Principal’s Report...
Welcome to our second newsletter for 2017 and term one which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article I will focus on the swimming carnival, managing student conflict, student-led conferences, staff professional learning and the ‘Big Days Out’.

Inter-house swimming carnival:
The annual inter-house swimming carnival was held last Friday with almost two thirds of our students attending the day. It was great to see this level of participation by all students regardless of their swimming capabilities. Our swimming carnival always provides opportunities for the best swimmers to shine as well opportunities for those that want to just get in there, have a go and support their house. There were many great performances but the stand out had to be Trent Carpenter a Year 7 student, who broke all the records in every stroke for his age group. Congratulations Trent, well done!!! I thank all our teachers for their work on the day but a big congratulations and thank you to Rob Thatcher for his organization and on the success of the carnival.

Managing student conflict:
In the last two weeks I have become dismayed at the number of physical fights that have occurred in our school grounds, despite the fact that there has been a lot of information provided to students about our expectations in the management of conflict. I am writing this to seek your support and to reassure you that we take student safety very seriously. Our aim is to have a safe and supported learning environment for all students, one which is disruption free, where students can have an undisturbed focus on learning. This is why we have a very clearly stated set of expectations in the way we manage student conflict, that is:

“If students are aware that they are having a conflict with another student or someone is making them feel uncomfortable at school they are to seek an adult [Class teacher, RAS Teacher, Year Level Co-Ordinator, Junior and Senior School Head Of Department, Junior and Senior School Deputy Principal, Guidance Officer, Chaplain, Youth Health Nurse, Student Peer Mediator and Youth Support Co-ordinator] to assist in the resolution of the issue. They are not to approach the other student, go with others to seek out that student or get other students to approach the one they are in conflict with. This has the potential to not end well for all parties. We do not use physical or verbal violence to solve our problems.”

I ask that you discuss this with your student as a reinforcement of our expectations and our efforts to ensure a safe and supportive environment for all of our students.
Student-led conferences:
Bookings for our student-led conferences are well underway with many appointments already booked. If you have not booked a conference there is still time to do it but I would advise you to not delay making a booking for much longer as student-led conferences are scheduled for Thursday, February 23.

As a school our focus is constantly on finding ways to improve the academic performance of all students. Our staff are continuously working on ways to provide effective teaching and learning to our students and the student led conferences are just one of these strategies. This approach which is supported by the research of Hattie and others who are in total agreement on the significant impact that self-reported student grades, career and academic goal setting, feedback and self-reflection have on student performance. Our My Big Picture Program and student-led conferences support on all of these strategies. Hope to see you at this very important student learning event.

Staff professional learning:
As indicated above our staff are continuously working on ways to improve their performance so they can lift the performance of our students. In the past fortnight staff have participated in a 2 hour professional learning workshop focused on setting and tracking learning goals as well social and emotional learning through the “Reboot” program. In addition to this they have also participated in a Professional Learning Community meeting where they shared their strategies and experiences related to student learning goals. Educational experts says that the most effective and successful schools have a built in professional learning model where all staff are able to collaborate and share what works with students in that school. At North High we are aiming to meet world’s best practice and are well advanced in our development of a professional learning culture that is impacting on the improvement of student performance.

Big Days Out:
Last Tuesday week all students participated in the Big Days Out which were aimed at providing students with information and helping to develop skills necessary for achieving success at school. This day was organised by our Year Level Co-Ordinators: Year 7: Jessie Tallon, Year 8: Jo Stevens, Year 9 Stacey Cowan, Year 10: Teressa Gibson, Year 11: Helen Coulton, Year 12: Judy Thrupp. It was a great success with lots of positive feedback from students. The strong message of the day was the importance of teamwork, our roles in a team and how we work with others in that team which are all important for being part of a class learning team. This was reinforced and demonstrated across all year levels through a number of activities that included a rope swing, low ropes course, building a carry platform, making fashion garments from newspaper or playing blind football.

In conclusion please continue to contact the school if you have any concerns regarding your student’s education as together we can produce the best outcomes for your student.

Ross Robertson
PRINCIPAL

DATES TO REMEMBER

23rd February 2017 ___________________________ Student Led Conferences 3:30pm – 7:00pm
24th February 2017 ___________________________ School photo day – all students
27th February 2017 ___________________________ BDSSS Swimming Carnival
2nd March 2017 ___________________________ P&C Meeting
10th March 2017 ___________________________ Immunisation day

P & C Meeting Thursday 2nd March, 6.00pm.
All welcome!
Meet the teachers...
Thank you to the many parents and students who attended the ‘Meet the Teachers’ function on Tuesday, 31st January.

It was a great to see so many parents.

School Photos...
Friday 24th February we will have official school photos taken. Year 11 and 12 students are to wear their formal uniform. Year 7-10 wear their uniform polo shirt and shorts.

All students will have their photo taken whether you purchase photos or not as these photos are also used to generate student ID cards.

Please read the instructions below regarding ordering your students photos as payment is made through Advanced Life photography, NOT through the school office. Please don’t return your photo form to school, but your student should bring it on photo day and hand it to the Advanced Life staff.

Our school photos will be taken on the 24th of February 2017.
For the convenience of our school community, school photos can be ordered and paid for online using a secure online platform. Orders placed online DO NOT require an envelope, cash/cheques or paperwork returned to school.

Envelope Orders: photos can also be purchased in the traditional manner using an envelope, with cash/cheque enclosed.

The preference of our school is that orders and payments be made online, as this reduces the administration and associated security issues related to the return of cash & envelopes on photo day.

To place your order visit www.advancedlife.com.au and enter the code XRE VM7X BL1. This code can also be found printed on your envelope. Please be aware that:

1. Sibling/Family Photos can be ordered online or via envelope. To ensure a smoothly run photo day, online orders for Sibling/Family Photos will be cut off at 12:00 a.m. the night before our photo day to allow a list of students that require Sibling/Family Photos taken to be compiled. Sibling photos can still be ordered after the online cut off date by collecting an envelope from the office and returning the envelope on photo day with your payment enclosed.
2. All online orders should be placed on or before our day of photography.
3. The online code above may also be used to order sports and other group photos.

All orders placed online will be delivered to the school for collection.

P & C Meeting Thursday 2nd March, 6.00pm.
All welcome!
Year 12 Big Day Out...

On Tuesday, 7th February, all year levels had a day out of classes. Year 12 students were involved in a variety of activities held at school. CQU staff engaged students in a personality test to encourage them to think about future pathways they may be suited to. Some past students of North High returned to offer insight and advice to our present students. Chappy Lisa had students working in teams to create astounding fashions from newspapers and one roll of masking tape! The 12s finished the day singing a song especially created for them. The purpose of the day was to encourage students to reflect on their goals, to strengthen their relationships with each other and to promote leadership in every student. Despite the challenging weather conditions, the 12s were outstanding in their behaviour and their attitude.

Year 12, you are impressive! 😊

Reminder of process when students are unwell at school
When students feel unwell at school, there is a process in place which all students should follow to ensure they are safe and receive the necessary care. The student should go to Sick Bay. The Admin Officer on duty in the Sick Bay will then contact the guardian if necessary whilst providing first aid. Students should NOT contact parents on mobiles and make their own arrangements.
Swimming Carnival...

The North High swimming carnival was held on Friday, 10th February at Norville pool. The weather was perfect, sunny and dry and it made for a perfect day. The days competition results will be published soon but it is fair to say that some school swimming records were smashed!! Students dressed in their house colours and really got in the spirit of the day.

Career information...

Visit [www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au) and sign on to find information on career pathways and discover the world of work. This website can help to make informed choices, identify interests, build a career profile and explore occupations. Whether you’re an educator, professional, parent, relative, friend or mentor, you’ll find these resources useful for encouraging others to further explore the options that are available.
Medieval mania...

Why might a knight be coming to North High? After all we are not a night school!

However, there were some unusual costumes this year with a blacksmith winning the competition along with a begging peasant and jester. Of course we also had our kings, and princesses too. Dressing in medieval costume certainly set the mood for the day and the teachers excelled in their efforts with this as well.

Part of the opening banquet entertainment was a past student, Anushka Santos, performing acrobatics that amazed us; and Michael Boon, our laboratory assistant, doing some experiments like the Medieval wizards may have done. No gold – but some fire was involved.

The other competition was the medieval joke – google had been well used to find jokes about knights, round tables, holy water .... Activities for the day were run by the Humanities teachers (Mr Roydhouse, Mrs Higgins, Ms Williams, Mrs Kington, Mrs Coates) and included:

- Medieval Shogunate Japan with kendo stick fighting (using pool noodles) and kimono wearing
- Heraldry shield designing
- Archery and Viking quiz to determine who ended up with their head in the stocks
- Computer jousting and “real” bouts
- Outdoor games such as stilts, sack race, and quoits- yes it is possible to play without a computer
- Stain glassed windows as religion was important and most people couldn’t read in the Middle Ages

Special mention needs to go to our hall cleaner Mick and his band of helpers. They quickly set up tables, sorted out equipment in the morning and helped to return gear in the afternoon. Too many individuals to mention by name – but an important part of making the day a success. Thank you.

Now that the Year 8s have experienced their own medieval Mania, it’s a few more weeks before the end of the unit and their exam. I’m sure their enthusiasm from participating in the day will boost them along the way.

Katrine Rayner, HOD of Humanities
Dear Parent/Carer

On Thursday, 23rd February, North High will be holding student-led conferences that will provide important information about your student’s education.

It is important to note that on this day, the school’s normal day structure will be in place and student-led conferences will run between 3:30 pm to 7:00 pm, to ensure parents and carers with work commitments can attend.

Each conference runs for 15 minutes, and appointment times can be made via the PTO online tool, located on the school’s [website](http://www.bundnortshs.eq.edu.au) or click the icon to go directly to bookings. PTO will open for bookings until 3pm on February 22nd.

If you have multiple student conferences to attend, we ask that you leave a 15 minute period between bookings to allow for conferences that run over time, and travelling between rooms. Conferences will be held in your student’s usual RAS classroom, or Year 7 classroom.

Details
Date: Thursday, 23rd February
Time: 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Location: North Bundaberg SHS

Why Student-led conferences?

In 2015, North Bundaberg SHS started two new initiatives called ‘My Big Picture Plan’ and ‘student-led conferences’. Student-led conferences are an important process at North High and significant resources have been devoted to making them happen. For this reason, it is important to understand what SLCs provide and how they are different to more traditional parent-teacher interviews. The following table compares the two processes.
## Traditional vs. Student-Led

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional</th>
<th>Student-Led</th>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher centred.</td>
<td>Student centred.</td>
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<td>Direct contact with subject teachers for detailed feedback regarding the subject.</td>
<td>Students taking responsibility for their learning.</td>
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<td>Parents are comfortable with the process as this is what North has done in the past.</td>
<td>Looks forwards, conferences are about long and short-term goals and aspirations for the future.</td>
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<td>Meetings are very short – 10 mins.</td>
<td>Focus on careers in the senior school.</td>
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<td>Looks backwards, meetings are usually about progress made over the last semester.</td>
<td>Students consider their strengths and weaknesses, and how to build on these.</td>
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<td>Students are not often present for the interview and not participating.</td>
<td>Conferences are positive and future oriented.</td>
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<td>The focus is often on what the student cannot do or what they need to improve.</td>
<td>Does not eliminate traditional interviews – traditional interviews can occur face-to-face or via phone at any time convenient for parents.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAS teacher is the &quot;go to&quot; teacher for academic mentoring or any other issues for the parent</td>
<td>RAS teacher knows the big-picture story, developed over several years of working with individual students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>All students take part in the My Big Picture Plan process, whether they attend a student-led conference or not, no one is missed</td>
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Thabeban State School
Centenary Celebrations
Saturday 29 April

Fete
(10am – 2pm)
Thabeban State School
Student Performances
Devonshire Tea
BBQ Lunch
Vintage Cars
Memorabilia
Class Stalls
Raffles
Rides
Sideshow Alley

Dinner
(6pm)
The Waves Sports Club
Two Course Meal plus
Savouries on Arrival
Live Music
Souvenirs
Prizes
Purchase Tickets at the
School Office Now
($50 each)

Ph: 4150 8333 email: centenary@thabebanss.eq.edu.au

Gooburrum State School

You love our Christmas Ham Wheel... now come along to our first ever -

**Easter Seafood, Fishing & Camping Wheel**

Friday 24th March
BBQ from 5.30pm, First Spin 6.00pm

Great prizes for the whole family!

- Easter Eggs
- Fishing Gear
- Raffles
- Fish & Chip Vouchers
- Seafood Vouchers

P & C Meeting Thursday 2nd March, 6.00pm.
All welcome!