25 November 2014

Principals Report

Last week we formally farewelled our graduating Year 12 students at the Graduation Ceremony at the Brolga Theatre. After five years of secondary school, it is rewarding to see them take the next step in their life’s journey, wherever that may take them. For some, it will be further formal study, for some the world of work, and for some it will be travel to experience what the outside world has to offer.

Last Saturday, our Year 12s enjoyed their Formal at the Brolga Theatre, and what a splendid affair it was – our young people look very different all dressed in their finest. The students had a wonderful evening and thanks goes to Mrs Taylor, the Year 12 Coordinator and her band of staff and student helpers. They were individually acknowledged on the night, as these events don’t just happen without many hours of planning and organising. Mrs Taylor is also to be congratulated on her efforts in organising the Graduation Ceremony and all the other Year 12 events throughout the year.

All the staff at Maryborough State High School wish our graduating students the very best for their future.

This week is the final week for Year 10 and 11 students. They are busy finalising their end of semester assessment. Year 11s will attend camp from Wednesday to Friday this week as part of their transition to being the school leaders in 2015. Friday 28 November is their final school day for the year.

Planning for our new students for 2015 is well underway, and we look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 and Year 8 students for their orientation days in early December. Students beginning Year 8 in 2015 will be here for two days on 1 and 2 December, followed by students beginning Year 7 who will be here for two days on 3 and 4 December. Many changes have taken place to get ready for the inclusion of Year 7s next year, including new playground area, additional shade sails, additional seating in the playground and classroom refurbishment.

End of Semester Reports will be distributed to students on the following days. It is important that all students have returned school resources and paid any money owing prior to the issue of reports. If you have any queries regarding this, you can contact the school office.

Year 10 and Year 11 – Reports will be available for students to collect from the office on Friday 5 December from 10.30am.

Year 8 and 9 – Reports will be distributed to students in the afternoon on Wednesday 10 December.

Last week Maryborough State High participated in a National Teaching and Learning audit conducted by the Australian Council of Educational Research. This involved 3 days and 3 auditors who have completed school audits across Australia, including South Australia, Northern Territory and Victoria. The auditors scrutinised the work teachers and the administration do. They spoke with parents, teachers and community members.

The auditor’s commendations are listed below:

- Our Numeracy and Literacy program, which is based on small groups with targeted activities. This year our Numeracy score on NAPLAN was above the national score.
- Students have a strong confidence in their teachers. They feel that they are known and understood well by teachers, who they regard as being skilled, knowledgeable and approachable. They express confidence that teachers will readily provide extra help and time where needed.
- Our strong links with the community and provide strong support for different groups of students.
- Our pedagogical framework allows teachers to share their practice and promote collaborative development.
- The Senior School has developed quality processes for improving school and individual student achievement towards their goals and post-secondary pathways.

An apology to Sam Pincham for the incorrect spelling of her surname in the last newsletter.
Junior Secondary Update

Junior Secondary Leadership in 2015 is going ahead in leaps and bounds! For the first time next year, students entering into Year 9 have the opportunity to become Junior School Captain, Vice Captain or a Junior School Prefect. This will allow our students to continue their leadership journey from primary school and further develop these qualities for senior.

It was wonderful to see ten students complete the rigorous application process this week, submitting a hand-written letter of application, getting evaluations from their teachers and finally having the courage to stand in front of their peers and deliver a speech. Our students who completed the process were: Kyla Van Veenlen, Bethany Robinson, Rochelle Paroz, Jemma Tenant, Georgia Ryan, Kama-Lee Fuller, Chantel Bates, Jeremy Klein, Audrey Hanna and Katie Donsky. Congratulations on an exceptional effort by all of these students. This week we will let applicants know the decisions made.

Next week will be an exciting time for Junior Secondary at Maryborough State High as we welcome our new students for next year to our school for their orientation days. Year 8 students for 2015 will join us on Monday and Tuesday (1 and 2 December), with the Year 7 students for 2015 coming on the Wednesday and Thursday (3 and 4 December). We look forward to spending time with our new students, ensuring that they feel comfortable and confident to start their journey in secondary schooling at the start of next year.

Junior Secondary students should be in the process of finalising their assessment for this term. Should your child be experiencing any difficulty at all, please feel free to contact either the classroom teacher or myself for assistance.

Sharyn Morris
Dean – Junior Secondary

QUT STEM Camp

During school holidays I took time out of my break from school to do more school. I know it sounds beyond boring but it was probably the most fantastic experience of my life.

I was selected out of over 200 rural Queensland students to participate in the Vice Chancellor QUT STEM camp event. 120 rural students were selected over all, 60 Brisbane student were also selected from a total of 300 candidates in total for this honour of participation.

The camp aimed to expose, engage and encourage students to become interested in S.T.E.M fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). It also aims to bring students with like-minded interest together; students from different regions also form new and ever lasting friendships and the experience also provides plenty of great leadership opportunities.

Since attending this camp I have made heaps of new friends - people I can talk to about school and common interests. We keep in contact using social media and it was probably the greatest reward from this experience.

Although other rewards did include winning a free movie pass for having the cleanest room at the hostel where we stayed, meeting professors at the forefront of their research areas and being able to talk to them about my future goals and careers. In addition, being able to use new and exclusive technology, which is normally only available to professional researchers, was a privilege.

Stationed at Queensland University of Technology we were able to visit both the Kelvin Grove and Gardens Point campuses. All 180 students were able to play on QUT’s amazing feat of technology “The Cube”, a 3 million dollar giant computer with touch screen technology and two projectors as big as myself. It was awesome when we all got to watch the LEGO Movie on the 10m X 10m screen.

For anyone remotely interested in any of the STEM fields, I strongly recommend it. You gain lifelong friends, new and amazing knowledge and a life changing experience. Overall, it is the most fun EVER and there was not a single moment of boredom with the inside jokes and best people you will ever meet.

Carla Wattie
Year 11

St Helens Breakfast Club

A big thank you to all the students who volunteered to help out at St Helens State School’s Breakfast Club on a Thursday morning. During term two the following students volunteered to support the primary school’s P&C with their breakfast program: Chloe Birt, Harrison Bridge, Lauren Brunke, Amy Collins, Rihley Ellis, Shanice Ivey, Lance McLeod, Tayla Miller, Jemimah Pipers, Erin Rogers and Tia Upton. Congratulations and thank you.

Three Year 10 students, Stacey Benson, Abbey-Leigh Kassulke and Erin Noble, volunteered every Thursday in term one, three and four to help out with the breakfast club. A massive thank you to these girls for coming out to St Helens for a total of 23 Thursday mornings throughout the year. The girls are famous at St Helens for their Banana, honey and chocolate smoothies! You should be very proud of your volunteering efforts Stacey, Abbey-Leigh and Erin.

Chelsea Donaldson.

Library News

As the end of the year draws closer this is a great time for parents to touch base with their students regarding textbook and library books plus any other material their students have borrowed this year. It is important that everything is returned as soon as possible before the end of the year. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Thank you from the library staff.
Graduation
On Friday 21 November the Graduating Class of 2014 had their final parade at the Brolga Theatre. It was a fantastic day for these students to be acknowledged for all their achievements over the last years of high school. The ceremony was beautiful with music performances by Year 12 students, Rakel Stewart, Megan Kaufman, Candice Hunter and Rebecca Smith. There were heartwarming tributes and thanks from Year 12 students, Tristan Batchler and Rakel Stewart. A PowerPoint presentation was also shown of these students over the years by Daina Neilsen and Shanley Parker, ending with their grad song “Time of our lives”.

I want to thank all the parents and families for attending this celebration of their students. A special thank you to Mrs Dawn Tennant for the Parents Response, which was very touching.

The day ended with a lovely lunch with parents and friends at the Westside Tavern.

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2014! All the best in the future and remember to believe in yourselves and chase your dreams.

Palma
Those Year 12 students who ordered a Palma, they will be here at school in Week 10. You will be notified when they arrive at school.

Diploma of Football
FC11 is now pleased to announce their partnership with Football Federation Victoria. This partnership sees FC 11 – The Diploma of Football becomes an official education partner of FFV and also the official education partner of National Premier Leagues Victoria. This is a full-time applied based curriculum model currently conducted in Melbourne at the Melbourne University, where students train and study at the same time. This is aimed at individuals that have completed Year 12 and are looking at becoming a professional or semi-professional player, sports coach, sports trainer, sports administrator or looking to work in sports management, sports tourism, facility management and more. For more information please visit www.fc11.com.au , email info@fc11.com.au or call 1300 412 990.

Important Dates to Remember
• UQ 2015 Sporting Scholarship Applications now open – www.uqsport.com.au
• NSW University information on scholarships is available from year coordinator or go to www.whatson.unsw.edu.au
• ADF Gap Year. The Army has Gap Year jobs opportunities for Rifleman, Driver Transport, Administration Clerk, Supply Coordinator and Unit

Contact Details
Have you moved? Have you changed your phone number?
It has come to our attention that some contact details we have are incorrect. If you have changed any contact details please contact the office as soon as possible.

Signing In
If your child is late to school please remind them to call into student services to sign in before going to class.

Lost and Found
Student Services have a number of lost and found items (usb sticks, jumpers, watches, jewellery, keys). If you have misplaced or lost an item please see Student Services. If these items are not collected by the end of term they will be donated or thrown out.

Year 12 Graduation and Farewell
Formal
What an amazing night! All the Year 12’s looked absolutely stunning. The arrivals started around 5:00pm and the last car rolled up at 6:30pm. The students all danced with grace and finesse throughout the evening. The dinner that was catered by Bay Fusion was great. There were many dance competitions and certificates given to the students throughout the night that provided laughs for all involved. Students also had access to a photo booth with props that provided some additional entertainment and a small keepsake photo of the evening for the students.

Overall, they all had an amazing time and did not want to leave. I was very proud of all of these students with the way they all presented themselves and acted on the night.

I want to personally thank all those involved with planning and helping on the night. Especially to the Formal Committee, Brolga Theatre, Bay Fusion, Wide Bay Entertainment, Huggle Booth, Land of Sweets, Maryborough State High staff and all those others who assisted with the night.

Last Week activities
During the Year 12’s last week they participated in many activities which included, Safe Sex talks, schoolies information, alcohol programs and so on. The students were very fortunate to have the Red Frogs come and speak to them about Schoolies and safety. Rainbow Beach was a nice relaxing day for students who played soccer, swim, shopped and ate. They also had a very beneficial talk from the police and fire and rescue which was an eye opener for many of them.

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Quartermaster. The Air Force has Gap Year job opportunities in Airbase Security Roles. For more information please visit defencejobs.gov.au/gapyear - Commences in January/February 2015

- Defence Aviation Technical Careers day – work experience day for young women considering a career in this area - more information contact Defence Jobs Australia
- Sports Network – US College Sporting Scholarships – Study in and play in the USA - For more information visit – www.cbsports.com.au
- University of Queensland has scholarships for academic excellence and encourage students to apply. For more information go to the website www.uq.edu.au/scholarships
- MONASH University – offers a number of scholarships to support access to university and reward academic achievement – For more information visit – www.monash.edu/study/apply/special-admissions
- Fraser Coast Australia Day Awards Nominations for 2015 are open. For more information visit www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au
- TJ Ryan Memorial Medal and Scholarships – awarded to Queensland secondary students who demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities within their school and community and academic excellence
  - Aspiring Teachers Grants – Year 12 Graduates who intend to commence an initial teacher education program higher education institution in 2105. Need to achieve an OP of 1-5 and have a high motivation and commitment to tertiary study and career in teaching.
  - Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarships – available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders who aspire to become teachers in state schools.
  - Step into Teaching Scholarships – support eligible individuals to complete an undergraduate or commence a post graduate secondary teaching qualification in one or more of the following high priority curriculum areas; Maths B and C, Chemistry, Physics or Industrial Technology and Design.

Further information: http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/scholarships.html

Mrs Carrie Taylor
Year 12 Co-ordinator

Sport News

Sports Captains for 2015

In 2015, there will be a Junior Vice-Captain (Year 7 or 8), Junior Captain (Year 9), Senior Vice-Captain (Year 10 or 11) and Senior Captain (Year 12). Year 7s who come to Maryborough High will be able to nominate in the first week of school in 2015, therefore House Captains will not be announced until Week 2 of Term 1 in 2015. Students who are successful, will receive a letter in the mail at the end of this term. These students will be recognised at the Investiture in Term 1 of 2015.

Excellence Sporting Program 2015

Maryborough State High School will be extending the Sporting Excellence Program to include Hockey and Soccer in 2015. Students will be able to choose either a Soccer or Hockey HPE class Years 7, 8 and 9. This is an excellent opportunity for students to have a specialised teacher in these areas coach them in the sport, skill and game play.

Students will be given more information to them on school parade over the next few weeks. There will also be visits to the primary schools to promote this program. If you require any more information please feel free to contact Mrs Carrie Taylor at the school.

Mrs C Taylor
Sports Co-ordinator

SWPBS Focus of the Week

The focus of the week for the remainder of this term will be based on ASOT classroom routines and procedures - before class, during class and end of class.

The focus again will be classroom expectations at end of class.

Focus of the Week - Week 8

Classroom expectations at end of class: participate in the end of lesson activity, wait for teacher instructions to pack up and tidy room, wait to be dismissed.

Merit Points

Students are allocated merit points by their teachers throughout a fortnight period and students with the most points are placed into a draw on full school parade and receive a tuckshop voucher. Four students are drawn from each year level. Students successful in the draw on Thursday 13 November:

- Year 8 – Zac Leaman, Sarah Willmott, David Maslen, James Bate
- Year 9 – Lashae Cronau, Tamika Ivey, Olivia Kilmurray, Cruize Bandholz
- Year 10 – Zac Charteris, Caleb Krueger, Robert Parry, Daniel Fiedler
- Year 11 – Erin Rogers, Paige Sinning, Sienna Sunn, Chloe Charman

Thank You

Thank you to all those students and parents who donated the unwanted uniforms.
Community Notices

The dinosaurs are coming!

Dinosaurs and prehistoric creatures of all shapes and sizes will take over Maryborough’s heritage-listed City Hall over the school holidays.

Explore-a-saurus is an interactive exhibition featuring amazing animatronic versions of some of the world’s most famous dinosaurs, one of the most complete dinosaur skeleton specimens ever found in Australia, and the carnivorous Tyrannosaurus Rex, King of the Cretaceous Period.

The exhibition will run from the start of the Christmas school holidays on 13 December and continue until the end of the Easter Holidays on 19 April, 2015.

Tickets are available from the Maryborough City Hall Visitor Information Centre or pre-book on line at www.ourfrasercoast.com.au/dinosaurs