3 March 2015

Principals Report

It was a great privilege for Maryborough State High School to be awarded the inaugural “Jack Pizzey Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership”. We were awarded this in conjunction with several other schools in the area: Hervey Bay State High School, Gympie State High School, Kepnock State High School and Gin Gin State High School.

We welcome a number of new staff to our school community in 2015. They come from varied backgrounds and all contribute to the richness of the teaching staff here at Maryborough High.

Michael Baldwin – Teacher of 7C. Michael originally comes from New Zealand and he and his family have relocated here.

Cathie Briner – Teacher of HPE and Marine. Cathie has moved here from Brisbane. Her particular specialty is Science and this year she is introducing the new Marine Science program in Year 11.

Melissa Ethell – Teacher of 7D and Special Education. Melissa has transferred to secondary school to teacher Year 7. Her particular specialty is developing literacy and she has previously taught in a number of local schools.

Kylie Genrich – Teacher of Science and Maths. Kylie is based locally and has taught previously in local schools. Her particular specialty is Physics.

Debra Griell – Teacher of 7F. Debra joined us on Monday 23 February when we created an additional Year 7 class to cater for increased enrolments. Her particular specialty is Science and Debra has taught in Queensland and in other states.

Richard Jeffers – Teacher of 7B and Japanese. Richard has transferred here from Central Queensland, where he taught Japanese to students in a range of different schools.

Andrew Mennon – Acting Head of Department Mathematics. Andrew has transferred here from Brisbane. His teaching experience also includes teaching in an international school.

Kaye North – Teacher of 7A. Kaye has transferred to secondary school to teach Year 7. Her particular specialty is technology and is further developing the use of iPads in our junior secondary school.

Junior Secondary Update

Week 5 marked the start of our Junior Secondary transition process for primary students in 2015, with two Big Day Out at High School days for Year 6 students. These days provide students with the chance to experience high school life, regardless of which school they will head to next year. It was great to see our primary school students in the school grounds once more, smiling and ready to learn. A big thank you to Mr Bates for organising this event and to the many staff who assisted over the two days to make it a success.

It’s camp time! Our Year 8s will be heading off to camp on Monday 2 March, and returning on Wednesday, while our Year 7s will go Wednesday through to Friday. Our Junior Secondary camp is an important aspect of promoting positive well-being and adjustment to secondary education. It is an excellent opportunity for students to meet others from outside their Connect class and spend time together with their friends and teachers outside of the school environment. Camp also provides valuable curriculum experiences, and forms part of our Solid Ground program for pro-social development. Stay tuned for a camp summary next newsletter, or like the Maryborough State High School Facebook page for updates while camp is on.

Another key event for Junior Secondary is our Departure Ceremony. It will be occurring on Monday 9 March at 5:30pm in the gym. This ceremony is part of the Solid Ground program, where students acknowledge their childhood and the journey into becoming young adults. It is a rewarding ceremony for both
students and parents alike, and we encourage all to attend. Students have been busy writing their gratitude letter to parents which will be presented on the night. Please consult the letter from Mr Dan Yates which will be sent home for further details if required.

Sharyn Thomas
Dean – Junior Secondary

Senior Secondary Update

On Wednesday 18 February the University of Southern Queensland hosted a University Showcase at Maryborough High. It was a great opportunity for our Year 10, 11 and 12 students to speak to University, TAFE and Defence Force staff and discuss a range of pathways on offer for when they leave school. It was great to see that students made the most of the opportunity and engaged with our visitors and asked some fabulous questions.

Head Start Courses

During 2015 Year 11 and 12 students have the opportunity to start studying at university at USQ. Places in Head Start courses are offered to high-achieving senior students looking to undertake university study. Please visit the USQ website for more information.

GenR8

Maryborough High wishes the three Year 12 students who have pending applications for positions in the GenR8 program the best of luck. We have our fingers crossed for you Cameron, Nafi and Sharna!

Assessment

Many subject areas have assignments and exams over the next couple of weeks. Please check in with your children that they are keeping up to date with their revision and assessment tasks. If you have any concerns regarding assessment please contact the school.

Important Dates

- Monday 2 March – ADF Gap Year applications open
- Thursday 12 March – School photos
- Wednesday 1 April – School cross country
- Thursday 2 April – Rewards Day
- Thursday 2 April – Interim reports issued

Chelsea Donaldson
Dean – Senior Secondary

Year 11 Biology

The health of Ululah Lagoon was under the spotlight last week when Year 11 Biology students participated in a field trip as part of their first assessment task.

Students carried out a variety of water tests as well as counting animal species at several sites around the Lagoon. The data collected will be analysed back at school and used to prepare a report on this local environmental issue.

English Corner

This week’s focus is tricky spellings. People who say that they can’t spell can usually spell most of the word. There will be a part of the word that presents problems. Identifying the ‘tricky bit’ and talking about ways to remember the correct letters helps with spelling.
For example, a pen is a type of stationery but you stand stationary!

COMPETITION TIME!

For your chance to go into the draw for some great prizes, simply complete the spelling challenge below and submit your entry to Mrs Wallace. You can drop your handwritten or typed response to her in person (staffroom C01) or you can email her on swall104@eq.edu.au

All correct entries go into the draw and the winner will be announced on the whole school parade.

Watch this space in the next school newsletter for another English challenge and your chance to win!

Mrs Wallace
HOD English and Languages

Weekly Mathematics Tutorials

When: Every Wednesday 3-4pm
Where: Library
Why: Revision, preparing for tests, going over concepts just covered in class, help with difficult work
Who: Open to all students – year 7-12 are welcome.

“Math tutorials are cool”

All Mathematics teachers are available for tutorials at different times of the week, students need to approach their teacher, and alternatively they can contact Mr Menon (email: ameno8@eq.edu.au ).

Andrew Menon
HOD Maths

Katrina Attends the Aboriginal Summer School for Excellence

Katrina Baker was one of 28 students who recently attended the Aboriginal Summer School for Excellence in Technology and Science, last December in Adelaide.

The ASSETS program provides the opportunity for high achieving Year 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, with an interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

During the camp, students had the opportunity to participate in activities designed to challenge and excite them academically, culturally and personally. Scientists from industry and academia engaged participants in cutting edge science and technology experiences to open their eyes to the possibilities that exist for future study and careers. An integrated cultural and personal leadership program strengthens their connections with and understanding of their own culture and heritage and encourages them to become role models in their schools and communities.

For the first time this year, the program will include an ongoing leadership and support program that will support participants through their senior secondary schooling and into tertiary study.

Year 12 News and Information

Clean-up Australia

Clean-up Australia Day is March 1. But any day can be a clean-up day. On Thursday 26 February many seniors, including prefects and school captains showed dedication to the cause, meeting at the town hall to pick up litter. I am very proud of the students who demonstrated commitment to their community.

RSA Course

Mrs Esterhuizen is providing RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol) training to interested students. Take the opportunity! It will start on the 1 April and the cost is $90. See Mrs Esterhuizen in Z block as soon as possible.

Interested in becoming an AU Pair in America?

Please see me about an information session that will be held on the Sunshine Coast on 21 March.

Fundraising for the Community

Sign up to help with raising funds for Cancer Charities during term 1 – See Rhiley Ellis and Liam Wendland. See Lauren Smith and Jake Ward to help with organising the 40 Hour Famine.

USQ Leadership Day

USQ is offering a leadership training day to young leaders in the area. We will be sending letters home very soon. Get them back ASAP to ensure you get a place.

Miss Lena Plaatsman
Year 12 Co-ordinator

Sport News

Wide Bay Summer Sports Trials

Congratulations to those students who played for Maryborough District on Tuesday 24 February. The following students travelled to different locations in the Wide Bay Region to compete in competitions to form Wide Bay Sporting teams to contest State Titles - Amy Ross for Volleyball; Dylan Hard, Jackson Hoyes, Samantha Pincham and Summah Mallam for Softball; Jessica Morrissey, Francesca Gomez, Lily McCabe, Tayla Miller, Zachary Reid, Lochclan Gordon, Brandon Clayton, and Emilio Johnstone-Mercado for Touch Football; Zachery
Andersen and Lockie Zeptner for Squash; and Jake Braund for Tennis. As of yet, we have not been notified if any of these students have been successful in gaining a place in Wide Bay Teams.

MDSS Winter Sports Trials

Permission Notes/Medical Forms have been handed out for Winter-Sports, they are also located on the Sports Noticeboard. These trials will be held in Maryborough on Wednesday 4 March and involve Rugby League, Rugby Union, Basketball, AFL, Netball, Hockey, and Football (Soccer). There are girls and boys teams and different age groups in most sports. Students will need to make their own way to and from the venues.

School Futsal

On 12 March U13, U16, U19 Boys and U16 and U19 Girls will be travelling to Brisbane to compete at the Southeast Queensland School Futsal Titles. The cost will be around $60 for nomination and bus costs. Money should be paid by Tuesday 3 March. Training will continue during this week for all teams involved. If your student is interested in playing and has not signed up, please ask your student to see Mrs Taylor at the PE staffroom. There will also be another futsal tournament for these students in June at the Fraser Coast Futsal Titles in Hervey Bay.

School Hockey and Soccer

A reminder to all parents and students that soccer and hockey training has commenced before school. Hockey is held on Tuesday and Wednesday from 7:45-8:30am and Soccer Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:45-8:30am. Students who are interested are welcome to attend and if you need any more information see Mrs Taylor at the PE staffroom or Mr Hanrahan at C Block staffroom.

Rugby League

Interschool Rugby League kicked off last week with seven a side carnival at Eskdale Park. Maryborough High fielded teams in all three age groups for boys with great success across the board. The under 13 Boys finished third and our Open Boys and Under 15 Boys both made it through to the final. Unfortunately both teams narrowly lost in tight games. This was a fantastic warm up for the 13-a-side competition that started this week and will see Maryborough High play games against schools throughout Maryborough and Hervey Bay during term one.

Round one saw our boys travel to Stafford Park in Hervey Bay to take on Xavier Catholic College where all three grades unfortunately went down to very competitive Xavier teams. The interschool competition will continue on Wednesday afternoons for the remainder of the term with all our teams gunning for spots in the April 1 finals.

This year, students wishing to participate in League teams will need to purchase shorts and socks from the school at a cost of $33. These shorts and socks can then be used by the students when representing the school in other sports, such as Rugby Union in Term 2, and in future years for Rugby League. Any questions contact Mr Adam Ebert.

Ms Leonie Mitchell
Sports Co-ordinator

Student Resource Fees

Thank you to everyone who has paid fees. This is a reminder to all those families who have outstanding student resource fees, until these fees are paid or a payment plan is established your student will be unable to attend any extracurricular activities with the school.

A reminder to Hair and Beauty students your fees are due ASAP. Should you have any queries regarding this please contact the Main Office.

Tuckshop Volunteers

Every year our school tuckshop operates with the generous support of our volunteers. The group of volunteers who started off our school year are made up of some who are new to our school community and some who have been part of our school community for many years. It is amazing that the generosity often continues well past the time when their children leave school. We thank all of our volunteers for the time they give at Maryborough High. Additionally, we have two tuckshop convenors who work tirelessly day after day in our school tuckshop. Thank you to Genni Hambrecht and Maree Thompson for all you give to our school.

2015 Helpers

Maree Thompson, Narelle Ramsay, Pam McLeod, Val Niesler, Kim Joynson, Michelle Stutz, Ros McCabe, Cary Dullaway, Jo Douglass, Margaret Dawson, Jan York, Jessica Gronlund, Rachel Saxby, Vicki Willcocks, Teresa Newth, Di Andrews, Bec Gassman, Jenny Hatch, Peter Thompson.

Many thanks to all of you from the Maryborough High community.

Student Services News

Student Services have 3 copies of 2014 PALMA Magazine for $26 each and 30 copies of 2013 PALMA Magazine at $20 each.

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. Three students are drawn from each year level. Students successful in the draw on Thursday 19 February were as follows:

Year 7 – Tanner Henningsen, Caleb Parry, Jamie Cassidy, John Russell-Penny, Jorja Lyons (extra names drawn as Year 7s had the largest number of students in the draw)
SWPBS Focus of Week 6

RESPECT - Maintains a clean working environment; Maintains a clean environment (playground).

Community Notices

Tinana Football Club are looking for players born 2002 and 2003 to play in U/13 & U/14. All new players receive a pair of shorts and socks. For more information please contact Michelle Ivey 0418 150 706