Principal’s Report...
Welcome to our fourth newsletter for 2015 and term one which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article I will focus on ‘Shave for a Cure’, primary school transition program, teacher communication with home, student use of teacher feedback, the Student Services team and ‘My Big Picture Plan’.

Shave for a Cure:
On Friday, March 13 North High held a Shave for a Cure day to raise money for cancer research and support of cancer sufferers. The idea of holding a school event came from one of our Year 11 Student Council members Angus Ethell. Angus approached the school, and with the support of Mr Hogan, Shave for a Cure became reality and a Year 11 Student Councillor project. The day was a great success with Rick Hogan playing a lead role in the organization and management of the day with the support of the Year 11 Student Councillors. Their efforts were rewarded with large numbers of students participating, supported by an enthusiastic and encouraging crowd of students. Lots of funds were raised for cancer research as well as our school making a positive contribution to our community. This was a well-organized and managed event that both Rick Hogan and the students should immensely proud of. Congratulations to all staff and students who participated and especially those that were brave enough to take the shave.

Transition program:
Over the course of the last 3 weeks our Primary School Transition Program for term 1 has been underway with visits to our feeder schools as well as West State School. This program works with Year 4 students and above engaging them in curriculum related activities while strongly promoting our school. The program takes a large amount of preparation and implementation time with all schools acknowledging the quality of what is presented. A big thank you and congratulations go to Gillian Colasimone and her team, consisting of Penny McKeown, Helen Coulton and Teressa Gibson for this great work.

Teacher communication with home:
As part of our improving student attendance strategy our staff has increased the level of contact they have with the parents of the students they teach. They are providing information on assessment, general class progress and acknowledgement of student achievement. We believe that positive and productive home-school relations will assist students to achieve the best outcomes. This communication is usually by email and sometimes by letter taken home by the student. We have also agreed as a staff that the content of this communication should be positive and always aim to support parents in their conversation about school with their son or daughter. The email or letter will not contain negative information about student behaviour or inappropriate actions. This type of communication will always be either via a face to face interview or a phone call. If you do get an email about your student please take the time to read it and respond if necessary.
Student use of teacher feedback:
Teachers provide feedback to students often and in many ways. Sometimes this feedback is verbal but generally it is written feedback providing advice and support on ways for the student to boost their performance. Education experts rate effective student feedback as having a very positive effect on student performance. Feedback is a critical component of the teaching and learning process that can have a powerful effect on the success of a student. When a student receives feedback it is highly important that the student responds to the feedback and make the adjustments necessary based on the advice given by the teacher. I encourage you to discuss this with your student to ensure that they are heeding the advice of their teachers.

Supportive and approachable ‘Student Services’:
Our support services for students include our School Based Youth Health Nurse - Robyn Kirby, Chaplain - Lisa Crosbie, Guidance Officer - Rob Miller, Youth Support Co-ordinator - Susie Mant, Year Level Co-ordinators and Junior & Senior Heads of Department. They all do a great job supporting our students. They are all located in G block and are very easy to access. Many students already use their services to assist them through difficult times and ensure they can achieve success at school. Anyone can use these services when students and/or families need support to deal with any issue that may be affecting a student and their success at school. These services are confidential unless a student gives consent for their information to be shared or if they disclose they have been harmed or are at risk of being harmed in any way. All students can use these services even if they are the friend of someone who may be experiencing difficulties or engaging in an activity that they feel is not quite right and likely to be harmful to their friend. I encourage you to discuss this information with your student and support them if they need to access these services.

My Big Picture Plan:
At North High we are focussed on producing the best outcomes for all students and in 2015 we remain committed to achieving our vision of ‘Outstanding Learners, Outstanding Achievements, and Outstanding Futures’. As part of our efforts to achieve this vision and success for all students we have introduced a whole school program called “My Big Picture Plan”. Essentially the “My Big Picture Plan” is a career and education plan developed by all Year 7 to 12 students. The purpose of this program is:

1. To build student aspirations.
2. To engage students in long-term career and academic planning and goal setting.
3. To implement a consistent career planning program that supports students knowing themselves, accessing career information and developing a career plan.
4. To create supportive structures to facilitate career and education planning, development, review and refinement.
5. To build a self-reflective student learning culture with a focus on student aspirations.
6. To provide student access to an education and career mentor (RAS teacher/ Big Picture coach/Year 7 teacher) over an extended period of time.
7. To increase parent engagement in student learning.

The rationale behind this is that students who have aspirations for their future are more motivated and engaged learners and usually more successful. Student progress on achieving their career and education goals will be reported on at a ‘student led conference’ to be held in early May which will take the place of our traditional parent teacher interviews.

More information about the program including a timeline of past and future planned events will be sent to you this week, I encourage you to read the information and visit our website to see some of the documents that are being used in this program. My Big Picture Plan.

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.

Ross Robertson
Introducing our Master Teacher, Belinda Arnold

During 2014 I took on the role of Literacy Coach, Year Level Co-ordinator and English Teacher. At the end of last year I was offered the role of Master Teacher in 2015. My new role, developed by Education Queensland and local school decision making within our school, allows me the opportunity to focus on the two greatest aspects that impact our jobs as educators; what we teach and how we teach it.

What is a Master Teacher?

Master Teachers collaborate with classroom teachers to become vehicles for improvement through the sharing of best teaching practice. Outstanding teaching practice is achieved through building teaching capacity. We will build teacher capacity through action research and through developing high yield teaching strategies.

Role of the Master Teacher

As North Bundaberg State High School’s Master Teacher, I am responsible for leading activities and key tasks including:

- working with instructional leaders to prioritise the teaching of literacy and numeracy within the school’s curriculum and teaching framework
- enhancing teaching practice for staff by researching and modelling quality teaching across all year levels
- providing coaching and guidance to teachers and other staff in delivering quality teaching of literacy and numeracy
- improving the capacity of school teams to use evidence based assessment to inform teaching and Learning
- providing coaching and guidance to teachers around classroom management and explicit instruction

The end goal of the Master Teacher initiative is enhance the achievement levels of all students at our school.
Year 12 Physical Education All Day Canoe Trip

On Monday, 9th March both year 12 Physical Education classes (26 students) embarked on an all-day canoe trip. The purpose of the day was to create an opportunity for the students to demonstrate their canoeing skills in a practical ‘real life’ situation where their teacher (Mr Whalley) could assess them based on their knowledge of strokes and when to apply them.

The day started at Burnett Downs and finished at Bingera Weir, a journey of about 14km. The day was very hot and students were instructed to bring a minimum of 4 litres of drinking water, most of which was consumed during the day. After paddling for 2 hours it was time for a brief lunch break where the students could get out of the canoe, rest and relax for about half an hour. At this stage there was minimal complaining although some students said that their arms were starting to become a little sore.

After reapplying sunscreen it was back into the canoes and heading into a reasonably strong headwind, needless to say the complaining started to increase. With tired arms some students were falling well behind (and so were their marks) as Mr Whalley had to return and give them a tow with his boat, much to the disgust of those students that were making good speed into the wind. After paddling for about an hour, it was time for another break where the students were permitted to have a swim, as long as they were in full canoeing attire which included a buoyancy vest and shoes. This was very enjoyable and much appreciated as the weather was relentlessly hot.

With most of the journey completed, it was back into the canoes for a short 40 minute paddle to Bingera Weir where the canoes had to be loaded back onto the trailers and the weary travellers could finally put their feet up for the return bus trip back to school. All in all it was a typical canoe trip where some students showed amazing ability and stamina, some students continually asking “how far to go to the next stop” and some students having to be towed (repeatedly). Hopefully this trip will remain in the memories of students as one of the highlights of their senior year at North High.

Congratulations to all students, as completing 14km of canoeing is a great achievement. Well Done!

P.S. Thanks to Mr Wallace (pre-service teacher) for his supervision throughout the day.

Mr Whalley
Year 12 Physical Education teacher
Shave for a Cure

The Leukemia Foundation’s Vision to Cure is being achieved by funding the best research into blood cancer. Decades of research have improved survival rates and treatment for people with leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and related blood disorders. However, blood cancer remains the second biggest cause of cancer death in Australia, claiming a life every two hours - so ongoing research is vital. On Friday, March 13th we held a ‘Shave/Colour for a Cure’ fundraiser here at North High to raise money and awareness for the many types of blood cancers. To say it was a success would be such an understatement. The support and participation on the day was incredible and we thank students for taking time out of their day to come and encourage this fundraiser. Also, a huge shout out to all 18 of the students who were brave enough to get their hair shaved. Your bravery on the day was outstanding! All together we raised over $2300. This money will certainly go a long way, it will assist in research and provide support to Australians living with blood cancer.

On behalf of the year 11 student council representatives and Mr Hogan, I would like to say a huge thankyou to each and every one of you who donated money and time to such a worthy cause, whether this was getting your hair coloured, shaved or just supporting everyone else who did.

By Hayley Sparozvich

Hinkler Protocol

As you may be aware, Hinkler Central have enforced the ‘Hinkler Protocol’ (previously Youth Protocol) for a number of years in order to maintain a safe and harmonious environment for all of our shoppers. For those that may not know the history of the Hinkler Protocol, it was originally developed with input local youth organisations and high school students in order to reduce the incidences of bad behaviour in the Centre and of course, ensure the safety of all patrons, including our younger shoppers.

However, we have recently seen a rise in anti-social behaviour and feel that it may be time to re-iterate the agreed terms of the Protocol and of course explain why we have these measures in place. For our younger shoppers, there are two main rules that they need to be aware of:

1. Shoppers aged 12 and under need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times.
2. ID must be carried during their visit to Hinkler Central.

Attached is the link to the Hinkler Protocol flyer for your reference and perusal.
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

DO YOUR BEST – come and join Bargara Little Athletics

Programs for Tiny Tots to under 17s and Seniors runs in a fun family environment? The Bargara Little Athletics season is starting on Sunday 29th March 2015.

Sign on Sunday, 15th March 2015 from 10am to 2pm at Bargara Central Shopping Centre and

Nielson Oval Bargara for a come and try family fun day on Sunday 22nd March 2015, 9am – 12 midday plus a free sausage sizzle.

For more info phone Elissa 0419 642 679 or Kay 4159 1881

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED IN JUNE-JULY 2015
EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE, MAKE NEW FRIENDS
IMPROVE YOUR LANGUAGE STUDIES AT HOME

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is a not-for-profit organisation that is registered with all state and territory Departments of Education around Australia and with the Ministry of Education in NZ. We are the first and only secondary exchange organisation in Australia and New Zealand to be certified to ISO 9001 (Quality Management System) and we ensure the highest standards of care and support to our participants.

In June-July 2015 we will be receiving exchange students from Austria, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Switzerland and Sweden. Our new arrivals will live with a host family and attend a local school for 2 or 10 months. As we plan for their arrival, we are looking for host families across Australia to welcome these students into their home.

Our students originate from a variety of countries. You can find out more about our international students by clicking here.
Enrichment, Education, Excitement - Become a Volunteer Host Family!

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in July 2015. Our students from Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, Italy, Belgium, the USA, and France are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon.

"Wonderful - joyous - heartfelt. An absolutely wonderful idea and so beneficial for all involved, from family to school friends. We truly feel Enrico is another member of our family."
- Marie - host mother of Enrico (Italy)

Hosting is Fun! Find Out more!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. To help you make this important decision, contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.

Sylvia Kelly
Manager – Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733
Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: http://www.wep.org.au

SIGN ON DAY SATURDAY 28TH OF MARCH
HINKLER CENTRAL SHOPPING CENTRE
9AM – 2PM
COME AND PLAY AFL
FANTASTIC AFFORDABLE WINTER SPORT.
MAKE NEW FRIENDS, GET FIT, HAVE FUN
CONTACT SONYA ON 0439746683