Principal’s Report…

Welcome to our third newsletter for 2015 and term one which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article from me I will focus on:

Reading - Professional Learning

In 2015 the school is continuing to work at improving the literacy and numeracy skills of all students. Reading improvement, particularly the strengthening of reading comprehension is a key focus of this work. In line with this priority, our staff participated in a two hour ‘Art and Science of Teaching’ reading workshop presented by our Master Teacher, Belinda Arnold, on Monday this week. The workshop introduced staff to the Sheena Cameron Reading Strategies with the aim of creating a consistent set of reading strategies and language to be used across the school. In a follow up to the workshop, staff will begin to share their experiences of using these strategies with other staff in order to construct knowledge of what is effective, best practice for our students in their professional learning communities. In addition to this, our Master Teacher will begin to work directly with faculties to support the implementation of these strategies.

District swimming carnival

Congratulations to all students who represented our school at the recent Bundaberg District Swimming Carnival. While our performance did not match some of our more competitive schools, we more than made up for this with our strong spirit of getting in and having a go. I felt proud of all students who in some cases were not strong swimmers but always demonstrated a brave ‘never-give-in’ attitude. Special congratulations and thank you to Mrs Kelly Austin for her organization of the team before and during the swimming carnival.

School Musical

This year’s school Musical, called “Back to the 80’s” will be presented in our School Hall in early May. Preparations are underway with casting almost complete and rehearsals set to begin soon. The production of a Musical is large undertaking requiring many extra hours to be put in by both staff and students. I thank all of our staff who have volunteered to take on the many production roles to ensure that students have this opportunity and that a quality and entertaining musical is produced.
Senior school monitoring

Students who return to our school to complete their senior studies, do so in the knowledge of some very high expectations regarding dress, attendance, punctuality, behaviour, effort and performance. These expectations are not unlike those that students would find in a workplace, or in other schools or training organizations. Clearly the school expects students to meet our uniform requirements including: shoes and jewellery; 95% or more attendance rate with all absences explained; to be on time for school and all classes; to comply with the code of conduct ensuring that all students can learn and all teachers can teach; effort in class requirements of nothing less than ‘satisfactory’ on any school report; and performing at a level where students are achieving a ‘C’ or ‘sound’ result or better. We hold these high expectations because when students return to complete their senior education they are also working towards the attainment of a Queensland Certificate of Education or QCE. The QCE basically requires all students to achieve ‘sound’ or better in all subjects. [Please refer to the Queensland Studies Authority for specific requirements]. I therefore believe that as a senior student in our school, the student understands that they have made a choice to be at school in the full knowledge of what is expected of them. Having made this choice I also believe that students should meet our expectations without argument or debate as all students need the maximum amount of time engaged in instruction.

This week the first of our senior monitoring was completed which identified students at risk of not achieving a Queensland Certificate of Education [QCE]. The students identified in this process will participate in a support program aimed at helping students to get on track to achieve a QCE. I encourage all parents to monitor their students’ progress and whenever possible and appropriate, to keep students focused on the main game of achieving the best results possible.

Student access to local shops during school time

On a recent assembly I have spoken about the school’s expectations around student access to our local shops. While most students understand their responsibility, I have included in this newsletter details of this expectation so that this can be discussed with your student. The school expects that students who travel to school by bus or car, remain in our school grounds until the conclusion of school. No student should leave the school grounds to go to the shop at any time throughout the day without permission. For students where passing a shop is part of their journey to school and they have not already entered school grounds, there is no concern about them going to the shop provided that students do not remain in the shopping complex for an excessive amount of time.

This expectation is about the safety of our students and my responsibility to ensure the safety and adequate supervision of students, which I take very seriously. It is also about supporting what I believe would be your expectation that your student should remain in our school grounds at all times during the school day.

Responsible use of social media [internet, mobile phones, facebook 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 to occur, causing pain and suffering to the targets of such behaviour. Unfortunately I am becoming increasingly concerned with the number of incidents the school has had to deal with related to the irresponsible use of social media so far this year. These incidents have a direct impact on the learning environment of students and have the potential to affect the academic performance of students. 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. We have a number of proactive programs in place to ensure that the school is a safe and supportive environment which includes our Junior Cyber Safety Workshop, RAS Program, Better Buddies program and Peer Mediation, as well as a number of support staff which include Year Level Co-Ordinators, School Nurse, Chaplain, and Guidance Officer. If students are feeling uncomfortable as a result of the online activities of another student or any other harassing behaviour, I ask that the student report their concerns to one of the above support staff. I am
also 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 a range of resources published on the Education Queensland Website.

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

Finally in conclusion 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.

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**Student Access to Local Shops during School Time**

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Ross Robertson
PRINCIPAL
DATES TO REMEMBER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th March 2015</td>
<td>Civvies Day – gold coin donation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th March 2015</td>
<td>Shave for a cure – and colour for a cause</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th March 2015</td>
<td>Year 8 vaccinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd March 2015</td>
<td>Year 10 vaccinations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Next Step Survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual state-wide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2014. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician's Office to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Thank you for your support of the Next Step survey in 2015.


Term 1 “Free Dress Day”

On Wednesday, 11th March we will be conducting a “Free Dress Day” to raise money for Student Council. All students are invited to participate in “Free Dress Day” for a gold coin donation. Students must comply with uniform expectations: wearing the correct footwear that complies with the uniform guidelines; no skimpy clothing; no clothing decorated with inappropriate images or writing. Students should also ensure their clothing is sunsafe. Money will be collected during RAS.
Year 11 day

Year 11 Big Day Out began earlier in the term when the Year 11s joined the other senior cohorts in the Hall for a media event. The aim of this presentation was to motivate and encourage young people to make careful decisions and strive to be the best they can possibly be. The following Friday, Year 11 students came together again for a day of activities. The first session began with a short motivation video followed by Mr Miller the Guidance Officer talking to the students. He encouraged students to look at ‘The Big Picture’. Students were asked to reflect on their successes, areas for improvement and their dreams and aspirations. In the year to come, students will be setting goals and looking at ways to effectively achieve them. Students also had an opportunity to speak with Ms Kent, Mr Schmidt and Ms Harvey about being a senior student. Session 2 was all about teamwork. Students were put through activities by the school Chaplain, Lisa Crosbie and Mr Shield. Students were also treated to some food and light refreshments for morning tea courtesy of the school. It was a great day and all students actively participated.

Year 11 YLC Nigel Shield
LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR QUEST

I would like to thank our five students who participated in the 2015 Lions Youth of the Year Public Speaking Competition last Wednesday. These students were Stephanie Chapman, Lachlan Baildon, Serena Holder, Alex Kidman and Skie Cronin. All of these students impressed the judges during their 20 minute interviews held in the morning in our school library. We were all then treated to some wonderful 5 minute prepared speeches and two 2 minute impromptu speeches in the evening at the RSL Fairways.

Serena Holder won the Overall Best Speaking Award on the night for her touching speech on domestic violence. Stephanie Chapman will now go on to represent Moore Park Lions Club in the next round of the competition as will Skie Cronin for the North Bundaberg Lions Club. We wish Stephanie and Skie all the best for the next stage of the competition. Well done girls!

Keri Jensen
Lions Youth of the Year Co-ordinator

Participating students are pictured with their parents, Judges and a representative from the Moore Park Lions Club.
North High Swimming Carnival 2015

North High’s 2015 sporting year took off with a splash on Friday, the 13th of February with Monduran claiming victory in our annual swimming carnival. Tension was high between the four houses from the beginning with Walla narrowly missing out on first place by 7 points. The amount of participation throughout the day demonstrated a high level of enthusiasm between the opposing houses resulting in the day being a major success. Thank you to all of the students for their exceptional behaviour and to the teachers and staff for organising such a successful and enjoyable event. Not only did we have swimming races, but the students enjoyed water volleyball organised by the sports captains. A special congratulations to all of the age champions and people who placed in their races, and well done to Monduran for taking out this year’s swimming carnival trophy making them the champions!

2015 Swimming age champions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Name - Boys</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Name - Girls</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Brent Deighton</td>
<td>Tirroan</td>
<td>Simran Prasad</td>
<td>Mabbro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Thomas Walker</td>
<td>Monduran</td>
<td>Tayla Heiniger</td>
<td>Monduran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Chad King</td>
<td>Monduran</td>
<td>Emma Deighton</td>
<td>Mabbro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>William Robertson</td>
<td>Tirroan</td>
<td>Mikka Noblett</td>
<td>Walla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Brandon Vyner</td>
<td>Tirroan</td>
<td>Georgia Prichard</td>
<td>Walla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/Open</td>
<td>Jake Tolvanen</td>
<td>Walla</td>
<td>Melody McNamara</td>
<td>Monduran</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2015 Swimming overall House winner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mabbro</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monduran</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirroan</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walla</td>
<td>713</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REMINDER
12 RECREATION STUDENTS
BOAT & JET SKI LICENCE OPPORTUNITY

Reminder that all Year 12 Recreation students have the opportunity to obtain their Recreational Marine Driver’s Licence (boat) and/or PWC (jetski) Licence through this subject. Please ensure all permission forms are returned to their Recreation teacher and money paid to the office by Week 10 (Monday 30th March). Payments may be made using direct credit BSB: 064-403 Acct: 0090504 and using student name as a reference. Testing will begin in Week 1, Term 2 (Monday 20th April). Any questions please contact Teressa Gibson via the school number (41 300 222) or email ttibb3@eq.edu.au.

Thanks Teressa Gibson (Senior Recreation Coordinator)

LEARN TO ROW CAMP SUCCESS

Last weekend, North High conducted its first Learn to Row Camp. Coaches and parents were all very excited about the success of this camp hoping it being a definite for next year. 17 new rowers tried out the sport with 8 of our current rowers helping out. By the end of the 4 land and water sessions, all rowers had a good understanding of the technique, commitment and teamwork required to be successful at this great sport. With most of these new rowers signing on, our team is now over 20 strong, our biggest team yet. A BIG thank you to the parent helpers that assisted with catering, coaching, supervising and tinnie driving and also to the current rowers that gave up their weekend to help out the newbies. I am looking forward to season ahead.

Teressa Gibson (Rowing Coordinator)
Microsoft Office 2013 suite for students

All Queensland State School students from Prep–Year 12 can now get multiple free copies of the Microsoft Office 2013 Suite.

The Microsoft Office 2013 Suite can now be downloaded by all students on to their personal devices.

- The suite of products is only available for download on to personal devices, not devices connected to a school network.
- Personal devices include those devices in the student’s home environment as well as mobile devices.

In order for students to take advantage of this offer they will require an active MIS login and school email account.

A student who does not currently have an active school email account and password should contact their school MIS Administrator or class teacher.

MIS Administrators in schools will be able to help students activate their MIS login.

Negotiations are underway to possibly provide staff access to the same suite of products early in the new year. For instructions please visit our website

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Moore Park Beach Traditional Karate

Now Training in Moore Park
6:00-7:30 PM Monday and Thursday nights at Moore Park Community Hall

Great Training in a Friendly Atmosphere

- Realistic technique application
- Focus on character improvement and avoiding conflict
- Very affordable. $5:00 per lesson
- All ages and skill levels catered for
- Benefits of training include improved fitness and better concentration
- Instructor with over 30 years experience with Child Safety Blue Card.

More Information. Paul 0429 487 019

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P & C Meeting

Thursday 5th March, starting from 5.00pm. All welcome!
A local Psychologist is undertaking research through Charles Sturt University into the psychological impact of the 2013 Wide Bay and North Burnett floods. She is in the process of recruiting local participants who experienced the January 2013 Wide Bay/North Burnett floods. Your participation in this research will contribute towards an improved understanding of the psychological impact of the January 2013 floods, and the relationships people had with their pet and/or livestock during and after natural disasters. Please note however, you do not have to be a pet or livestock owner to participate in the study (equal numbers of animal owners and non-animal owners are required). The only eligibility criteria is that you experienced the floods. It is hoped that participation in this study will generate greater awareness of flood-related and animal management issues to be incorporated into the provision of future recovery services. If you are interested in participating please click on the following link.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Jan2013Floods
THINK PREPARE PLAN for life after school
Bundaberg workshop

Background
My Future: My Life is a groundbreaking initiative which encourages and supports Queensland secondary students with a disability to pursue their vision and goals for life after school.

Purpose
- think creatively about life after school
- identify and pursue students' unique potential and goals
- link to community resources
- identify what it would take to put the students' plans into action

Where
Brothers Sports Club
130 Tavilan Street
Bundaberg

When
Thursday 15th March 2015
9:30am – 2:30pm

Who should attend
Parents, disability professionals and educators of secondary school students with disability

How to register:
Visit the Events page at www.myfuturemlp.com.au or by phone 1300 697 636
Numbers are limited, registration essential
www.myfuturemlp.com.au

PCYC Creative Arts Youth Festival Bundaberg

We are pleased to announce our inaugural PCYC Creative Arts Festival for 2015. Arts streams include Music, Photography and Visual Arts.

There will be FREE workshops provided in areas such as PA operations & vocals, as well as band instruments such as guitar, drums etc., digital photography, painting, manga drawing and chalk art. These will take place during Friday 17th April. **(read other document)**

MAJOR EVENT - Friday 17th April 7pm
A 'Battle of the Bands' with both a band and solo act section
An "Exhibition" of all entered art and photography with prizes awarded

***Opportunities exist NOW for your school to enter bands and/or solo acts as well as individual art and photography pieces***

For more information or to enter please contact the PCYC on 4154 2813 or email info.bund.north@pcyc.org.au

Supported by