



THE RISING PHOENIX

Exceed Your Expectations

Winter 2025 Corinda Sport // MultiFest // Textiles // Open Day // The Educator 2025 Rising Star // Youth Workers

Celebrating 65 Years



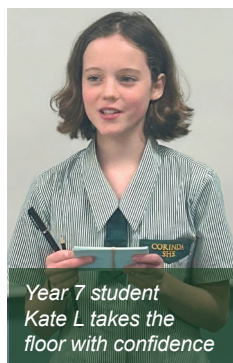
Year 7 debating teams proudly representing Corinda SHS in the Brisbane-West Queensland Debating Union competition. Inset: Ada G, Jiana S and Brodie G put the finishing touches on their cue cards ahead of the debate



Debating returns with passion, pride and purpose

After a few quiet years, debating is officially back at Corinda SHS thanks to a group of passionate staff and a bold cohort of enthusiastic Year 7 students.

This year, Corinda re-entered the Queensland Debating Union competition, which brings together over 100 public and private schools from across Brisbane. As part of the Brisbane-West Region, we were proud to host the Year 7 rounds here on campus.



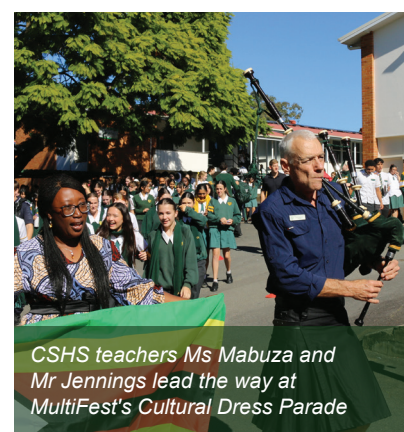
Year 7 student Kate L takes the floor with confidence

Our four Year 7 teams recently tackled a challenging short-preparation debate, arguing the topic *"That co-curricular activities should*

be banned" — with only an hour to prepare. The topic sparked spirited and thoughtful arguments, with students showcasing their growing confidence and teamwork.

For student Annie B, debating has been a chance to express herself: *"The whole point of debating is to prove you're right, so don't hold back! It's a great way to make new friends and speak your mind."* And for student Ada G, it's been a learning experience: *"I've learned to look at problems from different perspectives, improve my public speaking, and be a good sport - win or lose."*

A huge thank you to Head of Humanities Mr Gilroy, and teaching staff Ms C Smith, Ms M Smith and Mx Kubes for reviving the debating program and supporting our students every step of the way.



CSHS teachers Ms Mabuza and Mr Jennings lead the way at MultiFest's Cultural Dress Parade

Celebrating culture at Corinda

Corinda SHS came alive with colour, flavour and rhythm as we celebrated MultiFest - our annual showcase of the rich cultural diversity that defines our school community. From the vibrant Cultural Dress Parade (pictured above) at lunchtime to delicious international treats from the Backstage Brew Café, students and staff proudly shared their heritage and embraced the traditions of others.

The week culminated in MultiNight, with over 15 student performances of music, dance, and cultural storytelling enjoyed by Corinda families and friends (see images below).



From the Executive Principal



For the past 65 years, Corinda State High School has been a vital part of the fabric of Brisbane's western suburbs. At our recent Open Day, it was a joy to welcome alumni back to campus

to celebrate this milestone. Their reflections spoke to the enduring legacy of Corinda — from tales of cricketer triumph (I'm reliably informed we once had the best cricket wicket in Queensland) to memories of the diverse cultural backgrounds that shaped our earliest student cohorts. Their stories were united by a deep sense of pride in the school and the many accomplishments of their peers. I extend my sincere thanks to all our alumni who joined us for this special occasion and shared their memories of Corinda's formative years.

As I approach the halfway point of my first year as Executive Principal, I feel incredibly privileged to lead such an exceptional school community. Corinda's culture is built on care, support, and respect — a place where diversity is celebrated and talent flourishes. Our dedicated team of educators work tirelessly to ensure students thrive in an environment that values both compassion

and innovation. True to our school motto, **Hodie Quoque Cras — Not only for today but for tomorrow also** — Corinda remains future-focused, equipping our students for a rapidly changing world while staying grounded in the strong foundations of our past.

Looking ahead, we're excited to commence construction on the upgrade of our Assembly Hall.

This project will include tiered seating, as well as improvements to the entrance, ticketing, and food service areas. In recent years, the hall has become a key venue for both school and community events. It has long been a place of gathering and celebration — including serving as the training ground for 5-time Olympic medallist Natalie Cook during her student years. Natalie recounted her time playing volleyball in the Corinda Hall at our 2024 Sports Awards, a story echoed by many alumni who remember narrowly dodging fast-moving volleyballs while watching court-side! The upcoming upgrades will ensure our hall continues to be a signature venue for students and the broader Corinda community for generations to come.



Executive Principal Ross Bailey kicked off Open Day with a glimpse into what he loves most — family, education, the LA Lakers, the Brisbane Broncos, and his home team: Corinda SHS

This edition of The Rising Phoenix shares some of the latest updates from our school. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our many community partners for their ongoing support and contributions. From the sponsors and organisations who joined us on Open Day, to the families hosting international students, and the businesses providing valuable work placements — your support expands the educational opportunities available to our students. Your partnership is a testament to what we can achieve when we work together to invest in the leaders of tomorrow. If you'd like to connect with Corinda or get involved, we'd love to hear from you.

Ross Bailey
Executive Principal



Supporting student wellbeing: Meet our Youth Workers, Madison Powell (Years 7 & 10), Nyki Hammell (8 & 11) and Kobie Riseley (9 & 10)

Welcome to our new Youth Workers

We're excited to welcome three new team members to our Student Services team: Madison Powell, Nyki Hammell and Kobie Riseley — all bringing energy, empathy, and a strong commitment to student wellbeing.

Both Kobie and Madison are proud Corinda alumni, returning to their former school in a new capacity as youth workers. Their personal connection to the school and community brings added depth to the support they offer students.

As youth workers, their role is to create a safe, supportive, and non-judgmental space for students to express themselves and seek help. They work closely with young people to build resilience, develop coping strategies, and access resources — all while collaborating with families,

staff, and external services to support student wellbeing in a holistic way.

While providing important support to our year-level Deans, Madison, Nyki and Kobie will also work alongside our School Chaplain, Junior and Senior Guidance Officers, Social Worker, First Nations Officer, Student Wellbeing Officer and School-based Youth Health Nurse to provide comprehensive care and guidance for our students.

Welcome to Corinda, Madison, Nyki and Kobie! We're thrilled to have you as part of our Student Services team.

How to get in touch

Our Youth Workers are available every day in Student Services (lower Admin). Students can drop in at breaks or email for an appointment.



Jen Radford named 2025 Rising Star

Congratulations to Jen Radford, recipient of The Educator 2025 Rising Star & School Leadership Award! Since joining Corinda in 2022, Jen has transformed learning in English and Humanities with her flexible, engaging approach. Now, as Acting Head of Department for Middle Years, she's leading inquiry-based learning that connects students to real-world ideas — often using drama to spark curiosity and deepen understanding.

We're proud to see Jen recognised for her innovation, leadership and impact.

Meet Jen



Open Day highlights the heart of Corinda

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Open Day 2025! It was a wonderful day showcasing the energy, talent, and diversity that make Corinda SHS such a special place to learn.

From interactive displays and student performances to campus tours and hands-on activities, visitors got a real taste of life at Corinda. Thank you to our dedicated staff who brought each faculty space to life, and special mention to Science and Languages for earning the Executive Principal's picks for Best Display. Both wowed with creative presentations that reflected the innovation and global mindset we value. To our student leaders, performers, volunteers and crew - thank you for being such brilliant ambassadors for our school.



Clockwise L-R: Adventure hub outside the RIC, alumni gather at the Station Master's House, Oxley Road Music Festival, Science teacher Terry Rees and Spanish teacher Gabby Sobolewski. Inset: Bailey B, Open Day student tour guide and Year 8 Moori leader



View the photo gallery



Corinda Open Girls netball team finish third at the recent Super 7s Netball competition



Footballers Louis G, Brayden M and Darcy H arrive ready to represent Corinda at the Bill Turner Cup

Corinda shines across sporting competitions

Corinda SHS has recently celebrated strong results across multiple sports, reflecting the talent, teamwork, and determination of our student athletes.

In football, both girls and boys teams delivered impressive performances in the Bill Turner Cup. The girls secured another 2-1 win over Stretton State College in a growing local rivalry, while the boys defeated Ipswich Grammar 5-1 — a testament to the growing strength and belief within our football program.

Netball is thriving, with 90 students competing across eight teams in our first Southside Super 7s competition.

Congratulations to our Open Boys on their debut, and to the Open Girls who finished third in their division! Our Netball Academy also welcomed Firebirds stars Lara Dunkley and Emily Moore this term. Their visit followed a Q&A with Brisbane Lions' Lincoln McCarthy and Jaspa Fletcher, who connected with students from our Elite Athlete Program and AFL Nines competition which kicked off in Term 2.

In basketball, our Junior Girls, Junior Boys, and Sophomore Boys teams performed strongly at the CBSQ Wildcard Tournament, with both Junior teams qualifying for the 4-day Shield event. Earlier in the term, our Open Girls and Boys both qualified in their respective CBSQ divisions.

These achievements reflect the vibrant sporting culture and community spirit that define Corinda SHS.



Brisbane Lions Jaspa Fletcher and Lincoln McCarthy meet student athletes including Ava and Cooper Toohey, who was named MVP of Corinda's AFL Nines competition



Open Boys Basketball showed resilience and grit, especially in their narrow win against Indooroopilly SHS at the CBSQ Wildcard Tournament

Upcoming Dates

- 22 JUL - Parent Teacher Conferences
- 5 AUG - Visual Art Golden Opportunity Day
- 12 AUG - Tennis Golden Opportunity Day
- 13 AUG - Ekka Public Holiday
- 15 AUG - Academic Entrance Exam
- 19 AUG - Football Excellence (Boys) Golden Opportunity Day
- 21 AUG - Football Excellence (Girls) Golden Opportunity Day
- 5 SEP - Student free day/Staff Professional Development
- 6 SEP - Farm Day
- 12 SEP - Year 12 Formal
- 16 SEP - Junior Spring Gala Day
- 17 SEP - Dance Golden Opportunity Day
- 19 SEP - Term 3 ends

Culinary creations and craft for a cause



Culinary teacher Ms Malan and Executive Principal Mr Bailey with Bake Off winners and runners-up

It's been a hands-on term in our Service Industries and Food Technology (SIFT) classrooms, where creativity met compassion and competition.



In the Great Corinda Bake Off, 22 Year 8 Culinary Excellence students wowed judges including Executive Principal Mr Bailey and special guests from THE LIONS Richlands with their winter-inspired

pastries. Congratulations to Katie K (Berry Cheesecake Pot) and Alana B (Lemon Raspberry Tart), with Freddie B and Winter H also impressing as runners-up.

Meanwhile, Year 7 and 9 Textiles students put their sewing skills to good use, designing and stitching cosy dog beds for the RSPCA. The project culminated in a special visit to RSPCA Wacol, where students personally delivered their handmade gifts—proof that great learning can have heart.



Do It For Dolly Day saw students come together in a sea of blue to stand against bullying and raise awareness for mental health



Student Council raise thousands for charity

This term, our Student Council ran three successful fundraisers, raising close to \$3,000 for important causes.

From blue accessories and a sausage sizzle for the Dolly's Dream Foundation, to pink treats and a photo booth for the National Breast Cancer Foundation, and pancakes for the Children's Hospital Foundation (the House charity for Kabul and Moori), each event brought our school community together to support those in need. Thank you to everyone who donated and got involved!

#1 Oxley Agent of The Year

As Voted by The Oxley Community

Sarah Bailey

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Harcourts Marketplace

WHAT MY CLIENTS ARE SAYING

"Working with Sarah Bailey has been an absolute pleasure. She is incredibly easy to work with, highly responsive, and always brings a warm, friendly approach. We've had the pleasure of working with Sarah both for purchasing and selling, and both experiences were seamless and stress-free. Most recently, Sarah guided a sale, and her market knowledge and advice were spot-on, helping us achieve a much higher price than we had anticipated. We will be returning to her services in the future for any properties within the surrounding suburbs."

"Sarah was beyond helpful with our situation and circumstances for the sale of the property. She responded quickly and was able to answer any questions I had along the sale journey. She was able to organise everything seamlessly so the end of lease into sale period ran smoothly. I found Sarah compassionate, knowledgeable, courteous, professional and efficient. It was a pleasure to deal with her and I highly recommend her to anyone looking to sell or buy a property. Thank you Sarah!"

WHEN EXPERIENCE MATTERS, CALL SARAH TO **SELL YOUR PROPERTY**