



# Bundaberg North

## State High School

LEARNING, THEN LEARNING SOME MORE...

"PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT"...

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE FOR THE FUTURE...

No. 17, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2012

### *Principal's Report...*

This is my last newsletter as Principal of North High. I came to North in July, 1993 and have enjoyed every year that I have worked here. Over these years the school reached an enrolment high of 992 students and presently sits between 850 and 900. The wonderful thing about this school is that we have been able to cater for a wide range of students. Students who do not want a university education can choose vocational subjects then continue training at TAFE after leaving school. Some students take up school-based traineeships or apprenticeships. Students wanting to go to university can achieve any profession they wish. I am proud to say North has been the secondary school for doctors, lawyers, engineers, pharmacists, teachers, lawyers and almost any career young people wish to follow. Each year we check on students who will finish their tertiary training. This year we have been checking on the seniors of 2008 as the fourth year after graduating secondary school is when many students finish their university course. We have been pleased to hear of the graduation of 2 pharmacists, a physiotherapist, an acceptance into medicine, a drama graduate and, a first for North High, a commercial pilot. Educationally this year has been a successful one for our students and staff. The NAPLAN results of our year 9 students improved on those of previous years. Results in all areas are similar to other students across the state and similar to the other students across Australia in all but one area. Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait students have returned results similar to all other Queensland students and significantly above the results of other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students across the state.

The school underwent a Teaching and Learning audit and was commended on its achievements and improvements

since the audit in 2010. Most pleasing was the response that our Years 8 to 10 curriculum plan is the best the auditors had seen.

Since announcing my retirement I have received many well wishes from students and families for which I am grateful. The staff has ensured that my last week has been one full of pleasant surprises. Colleagues past and present shared an afternoon gathering at the 1928 Café in the Botanic Gardens with me. It was great to see some faces I have not seen for several years. The most unexpected but happy surprise was past students turning up for a surprise morning tea with me last Friday morning. I was so pleased that they had made the time to come to wish me well and it was great to hear of their successes since leaving North and to also hear that every one of them was continuing their education or employed.

I am not the only teacher who has left North this year. Jason Egan, Dan Petersen and Colin Johnson have been promoted as Heads of Department at Rosedale and Bundaberg High respectively. Giau Nguyen, Nathan Halford, Debbie Williams, Debbie Quivooy and Jai Canniffe have been transferred to other schools. Their skill and commitment to the students of North will be missed. We had an emotional staff meeting on Friday afternoon as we made our farewells. I would personally like to thank the staff for their generous acknowledgement of my work at North and the parents and school community for their support and assistance to our students. I have no doubt that the students of North will continue to flourish and I will follow their successes in the coming years.

**S I Johnson**  
**PRINCIPAL**

### *P & C Meeting*



Thursday, 7th February, starting from 5.00pm in the school administration building. All are welcome!

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**SCHOOL RESUMES TUESDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup>  
JANUARY 2013.  
ALL YEAR LEVELS**



## **Farewell Mrs Johnson**



This week we farewell Mrs Johnson and wish her all the best for her retirement. She has been with the Education Department for 45 years and has touched the hearts of 1000's of students. She has been at North since 1993, first as Deputy Principal and then as Principal. She will be sadly missed by staff and students. We congratulate Shirley Johnson on an amazing career and her wonderful contribution to education.

### **HAPPY RETIREMENT !!**

From staff, & students  
at Bundaberg North SHS.

## **School Website update**

**Our school website will be updated before Christmas. Some of the improvements include a calendar to see what is scheduled for any day during the year, improved contact information, improved subject information, improved news section, and many useful forms.**

The web address is still the same:  
<http://www.bundnortshs.eq.edu.au/>

## **2013 Laptop Information for Year 11s and 12s.....**

In 2013, students from Year 11 and 12 will be offered the opportunity to take a laptop home. These laptops have the latest version of Microsoft Office installed, have 2 Gbs internet access per month anywhere where there is a 3G signal, and have accidental damage warranty. For complete details please refer to the student laptop charter which will be sent out in the mail out with your child's report card.

Students will be allocated a laptop after Week 2 in 2013. Families whose students want to take the laptop home will need to have done the following;

1. Attend the parent information meeting in the hall on either Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at 4:30pm or Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at 6.30pm. You only need to attend one meeting.
2. Pay \$175.00 (first year laptop fee) or \$145 (second year laptop fee) and have paid all school fees for 2013 as well as having paid any outstanding fees *before* the student receives his/her laptop. If the payment is not received, the student will have the use of the laptop from 9:00am to 3:00pm only. The laptop needs to be collected and returned each day.
3. Sign the charter/agreement each year – 1 side for parents, the other side is signed by the student. (Tear off the green form attached to the "Student NSSCF Charter" document sent to you in the mailout.)

## **END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES**

**During the last week of school, our Year 8 and 9 students participated in a wide variety of alternate activities. They put away their books & experienced many new learning activities. They created mini rockets, went to the beach, made Christmas gifts for themselves and others, participated in trivia competitions and much more. Thanks must go to Mr Austin for coordinating the week of activities.**

**Students who attended enjoyed the change to their routine. Thanks to the teachers for time and effort they put into creating the alternate activities for our students.**



**From all at North High, we wish you a joyous festive season and a safe return to school on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**