Behind all earthly events spiritual beings are working. And so it is with every season of the year that an archangelic being is seen to be associated, behind the scenes, with the phenomena of the particular season. During the autumn time the powerful figure of Michael is the being active in the heavens, bringing showers of meteoric iron to counteract the increased sulphuric activity which the earth has breathed into the cosmos [macrocosm], and into our energetic human blood system [microcosm], during the summer.

As the flourishing, energetic bloom of summer begins to fade into Autumn, we may experience a list into lethargy; a desire to drift with dying, waning nature. But Michael is there, available to offer us strong will and a vigorous consciousness to resist the slide. Michael can provide us with the sword to battle against our own waywardness and lack of focus: our own dragon. Michael is available to wake us up if only we are prepared to raise him sufficiently into our consciousness.

This is the purpose of our Michael Festival in the Autumn, for children and adults alike. The energy and presence of the High School students focusing their vibrant energy into fine-tuned vocals and instrumental music; the joy and enthusiasm of the Primary School children engaging in the 'Dragon Play' performance and again singing and reciting wholeheartedly the traditional and well known songs and dramatic lines. The younger children never tire of the roles, always eagerly anticipating what they will be 'next year' and then coming fresh and excited to their new role in each succeeding year. This is the wonder and challenge of this festival, to follow a well established format but to refresh it and invigorate the will anew each and every time [as we attempt to do with the morning verse each and every morning]. Can we find new wonder in the repetition while at the same time finding the capacity to experience the subtle, changing richness of each festival as a 'first time' event. This is the challenge of this autumn season and Michael is most powerfully there, available to assist us if only we seek his guidance.

Alan Drysdale (Autumn Festival Director)
INTRODUCING NEW STAFF

Eleanor Streatfeild – Cello Teacher in the Primary School

Eleanor began learning cello at a young age whilst living overseas with her family. Her first cello teacher was Ralph Lee, a talented linguist from the UK. After moving to Australia, her studies eventually continued with Anthea Scott-Mitchell in Newcastle, with whom she completed her Bachelor in Music (performance) and was awarded the Valmer Barker memorial prize for strings. Since then she has performed across Australia, China, and Europe, touring with the Australian Youth Orchestra and regionally as a soloist with Sydney International piano competition winner Konstantin Shamray.

During her tenure with the New England Conservatorium in Armidale, she had the privilege of conducting several ensembles, performing with local composers and musicians, touring with the 'Chamber Music in Schools' program and performing interactive concerts with students from small farming communities. She has also studied with Zoe Knighton (cellist with Flinders Quartet in Melbourne) and David Lale (principal cellist with QSO), as well as performing in master classes for Li Wei Chin, Marta Sudraba, and Yanis Laurs. Eleanor has also completed postgraduate studies in Applied Linguistics.

ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Lost Property
Don’t forget to check the lost property baskets before you go on holidays. Any items left after the end of Term 1 will be donated to charity.
Joan, Judy & Mercedes

OSHC - VACATION CARE BOOKINGS

Vacation Care Bookings due by Monday 31 March
If you are interested in booking Vacation Care, please fill in the booking form and return to OSHC by Monday 31 March. Phone bookings cannot be accepted. To get a copy of the booking form and program, please click on the links in the newsletter email.
Kylie Turner

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Anyone who had the good fortune to attend Assembly on Tuesday would have been impressed with the singing and recorder playing of Class 6 and amazed by the Eurythmy of Classes 6 & 7. Class 7 in particular went through a series of copper rod exercises blindfolded following an introduction about Helen Keller and Annie Sullivan. The surprise performance by the Teacher Recorder Ensemble was also well received by the children. It was so good that the teachers overcame some nerves and undertook this task so that they could experience first hand how the children may feel when they are called upon to present. Next term Assemblies will be held on Tuesdays in weeks 4, 6 & 8.

This week Carla shares some of her work with Class 6 and Alan has written an article for the Dragon Play on the last day of term. Seems to have gone very quickly!

Dan Freeman, an experienced Steiner Teacher and Administrator from New Zealand, has been at school all week working with teachers and continuing his work with Bothmer Gymnastics. Movement is an essential part of the education. On Wednesday evening he also spoke about
discipline and today at the PAFA Parent Education talk he addressed the theme of Bothmer Gymnastics.

With the last week of term we ask all the families to contribute a food donation to the charity *Communify* as a way of showing gratitude. Each class has a basket and we ask that students bring in one or two non-perishable food items and a harvest fruit or vegetable by Tuesday 31 March. Class 7 will create a mandala from all this produce which is usually acknowledged during the rehearsal for the Dragon Play. The food is then distributed to those in need. Thanks for supporting this worthwhile activity and encouraging your children to think about others.

One week until the Festival!

*Chris Jack*

*Education Administrator*

**CLASS 6 NEWS**

![Image of a mandala]

**O ROMA NOBILIS, ORBIS ET DOMINA......and so Class 6 marched into the year.**

The Roman Main Lesson for the year started with a recapitulation of the epochs from ancient India to Greece in particular contrasting the eastern cultures with those of Greece. The mythological view of the earthly order as perceived by the ancient cultures in contrast to the development of rational thought and a chronological view of the past eventually leading to philosophy. With the advent of the Roman period, human beings began to turn their attention to the earthly, the practical and the workable.

We began our study of Rome with the story of Aeneas who founded the settlement of Alba Longa from whose line of kings come Romulus and Remus, the legendary founders of Rome proper. We looked in our stories at the expansion of Rome, the Punic wars and Hannibal. We also explored what life was like in Rome and we recreated, out of clay and plasticine, a large model of Rome in the classroom. Out of the stories the children learned that some of the greatest of Roman achievements were the organisation and effectiveness of the army, their skills in building and engineering and their developments in law and government. The children also delighted in recreating the Roman Senate in the classroom and debating for and against the right of the plebeians to their land. There was much opinion and passion in the discussion!
We then moved onto a Business Main Lesson Block and here the children reviewed their knowledge of working with decimals before we moved onto working with money in calculating percentages and simple interest. This was brought out of the context of the origins of the first banking system that originated with the Knights Templar. The children were quite fascinated to hear the stories of how this came about and how it has transformed over the hundreds of years to what we have today with our banking systems where it is mostly electronic. Several parents volunteered their time to talk to the class about their own businesses. This opened up discussion around the morality of business and working with money.

Our final Main Lesson for the term is our first science main lesson for the year - Geology. This is approached as the earth being a living being, where all its systems and organs are interconnected. The various rock forms are not studied in isolation but are connected to what the children can experience in their surroundings area. The children are told stories about the surrounding landscape where we live and work and how this landform could have transformed and come into being what it is now. The children thoroughly enjoyed recreating sedimentary layers of the earth with the help of 3 different types of sand, water, a bucket and fossils. Equally, but more dramatically so, the building of clay volcanoes that then were made to "erupt" has so far been the highlight of this Main Lesson. In Term 2 we continue this experience with our class camp to Girraween.

Warmest wishes

Carla Deiana

PRESCHOOL NEWS - STAR GOLD AND BRIAR ROSE

In reflection, it has been a wonderful first term as the both groups have gently taken form. It has been delightful for us to watch how easily the children seemed to have settled in; happily cooking, exploring, playing and creating – both indoors and out. Our primary goal in the first term is to foster security, familiarity and ease separation anxiety. Ever so gently the younger part-time Stars and Rosebuds have settled into the weekly rhythm, are being the best helpers and slowly forming new friendships.
The older fulltime children made the transition back into their second year with enthusiasm and gusto. The Suns and Blossoms (Preps) are merging as one, it is hard to for us to remember which children were in the Mon/Tues or Thurs/ Fri groups. Very excited to now be the ‘older’ children, experiencing being at school for 5 days per week and staying for the afternoon program. Over the term they have grown more confident and are keen to help the Star and Rosebud (Pre-Prep) children find their way around. Now as the first term nears its end, the initial uncertainty of starting school has settled into security as the children are joyfully engaging in the circle songs, artistic activities, stories and games.

The highpoint in the Preschool this term was certainly our Autumn Festival last week. Preparations began from Week 5 with the Star Apple morning circle and new Autumn songs and stories. Through gestures and rhymes the children were dreamily reminded that Autumn is the time that we thank Summer for her warmth and light and begin our journey to harvest her gifts of fruit and flowers ‘whereby we live’. In Week 6 Preschool parents joined us to sing Autumn songs in the garden before school began. It was very heartwarming to have our families learn the songs that they hear their children singing at home, a truly special way to begin our day.

The day before the festival the children baked the Harvest bread (a four-plait of pumpkin, beetroot, spinach and wheat) ready to share with their families. At our Festival families watched a puppet show based on the Star Apple story, followed by a visit in the garden from Mother Earth whose gown was able to gather the apple, pear, nut and wheat children underneath. And as always the sharing of delicious festival food brought the community of families together.
Our Harvest Table was bountiful too with generous contributions, which was donated to the Ipswich Independent Youth service. A wonderful early modelling for the children of gratitude and giving. So as the term draws soon to a close we would like take this opportunity to thank all our Preschool parents for their trust, support and enthusiasm over this last term, particularly our new families and warmly welcome them into our school community. We wish you all a restful holiday and look forward to many more busy but lovely days ahead in Term 2.

Anne and Jo - Marilou and Emma

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS
The forest around us has really come alive with the soaking rain! Happy singing birds and frogs abound as the trees wake up.

The Class 8's have just now headed off across Camp Mountain for their practice bike ride in preparation for their Food Chemistry bike camp early next term. There was a lot of energy and perhaps a few nerves but all were grateful the drenching rain has paused for the moment.

Class 9 will be away on camp with Molly, Robyn Maggs and I in the Bunya Mountains this coming week, and Class 10 will be studying advanced first aid as part of the preparations for their Surveying Camp next term which incorporates a "student lead" bike.

The High School has worked together to prepare for the Autumn Festival next Friday. I'd like to remind everyone to bring in your food donations to the community aid organisation "Communify".

Hope you have a delightful last week of summer.

Tim Dunn
Education Administrator

Independent Education Union Art Design and Literacy Competition
The theme for this year's art awards is 'family', reinforced by the theme quote: "A link to the past and a bridge to our future." - Alex Haley. Preschool, primary and secondary school students and teachers in independent schools throughout Queensland are invited to submit artworks in the annual Awards for Excellence in Art Design. Artworks may be painted, drawn, collage work or photographic work but must be suitable for exhibition purposes. Closing date for artworks is Friday, 25 July 2014.

Students and teachers in Queensland and Northern Territory schools are invited to submit their poem, short story or non-fiction prose in our Literary Competition. Entries close 18 July 2014. Further information is available at http://www.qieu.asn.au/events/2013-art-and-literary-competitions/
UPDATE FROM THE BOARD

The Board AGM was held two weeks ago, on Thursday 13 March. We had a wonderful turn-out of staff and parents – thank you to all those who attended and for your active participation. The Board welcomes your involvement and your views.

If you are not an Association member and you would like to have a say, then complete the membership form available on the website and hand it in to the office. Our Constitution states that members need to apply for membership, whether you are a staff member or a parent/guardian.

Three members stood down from the Board this year: Fiona Garnes and Amanda Bradley re-nominated for their positions and Craig Flowers resigned. Thanks go to Craig for his wonderful contribution over the past couple of years and we wish Craig, Penny and the girls all the best for the future.

The 2014-15 Board members are:
President: Karen Dunshea
Vice-President: Fiona Garnes
Treasurer: Rob Hewitt
Secretary: Michael Ryan
Non-Executive Members (3): Amanda Bradley
Jonathan Horton
Alan Drysdale (Anthroposophical representative)

Director Recruitment Update
The Board recruitment sub-committee has now completed the first round interviews for the role of Director. The next stage of the recruitment process will take place over the next couple of weeks with the whole Board meeting the short-listed candidates. Following this there will be a third stage where members of College of Teachers will meet with the successful candidate prior to any offer being made. The Board hopes to be in a position to make a firm decision during the Easter break and will notify the community as soon as the process is completed.

Focus for 2014
The Board’s key areas of focus for 2014 are:
• Filling the Director role
• Working with College of Teachers and the Senior Leadership Team to further develop a collaborative vision about Steiner education at our school
• Continuing with achievement of goals as outlined in our Strategic Plan.

In addition to the monthly tasks in our Annual Board Work Plan, we will continue to work on a range of other tasks including our governance framework and Manual, our Board performance and further work on the organisational structure and its application in practice. Any questions about the Board and its activities can be directed to any of the Board Members.

Despite some significant changes at our School over the past 6 months, the Board is looking forward to the opportunities that 2014 will bring. The Board clearly sees the wonderful School that we are and what we can continue to grow into and we all look forward to working with the greater community to see this come to fruition.

Karen Dunshea
Board President
Rudolf Steiner Education Group Brisbane
PAFA NEWS
Oh golly, only one more week until the end of the first term! It has been lovely to
finally get some rain after a fairly dry summer. Dan Freeman’s talks - A huge
thanks to Dan Freeman for his 2 very informative sessions on behaviour on
Wednesday night and the Bothmer Gym this morning.

Friday Foodies
In Term 2 we will be hosting a weekly market selling coffee/tea, baked goods, a selection of
seasonal locally grown produce and a small variety of seedlings. Friday Foodies will be held at the
Hub every Friday from 3-4pm. So come along and relax with a hot drink and some cake while you
catch up with the other parents after a long week.

Please contact us if you are interested in helping us with set-up/pack-up or would like to have a
table to sell your own home grown produce. See you there!

Bush Dance
Our bush dance team is busy throwing together a terrific, toe tapping good night for us all on the
Saturday 24 May. If you haven’t already put it in your calendar, do it now!

Music Under the Stars!!
Hooray! We have been given the go ahead by the school to run Music Under the Stars! This will be
a night not to be missed! Imagine live music, local talent, wonderful warm food and a glass of wine
under a starry Winter's sky. Book your babysitters because this is a night for adults only.
This time it will be held at the school on Saturday 30 August. It is still very early days but we
wanted to give the team plenty of time to work on it. If anyone is interested in coordinating or being
part of organising music Under the Stars this year, please get in touch with us by emailing:
info@svsspafa.org.au

It’s really buzzing now! Please throw us a line if you want to be part of the action!!
Imogen (PAFA President) and Amy (PAFA Vice President)

PARENT CRAFT GROUP NEWS
Thank you to all the parents and friends who
braved the weather to make Autumn gnomes
with us this week. Again we welcomed some
new faces, and the children were delighted to
find an ample supply of mud around The Hub.

The last craft project before we break for Easter
holidays will be this lovely mother hen and her
sweet baby chicks. We will meet this Wednesday
2 April from 9am at The Hub. The cost is $8 to
make one hen and three chicks, and all felt pieces
will be marked out, ready to cut and sew. Make
sure you swing by the Treehouse shop before
term ends and pick up crafting supplies to keep
the kids entertained throughout the holidays!
With warm regards,
Cindy Rylands cindy.rylands@bigpond.com and
Lisa Cashion colourmepurple@hotmail.com
ASSOCIATED INITIATIVES
These Steiner/Anthroposophically related activities and services, whilst not directly related the school, can be seen to be in sympathy with and supportive of the impulse of Steiner education.

Moreton Bay Birali Steiner School Fair - Sunday 30 March 11am-3pm
Stalls – Crafts – Natural therapies – homemade cakes, coffee and specialty food – Open classroom
Story time – First year celebrations.
Free entry. For more info go to www.moretonbaysteiner.qld.edu.au.

The Anthroposophical Society in Australia National Conference
"Extending the Picture of Humanity, Evolution of Consciousness" will take place in Shearwater School, Mullumbimby, from July 8th-11th, with a pre-conference excursion from Brisbane into the Northern NSW hinterland from the 6th - 8th, midday. This conference will be a teacher and family friendly event, with plenty of camping opportunities. Themes and more details will be released soon.

CLASSIFIEDS
Please note: All Classified Advertisements are submitted by individuals for the community benefit. They do not in any way express the views, opinions, endorsement or policy of the school and should not be relied upon as such.
There is a flat $2 charge for each advertisement and payment is required prior to inclusion.

House for rent
Beautiful 5 bedroom Queenslander on 5 acres in Camp Mountain. Round the corner from the Steiner School. Available from August 2014 to January 2015. Cathy 0422 516 075

Samford Community Bank Branch®
Here for you in Samford.
By banking with us you are enabling incredible things to happen in your community. We can help you with all your financial needs including personal and business banking. We can also look after all your insurance needs.
Please contact us on 07 3289 6710 or visit us at Shop 10, 19 Main Street Samford.

Art and Emotional Wellbeing Classes for Children
Art based sessions focused on nurturing creativity and positive self-awareness and self-esteem. To start Term 2 or for enquires for children aged 6-12 years, please contact Sonja Hart: mob-0428026808 email: sonjashart@hotmail.com

Storytelling Workshops with Susan Perrow at Cooroy on the Sunshine Coast
Among many available options, storytelling is an old way of passing wisdom from generation to generation, an old way of helping to deal with challenging situations, healing wounds and gaining skills to face new situations. Find how to become confident storyteller, how to create your own story that will help you to connect with your children, stories to help you to support, heal, find courage and strength to face your own challenges!
An amazing opportunity to learn storytelling during 2 workshops:
The Art of Storytelling - Friday 2 May - 9:30am till 4pm - AUD $85
The Healing Stories - Saturday 3 May - 9:30am till 5pm - AUD $95
(AUD $170 if booked for both workshops)
Please contact agnieszka.happy13@gmail.com for enquiries and bookings (essential)

Kundalini Yoga and Meditation Classes
The one stop wellness session!
Now at The Gap with Vicki Murtagh.
Offering a range of weekly adult classes to suit all ages and abilities – the perfect way to decrease stress in your life.
Specialised workshops and events also available.
Go to the website for more information www.brisbanekundaliniyoga.com
0424 707 818 / 0401 442 177.
What do you love about the Samford Valley?
Whatever it is we would like to invite you to share and Celebrate Samford Now!
Animating Spaces - Samford Now is part of a state wide multi-arts initiative designed to revitalise and celebrate significant or unusual spaces within regional communities through locally-driven arts activities and events. Watch this space to find out more about workshops & events or explore the website http://samfordnow.weebly.com/ to find out how to participate. Expressions of Interest are being called for artists, stall holders and volunteers. http://samfordnow.weebly.com/artists-eoi.html. For more info please call Vanessa 0497 106 476

Dental Wellness
A whole body approach to oral Health.
1056 Waterworks Rd, The Gap

Sunshadow Slippers
Sunshadow Slippers available at Foot Health Clinic, Samford. Australian made, natural fibres, hand-painted, washable and biodegradable. Various colours, patterns and sizes. Cnr Mt Glorious Rd and Mary Ring Drive, Samford. Ph: 3289 6050.

Kate Sharp Creative Arts Therapy
MA (creative arts therapy) Grad Dip Art Therapy & Couns MIECAT
Member ACA. Using the Arts, Sandplay & Story to help support times of difficulty & change, to help bring nourishment and equilibrium. Suitable for adults, teenagers & children. E katshar@gotalk.net.au W www.katesharpartstherapy.com
Ph: 3289 7227 mb: 0402 884 205.

Available for children's birthday parties. Show includes stories and songs written especially for your child, based on astrology and using environmentally friendly puppets. These stories are designed to remind your child of who they are and why they chose to be born upon this earth, in a beautiful, gentle, age-appropriate way. Suitable for ages 6 and under. $100 for half hour show. Includes written copy of story for birthday child. Please call Emma Forsberg on 0400 826 991, or e-mail emma.forsberg1@bigpond.com. Emma is also available for performances at Family Day Care, Child Care Centres and functions.

Astrology Readings and Healings
Astrology is a tool or blueprint which is used to tell us who we are, where we have come from in the past and our life's purpose. A reading can be particular helpful during times of change or trauma, as it can help us find a new direction. Healings help remove emotional and spiritual blockages which can create disease in the physical body. Deep Memory Process sessions (past-life regression) also available for clearing karmic patterns which are being repeated during this life-time.
1 hr session: $50.00
Please call Asa Yanagi on 0414 615 899 for appointments or inquiries.

Yoga Classes Samford
For all: feel good, improve your posture, get flexible and calm your mind. Yoga Chi Gung, Okido Yoga (New!), Iyengar Yoga, Beginners Yoga Courses Mon and Wed 6pm, Childrens classes with new teacher Kelly now running Thursdays. Space for hire at reasonable rates. All enquiries to Camille 3289 2237/ 0421 106 441/ info@sattvayoga.net.au

Sustainable Storytelling
SHAFT - School Holiday Activities for Teenagers this April School Holidays. This is a council subsidised program for High School students (grades 7-12) in the Moreton Bay region, designed to show them what adventures, experiences and discoveries they can find in their own back yards.

We have put together some of the hottest activities just for you, want to hear the line-up? Grand Prix Go Karting, Parkour, Slacklining, Surfing, Ten Pin Bowling, Wakeboarding the Aqua Fun Park. That’s not even all of them. Don’t worry, we got you covered, Council has subsidised every activity making it super affordable for you, ranging from $2 to $30 (depending on the activity).

But, you must make a booking to secure your spot. Bookings are available from 9am Tuesday 18 March, 2014. Head online to www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/shaft to make your booking or call 5433 2052 to secure your place. Spaces are limited, so get in fast and get amongst it!

Birthday Sale - 25% off selected designer fabrics!
To celebrate our first birthday we are having our first-ever sale. Over the coming weeks, selected designers' ranges, including Amy Butler, Lotta Jansdotter, Anna Maria Horner and Tula Pink, will be on sale at 25% off. Don't miss this opportunity to stock up on some quality fabrics from leading international designers at discount prices. Stocks are limited, don't miss out!

www.fingertipfabrics.com is an online shop, however if you would like to arrange a private visit to the shop, please contact Helen on 0488 473 550 or helen@fingertipfabrics.com