?
Although each state and territory issues their own version of the White Card, the course is based on a national standard and all White Cards are nationally recognised.

What does a White Card Course Cover?
A White Card course covers all aspects of safety on site, including identifying construction hazards and control measures, OHS legislative requirements, OHS communication, and incident response procedures.

How do I get a White Card?
• This can be done at home, but students can ask Mr Wiebusch if there is any training on offer at school. We usually run training once each term.
• As of Jan 1st 2015, anyone attempting to get certification, of any kind, must first acquire a USI (Unique Student Identification) number. This can be done easily by going to www.usi.gov.au and following the prompts. You’ll need one piece of ID to do this…Medicare Card seems easiest.
• Then students must access www.narbiltraining.edu.au/white-card anywhere and anytime to complete their training. Average completion time is around 4hrs.
• Once completed and payment is made there are two forms that need to be printed off, filled out and brought back to school.

What does it Cost?
To get a USI number is free and a payment of $39 only needs to be made over the internet once students complete the White Card course successfully. This is the cheapest way to complete the training. Your child will need to prove they are a student at G.S.H.S, otherwise the cost will be up to $55.

We can support you in doing this if necessary, just contact Matt Wiebusch (Youth Support Coordinator) at school if you have any questions.
Quick News

Riverstone Bus Run
The AGM - Riverstone Bus Run Conveyance Committee Wednesday 11th March at 9:30am at Annabelle’s Coffee House.

Year 12 Special Provision
Any year 12 student wishing to apply for special provision for the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test, please see either Mr Jackson or Mrs Dalton for more information.

GSHS Careers Bulletin
GSHS now has available a careers website and fortnightly careers information bulletins. The website is available at www.gladstoneshscareers.com and will be updated regularly. The career information bulletins will be emailed fortnightly to all parents/carers as well as students in Years 10, 11 and 12.

P&C Annual General Meeting
all parents are invited to attend the AGM on the 23rd of March 2015 at 6:30pm followed by a general meeting at 7pm in the Admin Conference Room.

Technical College ‘BIEEC’ Leadership Day

After what seemed to be a never ending bus ride for a few, all were very eager to start the day. We were warmly greeted by staff after arriving at the establishment and gathered in the assembly area where they introduced themselves as David, Ebonny and Michael. They gave us a run-down of the day and rules; split us into three groups and didn’t hesitate to start. The activities consisted of initiative games, problem solving, leadership activities and a high ropes course. Everyone participated and worked as a whole group to compete in activities that challenged our communication, team building and team work skills such as the spider web and tarp volleyball which was held by Ebonny. Michael went through the problem solving activities with the groups to attack a range of hands on activities including the A frame and crate stacker, and then took us through the low ropes course. Lastly, was the high ropes course. David was very encouraging and was great to see that everyone put on a harness, pushed themselves and had a go.

I very much enjoyed the low ropes course as it built up my communication skills and the trust I have in my peers. It was an absolute pleasure having the opportunity to share the experience with my fellow year twelves and we would like to thank the staff of ‘BIEEC’.

Renae D

Words from our Principal Christine Hills

It’s incredible to think that term 1 is now half over. It's going to be a quick trip to the Easter School holidays. You should notice an increase in work expectations for your students at this time of the term as we enter an assessment cycle in many subjects. Year 12 students have only 8 months of school left. It is important that they are focussing on ensuring that when they finish school, they have made the best of their opportunities while they were here – it would be awful to utter the fateful words: “I wish I had… when I was at school.” There are a range of supports in place at State High from classroom teachers to Year Level Co-Ordinators to the Welfare Team, Guidance Officers and many more. Tristan Nietfeld Year 12 Co-Organizer and Brendan Hooley Head of Senior School are first point of contact for all matters related to year 12. I would like to thank Mr Nietfeld for the work he has done preparing for our induction ceremony and in organising the Senior Jerseys for 2015. Mr Hooley organised an information session for all parents of OP eligible students to explain how the processes work so that students have the best chance of gaining the tertiary admission they require. Mr Hooley is also working with our VET students and the Core Skills Test preparation classes.

I was privileged to attend the State Principals Conference last week in Brisbane. The theme of the Conference was Collaborate, Innovate, Elevate. One of the presenters was Dr Adam Fraser, author of The Third Space – how to show up with the right mindset every time. He raised the idea that happiness is counterintuitive and that when we ask people when they were happiest, it is often at the end of a situation that challenged them. Having my first child, gaining a promotion came to mind. He argues that struggle is related to happiness and if people become too entitled, they lose their capacity for happiness. There is, he argues, a difference between happiness and pleasure. He cited the example of the oil rich kingdom of Kuwait where the government paid all their citizen’s debts but the happiness indicators in the kingdom dropped. I was interested, as a mother of 4 children about his notion of resilient children who see struggle not as failure but as an opportunity for development. People who thrive, in his research, see struggle as challenge - not a threat. It’s an important idea – one that many of us probably already understand. It is something that comes to mind when I think of my year 12 students who are on the path to university selection. An information session at State High to explain the OP process to parents and year 12 students. The overarching message was: if you are unsure, we have a number of trained staff who can help you make decisions around course selection, subject choice and Core Skills Test participation. It was affirming to see the number of families represented and certainly is an indication that the parents of State High are very invested in the best outcomes for their students. This week many of our year 7 students went on their first high school camp to North Keppel Island. There would not be many better places to be at this time of the year! The students seemed to return happy if a little tired. I am sure the staff will be the same.

You may wish to contact the school from time to time to discuss an issue, concern or even to let a staff members know they have gone that extra mile for your child. The first point of contact for your child is the teacher concerned.

• Year Level Co-Ordinators work across subject areas and are more appropriate for other issues eg issues in the playground.
• Heads of Department have responsibility for all teachers in their subject area – and are a point of contact if class based issues continue.
• Head of Senior, Head of Junior and Head of Special Education have responsibility for all issues 10-12 and 7-9 and the Special education Program.

Parents are welcome to contact any member of the administration team – Mr Romagnolo – 9,11; Ms Madden - 7,8; Mr Giles – 10,12; or the Principal Mrs Hills. It may be the case though that you will be referred to one of the case managers for your child as they will have the most detail about your child and their program. Using the range of experts about your child may save time and get you the answer or assistance you need more quickly.

It has been a rewarding half term at State High and we look forward to the next weeks as we prepare your child’s first interim report for the year. Enjoy this beautiful weather!

George V.
Careers Corner

Full Time Apprenticeship Opportunity Plumber / Gas Fitter Apprenticeship

GAS WORKS would like to offer the right candidate a structured learning environment which will ensure that you are trained in all areas of plumbing and Gas Fitting. They will provide the best possible learning environment which will ensure you have a great career as fully trained tradesman. We realise that any-time spent training will result in a long term benefit to our company and yourself in your future career. As an apprentice you will need the following attributes;

• Great communication and English skills
• Good Maths Skills
• Positive Attitude
• Willingness to learn and take initiative
• Ability to take instructions by senior staff
• High standards of work ethic and presentation
• Ability to work safely and use common sense
• Hold a current MANUAL driver’s licence and be able to drive manual vehicle

Please forward your cover letter and Resume to Andrew Cowan
Gladstone@gasworks.com.au
Any questions please contact Andrew on 0438 991 532

Applications by 20th March 2015
www.gasworks.com.au

GSHS Volleyball School of Excellence

Gladstone State High’s Volleyball School of Excellence (SOE) has had an explosion this year with the addition of the year 7 girls. 2015 is the first year that a year 7 and 8 specially formed volleyball physical education class has been created for the girls to develop their volleyball skills. Currently, in total, this year, there are approximately 75 girls involved in SOE volleyball.

Trials were held recently for the 14 years, 15 years and Open teams, with these girls now training hard to prepare for the interschool tournament, Queensland tournament, and Nationals in Melbourne in December. The 12 years and 13 years travelling teams will be officially selected in term 2.

The Queensland Volleyball Schools Cup is held in Toowoomba for the senior team in August and in Brisbane for the year 7, 8, 9 and 10 teams in October. Our SOE has traditionally sent the years 9 and 10 teams to both tournaments. All teams who qualify will travel to Melbourne in December.

Congratulations to all girls selected in SOE and good luck with the interschool competition.

This Weeks SWPBS Mission...

LEND A HAND TAKE A STAND!
Careers Corner

Essential Health & Safety Operations
We are currently looking for an Administration Assistant and would like to extend this opportunity to students at Gladstone State High School.

Ideally we are looking for a full time candidate, however we are also open to having a student that does part-time work whilst staying in school. If we went this way, the more time that we can have them in the workplace, the more suitable this is for us.

I am also keen to allow some students through to do work experience if this is an option that we can review.

Please see Senior Schooling in K Block if you are interested.

Kiarna Newton
Essential Health & Safety Group

Senior Schooling
Don't forget Senior Schooling has moved location. Mrs Christopoulos and Mr Hooley and can now be found in K Block.

EBITS Centre
In Semester 2, Year 10 students attend the EBITS Centre on site at Boyne Smelters Limited, to complete a Cert I in Business. During this time they are exposed to an authentic workplace environment, interacting with BSL staff, wearing the required PPE uniform and learning about business procedures.

If you are interested please contact EBITS Centre Coordinator, Tamra Costello via email: tcost25@eq.edu.au

Junior Secondary News

Greetings to our parents, carers and school community

Move over Shakespeare, Tennyson and Keats – there are some new poets in town! Today’s newsletter features poems from Junior Secondary teachers and students.

In line with Gladstone State High’s vision of improving writing, Senior outcomes and connections within and outside of the school, Junior Secondary has been focusing heavily on improving writing across the curriculum. Our Principal has been providing teachers with the focus and high yield strategies to upskill student writing in all areas including English, Science, Humanities, HPE and so on. This will impact not only on academic success in Junior Secondary but will also build a solid foundation for excellence in Senior outcomes.

Of course, some teachers have been having too much fun with this! For example, Year 7 Teacher, Ms Karynne O’Brien, has shared with us a poem about sentences. I’d like to acknowledge the enthusiasm and dedication of our teachers in sharing the love of writing well not only with our students but also with each other.

Sentences Rock!

Let’s build sentences
Because sentences rock!
Use the right sentences
And your writing will pop!
There are simple, compound and complex,
Yes! Just three!
So have a go using them because it’s really easy.
Simple is basic, it only has one verb,
It’s good for excitement
Or spreading the simple word.
Compound is friendly,
It brings simples together,
By using conjunctions,
Like FANBOYS or wherever.

So now we know two out of three,
We are almost there,
But complex can be tricky
So pull up a chair!
Okay, so simple makes sense
on its own, right?
Now complex uses simple
but then blows it out of sight!
Complex adds a phrase
that won’t make sense alone,
It needs a simple sentence
for meaning to be honed,
So now you know your sentences,
Let’s give sentences a try,
Mix them up,

By Karynne O’Brien

Then we have our student poets – a group of boys who are regular attendees of our lunchtime Board Games group wrote the following poem in their second week of school. It is excellent to see the students responding so positively to our programmes which are set in place to develop strong connections in our school.

Chappy Chat!

For two days this week I will join with the Year 7 camp activities. I had a fabulous time with Tuesday’s groups enjoying Team Challenges and taking water samples and it was inspiring to watch the interest and respect the students had for each other and their teacher.

On Wednesdays I’m facilitating Team work challenges with 3 groups of students. We planted seeds approximately three weeks ago, and it was interesting to relate growing a garden with our own lives. We discussed such ideas as

• “What grows is what you put into it and what you let others put into it.”
• “If you don’t look after your garden, weeds will grow.”
• And Seeds take time to grow. Be patient – just keep doing what you need to do.

Our team challenge highlighted that when things don’t work out the first time, just keep trying:
One step at a time and never give up.

If you wish to discuss any issues, you are welcome to contact me on 49766162. Have a great week,

Yvonne
GSHS Core Values

Values
To empower students to reach their full potential through quality learning experiences in a supportive and challenging school environment.

Responsibility
- Give your best
- Be dependable
- Make appropriate choices
- Be fair • Have a go
- Take your opportunity to lead, otherwise be a good team member

Excellence
- Doing your best
- Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable
- Try hard
- Keep trying and pursue excellence
- Expect high standards

Respect
- Value yourself and others
- Respect your environment
- Act and speak courteously to everyone
- Be kind to animals
- Foster good relationships
- Foster school pride

Honesty
- Be truthful and sincere
- Be trustworthy
- Admit your mistakes
- Learn by your mistakes
- Seek truth, good and right

Safety
- Look out for yourself and others
- Practise safe and hygienic habits
- Follow the rules

2015 Gladstone High School Musical

It’s that time of year, yes it is,
Where we put up forms for all of the kids.
Invitations to be part of our crew,
There’s a job for everyone, there’s lots to do.

Auditions begin this week, right now,
Lead roles go first; we want fun, song and kapow!
Next will be Chorus for those who act or sing.
Followed by dancers, in week 8 to fling and swing.

If you want to be a part of this wonderful event,
Sign up outside the Arts Staffroom with your intent.
The Band, backstage, sets may be of interest,
Memories to be made, when all invest.

Welcome, welcome one and all,
To our 2015, GSHS Musical.

All students from years 7 to 12 are welcome to be a part of our show. All students are to audition, either individually for lead roles or in small groups for chorus members. Traditionally we invite only years 10 – 12 to audition for lead roles.

Beginning in term 2 the commitment is basically – Thursday and Sunday afternoons, including some lunch times. The show will run in term 3 - 31st July (Friday night) and 1st August (Saturday night), with a school matinee showing Friday during the day.

Any questions regarding the musical are welcome. Either call me directly or email ppitt1@eq.edu.au .

Good luck everyone for the audition process,
Peta Pitt (Arts Head of Department and Musical Director).

SCHOOL PAYMENTS
PLEASE BE AWARE THAT EFTPOS TRANSACTIONS HAVE A LIMIT OF $10

Gladstone High School

Dates to Remember
16th - 20th March 2015
Year 11 Exam Week
23rd - 27th March 2015
Year 12 Exam Block
31st March 2015
Cross Country
2nd April 2015
LAST DAY OF TERM 1
3rd - 19th April 2015
Easter Holidays
20th April 2015
SCHOOL COMMENCES

Student Absence Notification

Student Name: ____________________________
Care Group: ____________________________
Date: ____ / ____ / ____
Reason (Circle): Sick  Personal  Family  Other
Date: ____ / ____ / ____
Reason (Circle): Sick  Personal  Family  Other
Date: ____ / ____ / ____
Reason (Circle): Sick  Personal  Family  Other
Parent’s Signature: ____________________________

Parents are required to authorise all student absences. This can be done by the following ways:

- Email – absentees@gladstonshs.eq.edu.au
- Phone: 49766158
- Written Note
- Notification Slip found in Newsletter (to the left of this article)
- Text Messaging Only – 0407 096 034 (reply only to school text message)

Details that need to be included on each of these are:
• Student’s Full Name
• Care Class
• Date/s
• Reason

SCHOOL COMMENCES

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