Principal’s Report…

Welcome to our fourth newsletter for Term 4 which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article I want to focus on the Year 12 Graduation and Prom, early results for Year 12 students, safe holidays for Year 10 and 11 students and correct footwear for 2015.

The Year 12 Graduation and Prom

Last Thursday we were able to celebrate the completion of formal schooling for our year 12 students at the Senior Graduation Ceremony and Prom. The Senior Graduation Ceremony was a quality, entertaining and memorable event with lots of positive feedback from families and students. This event was so successful because of the leadership of Robyn Kent and her team of hard working supporters. Congratulations to Robyn and her team, well done!!!

The Senior Prom produced a “WOW” from all students, staff and a few lucky parents who got to see the function room. I felt speechless and thought that no student who attends our school and goes to the Prom should ever be in doubt about what we as a school think about them and our care and commitment to them. Leigh Moroney and Sandra Spratling and their band of helpers produced a Prom of such high quality, from the orderly red carpet arrival of students, the gangster themed event with the matching decorations, the great student gift, to the added extras of several photo opportunities and the photo booth it was outstanding. Congratulations go to Leigh and Sandra, well done and thank you for your tireless work on this years Prom.

As I said in my Principal’s speech: “When you leave here I urge you to challenge, to dream, but above all lead active and fulfilling lives”. - Pope John XXIII

"Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do. Above all be gentle and be strong and have courage” as Winston Churchill said. “Success is never final. Failure is never fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts."

And now as you leave on your voyage I give the words of a caring Irishman to accompany you as you sail away.

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warmly in your face
May the rain fall gently on your fields,
and until we meet again ( until you meet again )
May God hold you in the palm of his hand
Goodbye and farewell 2014 seniors

P & C Meeting Thursday 4th December, starting from 5.00pm. All welcome!
Promising early results for Year 12 students

Early indications are that our Year 12 students have produced some outstanding results with:

99% pass rate in Mathematics [Sound or better] with all students meeting the Numeracy standard for the QCE.
96% pass rate in English and English Communication [Sound or better result] with all students meeting the numeracy standard for the QCE.
86% of students who sat the QCS Test achieved a C or better on the test.

Congratulations to all our senior students on the achievement of these results and well done to our Senior School Maths and English teachers and Heads of Department. I look forward to seeing more results with some degree of excitement.

Safe holidays for Year 10 and 11 students

This week is the last week of the school year for our Year 10 and 11 students and I wish those students who will not return to our school next year all the best for their future and hope that you achieve your dreams. To those students who will return after the Summer vacation I wish you a safe and restful holiday and look forward to seeing you in the New Year. I hope that all families and students have a Happy Christmas and a great New Year.

Student footwear for 2015

At the beginning of this year I communicated to the school community that we would be moving to new expectations regarding footwear for 2015 following endorsement from the Parent and Citizens Association. This message was repeated throughout the year and from the beginning of 2015 the only acceptable shoes will be black leather lace up shoes or joggers. Please refer to the attached Footwear document to see the range of acceptable and unacceptable footwear. If you feel that you may have difficulties being able to have your student meet this new footwear expectation, please contact the school so alternative arrangements can be made.

In conclusion please continue to contact the school if you have any concerns regarding your student’s education.

Ross Robertson
PRINCIPAL
DATES TO REMEMBER:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28th November</td>
<td>LEAP Applications for 2015 must be in</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th November</td>
<td>Final day for year 10 and 11 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd December</td>
<td>Yr 6 &amp; 7 Orientation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th December</td>
<td>Final day for year 8 and 9 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th January</td>
<td>School commences for 2015</td>
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<td>9th February</td>
<td>Meet the teachers BBQ</td>
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North High P & C
Hi to all parents, your P & C association has operated since the establishment of this great school. We act at a level between the parents and the school, to hear what is going on, have an input to many decisions and events that occur throughout the school year, and to provide items for the students and staff that are not part of the school budget. This is why the Tuckshop operates, as well as providing healthy food for your child’s hungry stomach.
Currently we need new members to operate efficiently. There are just a handful of dedicated parents and other interested persons left to run the P & C and make decisions that ultimately affect you. Please seriously consider regularly attending the meetings, which are held at the school on the first Thursday of every month at 5 pm; the next is on the 4th of December. Without your help, the future of the P & C is questionable, and its demise would be of serious consequence to you and your children. Please make an effort to be part of this important committee. If there are enough of you interested, but find the current meeting time inconvenient or impossible, it can be changed to 7 pm. Contact the office to indicate your interest.

Roger Burtt - President

Bring your own device - Computer
To assist our future planning for 2016 and beyond we are currently seeking parent feedback around the topic of BYOD (Bring Your Own Device). As we currently do not offer a BYOD option at the school we are seeking input from our school community and parents by way of a survey to gather information to assist our decision-making process.

We would be pleased if you could take the time to complete our survey by clicking on the link below. The closing date for responses will be December 8.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JFVMPT9

We look forward to receiving your feedback.
Year 12 graduation

Last week we farewelled our Year 12 students. The hall was ‘abuzz’ with excitement on Thursday morning as our Year 12s prepared for their Graduation Ceremony. Parents, family and friends joined the school in celebrating the graduation of 145 Year 12 students. As the Year 12s waited nervously side-stage waiting for their name to be announced, the audience were treated to a trip down memory lane as we remembered the graduates as Year 8s and then watched them grow into the wonderful young adults they have become. The Graduation Ceremony ended with a lively, fun-filled dance production for 80 of the Year 12s which left the audience smiling and clapping as our Year 12s left the stage for the final time.

The day was certainly far from over as our Year 12s then left to prepare for their Prom. Close eyes were on the weather all day and we were delighted to see the clouds disappear and fine weather appear so we could all enjoy the official arrivals of our graduates. With this year’s theme of “Gangsters” we saw students dressed in snazzy suits, hats and gorgeous dresses as they walked the red carpet and posed for photographs. The Prom was a great success with students being treated to a wonderful night to remember. A huge thank you goes to Ms Moroney, Mr and Mrs Spratling and the Year 11 Prom committee for organising the special occasion and to those who helped on the night.

I would like to wish the class of 2014 all the best in their future and hope they live successful lives and remember their days at North High.

Robyn Kent
Senior Deputy Principal
P & C Meeting
Thursday 4th December, starting from 5.00pm. All welcome!

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www.bundnortshs.eq.edu.au
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Uniform muster

If you have a student moving on from North High, or a Junior moving to Senior and you no longer require their school polo shirt, formal uniform or tie, North would gratefully receive it. We like to keep a small stock of uniforms which are made available to students on loan.

WINNER OF “BETTER BUDDIES” COMPETITION

A special thank-you to our “Better Buddies” Anti-Bullying Committee Year 11 members Sophie Cross and Laura Billing who took it upon themselves this term to organise a Rap/Poem/Song writing competition based around the topic of “bullying”. The girls were thrilled to announce the winner of this competition last week on Parade. Congratulations to Year 12 student Debbie Blanch who wrote a lengthy poem on the detrimental effects of bullying. Debbie received a $50 Sanity gift voucher. Thanks to all of the students who entered this competition.

Always remember................ at North it isn’t big to make others feel small!!!

Options for volunteering in 2015

Feel like some time at the river? Well the PE canoeing in term 1 (with Year 12s) and term 4 (with Year 11s) could do with an extra pair of adult eyes to help oversee the fun. The students enjoy the practical aspect of the course and look forward to their time perfecting their canoe strokes in the river at Burnett Downs. This is 2 hours a week and most enjoyable. You might even get a chance to paddle your own canoe.

Or maybe helping out at tuckshop or the library is more your style? It could just be once a month that you come along to assist.

Then there’s cooking and textiles in Home Ec or woodwork in Manual Arts where an extra pair of hands can make all the difference for a child being shown what to do.

We are fortunate to have some parents and grandparents already volunteering at school but more would always be welcome. So if you are able to volunteer, please contact the school or myself.

Katrine Rayner
Parent and Community Engagement
Krayn24@eq.edu.au; 41 300 311
Scribble Slam

On November 14th and 15th, a Scribble Slam was staged between two of our senior Visual Art students, Brigid Holt and Taylor Klaasen. Scribble Slam is an event that started up in a Brisbane venue (http://scribbleslam.com/) with street artists competing against each other in front of a live audience. Here at school, large scale canvases were set up in the covered area between B and C blocks. Brigid and Taylor were challenged to a live art contest in front of intrigued onlookers with the theme “Time”.

Brigid commented afterwards, “To have been able to take part in such a unique art demonstration, we as students feel completely privileged. Beyond our rigorous assignments and deadlines, this was a true test of our abilities. After years of gathering as many techniques and skills as possible, it was a great honour to be able to be able to share this with our peers.”

Held across two lunch hours, it was wonderful to see a crowd gather and watch the works develop. It was also very interesting to listen to the conversations about how each artist interpreted the theme. Everyone had an opinion about how “Time” could be communicated without using an image of a clock or hourglass; testimony to the creative ability of both artists.

Upon completion of the works, both students made the decision to gift the canvases to the school as a constant reminder of how hard work and dedication can help you make the most of your time at North. They have been mounted in the hall and I’m sure anyone who saw them during the graduation ceremony noticed what a wonderful addition they are to the décor.

Thank you Brigid and Taylor.
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