Principal’s Report...

Welcome to our fifth newsletter for term three which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article I want to focus on the ‘Queensland Core Skill’ testing and preparation program, prom invitations, the requirement of year 12 students to maintain a consistent effort to the last day of schooling, and celebrating student achievement in the community.

2013 ‘Queensland Core Skills’ test completed.

This week our year 12 students completed the Queensland Core Skills test which was a great achievement as it marked the end of a very comprehensive test preparation program.

I was left in no doubt that students were extremely well prepared for this test and my assumptions were confirmed this week with the way in which the students confidently approached and completed the test. This confidence was the result of the very positive commitment students made to the preparation program and the excellent work of our staff. Mr Schmidt, the Senior School Head of Department and his team worked with the students throughout the year to develop testing skills, run and mark practice tests and provide feedback. Thank you to both staff and students on a great effort, well done!!!

Senior prom preparation: A chance for year 12 students to celebrate.

As the end of the school year and schooling for our year 12 students draws closer, preparations for the senior prom are intensifying. Student participation in this event is by invitation only and recently a letter was sent to students and their parents outlining what is required in order to receive an invitation to the senior prom. It is important that students understand these requirements and are working towards achieving them. If it is likely that students may not meet these requirements I encourage you to discuss this with your student and the school sooner rather than later. The prom will be a great opportunity for students to celebrate 12 years of schooling and I hope we can work together to ensure that this is an occasion for the whole family to remember.

Year 12 students focused on achieving success.

Year 12 students have approximately 9 weeks left of formal schooling which is very exciting for all students and families. This is a critical time for ensuring that all students achieve success. In the time that remains, students will have a least one or two pieces of assessment to complete which may include assignment completion, tests and the completion or catch up on vocational competencies.
LEARNING, THEN LEARNING SOME MORE...

"PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT"...

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE FOR THE FUTURE...

Poor or inconsistent performance now by students could have a dramatic impact upon their successful completion of year 12. It’s highly important that all students maintain focus and commitment to performing to their best in these critical last weeks of schooling. Improvements in performance, however small, will go a long way to ensuring that students achieve a great result. I encourage you as parents to discuss this with your students and to continue to support them to achieve their best. Together we can make these last weeks of school successful ones for your student.

Student success in our community.

Many of our students in their life outside of school participate in a broad range of sporting and community activities and the opportunity to celebrate student success outside of school is a great privilege. Two of our students, Laura and Kurt Walton are active members of TS Bundaberg Naval Cadets which provides members with opportunities to develop seafaring skills.

Both Laura and Kurt have been chosen as part of 50 naval cadets to spend two weeks aboard the Royal Australian Navy Ship 747 in Sydney during October where they will gain experience and skill operating a section of the ship. This is in recognition of their outstanding service to TS Bundaberg and I congratulate them on their success.

Finally, 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 child.

Ross Robertson
PRINCIPAL

SETP Interviews

Thank you to all of the staff involved in year 10 SETP Interviews which concluded last Friday. The response from parents was great and I thank you all for your time and your feedback. The future of your student is our focus and to have your involvement in their choices and decisions is most important.

Robyn Kent, Deputy Principal
ROWING - HEAD OF THE RIVER

The local rowing season has come to an end, as the final Head of the River was held on Sunday, 25th August. Despite the cold start, a great day was had by all with the rowers showing great improvements and results. Results included:

5th – Lachlan Jensen, Cooper Habermann, Jake Thomson, Ricky McMonigal & Chloe Thomson in Year 10 Quad
5th – Luke Laven, Sina Silleman, Cooper Roll, Jake Thomson & Nicholas Sarnadsky in Year 9 Quad
5th – Lachlan Jensen & Cooper Habermann in Year 10 Double

In addition, congratulations to our Grade 8 rowers (Cooper Roll, Connor Clancy, Nicholas Sarnadsky, William Robertson & Luke Laven), who all made the finals in their singles and/or doubles. These are great results for their first rowing season. Overall, St Lukes took out the Travelworld Total Points Trophy. Shalom has dominated the HOR Series for the past 20 years, so it is great to see another school take out the overall trophy.

As this is the end of the season, I would like to congratulate all the rowers on their outstanding commitment to their sport and a huge THANK-YOU again to the parents and coaches who assisted the rowers and me throughout the season. For any interested rowers there will be a ‘Come-try’ session organised in Term 4. Thanks

Coordinator/Coach Miss Teressa Tibbey

Titration Stars

Two teams of senior chemistry students competed in this year's Chemical Analysis (Titration) Competition. All students trained hard for many weeks prior to the day and they all did a wonderful job. Team leader, Ryan Vandenberg worked tirelessly assisting both competing teams. Team 2, made up of Louisa Collin, Anneka Collins and Jake McLaughlin finished a creditable 8th in the Central Queensland division which ranges from Bundaberg to Mackay and west. Team 1, consisting of Rachel Brigden, Bianca Potter and Andrew Bazeley finished 2nd and have been invited to participate in the national finals. A special mention goes to Bianca for her perfect final result and a Class A certificate. Thanks to our science operations officer, Christina Rasmussen for training the students and looking after them, practically and gastronomically. Good luck in the finals.

Looking for a summer sport? Come & try softball at Brothers Sports Club!!!
Wednesday afternoons: Juniors 4pm & Seniors 6pm
Boys and Girls 5years-16years for juniors
Men and women senior grades
Email us – brosunitedsoftball@outlook.com
Or like us on Brothers United Softball Facebook!
ARTS – Creative Arts

Fair Trade is a movement which strives for fair treatment towards workers around the world. Our year 11 and 12 combined Creative Arts class has been working with local business, ‘Alowishus Delicious’, in making chalk board artworks that promote the company’s passion for the purchase and sales of Fair Trade products. By completing these works, we will hopefully establish a greater awareness of the advantages of purchasing Fair Trade products in the wider community.

These boards have also been displayed in our school community, thus bringing an awareness of the importance of Fair trade to the greater school community. Many businesses in our local community are highly supportive of Fair Trade issues. If you want to help make a difference to those who need it most, look to purchase items or products with the fair trade label on them.

On behalf of the year 11 & 12 creative art class. Thank you for your support.

Students, Amy Lee Murphy, Melissa Tolvanen, Brigid Holt, Courtney Fowkes and Zenna Shorten have been selected by Tracey McPhee, business owner as the five most effective works that promote Fair Trade. These impressive works are now on public display at ‘Alowishus’. We look forward to receiving feedback from the local community in response to the display of these works. Congratulations students!

LAWN BOWLS CHAMPIONS

For the first time in 5 years, North Bundaberg students won the Bundaberg District Secondary Schools Lawn Bowls competition with Bianca Potter and Louisa Collin achieving victory in a closely fought contest against the minor premiers Tim Fox and Trent Sanderson in the grand final. Other students to receive medallions for active participation all season were Clarissa Hodgskin, Jemma Turnbull and Christine Walton. The medallions and winners shield were presented by members of the Burnett Bowls Club – Keith, Mim and Dell. Special thanks should go to these lovely people for providing the bowls for our students to use and helping with advice and coaching during the season. This group of students have been brilliant ambassadors for North all year and I have felt proud to be their coach. Seeing as they are all Grade 12 students, the challenge now is to students from the lower grades to continue this fine performance next year.

David Austin (Coach)

DATES TO REMEMBER:

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>5th Sept</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>6th Sept</td>
<td>Senior exam block commences</td>
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<td>17th Sep</td>
<td>Wide Bay Athletics carnival</td>
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<td>16th Oct</td>
<td>Info &amp; enrolment afternoon</td>
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<td>22nd Oct</td>
<td>Presentation night</td>
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Education Queensland Presents

‘Engaging Adolescents Parenting Course’

Parenting skills for resolving teenage behaviour problems

A three session program for parents and carers

3:30 pm till 6:30 pm

Tuesday the 2/09/13, 9/09/13 and 16/09/13

Cost: Free

Register by calling: 41 508 340
Sunday Funday
Malouf Pharmacies Bundaberg will be hosting a fundraiser - FUNDAY SUNDAY at the Bundy Bowl and Leisure Centre on Sunday, September 15th 2013 from 9am to 12noon for children aged 4 years and older.

Tickets are $21- and includes 1 game of laser tag, jurassic putt putt, dodgem cars, unlimited tenpin bowling and big dipper slide as well as $5 of tokens for the games arcade and a goodie bag. Other free activities include face painting, colouring competitions, a balloon drop and a special appearance by Jasper the Jellybean. There will be some fantastic prizes on offer, including a VIP annual pass for 4 people to Movie World, Seaworld and Wet n Wild, Toyworld vouchers, kids fishing gear from Tackleworld and a range of great kids toys.

All profits will be donated to JDRF, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, to help find a cure for children with type 1 – insulin dependent diabetes.

Tickets are limited and will be available for purchase from Malouf Pharmacies – Southside Central,56 Walker St Bundaberg and Northway Plaza, North Bundaberg.

If you would like anymore information, please contact Rochelle or Karen at Malouf Pharmacies on 4152 0522.

In January 2014, students aged 14 – 19 years from over 20 countries will be arriving in Australia to study at local schools for 2-10 months. Opportunities are available to act as a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis.

Host families help provide each student with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to practice your language skills, share your stories, learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

Our students bring with them their own spending money, health insurance and a wonderful attitude and desire to learn about their new host country. Your whole family...and your relatives and friends...will grow and learn as you all get to know your new ‘son’ or ‘daughter’ from another land. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today. To learn more about this opportunity call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit our website.
http://studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student

EXAM BLOCK
Exams will be held for year 11 and 12 students during the official exam block, Friday 6th September to Tuesday 10th September. Students must attend when their exam schedule indicates they are required.

If you have not done so already, please return your permission slip to allow your student to study under your supervision at home during the exam block, when they do not have scheduled exams.

REMINDER: Please ensure your child’s medical records are complete and up-to-date so we can provide the best possible care for your student.

Bundaberg Junior Touch Associations registrations for the upcoming season are now open. Please go to www.bjeta.com.au to register. The registration link is on the right hand side of the page. Please also click “more...” under the Registration Window Open heading and download the online registration tips sheet especially if this is the first time you have registered. Players born from 1996 (17yrs in 2013) until 2006 (7yrs in 2013) are eligible to register.

Contact Details
Contact Name : David Bonser - President
Email Address : bonzy@optusnet.com.au
Website : www.bjeta.com.au
Phone number : 0423042070
School refusal in older children

PART ONE

School refusal is often a sign of something more ... Photo: Getty Images

School can be both an exciting and a challenging experience. A young person’s experience of school is influenced by many factors, such as peer relationships, learning ability and family life. Problems in these areas can lead a young person to develop a negative experience of school. Actively avoiding school, either by not attending or not staying for the duration of the day, is known as school refusal.

School refusal can occur at any time during a young person’s schooling, however it is more likely to occur during high school. An Australian study prepared by Youth Support Coordinators highlights the increased likelihood of school refusal during periods of transitions, such as the move from primary to high school or the move from one school to another (2009). Australian research suggests that up to 9% of school population may experience school refusal at some point in time (Withers, 2004).

There can be multiple factors contributing to school refusal among children. Two significant factors appear to be experiences of anxiety and bullying (Kearney, 2007). Anxiety often manifests as physical symptoms, such as headaches and nausea, which can make it difficult for parents to distinguish whether their child’s complaint is medical or psychological in nature. Seeking medical advice and monitoring the timing of physical complaints can help discern the nature of the complaints. Being bullied at school is also another major contributor to children becoming fearful of school and thus attempting to avoid school (The Monash School Refusal Program). Other common factors include:

- Difficulty in peer relationships
- Fear/difficulties with teachers
- Transition to high school
- Family stress
- Traumatic life event
- Academic problems

Warning signs that may indicate school refusal

At school

- Frequent and unexplained absences from school
- Frequent lateness to school
- Absences on significant days (e.g., days on which tests or specific classes are scheduled)
- Frequent requests to go to sick bay
- Frequent requests to call home or to go home during the day

In the home

- Complaints of physical symptoms when getting reading for school, e.g. headaches
- A reluctance or refusal to get dressed for school
- Negative comments about school
- A reluctance to talk openly about their experiences at school

What can parents and teachers do to support children experiencing school refusal?

AT OUR SCHOOL:
If this is an issue with your student, it is a good idea to let us know by talking to the Year Level Coordinator or the Guidance Officer

The rest of the article, with ideas for support, will be published in the next newsletter or you can read the whole article by clicking on the link above.

This article was initially published by The Quirky Kid Clinic