

# Hervey Bay State High marks 50 years of education

## Leadership, curriculum key to student development and lifelong success

For the past 50 years Hervey Bay State High School has been one of the region's leading education providers and the school of choice for thousands of Fraser Coast students and families.

Nestled in one of Hervey Bay's oldest suburbs, Pialba, its unique location close to the beach combined with its spacious school grounds and access to a wide range of resources has allowed students to benefit from a diverse curriculum that includes marine studies, information and communication technologies and agricultural science.

Principal Julie Learoyd said the school's strong focus on curriculum and the students' academic performance was key to ensuring students are best placed to achieve their future pathways.

"The academic achievement and welfare of students is our core business and one we continually work with parents and their families to better improve and enhance," Ms Learoyd said.

Strong links with the region's vocational and tertiary education providers has given students unprecedented opportunity to begin traineeships and apprenticeships, as well as complete first year university subjects through the University of Southern Queensland without disrupting the final years of their

secondary education.

"Students can pursue trades in engineering, furnishing, the rural sector, hospitality, sporting, cultural and the tourism sectors," Ms Learoyd said.

"A variety of nationally recognised certificate courses, along with a complimentary stream of school based subjects, allows students to pursue their chosen career with confidence."

As Hervey Bay State High School gears up to celebrate its 50th anniversary this weekend, it is proud to boast a commitment to its agricultural program through its unique Agriculture and Environmental Centre (AEC) that caters for students who wish to pursue a rural or veterinary pathway.

Community, culture, environment and sport hold a special place within the Hervey Bay State High School community and provide the areas of focus for its student leadership team.

From Year 8 onwards, students are given the opportunity to apply for leadership roles to represent the Junior Secondary and Senior Schooling on the Student Council. The Student Council is led by the Senior Leadership Team of captains, ambassadors and senior leaders who represent the school at functions and community events.



## HERVEY BAY STATE HIGH TURNS 50

Hervey Bay State High School will mark its 50th anniversary with a Golden Jubilee celebration this Saturday, August 23.

The school will be open from 8.30am for past and current students and community members to visit.

Official proceedings will start at 9am with school tours running from 9.30am through until 11.30am.

As well as a memorabilia display in the eHub and faculty displays and demonstrations, a Golden Jubilee tree planting will take place at 10am, followed by a cake cutting at 11am.

The morning celebrations are free to attend and open to all members of the community.

Evening celebrations will include a Golden Gala from 5pm.

Entry is \$40 and includes food, a beverage upon arrival, live entertainment and a ticket to see the 2014 musical *Disco Inferno*.

For more information phone 4194 3777 or stop by Hervey Bay State High School's administration office on Beach Road during school hours.

## \$15.2 million expansion promises quality future

After years of preparation and months of construction, Hervey Bay State High School is just weeks away from unveiling its new \$15.2 million flexible learning area.

The renovation is the largest of its kind to be undertaken since the school opened in 1964 and is set to include two new buildings boasting 16 classroom spaces, flexible learning areas and undercover spaces, along with a new indoor sports centre fitted with a kinesiology lab, student café and canteen.

With enrolment numbers increasing, Hervey Bay State High School principal Julie Learoyd says the new facilities will be used to predominately



## Disco Inferno marks musical director's final curtain call

While the students of Hervey Bay State High School busily thumb through the archive records ahead of the school's 50th anniversary celebrations this weekend, the walls of Mark Thomson's office tell their own story.

From *Smithy* and *Bats* to *Jungle Fantasy* and *Shake, Rattle and Roll*, the now yellowing posters capture a small glimpse of the proud arts culture Mr Thomson has instilled since he staged the school's second musical 34 years ago.

Since then Mr Thomson and his various cast and crews have delighted audiences, year in, year out, with spectacular backdrops and fantastic vocal productions.

As this year's cast and crew prepare to transport audiences back to the 70s - when afro hair, Atari games, Safari suits and flares were staple items - the desire to make this year's production of *Disco Inferno* 'one of the best ever' has become even more important.

When the final curtain call sounds at the Great Hall this weekend, Hervey Bay High

School will be farewelling more than just its current production of *Disco Inferno*.

Mr Thomson, now head of the arts department, has decided to call time on his stellar career and will be retiring at the end of the year.

Determined to go out with a bang, the production of *Disco Inferno* will feature a host of guest teacher cameo roles and visits from past cast members.

Whether it's the timeless Beatles classics, Gloria Gaynor's vow to survive or the lure of the Bay City Rollers that define the 70s for you, head down to the Great Hall at Hervey Bay State High School this weekend and follow the production's hero as he discovers the consequences of fame and fortune, lost love and power of redemption.

*Disco Inferno* will open on Friday, August 22 at 7.30pm.

A second show will be staged at 6.30pm on Saturday, August 23.

To pre-order tickets phone 4194 3777 during school hours.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Hervey Bay State High School principal Julie Learoyd looks over the old school rules 'Good Manners' with Kelly O'Reilly and Bianca Delaney. Head of Arts Department Mark Thomson looks over the final script before this weekend's performance of *Disco Inferno* and Jay White, Brigette Fletcher, Abbey Taylor help sort through the archives ahead of the Golden Jubilee celebrations this Saturday, August 23.

## A & J PAINTING

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## Celebrating 50 Years

Saturday, August 23

**8.30am**  
Open - free admission

**9.00 am**  
School Welcome (Great Hall)

- Welcome to Country
- Principal Address
- Welcome to past and present students and staff
- Visitors Book and Roll Call

**9.30 am to 11.30 am**

- School Tours by School Leaders
- Faculty presentations and displays
- Memorabilia display in the eHub
- Food and refreshments will be available for sale

**10.00 am**  
• Golden Jubilee Tree Planting

- School bands and Music students
- 11.00 am**  
• Golden Jubilee Celebration - Cake Cutting with School Captains
- 12.00 Midday**  
• Close of school tours and site visit

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