Principal’s Report…

Welcome to our second newsletter for this term which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article I want to focus on the Student Council Induction and Senior Badge Ceremony, participation in the Parent and Citizen’s Association, our successful Swimming Carnival and student academic target setting.

Students Council Induction and Senior Badge Ceremony

I had the pleasure of being part of this ceremony when we celebrated leadership in our school and recognized those students who had gained official leadership positions. Students were encouraged to have courage, to listen and stay committed to their goals by our guest speaker Councillor Vince Habermann, who also shared his experiences of being a community leader. Our School Captains lead our senior students in reciting their pledge which had been written by the year 12 students and detailed their commitment to the school as seniors and leaders in our school. Congratulations to all our leaders on their achievements and special congratulations to our School Captains Callum Colasimone and Storm Powell. Thank you to Ms Robyn Kent, Mrs Gillian Colasimone, Mr Rob Schmidt and Mrs Judy Thrupp for the organisation of the ceremony and supporting our seniors and Student Council members to develop in their roles.

P and C Annual General Meeting and General Meeting

Our next P and C meeting will be at 5.00pm on 6th March and the association is looking for parents to be members. I realise that many of us are time poor and that our time is very valuable to us but spending a short while once a month attending the school’s P and C meeting will be time well spent. You will be contributing to the success of our school and your children’s education. Will you be expected to take on a role? is often a question asked by some parents and I can say that there is no expectation on you to take on a role. The only expectation would be for you to make the regular commitment of attending the meetings.

I am looking forward to your participation and your ideas on how we can make our school a better place.
Inter-House Swimming Carnival

Our swimming carnival was a great success with it being one of the best attended carnivals in recent years. This was due to good weather, the fantastic organisation by Mr Rob Thatcher and the excellent work by our Sports Leaders and House Captains. Races were full of competitors, novelty events had almost total participation by all the students who attended the carnival and the House and school spirit was enthusiastic and strong. Congratulations to all our students for making this a great day and thank you to our Sports and House leaders for your outstanding contribution to the success of the carnival.

Student Academic Target Setting

This year at North High student academic target setting has been introduced to encourage students to ensure that they are performing to capacity. The students have worked closely with their teachers to identify an academic target for each of their subjects, which are realistic but aimed at improving the student’s performance. As students complete each assessment task they are encouraged to produce the best they can through feedback and reflection on their performance. At the end of semester one we will review the impact of this program and make adjustments based on student and staff input. Early feedback from students is that they have found that the target setting has helped them to be focused and to work hard to achieve the target they have set for themselves.

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 student.

Ross Robertson
PRINCIPAL
Developing school and community relationships: Invitation to discussion

Dear Parents and carers,

We would like to invite you to a discussion and refreshments on Thursday, 27th February at 7pm or Friday, 28th February at 2pm to share with you the results of some educational research that has been happening in the Bundaberg region and to hear your opinions about how education today is helping your child. The venue will be the Burnett Club, Quay Street.

Over the past 18 months, after retiring as principal from Bundaberg North State High School, I have been working with a group of local community representatives and a research team from the University of Queensland to set up a Learning Commission as part of a research project called PETRA*. This Learning Commission has been hearing from a wide range of people in the community about how well schools are meeting the needs of children today and how we can develop stronger school-community relationships. Representatives from many different groups have been interviewed, such as students, parents, employers, educators, school volunteers, community service workers and other concerned members of the community. We understand how difficult it is for parents to get away from work and other commitments so we hope that by providing two different meeting times (Thursday evening or Friday afternoon) there would be a suitable time for you to come and share your thoughts with us. All information given to the commission through these discussion sessions is anonymous. The research team compiles this information and provides reports and recommendations to Education Queensland. These reports will help shape how schools and teachers will judge how well they are meeting the needs and expectations of students, parents and the community.

Please register your participation by sending an email with the following text in the subject line – I wish to attend to attend PETRA community consultation meeting. Please also indicate your preferred day/time (Thursday 7pm or Friday 2pm). To register or find out more about the meeting and project you can send your email directly to Shirley Johnson at sijohnso@bigpond.com or to Sue Monk at s.monk@uq.edu.au. You may have already received an invitation to this meeting through your school. We hope you are able to join us.

Shirley Johnson

More information about the PETRA project:

Shirley Johnson  
Commission Chair  
Email: sijohnso@bigpond.com

Sue Monk  
Researcher PETRA Project

School of Education, The University of Queensland  
Phone: 07 33657343  
Email: s.monk@uq.edu.au

PETRA* Pursuing equity through rich accountabilities
DATES TO REMEMBER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25th February</td>
<td>VET Information Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th March</td>
<td>Year 8 Immunisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th March</td>
<td>Year 10 Immunisations</td>
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Student Assessment Schedules

All students will be issued with an individual assessment schedule for Semester 1. Dates will be included for when all assessment is due. It is important that students organise their time to ensure that all assessment is completed on or by the due date. Students should read the Assessment policy on P 12 of their homework diary for guidelines about the concerns with late submissions and procedures for requests for extensions.

Vocational Education and Training information night

A VET information night will be held on Tuesday, 25th February for students in year 11 and 12 who are currently undertaking vocational studies at North Bundaberg State High School. During the course of the evening information will be presented to assist parents and students achieve success in their vocational pathway. Presenter information includes: Apprenticeship Services; Training Organisations; and Information specific to VET training and assessment.

When: Tuesday 25th February  
Where: North Bundaberg State High School Hall  
Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

School Based Immunisation Programme

Free vaccinations for all Year 8 and Year 10 students will commence on Friday 7th March.

Year 8 students to protect against Varicella – Chicken Pox and Human Papillomavirus – HPV.

Year 10 students to protect against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis – whooping cough (one vaccination). Male students in Year 10 HPV as part of a catch up programme (the girls were vaccinated in Year 8).

The vaccinations will be conducted by a team of specially trained registered nurses from Ozcare.

Consent forms were sent home in the first week of school, if your child has not received or returned their forms please contact Robyn Kirby, School Based Youth Health Nurse.

For more information about diseases, vaccines or the vaccination programme call 13 Health (13 43 25 84) or visit [www.health.qld.gov.au/immunisation/sbvp/default.asp](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/immunisation/sbvp/default.asp)
Swimming Carnival

The 2014 North High Swimming Carnival was held on Friday, February 14th, and in complete contrast to last year, there was blue sky and sunshine in abundance. All students had a great day, they participated well in the events and their behaviour was very impressive. Watch out for the results and a full report in the next Newsletter.

These photos taken by Year 11 student Phillip Tran

The photos taken by Petrina McDonald - Teacher.
2014 ROWING SEASON HAS BEGUN!

The rowing season has started with a bang, with 8 new rowers taking up this unique sporting experience. This year we have the largest number yet, with 24 rowers starting training on the weekend. We still have odd numbers in some age groups, for example, no Year 8, 9 or 11 Girls. If you have a child that is interested in joining, please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss. Training is on Friday afternoons and Sunday mornings at Bucca, and the season fee is $140. Our first regatta is still 3 months away so there is still time to get involved.

Thanks - Teressa Gibson, Rowing Coordinator/Coach (41300219)

Senior School News

Year 10, 11 and 12 Exam Block

This year we have organised a two week disruption free period each term for Year 10, 11 and 12 students where exams will be held. Students will attend all lessons each day during this 2 week period as normal but we will organise assessment so that a student will have a maximum of 2 exams on any one given day.

Some students will need to negotiate with their teachers when involved in oral or multimedia presentations as they may already have 2 exams on the day it is scheduled. Teachers will talk to students about this.

We ask for parental support to ensure that students are in attendance every day during the 2 week period so that assessment can be completed on the due date.

Please refer to Page 12 of the Student Diary for the Assessment Policy. All assessment must be completed or submitted by the due date. Students absent for exams due to illness should have a parent ring on the day and the student will need to complete the exam on their first day of return. If students are sick on the day an assignment is due, they should arrange for the assignment to be delivered to school by 3:30pm on the due date. Late assessment will be marked using a previous monitoring result, so to maximise the highest result, students need to submit/complete work on or by the due date.

Extensions for assessment must be arranged by the Head of Department of the given subject and arranged well before the due date. If students experience any difficulty completing assessment due to an illness/injury or personal hardship they should meet with the Guidance Officer to discuss any special provisions required to best support them so that results are maximised.

This week students will not only receive their exam schedule for these 2 weeks periods but will also receive the entire Semester 1 Assessment Schedule.

Our Year 10 and 11 students have participated in Leadership Days in week 2 and 3. Thanks to Mr Hogan, Mr Moller and Mr Schmidt for organising these days.

Robyn Kent, Senior School Deputy
Canoeing classes need volunteers.
We have several canoeing classes who would like a volunteer to go with them for their class canoeing activities at Burnett Downs. Would you like to be of assistance any of the following times?

- Friday 28th Feb 11.40 – 3.00
- Friday 7th March 11.40 – 3.00
- Thursday 13th March 10.05 – 11.45 then 1.10 – 3.00
- Friday 14th March 11.40 – 3.00
- Friday 28th March 11.40 – 3.00

If you can assist please phone Kay Shelton 4130 0280

‘BETTER BUDDIES 2014’ – OFF TO A WONDERFUL START

Our Better Buddies Anti Bullying Committee delivered its brand new 2014 lesson to our first RAS class this week. The focus for the year will be developing “Resilience” within ourselves and realizing our self-worth. We would like to welcome our new and existing members and thank the many students who conveyed an interest in joining. The response was quite overwhelming and has reinforced just how valued this committee is within our school. Our members include:


Year 12 – Connor Silcox, Callum Colasimone, Corey Murray, Justin Ryan, Star Radel, Storm Powell, Chloe Dear, Kahlil Bourne, Stacey Wondrock, Lani Silleman, Rebecca Ide, Anneka Collins and Brigid Holt.

We are in the process of planning some exciting activities for 2014 that highlight - “It isn’t big to make others feel small at North Bundaberg State High School”.

Mrs Jensen & Mrs Colasimone
Better Buddies Co-ordinators

Pictured are some of our student committee assisting with our Better Buddies RAS lesson.
Front – Stephanie Chapman, Kahlil Bourne, Brigid Holt, Amanda Brocklehurst.
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Cool, Calm and Collected
Stress

Cool, Calm and collected is a 2 hour workshop that explores the causes of stress and offers some practical tips and exercises for managing stress.

When: Wednesday, March 26, 2014
(2 hour session)
Time: 9.30am to 11.30am
Cost: Gold Coin donation

To register for any of the above workshops please contact UnitingCare Community on 4153 8400
(Bookings essential)

WEP Student Exchange – Memories & Skills For Life

Have the time of your life when you spend a summer, semester or year overseas as a WEP exchange student. Choose from over 20 countries around the world to complement your secondary studies with an international, cultural exchange experience. You will be invited by a welcoming, volunteer host family to live and learn like a local teenager, attend school overseas, make new friends and return more mature, independent, goal-oriented and with a new outlook on life!

Don't Miss Out! Applications Closing Soon!
Applications for long-term programs starting in August/September '14 to Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain start to close in mid-April. Applications for the USA close earlier. Contact WEP for details.

Early Bird Special – Save $500!
WEP is currently offering Early Bird discounts for programs starting in January '15 to any of the following countries: Brazil, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Norway, Thailand or the USA.

Find Out More!
Request an information pack, including WEP’s FREE application form.
Visit www.wep.org.au
Call 1300 884 733
Email info@wep.org.au

P & C AGM & General Meeting
Thursday, 6th March, starting from 5.00pm. All welcome!
SUNKEN HOUSES
Brad Marsellos & Heinz Riegler
12 March to 27 April 2014
Gallery One: Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery

In January 2013 the Bundaberg region was struck with record-breaking floods. One of the most devastated & widely affected areas was Bundaberg North. Over a 12 month period, photographer & Bundaberg resident Brad Marsellos has documented the aftermath of the flood through the houses, people & landmarks that still reside there. Heinz Riegler has created an audio composition in response to the images & following a visit to the flood affected area. Riegler’s score is an interpretation of both the flood events & the emotions contained within the suburb & its residents.

Sunken Houses official opening
Friday 14 March
5:30 to 7:30pm
Light refreshments provided.
Live performance of the Sunken Houses audio composition by Heinz Riegler.

This project has received support through the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF), a Queensland Government & Bundaberg Regional Council partnership to support local arts & culture.
This project has received financial support as part of the Creative Regions project ArtLab – Creative Recovery Central Queensland. This project has been funded by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland’s Creative Recovery – Building Resilience Initiative.