Principal’s Report…

Welcome to our first newsletter for this term which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article I want to concentrate on; ‘My Big Picture Plan’; Student Led Conferences; literacy and numeracy improvement; and the schools commemoration of ANZAC Day.

Student Led Conferences on May 7th

Recently I wrote a letter to all parents encouraging you to book for our Student Led Conferences on May 7th 2015 from 11.00am to 7.00pm. I also invited parents to visit our website to review the details of the new program called ‘My Big Picture Plan’ which we have introduced this year. I again encourage you to visit our website to gain a detailed understanding of the purpose of this program and its various elements. Part of this program involves reporting to parents and this will be done through our Student Led Conferences which will be supported by your student’s RAS teacher.

The Student Led Conferences will take the place of our parent teacher interviews and will take a holistic view of a student’s performance and how this has contributed to the achievement of their ‘Big Picture Plan’ or Career and Education plan and what is required in their next phase of learning to maintain their journey towards the achievement of their plan.

The concept of a Student Led Conference is in line with school’s strategic plan, one of its objectives being the development of a self-reflective student learning culture. Mid-semester reports for all students will be issued at this conference or after the conference if students are unable to attend.

Our expectation is that this approach will lead to an increased number of parents attending the Student Led Conferences. In order to provide the additional time that the conferences will take, the school day on Thursday, May 7th 2015 will be altered. The school day will run from 11.00am to 7.00pm and students will only be expected to attend the Student Led Conference to satisfy school attendance requirements for that day. Students will also not be required to wear school uniform for their attendance at the conference. The school will not be closed but will be working in a different manner in the interest of achieving the best outcomes for all students.

Booking for the Student Led Conferences has already begun and at the time of writing this article 240 conferences/ interviews have already been booked, which is a 140% improvement on the any previous bookings made for Parent Teacher Interviews. The school is utilizing the PTO Parent Teacher Online booking system. More information about how to do this has been provided in this newsletter and has been sent home with each student. You are welcome to call the office on 4130 0222 for assistance.
While the response from parents so far is fantastic and a great endorsement of this new approach, its success and impact on student learning will be through the majority of parents and students participating in the conferences. I therefore ask you to make a booking if you have not done so, to ensure that the maximum benefit of the Student Led Conferences is provided to all of our students.

**Literacy and numeracy improvement**

As you would be aware one of the school’s priorities is literacy and numeracy improvement with a strong focus on the development of literacy and numeracy skills of our Junior School students. There are a number of strategies in place across our school to support this improvement and development of skills. These strategies include the following;

- Sheena Cameron and QAR Reading Strategies aimed at improving reading comprehension skills.
- Intervention reading program aimed at supporting students reading skills.
- Unify writing program aimed at extending our high performing students.
- Common assessment task sheet aimed at ensuring the literacy and numeracy demands of an assessment item are identified, taught and assessed.
- English faculty feedback sheets aimed at developing student’s grammar and punctuation skills.
- Literacy and numeracy warm-ups in English and Maths lessons aimed at developing the skills of inferring and mental maths as well as activating thinking.
- NAPLAN preparation program aimed at developing student’s test taking skills.

All of these strategies are in response to student literacy and numeracy data which we have been able to access through school based testing as well as NAPLAN data. This data has helped us to identify the gaps in student knowledge and skill and the above strategies, as well as others I have not mentioned, are aimed at filling these gaps.

Our year 7 and 9 students will make good use of these skills as they complete the 2015 NAPLAN which is scheduled for May 12, 13, & 14. I want to acknowledge the work of our staff in developing and implementing this program and in particular thank our Master Teacher, Belinda Arnold, our Literacy coach and English Head of Department, Tom Wright, our acting Numeracy coach and Mathematics Head of Department, James Peach, our Student Support Services HOD, Carolyn Campbell and the line manager of the program, Michelle Pole for their commitment to ensuring all our students have strong literacy and numeracy skills.

**ANZAC DAY**

Our school commemorated ANZAC Day on Friday, April 24 with a Rainforest Garden ceremony in the morning, a special full school assembly in the afternoon and participation in the Bundaberg ANZAC Day march. In addition to this many of our students also made contributions to the many community organizations they are part of, in the various ANZAC Day events around the district. The full school ceremony was led by our student leaders with the support of Robyn Kent and addressed by our special guest Captain Michael Walker. In the morning the Rainforest Garden ceremony which was also a commemoration of the contribution and sacrifice Indigenous Soldiers have made in the defence of Australia, was led by our Change Maker Program students and the Planeteers with the support of Sue Firinne. Both ceremonies were moving and thought provoking as we remembered those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country and the centenary of the Gallipoli landing. Congratulations to the students, Ms Kent, Ms Firinne on what were two outstanding ceremonies and special acknowledgement on the reverence displayed by all of our students as with commemorated ANZAC Day.

Finally please continue to contact the school if you have any concerns regarding your student’s education so that together we can produce the best outcomes for your child.

*Ross Robertson*

**PRINCIPAL**
Hello to all parents and carers

February 5th saw the Annual General meeting of the P&C with the following office bearers elected:

**Mark McKean - President**
**Steve Weller - Vice President**
**Julie Schulte - Secretary**
**Susan Ide - Treasurer**

The incoming committee would like to thank all members for their service in particular the outgoing President - Roger Burtt.
Are you good with numbers?? Our long serving Treasurer would like a rest and the P&C would like to hear from any volunteers available to fill the role. Pay some bills and present the monthly report - nothing to it?

The P&C are actively looking for some new blood and interested parents, carers and friends. Play a part in the future of the school and see how the students and the school can all benefit. The more input - the more chance of benefits for all.
Just one day per month (or more). Can you afford this amount of time to volunteer in the tuckshop. All help would be greatly appreciated.
For further information please contact the office and I am sure they will pass on the contact details to you.

The P&C would also like to express their support for the upcoming 'My Big Picture Plan' Student Led Conferences to take place on May 7th. This new vision towards the students with the assistance of the teachers, whilst in it’s infancy will no doubt be rewarding adventure for all.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting Thursday May 7th starting at 5.00pm. New venue - G Block conference room -(Look for Art and you must be close).

Mark McKean  
**P&C President**

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>7th May 2015</td>
<td>Student Led Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th May 2015</td>
<td>Project Night Life</td>
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<td>12th - 14th May 2015</td>
<td>NAPLAN – for Year 7 and 9 students</td>
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<td>13th May 2015</td>
<td>Movie Night Fundraiser at Reading Cinemas – ‘Picture Perfect 2’</td>
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<td>27th May 2015</td>
<td>Walkathon</td>
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<td>28th May 2015</td>
<td>Bundaberg Show Holiday</td>
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Statements for student accounts have been sent home. Several options are available, to make payment as convenient as possible; Direct Credit to Bundaberg North State High School,  
BSB: 064-403  Acct: 0090504, Reference: Student name or EQ ID number.

OR Credit card over the phone
OR BPAY (details on statement)
OR Centrepay (see Cashier in the office for details)

Payment plans may be discussed if other options are not possible.
Commemorative Garden

At 8am on Friday morning the Memorial Garden at North Bundaberg State High School was commemorated for the centenary of ANZAC, with a small group of the local community, our Student Council, members of our administration, councillor Vince Habermann, Katy Barnes from USQ, our school’s Aboriginal Elder, the school’s green team, the Planeteers, and members of the Youth Change Makers program. Last year the Youth Change Maker students from North High were recipients of funding from USQ’s Youth Change Maker program. This funding, with the assistance of the North High Planeteers, made the rainforest garden a reality, and it was planted by both groups of students. A memorial rock and plaque were also placed in the garden, as a memorial to the ANZACs. The garden will also serve as a place of reflection and a place for students to regain their experience of nature. Today’s commemoration ceremony gave us the first opportunity to use the garden for its intended purpose since its construction.

Sue Firinne

Senior News

Student Led Conferences

Parents of all students are asked to attend a 15 minute Student Led Conference on May 7th. You will have received information on how to book an appointment.

At this meeting, students will receive their mid-semester report card. This is a new process where students take responsibility for their learning and achievement and set goals for the next semester. They will conduct the 15 minute conference with the support of their RAS teacher. We strongly encourage all parents/guardians to attend their child’s meeting. We have high expectations for all our students and expect our senior students ie Year 10-12 to take this process very seriously and work on setting goals that are discussed with their parents and RAS teacher in a mature fashion. The goals will then be reviewed at the second Student Led Conference in term 3.

Year 10

This term all Year 10s will begin a career education unit in the SETP (Senior Education Training Plan) class. They will prepare a resume and investigate career options. As the term progresses, students will also begin receiving information about Subject Selections for Year 11, 2016.

Year 12

Year 12s have begun fundraising for their prom. Students are selling chocolates at present and raising money to contribute to the costs of photography and room decorations. Remember to pencil in Thursday, 19th November for the Year 12 Graduation and Prom.

On May 7th, the Year 12s will receive a “TrackEd” report that shows their progress toward gaining a QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education) and OP (Overall Position) for those eligible. Students will collect their “TrackEd” report along with their mid semester report at their Student Led Conference.
ANZAC Day Ceremony

On Friday, 24th our school held two ANZAC Day ceremonies. Our day began at 8:00am with a moving ceremony organised by Mrs Firinne. Special guests were invited to our first function held at the ‘Rainforest Garden’ at the back of our school. Counsellor Vince Habermann, members of our indigenous community, parents, staff and students were invited to attend. The sounds of the didgeridoo (played by Joseph Ingram) played as one of our Army cadets, Hayden Churchill marched in. Our guest speaker, Mr David Spratling gave a heartfelt speech of his experiences in the defence forces and Nick Quinn played ‘the Last Post’. Thank you to the students and staff who assisted with the morning ceremony.

At 2:20pm we held a full school parade for all students and staff. This ceremony was organised by our School Captains, Lachlan Jensen and Emily Kurtz and run by the Student Council. We would like to thank our guest speaker, Captain Michael Walker for attending our ceremony and making a speech.

On Saturday, ANZAC day, we participated in the Bundaberg ANZAC Day march – 35 students and 11 staff took part. We also had several students attend the Moore Park ANZAC ceremony where Year 11 student Chloe Harris read ‘the ode’. Thank you to all students who attended and participated in the various ceremonies held. It was a very special occasion to commemorate.
North High goes “Back to the 80’s”!

Dig out your legwarmers, your shoulder pads and your fluoro footless tights because our school musical is on Friday and Saturday, May 22\textsuperscript{nd} and May 23\textsuperscript{rd}. Tickets will be on sale at the door - adults $10.00 and students $5.00. Come along and enjoy a trip down memory lane with “Back to the 80’s”.

P & C Meeting

Thursday 7\textsuperscript{th} May, starting from 5.00pm. All welcome!
Jamie Oliver - eat your heart out!

On Monday, April 27 staff at North High had their tastebuds tantalised with a wide array of menu choice when they participated in a ‘Twilight PD’ session on eLearning. Using a restaurant themed approach, the afternoon saw staff select an entrée and main course of eLearning pedagogy to whet their appetites. Four dishes were served up by knowledgeable staff in small hands-on sessions during the afternoon.

Penny Hall enticed us with pod casts as an interactive engagement tool for classrooms using Ted Talks (Technology, Entertainment & Design), Ted Ed, and Ed Tube. Sharon Kidman showcased how literacy and numeracy differentiation can be achieved using the latest online interactive eLearning tools. Tracy Hall focused on creating exciting Learning Pathways for classroom engagement across all curriculum areas through use of the Learning Place while Julie Hanak turned traditional teaching on its head with the flipped classroom approach she is using with her year 7 students.

It was fantastic to see so many of our teaching staff and teacher aides engaged in this afternoon of professional pedagogical learning. As technology changes and the traditional classroom takes on a different shape it is imperative that we look at new ways of engagement for our 21st century learners. We look forward to more eLearning sessions with staff this year.

Gail Norris
HOD Business, ICT & eLearning
DATE CLAIMER 13th MAY - MOVIE NIGHT FUNDRAISER

This year North Bundaberg State High School has 5 teams participating in Relay for Life on the weekend of 15th August. We are currently very busy fundraising in order to reach our goal of raising $5000. We will be holding a movie night on Wednesday, 13th May at Readings Cinema. The movie selected is “Pitch Perfect 2” (PG) and it will screen at 6.30pm. We would like as many people possible to come along and enjoy the evening. Tickets must be pre-purchased from the school office and are $15 each for all age groups.

Sadly in the Wide Bay Burnett Region 1,500 people are diagnosed with cancer each year and 506 people die from cancer each year. 1 in 2 Queenslanders will be diagnosed with cancer by age 85. In 2014 the Cancer Council Queensland funded $14M in research. Overall cancer survival has improved by 30% over the past 20 years.

North Bundaberg State High School is proud to be involved in raising money to find a cure for cancer and we value the support from our school community.

Keri Jensen
Relay for Life Co-ordinator

Changes to assessment dates

Please note the following changes to the assessment dates for Creative Arts (VET) Yr 11 and 12.

CUVCER201A – Develop Ceramics Process due Week 6 (27th May).
CUVPAI201A – Develop Painting Skills due (Term 3 Week 10 16th Sept) and
BSBOHS201A – Participate in OHS Processes (Year 11 only) due (Week 7 18th Nov)

Thanks, Mrs Martin

Council has received numerous reports that vehicles parked around the school are contravening road rules by parking over yellow lines (No Standing Areas), bus zones and across driveways which contravenes the Queensland road rules. If students and parents are unsure of these rules, it is highly recommended that they consult the Queensland road rules information available on the department of Transport and Main Roads website: http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Safety/Queensland-Road-Rules.aspx
**Winter Season 2015**

**Mixed & Mens**

- **Sign On Date:** 8th & 15th June
- **Sign On Times:** 5.00pm-6.00pm
- **Start Date:** Round 1 22/06/2015
- **Venue:** The Waves AFL Club  22 Clayton Road Thabeban, Bundaberg
- **Game Times:** Games start at 6.00pm
- **Game Days:** Monday
- **Divisions:** Mixed and Mens
- **Season Length:** Season consists of 6 games

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**International Composting Awareness Week**

In the lead up to International Composting Awareness Week in May, Bundaberg Regional Council is encouraging residents to think about alternatives for disposing of food scraps. When organic materials like food scraps are buried in landfill it increases greenhouse emissions through the production of methane gas. Most of this organic waste can be recycled through composting which would not only benefit the environment and reduce the strain being placed on our waste facilities but also ensures the nutrients in the food scraps are recycled and helps to improve the soil quality in your garden. Find out more about Council’s Waste and Recycling services at [www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au](http://www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au)
ENGAGING ADOLESCENTS™
PARENT COURSE

A three-session program for parents & carers will be offered in two different time slots at

NORTH BUNDABERG STATE HIGH SCHOOL

CHOOSE EITHER:

Morning Course: MONDAYS 18/5, 25/5 & 1/6/2015 9am – 12noon

OR Evening Course: WEDNESDAYS 20/5, 27/5 & 3/6/2015 6 – 9pm

New understandings of adolescence, skills for handling those tough, ‘must-have’ conversations.

Presented by Debbie Quivony & Cheryl Pankratz (Bundaberg District Behaviour Support Teachers) who have trained in Parentshop’s Engaging Adolescents program (www.parentshop.com.au).

FREE PROGRAM: Course handbook provided. Catering provided by the school.

REGISTER ASAP AT NBSHS MAIN OFFICE WITH YOUR NAME, PHONE NO. & EMAIL ADDRESS

* An end to the arguing and yelling! * It saved our lives * Simple, sane, effective.

Bundaberg Child & Family Centre proudly presents

Child and Family Community
FUN DAY - EXPO

Friday 15 May 9.00am - 12.00pm
Bundaberg Basketball Stadium, Flint Street, South Bundaberg
National Families Week 2015
FREE for all Families to attend
Fancy Dress – Prize for Best Outfit
Fun activities for children • Free Sausage Sizzle
Emergency Services Vehicles • Children’s Entertainment

For further information contact Dawn Murdoch, Child & Family Program at the Neighbourhood Centre on 4153 1614

P & C Meeting

Thursday 7th May, starting from 5.00pm. All welcome!