

NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 9 25 March 2021 646 Beenleigh Road, Runcorn Q 4113 PO Box 3185, Sunnybank South Q 4109 Website: <u>www.runcornss.eq.edu.au</u> Email: admin@runcornss.eq.edu.au

Phone: (07) 3323 8777

"Honest Endeavour"

From the Principal...

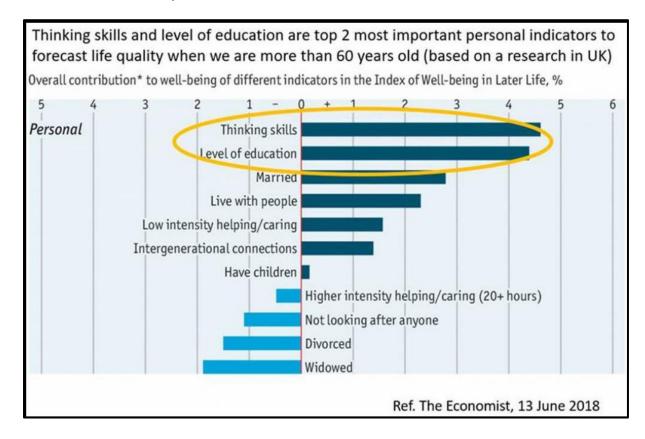
Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the last newsletter for the term. I wish all the students a safe and restful break. For those who celebrate Easter, wishing you a Happy Easter.

This term schools returned to the new normal after a year of many changes. It has been good to get back to our real business. We welcomed parents back onto school grounds, participated in events like the Cross Country and Gala Days and met parents face to face during three-way reporting.

Thank you to the volunteers who have returned with enthusiasm and determination to help in classrooms, excursions or in other areas of the school. We value your contribution.

This term we also introduced inquiry learning into some cohorts. This methodology of teaching and learning will be rolled out across the school over two years. Your children are being asked to think deep, tackle provocation and ask questions that evoke deep responses. Thank you to the parents who attended the parent workshop. The discussion and engagement were fabulous. As a result of the workshop, this research was sent to us by one of the parents. We will conduct another similar workshop next term.



R U N C O R

S



A strength of Runcorn is its diversity. This diversity was celebrated on Friday 19 March with many students coming dressed in their national clothes. Celebrating Harmony Day extends to understanding and respecting differences of all kinds. **We all belong.** This ethos should be evident in every aspect of our livers: in the classroom,



playground, pick-up, shops... Our *Student Code of Conduct* and *You Can Do It* supports the rights of each person as a valued member of our community. Each of us have the ability to ensure that our actions are safe, respectful and responsible.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Ms Emily Donoghue** for her work with 5D. Emily's contract will end at the end of Term 1 and a teacher, permanent to the department will be joining our school for the rest of the year.

Parade

From Term 2 parade will be split for the lower and upper school as it was in 2020. Prep to Year 1 will have their parade on odd weeks and Years 3-6 will be on even weeks. Our numbers have grown and this arrangement helps to make parade a calmer and more enjoyable experience for everyone.

Advancing Clean Energy for Schools

The Advancing Clean Energy for Schools (ACES) program is a departmental program aimed at reducing energy costs across state schools through the installation of solar and energy efficient measures. Our school has been tagged and the installation of solar panels will begin 29 March 2021 (approximately). The panels will be installed on the roof of C and D Block. The school will work with the project officers to minimise any disruption to learning.

Michelle D'Netto

From the Deputy Principal...

Historian

This year Runcorn State School celebrates 120 years. We are seeking a Volunteer from the community that is interested in archiving our historical records and items. Please contact Roberta Matlock for more information.

A Message about Cybersafety and Reputation Management

As Parents / Carers you play an important role in helping your children have safe and positive experiences online.

The internet, mobile phones and instant messaging provide opportunities for children to learn, be creative and socialise online. However, the online environment also provides numerous opportunities for harm to be caused to children. Our school is aware of the risks to children in the online environment and this message is to advise you of our efforts in respect to keeping your child safe online. There are a number of potential risks and concerns for students when communicating online. These include accessing and posting inappropriate content, cyberbullying, oversharing, and engaging in conversations with persons they do not know in the real world.











The school recognises students access various social media sites and apps via personal electronic devices and home networks. The school is not responsible for monitoring your child's compliance with social media apps, website age requirements and terms and conditions.

It is unacceptable for students at our school to engage in cyberbullying, or other inappropriate online behaviours. Our school's ICT Acceptable Use Agreement and Student Code of Conduct are found at the bottom of the school website front page https://runcornss.eq.edu.au/ and provides written guidelines on acceptable online behaviour by students. If an online incident negatively impacts on the good order and management of the school, the school may impose disciplinary consequences for this behaviour. This could include suspension and/or exclusion in serious cases. In serious cases the school may also report an incident to the police.

It is recommended that you discuss with your child the importance of engaging in safe and positive online behaviours and that you highlight the importance of being a responsible digital citizen. Help your child to take steps to block anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable, harassed or bullied. If your child is connected to any social networking site, reviewing their 'friends list' and adding them as a friend yourself may help you manage their safety and reduce the risk of them associating with inappropriate contacts.

Parents / Carers should check that children are accessing sites and apps that are age appropriate. For example, Facebook, Instagram, Discord, Tik Tok and Snapchat require a user to be at least 13 years of age to create an account. As children approach this age, pressure from friends to create accounts may intensify. Encourage your child to always ask permission before using a new website or downloading a new app. If your child has created a social media account and they do not meet the age requirements, it is recommended that you work with your child to remove all posted content and deactivate the account.

For more information about age requirements, app functionality, and reporting options, click on the help sections on these common social media website or app.	To better support your child's technology use at home, you may wish to visit the below websites which contain valuable advice and resources:
 https://help.instagram.com/ https://www.facebook.com/help http://support.tiktok.com/ https://support.snapchat.com Discord Terms of Service. 	 https://www.esafety.gov.au http://www.staysmartonline.gov.au https://www.thinkuknow.org.au

The Department of Education has recently published the document 'Online awareness: Information for parents and caregivers'. This guide provides important information for parents about cybersafety and cyberbullying. It suggests what actions parents and caregivers can take if their child is the target of or is responsible for inappropriate online behaviour. The guide is available at:

https://behaviour.education.qld.gov.au/resources-publications/Documents/cyberbullying-parents-caregivers-guide.pdf

Roberta Matlock

From the Teaching & Learning Coach...



Runcorn State School Hat Parade

Join us for an end of term Hat Parade on Wednesday, 31 March at 2:30pm. Students in Prep and Years One and Two will parade through our school showing off the decorative hats they have created at home. The parade will start at 2:30pm at Girraween Place. We ask that parents in attendance please social distance around the pathways.

Rachel La Sala

Runcorn State School Hat Parade

When: Wednesday 31 March 2021

Time: 2:30pm

Students in Prep-Year 2

Where: Students will parade around the school

starting in Girraween Place

Bring your most creative hat from home to model during the parade.



U N C O R N

2021 Term Dates

Term	DATES
1	27 January to 1 April
2	19 April to 25 June
3	12 July to 17 September
4	5 October to 10 December

Dates of Significance – Term 1

DAY	DATE	EVENT
Fri	26 Mar	Parent Workshop – Early Years Reading, 8:45am
Fri	26 Mar	Prep 2022 School Tour, 9:30am
Fri	26 Mar	P&C Disco, 5:30pm – 7:30pm (Volunteers required – Parents must be present with the children
Tues	30 Mar	P&C Easter Fundraiser Delivery
Wed	31 Mar	Macgregor State High School Drama Performance Incursion (Years 4 – 6)
Wed	31 Mar	District Cross Country
Wed	31 Mar	Hat Parade, Prep to Year 2, 2:30pm
Thur	1 April	Last Day of Term 1
<u>Da</u>	tes of S	Significance – Term 2
<u>Da</u>	tes of \$	Significance – Term 2 EVENT
DAY	DATE	EVENT
DAY Mon	DATE 19 Apr 19 Apr	EVENT First Day of Term 2
DAY Mon Mon	DATE 19 Apr 19 Apr	EVENT First Day of Term 2 P&C Meeting, 6:30pm
Mon Mon Tues	DATE 19 Apr 19 Apr 20 Apr	EVENT First Day of Term 2 P&C Meeting, 6:30pm Payment Closing Date – Yr 4 & 5 Japanese Tea Ceremony Incursion

Dates of Significance - Term 2

DAY	DATE	EVENT
Mon	19 Apr	First Day of Term 2
Mon	19 Apr	P&C Meeting, 6:30pm
Tues	20 Apr	Payment Closing Date - Yr 4 & 5 Japanese Tea Ceremony Incursion
Fri	23 Apr	ANZAC Day Ceremony, 10am
Mon	26 Apr	ANZAC Public Holiday
Tues	27 Apr	Yr 4 & 5 Japanese Tea Ceremony Incursion
Tues	30 Apr	Prep 2022 School Tour, 9:30am
Mon	3 May	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wed	5 May	Yr 3 Planetarium Excursion
Thur	6 May	Mothers Day Stall
Fri	7 May	Mothers Day Stall
Fri	14 May	Prep 2022 School Tour, 9:30am
Mon	17 May	P&C Meeting, 6:30pm
Wed	26 May	Sorry Day
Thur	3 June	MABO Day
Tues	15 June	Strings Family Afternoon, 3:30pm
Tues	22 June	Junior Athletics
Wed	23 June	Senior Athletics
Thur	24 June	Senior Athletics
Fri	25 June	Prep 2022 School Tour, 9:30am
Fri	25 June	Last Day of Term 2

From the Admin Team...

Cashless School

The school is now a cashless school. Our preferred methods of payment are BPoint and Direct Transfer.

Beginning of Year Forms

All students have received Beginning of Year Forms. This package contains:-

- Change of Details Form
- Student Medical Details Form
- SRS Participation Agreement Form (see below)
- State School Consent Form
- IT Web Consent Form.

Please complete these forms in black or blue ink and return to your child's Class Teacher as soon as possible.

Student Resource Scheme (SRS) 2021

Thank you to those parents who have already sent through payments. If you participate in this scheme, your students will receive resources provided by the school and they will have access to these for the school year. If you wish to pay the scheme in instalments, please contact the office to arrange a payment plan.

If you do not wish to participate in this scheme, forms still need to be signed and returned and parents will need to provide the necessary items.

Medical Conditions

If you have indicated upon enrolment that your child has certain medical conditions, the school will require prescribed medication as well as an accompanying health action plan tailored to the child. If you require any further information, please contact the school office.

Music Matters

Senior Choir- Timetable and Anzac Day Ceremony

Senior Choir rehearsals will continue the fortnightly roster in Term 2 until we are advised of a change of COVID restrictions from the Department of Education.

Due to the current COVID restrictions it has been decided that the **Year 6 and 5 members** of the Senior Choir will perform for the Anzac Day ceremony. This will be held Week 1 Friday 23rd April.

A friendly reminder that the performance uniform is now the school Formal uniform and this will be worn on the day.

Could all Year 5s from Group B please join Group A for the Week 1 rehearsal.

Term 1 Senior Choir Roster Wednesday 8am	
Group A	Group B
Week 9	
24 March	
	Week 10
	31 March



Term 2 Senior Choir Roster Wednesday 8am	
Week 1 21 April All Year 6 and Year 5	
	Week 2 28 April
Week 3 5 May	
	Week 4 12 May
Week 5 19 May	
	Week 6 26 May
Week 7 2 June	
	Week 8 9 June
Week 9 16 June	
	Week 10 23 June

Mariel Hopper - Music Teacher mxhop2@eq.edu.au

From the Strings Teacher

The String Students have certainly had a very busy few weeks practising and undertaking their assessment. I am extremely proud of all Students and what they have achieved. Everyone has certainly done their best - Congratulations!!



Below are some of the techniques for practicing that Students have learnt over the past Term:

- Practice "often" and "slowly." Playing at a slower tempo helps get the music ingrained in your body. It can be easy in performance situations to play too fast due to nerves.
- Focus on challenging passages and set goals.
- Relax and "Tell a story or paint a picture." Having perfect technique is great, but what's really important is the emotion and the story you're telling with the music.

Year 3 String News

Thank you to all Year 3 String Students for their dedication. Students have shown constant improvement and commitment to playing their instruments well. Well done!!

Year 3 are currently working on:

- Setting up their bow hold and practising exercises that strengthen their fingers.
- Setting up their left hands and learning the different notes that each finger produces.

These are big parts in putting together the "Puzzle of String playing" and need to be done correctly in how they look and feel (no tension).



Finally I would like to say a huge congratulations to all String Students on your attendance at rehearsals. It has been fantastic to see Students attend rehearsals on time; with a smile and ready to participate by 7:40 am! Thank



you to our String Captains, Cass and Arna, who come in earlier and set up and help Ensemble players get prepared!! Thank you Parents for helping us get to rehearsals and be organised.

Until next time, have a safe and happy holiday everyone! Andrew Biedermann abied1@eg.edu.au

A Therapy Dog for Runcorn?











We are currently considering the implementation of a therapy dog at Runcorn State School due to the overwhelming benefits such an initiative can have on staff and student wellbeing, as well as on learning outcomes.



As a growing body of research has demonstrated the positive effects of animal-assisted therapy, there has been an increase of the implementation of such programs in schools Australia-wide. In line with this, we have begun our own inquiries as to how this may benefit our Runcorn community. Some of our findings are listed below:-

Current Research

- Studies have shown that the presence of companion animals can improve the well-being of children and lower anxiety levels, simply by making the environment happier and more enjoyable.
- Dogs in the classroom can be used to calm fears, relieve anxieties and teach interpersonal and social skills.
- School attendance, motivation to participate in activities and increases in reading and writing levels have also been explored as positive attributes to having a support dog in schools.

Experiences in School Context

- A visit has taken place to a local primary school where a school dog is already successfully in place. This school shared with us their experience about the positive impact the dog has had across the school and we were able to see interactions with students in various classes.
- Discussions with puppy raisers, principals and guidance officers at schools with such programs in Logan and Redcliffe have also demonstrated positive implementation over several years. The benefits for staff and students were consistently raised.
- A full risk assessment would be part of the implementation, alongside staff and community consultation.
- Research, information and discussions have been presented at both the School Council and P&C. Support has been given in principle at both of these forums.







- Research into suitable breeds of dog have been conducted. Of most importance will be that of the dog's temperament and that of its parents, so that it is suitable for interactions with children. Supporting statements from breeders and trainers have been gained. Hypoallergenic breeds such as Labradoodles and Cobberdogs have been considered.
- It is understood that a therapy dog undertakes specific training to become a certified 'therapy dog' and is regularly tested for health, obedience and temperament. Suitable trainers and costings have been explored.
- Information about immunisation, hygiene and dog health have been sought.



Ownership of the Therapy Dog

- A responsible owner for the dog has been considered. This will ensure that the dog is well cared for when it is not working. It would live as part of a family and attend regular puppy school, manners and obedience training which will ensure appropriate socialisation and development.
- A designated member of staff would always be present during any interaction with pupils.

Please read the following article if you'd like to know more behind the benefits of such a strategy in schools:

Dogs in the Classroom Improve SEL, Cognitive, and Even Reading Skills – What the research shows

If you would like to comment on this proposal, please email jscho128@eq.edu.au

Julie Schooth Class Teacher

Student Absence Line

To advise the school of your child's absence, please text your child's name, class and reason and length of absence to:

0429 928 611 (save this number to your phone)

or leave your message on (07) 3323 8777, Option 1.

Due to the Department of Education's procedures regarding student protection and safety, it is the Parents'/Carers' responsibility to notify the school every day their student is absent. If you do not advise the school of your child's absence, Parents/Carers will receive a notification stating your child has been marked absent and to please provide an explanation for the absence.

Student Absence Line fridge magnets are available.

If you have misplaced yours, please collect one from the office.





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<u>Year 4 Excursion – Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre</u> 12/3/2021

By Alvin

About two weeks ago we went on an excursion to Moreton Bay. At this bay we studied the ecosystem and the reliance of many living organisms such as mangroves, crabs, fish and birds. They rely on each other to grow and reproduce. This mostly happens through consumption of other living things.

We mainly studied Mangroves and how important their roles are. They can decrease the occurrence of erosion of the shore. To add on we also rode on a speed boat named 'Inspiration' to study crabs and plankton. We used powerful microscopes to examine the microscopic living organisms. We identified and sketched the plankton.









I, myself think this excursion was excellent and educational especially the speed boat.



It was exciting when we became young ecologists and studied these new scientific terms and concepts.

GARDEN CLUB

We would like to thank the Runcorn community for the donations of Woolies Discovery seeds and assistance on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. A special thank you to the 'Garcia' family for the donation of seedlings, gloves and tools. We have planted seeds in the prep gardens and are looking to move around the school to plant more seeds in bare garden beds. Further donations and helpers are certainly welcome.



Jenni McNamara & Mary Whittred

From the Prep Teachers

Key Dates Prep 2021/2022

School Tours	Friday 26/3/2021 Week 9, Term 1
	Friday 30/4/2021 Week 6, Term 2
9:30am – 10:00am	Friday 25/6/2021 Week 10, Term 2
RSVP to the office	Friday 6/8/2021 Week 4, Term 3
3323 8777	Friday 17/9/2021 Week 10, Term 3
Prep 2022	Thursday 13/5/2021 Week 4, Term 2 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Information Sessions	Thursday 5/8/2021 Week 4, Term 3 5:30pm – 6:30pm
Get to Know You	Week 3, Term 4
Sessions	Wednesday 20 th October 2021
	Thursday 21 st October 2021 Friday 22 nd October 2021
Pre-Prep Sessions	4 sessions over 4 days
•	Friday 22/10/2021
	Friday 29/10/2021 Friday 5/11/2021
	Friday 12/11/2021
	9:30am – 10:30am
Orientation Day	Wednesday 17 th November 2021 Thursday 18 th November 2021
	Friday 19 th November 2021
	9:15am – 10:30am
January Prep 2022	Friday 21 st January 2022
Parent Information	Time TBA

Prep 2022

P&C News...

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Monday 15 March. This is how your committee looks for 2021.



Position	Name	Email
President	Mrs Debbie Linford	rsspcpresident@outlook.com
Vice President – Operations & Business	Mrs Zoee Forder	rsspcvicepresident@outlook.com
Vice President - Community	Mr Ashley Szarka	rsspcevents@outlook.com
Treasurer	Mrs Angela Gadsby	rsspctreasurer@outlook.com
Secretary	Mrs Nadera Kingsley	rsspcsecretary@outlook.com
Uniform Shop	Mrs Zoee Forder	rssuniform@outlook.com
Events/Fundraising	Mr Ashley Szarka	rsspcevents@outlook.com
Fence Signage	Mrs Renae Powell	advertise@runcornss.eq.edu.au

Disco

We are excited to announce that our first disco for the year will be held on **Friday 26**th **March 2021** on the Basketball court. The fun starts at 5:30pm and the theme is **Celebration**. For this event to be a success we need volunteers! Please email rsspcevents@outlook.com if you can help on the night.



To ensure we adhere to COVID-19 restrictions all attendees must pre-book. Please log onto Flexi schools, scroll down to Events, select your student and purchase your tickets. If we have to postpone the event due to wet weather all tickets will be refunded.

EASTER HOMESTYLE BAKE

Our Easter fundraising with Homestyle bake is now closed. Delivery will be to the School on Tuesday 30 March 2021, pick up will be available from 2:45pm in the Science Lab.

Tuckshop

Harmony Day Cupcakes

We had 217 cupcakes ordered and the 10 lucky rainbow cupcake winners were Alice, Cooper, Soren, Ellie, Aisha, Phoenix, Lorenzo, Isabella, Isaac and Yusuf. Thank you to everyone that supported this fundraiser.



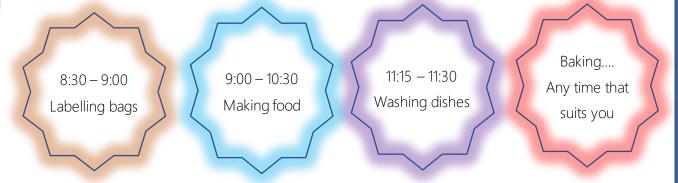




Volunteers

N C O R

Our Tuckshop relies on the generosity of volunteers to make it a success, and to offer students and staff an extensive menu 5 days a week. To help make the load lighter for our Convenor, we need as many helpers as we can get – Mums, Dads, and Grandparents. This year we have lost some of our dedicated Tuckshop Volunteers due to their children moving on to high school. Volunteering in the Tuckshop on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis is a great opportunity to participate in the school community and meet other parents. If you can spare as little as 30 minutes after school drop-off, or a couple of hours from 9am-11am, please contact Jodie at tuckshop@runcornss.eq.edu.au or via the Runcorn P&C Facebook Page. We have a variety of jobs available.



Flexi Schools

The preference is for the Tuckshop to continue to provide **online orders only.** Students may purchase ice blocks, ice creams and other frozen treats only at first break. We strongly encourage you to order afternoon tea online, as afternoon tea over the counter sales are dependent on having volunteers to serve. Ice blocks can continue to be ordered online and picked up by your child from the tuckshop. Please refer to Flexi schools for more information.

Don't forget the Tuckshop still offers cupcakes or ice blocks for any special celebration. These can be ordered on Flexi schools and **must** be ordered at least 3 days in advance. Please see the birthday option in the Flexi schools app. No over the phone or over the counter orders can be taken.

Give us your feedback

The P&C are in the process of reassessing our current meeting times and require your input. Our goal is to hold P&C meetings at a time most convenient for our community. Please help us by taking the time to complete the short survey attached by using this link https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R79LXKD, or this QR Code.





Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open by appointment only. Please use this QR Code to book your appointment. We will continue with the online ordering via email rssuniform@outlook.com and we will deliver your order to your child's classroom as soon as we can.

If you have any old uniforms that you would like to donate please send them in with your child and let us know via email (rssuniform@outlook.com) and we will collect from their classroom.

We currently have for sale the old style dress & skort at dramatically reduced prices. For a limited time only, the old style dress will be on sale for the incredible price of \$10, and the skort for \$5. We have limited stock in all sizes so be sure to get in quick to avoid disappointment! Orders can be made via email: rssuniform@outlook.com. These uniforms can be worn until the end of the 2021 school year.

Facebook

Don't forget to like us on Facebook *Runcorn State School P&C Association* to stay up to date on everything!!

Debbie Linford, President, Parents & Citizens Association,

Runcorn State School, E: rsspcpresident@outlook.com

Student Banking...

School Banking Day is every **Monday**. If Monday is a Public Holiday, then banking will occur on **Tuesday**. If you would like to become a School Banking Coodinator Volunteer, please contact the office.

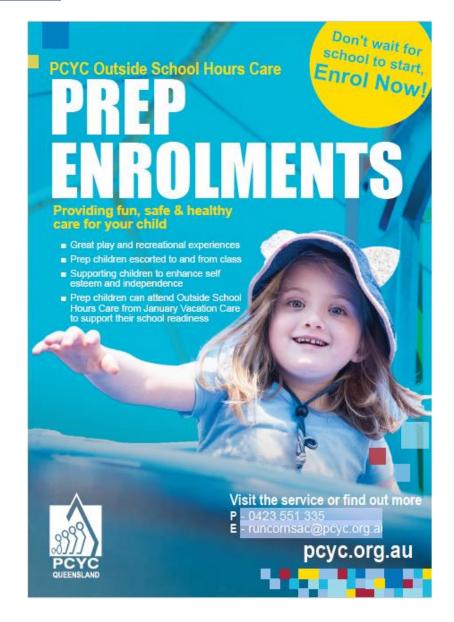








Community News...



TOPCHESS

- **Q** 0425 313 282
- alexstahnke@topchess.com.au
- www.topchess.com.au

SCHOOL LESSONS

Coaching days & time: Tuesday afternoons (3:05 – 3:50pm).

Venue: Classroom C6 – Runcorn State School. **Dates:** 2021, Term 1 – February 9 to March 30. **Price:** \$100 per student (8 week Topchess Program).

Notes: Suitable for Prep to Grade 6. Book in any time and only pay for the remaining weeks. All members will be sent the Topchess Covid 19 Safe

Plan and are reminded of the requirements during class.







Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.



lessons & activities

books & supplies camps & excursions







Enrol Now!

Enrolment Applications for 2022 are now being accepted. Enrolment Applications can be found on the school website or be collected from and submitted to SSHS Administration Office between 9am-3:30pm, Monday to Friday.



Boorman St, Sunnybank QLD 4109

(07) 3323 8111

office@sunnybankshs.eq.edu.au

- Many Ways to Excellence -

ATTEND ONE OF OUR UPCOMING **SCHOOL TOURS**

Open Morning Tours

9:15am - 10:10am

Twilight Tours 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Friday 30 April Friday 7 May

Tuesday 20 April Tuesday 27 April

SPACE TO

RSVP for all tours: info@hollandparkshs.eq.edu.au

A boutique High School for discerning parents



