6 March 2014

Principal’s Report

In 2015, we will be welcoming both Year 8 and Year 7 students into our school. During the next two weeks we will be holding parent forums, as we did last year. The purpose of these forums is to talk about our plans and to work with parents on ensuring we are making the transition into secondary school a safe, smooth and happy one. Fliers will be delivered to all primary schools notifying parents and carers of the times of these forums.

Curriculum for Year 7

Students in year 7 will have an English and Maths block each day in home rooms with a connect teacher. We chose the word connect because of the important role this teacher has in connecting our students to the secondary school setting. The connect teacher will also teach their class for at least another subject. This means that students will have a connect teacher who will see them for at least three lessons out of five each day.

This is one of the ways we are ensuring that your student feels safe and supported in their move to secondary school. The parents/carer’s first point of contact will be the connect teacher, similar to the primary school setting where parents and carers are able to contact the class teacher on a regular basis.

Another way we will be supporting the Year 7 transition to secondary school is with our Junior Secondary Head of Department, Sharyn Morris. Some of Sharyn’s most important roles are to support students, connect teachers and parents. She coordinates student programs, lunchtime activities, Year 7 camp, parent information evenings and forums, leadership activities and the Junior Secondary Student Council.

While we must ensure we are meeting the time requirements and recommendations of the core curriculum: English, Maths, Science, History and Geography, Health and Physical Education and Language, we realise that one of the important aspects of secondary school is that students like to have a choice of subjects and access to specialist rooms such as laboratories, kitchens, workshops and art rooms.

We have organised our timetable so that Year 7 students are able to choose elective subjects. Students will be able to choose from a range of offerings including: Home Economics, Manual Arts- Wood, Metal, Plastics and Graphics, Marine Practices, Aerospace Studies, Music, Dance, Drama, Art and Business and Digital Design.

Year 8

Students in Year 8 also study a core program consisting of English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography, Health and Physical Education and Language-German. In addition to this, students choose four electives throughout the year, studying one per term. The electives include Art, Music, Dance/Drama, Marine Practices, Manual Arts, Home Economics, Business and Digital Design and Aerospace Studies.

Students also have a connect teacher who teaches them for two subjects. They will also have home rooms for core subjects. Students will move to other areas of the school and be taught by other teachers as required. This helps prepare students for the transition through high school, when they will experience a wide variety of teachers for different subject specialities.

When our new students were asked; “What do you like about secondary school” some of the replies have been:

The science laboratories and the experiments, the different subjects, being able to move to other subjects, the canteen is open every day, meeting new friends, the camp and end of term rewards trips, the ipad’s and teachers helping us to learn.

Thanks to: Max, Alicia, Arizona, Payton, Jacinta, Dallas, Joel and Alexia for their feedback about Year 8 this year.

Kind regards
Karen McKinnon
Principal

Open Day

On Saturday March 1 the doors were open to past, present and future students of Maryborough State High School. Open day was a great success with many visitors as well as many new families interested in finding our more about our great school.

Open Day Activities
2014 Next Step survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual state wide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2013. 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 2014.

For more information visit www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.

A Night with the Stars

As part of the Astronomy unit for Year 10 Aerospace Studies, around twenty students, their siblings and some parents enjoyed three hours of star gazing and learning about the constellations around us. The Night with the Stars event was hosted by Aerospace teacher Mark Heinrich, assisted by his wife Louise (English and History teacher at Maryborough High), with Joe Mather (ex NASA engineer) and three others astronomical enthusiasts from the Hervey Bay Astronomical Society who brought down their large telescopes and set them up on Kings Oval. They explained the planets and galaxies around us. Joe gave the group a brief overview of the night sky and what could be seen from Maryborough skies on the night. We were able to view Jupiter, double stars, Sirius and Betelgeuse (a couple of the largest suns in the Solar System), some very young stars and the nebula that produced them and other galaxies which contain millions of stars. If you looked at that patch of sky with the naked eye you would see nothing.

It was great to be able to learn about the links between the Greek and Aboriginal traditions and Southern and Northern hemisphere names for star clusters such as Orion’s Belt or the Saucepan. We also learnt how to work out the Southern Polar Axis, around which all the stars rotate, and were able to identify this from the Southern Cross. A very moving youtube video was shown highlighting how small and insignificant the Earth is in the scheme of the Universe with some wise words from Carl Sagan about Earth just being a “pale blue dot” when looked at from the perspective of looking back at Earth from Saturn.

It was a night of revelation, of star gazing and we enjoyed an amazingly clear sky with expert stargazers to point out the incredible astronomical bodies in the southern hemisphere in our summer sky. We hope to host another Night with the Stars in winter where we will see a host of other stars in the heavens. The Hervey Bay Astronomical Society is always looking for new members and they have monthly meetings at USQ and observing nights on Saturday evenings. Further information can be found on their website www.hbastro.net

Mark and Louise Heinrich
Aerospace Teacher

Junior Secondary Update

It’s been a busy but rewarding two weeks in the Junior Secondary Department this fortnight. Forms and information on the Year 8 Camp to Hervey Bay been issued to year eight students. Mrs Taylor is busy organising a range of exciting activities for our students and we can’t wait to have some time to get to know everyone better outside of school. If you have any questions, or need extra forms please make sure you see Mrs Taylor in F Block staffroom as soon as possible. If parents wish, a payment plan can be arranged to make the expense more manageable. We want as many students as possible to attend.

Our rugby league players are having a great time every Wednesday afternoon playing in the interschool competition here in Maryborough and in Hervey Bay. If you get the chance to go out and see a game, you will not be disappointed!

Our MSHS Open Day was a great success on the weekend with many year 8 and 9 families coming along to see the range or resources and programs that our students have access to. It was also wonderful to see so many staff take the time out of
their weekends to show how much they appreciate the school they belong to. A special thank-you to the students of 8D, our sporting excellence class, for assisting Mr Hanrahan in running competitions on the inflatable soccer field throughout the day.

Literacy and Numeracy are always a key focus in our Junior Secondary department, and recent work shows that a new program in Year 8 connect are making gains in student achievement. Many of our students have shown improvement in this area, based on testing before and then after key concepts are taught. Our wonderful team of Literacy and Numeracy support (Ms McKaskill, Mrs Massingham and Ms Plaatman), connect teachers and teacher aides have been working tirelessly to assist our students and their efforts are very much appreciated.

Attendance of our Junior Secondary students continues to be strong. Regular attendance is a key factor in student achievement and success. Another is arriving to school on time. Did you know that your child’s best learning time is at the start of the school day? Every day, every minute counts! Just a little bit late doesn’t seem much but...

- **He/She is only missing just...**
  - 10 minutes per day
  - 20 minutes per day
  - Half an hour per day
  - 1 hour per day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing just...</th>
<th>That equals...</th>
<th>Which is...</th>
<th>And over 13 years of schooling that’s...</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly Half a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 ½ Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 ½ Years</td>
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Parents sometimes ask how they can be more involved in helping their student complete their homework, even if they don’t know the topic being studied. Parent involvement in homework or reading at home assists the student in being successful in completing these activities but also sends a powerful message to the student that their education is valued at home. Some simple tips for assisting your student could include:

- Setting up a homework friendly area free from distraction;
- Help them schedule a routine and regular time for completing homework;
- Keep distractions to a minimum while the activities are being done;
- Ask students to explain a concept to you as this improves their understanding;
- Ensure that they do their own work;
- Be a motivator, praise their work and efforts;
- If there are continuing problems in completing the work set, assist or encourage your student to seek help from their teacher.

**Ms Morris Dean, Junior Secondary.**

**Multipurpose Sports Court**

Thanks to the MSHS Parents and Citizens Association our tennis court has had a makeover to provide students with a new multipurpose surface for tennis, netball, volleyball and badminton.

**Hats embroidered**

The school has organised student hats to be embroidered with their names. Cost is $5 paid to student services office. Hats will be collected from student services on a Friday afternoon and delivered back on a Monday afternoon.

**Payments**

BPAY is no longer a preferred payment method for school fees. We do accept cash, cheques, Direct Deposits and have EFT facilities for Credit and Debit card payments.

CenterPay is also available to families who receive payments from Centrelink and would like to make regular direct payments to the school.

**Maryborough Chaplaincy Dinner**

Mayor Gerard O’Connell is pleased to invite you along to support our High School Chaplains on Monday 24th March at the City Hall from 6:15pm. The Chaplaincy Fundraiser is presented by the Maryborough Minister’s Fellowship.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guest</th>
<th>Tim Mander – M.P.Everton, QLD and Former CEO, Scripture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speaker:</td>
<td>Central Queensland Chaplaincy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost:</td>
<td>Adult $25.00 (2 Course Meal) Students $15.00 (2 Course Meal) Gallery $10.00 (viewing only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enquiries:</td>
<td>Paster Stephen Jobe – 0418 150 895</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Entertainment and Catering provided by Aldridge and Maryborough State High Schools.

**High School Exchange Scholarship**

HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIP & EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE - APPLY BY 31ST MARCH
Scholarships valued from $2,500 up to $10,800 are open to students between 15-18 years of age and offer the unique opportunity to live and study overseas for a semester or year. Students can also make a saving of up to $1,000 off their exchange program fee with an Early Bird Discount. The deadline for scholarship and early bird discount submissions for all programs departing between October 2014 – March 2015 is Monday 31st March 2014. Visit www.studentexchange.org.au or call 1300 135 331 for more information

**Year 10 School Dental Service**

Year 10 students are eligible for School Dental Service located at Central State School. If you wish to take advantage of the offer, please obtain a dental form from student services and return the completed form as soon as possible. Please keep in mind that on completion of year 10, your student is no longer eligible to be seen by the School Dental Service.

If you have any enquiries please contact the Central School Dental Clinic 4123 4441

**Sports news**

**Fraser District Swimming Carnival**

On Monday 24 February, 22 students from Maryborough SHS attended the FD Swimming Trials in Hervey Bay. These students showed great sportsmanship and team spirit. We had students participate in most of the events held throughout the carnival. The Maryborough High team finished 6th overall, with Xavier winning the Carnival. Maryborough SHS finished first out of all state schools in the percentage trophy. I was very proud of all the students who attended the carnival and they should be very proud of themselves.

![Fraser District Swimming Team](image)

**Wide Bay Summer Trials**

Dylan Hard, Jackson Hoyes and Kailan Harris

Congratulations to our Wide Bay representatives! These students will now represent Wide Bay at State Championships for their sport.

Dylan Hard and Jackson Hoyes – Open Boys Softball – Toowoomba in July
Kailan Harris – Open Boys Squash – Maryborough in May

Best of luck to all of you at your state titles later in the year!

**FD Winter Trial – Tuesday March 11th**

All information for these trials has been given to the students who are attending them for their chosen sport. Money was due on Thursday. All sports will be held in Maryborough, except hockey which will be in Hervey Bay. All students attending these trials will need to travel by private transport. All sports start at 10am, therefore students need to be at their venue by 9:30am. Sports will finish at 2:00pm and again students will need to have their own transport home. A reminder that students require their permission form, medical form and payment.

**Golden Glove Softball Challenge**

Golden Glove Softball will be held in April. Information about this competition is available from Mrs C. Taylor. There is already a sign on sheet for Golden Glove Softball outside the PE staffroom.

**Futsal**

Maryborough State High School will be attending the South East Queensland Futsal Titles during Week 6 of school. More information on results will be given in next newsletter.

**Broncos Challenge Rugby League**

Two weeks of the competition has been played. The Year 8, U15 and Open Boys played against Xavier the first week and played very well in all grades but fell short on the score line. MSHS girls also played but due to numbers played with Xavier girls and still had a great time. The second week of the competition saw Maryborough High play St Mary’s College. Both the U15 Boys and Open Boys played fantastically. They both won their games with a number of tries and tackles and were absolutely the better teams on the day. This week in round three, all teams except the Year 8’s travel to Hervey Bay to play Urangan. Best of luck with the remainder of the season!
School Cross Country

The school cross country will be held on Thursday 3 April in week 10. The event will run very similar to last year with the whole school being involved. More information will be distributed closer to the date. Those students who finish in the top 10 of their age group will attend the FD Cross Country in Hervey Bay a little later in April.

Sports Co-ordinator – Mrs C Taylor

Year 12 News and Information

Australian Red Cross Fundraiser

Thank you to all those students and teachers who wore red to school and donated a gold coin on Thursday 27 February for this fantastic organisation. The school raised $102.50 for The Australian Red Cross. A huge thank you to the Prefects, Tegan Hoyes, Jessica Merrison and Daniel Cronau for organising this event! This was a great start for our first fundraiser for the year.

There will be a number of other events to raise money for a range of charities and events throughout the school year which will be organised by the Prefect group.

Formal and Graduation

Just to let all parents know so it can be marked on the calendar early, the Formal will be held on Saturday 15 November at the Brolga Theatre and Graduation Ceremony will be on Friday 21 November.

Students will get more information on both of these major events as the school year progresses. Committees made of Year 12 students will be established so that those interested can help assist with the planning for these two major functions.

The cost for Formal will be approximately $110, but costs will be confirmed closer to the date.

Website

Just a reminder to parents and students of Year 12, that I will do my best to have information regularly updated on the school website so that you are kept informed of relevant issues and/or events.

Mrs Carrie Taylor

Year 12 Co-ordinator

Roadcraft Driver Education

Once again Roadcraft will be offering their driver education program to students. This is a great course for all students who are already driving or close to it. Roadcraft Driver Education’s mission is “the prevention of road trauma by providing effective road safety education to road user of all ages”. The course is purposely designed and developed to maximise the participants learning experience and motivate them to use proven systems and techniques to minimise the level of risk on the road. Maryborough SHS has been booked in for the course on Saturday 22 July and Sunday 23 July. There is more information on the website and the students were also given information on parade. If your student is interested, please let me know and I can provide additional information about the day.

Late Arrivals/Early Departures/Attendance

A reminder that if your student arrives late to school or has to leave early, they must sign in/out at Student Services. It is very important that your student attends school on a regular basis and if they do miss class, it is their responsibility to catch up with the teacher to get the work they missed.