Principal’s Report…

Welcome to our third newsletter for term four which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article I want to focus on the final week of formal schooling for our 2014 Year 12 students, the last 3 weeks for Year 10 and 11 students, 2015 priorities and responsible use of social media.

Farewell, good health and luck to our 2014 Year 12 students

As you receive this newsletter our Year 12 students will be in their final days of formal schooling, completing assessment and doing all they can to ensure they achieve a Queensland Certificate of Education. In addition to this they will be preparing to celebrate these achievements at their Graduation Ceremony and Prom. This will be both a sad and happy time as we farewell our Year 12s. It will be sad because it is the end of an era for students, teachers and parents, and happy because it is the beginning of a new adventure for our students, a very exciting time for them. The Graduation Ceremony will provide an opportunity to say more to our students and families and give our Year 12’s a farewell to remember. I will however use this opportunity to wish that they enjoy a future that is bright, full of hope, health and happiness and that they achieve everything they dream of, and remember that courage and strength is also needed to get there, as dreams don’t just happen. "To accomplish great things we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe." We hope to see many of you at the Graduation Ceremony.

Last 3 weeks for Year 10 and 11 students

As I write this newsletter our Year 10 and 11 students have less than 3 weeks remaining of their school year. I have spoken to students on recent assemblies about my expectations for the remainder of the school year. Students have been reminded of the need to complete all assessment to a level that reflects their capacity, to maintain high standards of behaviour, to attend school regularly, explain all absences and participate in all learning activities in a committed manner. The curriculum program will continue until the end of the year with students completing assessment in some cases up to the last day. I have also acknowledged that this is an exciting time and that some student may want to celebrate the end of the year and this is fine provided that all school expectations are met. I encourage you to discuss the end of the year with students to ensure that the year finishes on a positive note.

North High sets its priorities for 2015

In recent weeks the school has been working on the finalisation of its priorities for 2014 and the following have been agreed to as our direction for next year.

1. Improved student outcomes with a focus on:
   - Literacy and numeracy improvement
• Differentiation including refinement of Academic Target Setting and providing student feedback
• Continued strengthening of Vocational Education Programs including school industry partnerships.
• QCE attainment
• QCS performance improvement
• Attendance improvement.

2. Building teachers capacity through:
• The continued development of a consistent Teaching and Learning Framework
• Implementation of revised Performance Development plans for all staff
• Professional learning aligned to strategic direction

3. Implementation of ‘Getting Ready for Secondary’ plan and marketing plan

4. Implementation of the Australian Curriculum with a focus on HPE

In 2015 I will continue to report on the progress made on these priorities each term as I have done this year. In our last newsletter for this year, I will share with you our achievements for this term.

**Responsible use of social media [internet, mobile phones and instant messaging]**

The internet, mobile phones and instant messaging provide wonderful opportunities for students to learn, be creative and socialise online. They also provide opportunities for inappropriate behaviour, bullying and harassment and the posting of images likely to harm others, causing pain and suffering to the targets of such behaviour. Unfortunately I am becoming increasingly concerned with the number of incidents the school has recently had to deal with related to the irresponsible use of social media. These incidents have a direct impact on the learning environment of students and have the potential to affect their academic performance. As a school we take our responsibility to provide a safe and supportive environment for students to learn and achieve in, very seriously and do not wish to see any student feeling unsafe at school. Recently I took the step of sending a text and provided links to information on Cyber Safety to assist parents to manage the online activities of their children. We also have a number of proactive programs in place to ensure that the school is a safe and supportive environment. These include our RAS Program, ‘Better Buddies’ program and Peer Mediation. We also have a number of support staff including Year Level Co-Ordinators, School Nurse, Chaplain, and Guidance Officer. I am seeking your support and assistance in ensuring that all students understand their responsibilities in relation to the appropriate use of social media. I am also asking you to discuss this responsibility with your student and to ensure that you are aware of your student’s online activities. To assist you in this discussion I have provided a link to the information on Cyber safety and appropriate use of social media that was placed on the school website last week.

[https://bundnortshs.eq.edu.au/Calendarandnews/News/Pages/Cybersafety-at-North-High.aspx](https://bundnortshs.eq.edu.au/Calendarandnews/News/Pages/Cybersafety-at-North-High.aspx)

Finally, 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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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>20(^{th}) November</td>
<td>Year 12 Graduation</td>
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<td>20(^{th}) November</td>
<td>North High Senior Prom – Brothers Club</td>
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<td>28(^{th}) November</td>
<td>LEAP Applications for 2015 must be in</td>
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<td>28(^{th}) November</td>
<td>Final day for year 10 and 11 students</td>
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<td>2(^{nd}) December</td>
<td>Yr 6 &amp; 7 Orientation Day</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 4\(^{th}\) 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

**Graduation Ceremony**

The final countdown has begun for our Year 12 students. Year 12s will be attending their Graduation Ceremony on Thursday 20\(^{th}\) November 8:50am – 10:00am. Parents of Year 12 students are invited to attend the Graduation Ceremony at the hall. This is a very special time to celebrate.

The Senior Formal will be held at the Brothers Club that night with arrivals beginning at 5:00pm. Parents and friends are invited to view the arrivals.

We wish all our graduating Year 12s all the best and hope they have success in their future.
Student Council

The Student Council have worked well this year representing the student body. We are presently appointing new students to the 2015 Student Council. Year 12 students have been selected and students in Year 9 and 10 have the opportunity to apply for Year 10 and 11 Student Council positions in 2015. Nomination forms are due in by Monday, 17th November and voting will follow.

Arts Night

On Wednesday, 29th October, a large group of talented students eagerly awaited backstage for the opening of our Annual Arts Night. Our 'circus' theme began with viewing of an Art Exhibition in G Block and then followed with an evening of entertainment from a wide variety of students and staff. The audience was entertained from a wide variety of students and staff. The audience was entertained by bands, singers, dancers and musicians. We would like to congratulate all of our performers and thank them for their valuable and talented contribution to the evening.

A sincere thank you to Mrs Martin, Ms Denham and many students and staff who helped out to make the night possible.

Congratulations to all involved.

Robyn Kent, Senior School Deputy Principal
END OF YEAR ACTIVITY 2014

With the Year 12’s graduation fast approaching and the Year 10 and 11 students in their final weeks of school, our attention now focuses on the last two weeks of school for the Year 8 and 9 students. On Monday to Friday of week 9 – (1st to 5th December) students will be completing their formalised assessment tasks and finishing their assigned coursework in English, Mathematics, Science and their elective subjects. During this week all outstanding text books and materials booked out from reprographics during the year may be returned.

From Monday, 8th December to Friday, 12th December, students will take part in a special program which builds on the main Education Queensland themes of healthy and active living as well as numeracy and literacy and critical thinking that have been stressed during 2014. Some of the activities will include sun safety and resuscitation with swimming; a maths Olympics, visualising and verbalising; art work and community service. It is expected that all students will participate in these activities.

To aid in the organisation of these activities, there will be some changes in the school timetable. Starting and finishing times are as usual but during the day students will have just one main break from 11:30am to 12:30pm. They will also be divided up into special classes for this final week of activities. All pupils will be advised in assemblies of any special clothing or material requirements that will be needed for any sessions - however they should all come to school in the final week with pens, pencils, a calculator and a notebook.

If parents have any questions regarding the program they are welcome to contact me on 41300222.

D. Austin
Head of Department - Mathematics
Program Coordinator
Chess success!

Ten NBSHS chess players recently attended an interschool chess tournament held here in Bundaberg against eight local and invited regional high schools. The top four students managed the great distinction of placing second in the team competition to the eventual winners Shalom Catholic College. The team consisted of the captain Jonathon Gillard Yr. 11, Peter Johnstone Yr. 8, Jake Pollock Yr. 9 and Jack Clark-Hislop Yr. 9.

The boys played consistently well throughout the day to achieve their great result. In the individual competition Peter and Jake were the highest placed of our students coming in a tie for seventh, Jack and Jonathon and another NBSHS competitor Jye Sercombe Yr. 11, placed in a very credible tie for tenth. The other participating North SHS students, Lachlan Baildon, Blake Batchelor, Te-Armah Brodie, Zennin Latimer and Thomas Quinn finished in the top half of all the participating students, a fantastic achievement.

I was very proud of our student’s behaviour, attitude and the overall way in which they conducted themselves throughout the day. They are excellent representatives of our school and developing chess club.

Please see a photo of our victorious second placed team with their medals.

Roger Kimber (Teacher)

Where are they now?

Laura Turnbull

Laura Turnbull graduated in 2011. She began TAFE through the school links program and is now due to finish her hairdressing apprenticeship in December this year. During this time she has won many awards, had the opportunity to represent QLD at World Skills 2014 in Perth also did extremely well at the Hair and Beauty Extravaganza at Bundaberg TAFE last week displaying her portfolio. She was recently awarded the Sunrise Rotary TAFE Student of the Year 2014.

The School-links/TAFE program has given Laura an excellent start to her career in hairdressing and she would like to encourage other students to see that they can achieve positive results themselves.
Earlier this year I was fortunate to win a “Crop to Cup” Tour at Di Bella Coffee for a class of my choice. Just recently, Year 11 BCT students, Mrs French and I travelled to Brisbane for the day to take part in this tour. Whilst business owner Phillip Di Bella couldn’t be there himself due to a last minute overseas business trip he pre-recorded his speech so that we could hear his “recipe for success” in developing his business empire. Marketing Manager Mina, also provided us with an informative session on Entrepreneur Intelligence.

We were very spoilt at Di Bella Coffee enjoying a lovely lunch in the boardroom and we received a sample bag each containing the new “KICK - Iced Coffee” soon to be released in shops.

After a quick bite to eat we walked over to the Brisbane City Council Chambers. Counsellor Angela Owen-Taylor then briefed the students on how topics relevant to their study such as International Business, Financial Management and Workplace Health, Safety and Sustainability all relate to her workplace. The students also enjoyed afternoon tea and a short tour that highlighted some of the changes that occurred during City Hall’s major refurbishment. The students are to be commended for their immaculate presentation, behaviour and manners throughout the day. I was very proud to be their teacher!

Unfortunately the Year 12 BCT students were unable to attend this excursion as they have been busy learning all about organisational skills and teamwork in the lead up to their final exam. This topic has required them to work in teams to develop various marketing strategies to promote the new Di Bella product range. As you can see there’s been a big coffee theme in the Business Department lately. Congratulations to the Year 12 students photographed who gave the most impressive presentation. No guesses as to what their prize was?

Keri Jensen (Mrs)
Business Teacher
Scholarships School Presentation

Monday, 17 November 2014
8.45am
Bundaberg North State High School
All Year 12 students and parents/carers welcome to attend to learn more about CQU Uni scholarships

Collection of the Year 12 take home devices

As it is a very busy and exciting time for our Yr 12 students, we want to ensure that the process of collecting their take home devices runs as smoothly as possible.

We are approaching this in two ways, depending if students need their devices for exam week or not. Please decide which option best suits your needs and plan to return your device during the times indicated below.

You MUST have your tablet, satchel (including strap) and both keyboard and tablet charger ready when returning the device. Please clean the screen and keyboard as a courtesy, so our job is made a little easier.

Week 6: November 10 - 14
Exam week - hand in when no longer required

Morning tea – at the common room (where you received them)

Week 7: Mon 17th - Period 1 & Period 5
Tues 18th – Period 1

If these times are not suitable or you wish to return the device before these dates please see Mrs Norris to discuss this.

Yr 11 Take Home Program information

As our Yr 11 students will continue on with their studies in 2015 we see it unnecessary for students to hand back their Acer tablets at this point in time. Students who are continuing their participation in the Take Home Program will keep their devices over the Christmas holiday period. As parents have already signed the Charter of Agreement to participate in the program we do not see any benefit or need to collect the devices now, and then hand them out at the beginning of next year. Families will be invoiced the annual cost for program participation in 2015, which remains unchanged at $125.

If you would like to discuss this matter further please contact Mrs Gail Norris - eLearning Head of Department before November 14.

P & C Meeting
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Marks Street, Bundaberg Q 4670  Phone (07) 41300222  Fax (07) 41525213  the.principal@bundnortshs.eq.edu.au
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