28 October 2014

Principal’s Report

What an incredible start to the final term of the year! Students and staff have been heavily involved in the climbing and abseiling camp, dance nights, sailboarding, evening restaurant and drama night to name just a few activities.

Awards Night

The school annual awards night was a celebration of everything that makes Urangan State High School such a fantastic school. Our students were the centrepiece of the evening with large numbers of students being acknowledged for their many and varied talents in terms of academic, sporting and cultural excellence. The evening also showcased student performance talent through a range of polished and exciting acts.

What was also evident was the pride of parents and carers who were present. As a school, we value this support tremendously and feel honoured to play a role as partners in the development of your children. The event concluded with a range of special awards was presented to students who have exemplified the Urangan way of operating through community participation, leadership and academic excellence.

Junior Secondary

Excitement is really building as we count down to welcoming our first cohort of Year 7 students to Urangan SHS in 2015. Preparations are in hand with curriculum planning, restructuring and facilities all receiving thoughtful and planned attention to ensure a quality transition. The Year 8 cohort will also be new to our school and can be assured that their transition to high school will be smooth and enjoyable.

Year 12

With only a handful of weeks remaining for our Year 12 group, we wish them the very best for their upcoming exams and assessment. Completing Year 12 successfully is a milestone which will set students up to maximise their choices in the future. The hard work is almost over!

Parent and Student Drug Awareness Information Night

The year 11 Health Class would like to cordially invite you to our parent and student information night regarding substance use amongst teens. The night will include interactive slideshows, a panel of experts and activities for everyone to be involved in. The aim of the night is to educate parents about the risks and consequences associated with young people using drugs and how they can prevent or minimise harm to their children.

Facebook

With so much happening in our school that we want to share with you, we are using our school Facebook page http://www.facebook.com/uranganshs as a primary means of communication. Have access to reports on events, photos and updates in an instant by clicking the like button on our page. Parents and students are all encouraged to follow us.

Year 12 Graduation

Just a reminder that payment for the Graduation tickets must be paid for by October 31st.

Year 12 Block Exams

Please find below the block exam period for Year 12 Higher Education students. Workforce students will be at school as normal during this time. Higher Education Students will not be and their classes will be closed. A copy of this timetable was given to students on parade yesterday.

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There will be a panel of professional speakers who work in the field such as Janet Morrow (Urangan High’s School Nurse), Kelly Miles (Urangan High’s School Based Police Officer) and a guest speaker from the Hervey Bay hospital.
When: 5.30 – 6.30pm Wednesday 5th November, 2014
Where: Urangan SHS Resource Centre
Costs: Free of charge
Light refreshments will be provided.

All parents, students and other members from the community are welcome. Hope to see you there.

Year 11 Health Education Class 2014

English Tutorials

Tutorials will continue to run each Wednesday afternoon from 3-4pm in GC02. Any student is welcome to attend these tutorials. The topics covered for term 4 will be as follows:

Weeks 4 and 5 – Assessment help
Weeks 6 and 7 – Analysing images (print and film)
Weeks 8 and 9 – Assessment help

RACQ Technology Challenge Human Powered Vehicles Race

On the last weekend in Term 3 (12 and 13 September) four teams of students spent a long and tough weekend competing in the 24 Hour Human Powered Vehicle Race at Maryborough. This event was a chance for students to challenge themselves physically and develop teamwork in an exciting carnival-like atmosphere. Our teams were made up of a boys’ team, a girls’ team, and two open mixed teams (one made up of all year 12 students, the other with all first-time riders). For the first time, we had a team with over half the riders in year 8. They performed admirably, giving us confidence in the future of our HPV participants.

Saturday started well with all teams qualifying strongly and collecting good grid positions. In the hectic start that characterises HPV, all our teams emerged unscathed and continued riding strongly. As the day wore on, the boys team climbed the rankings, reaching 10th place overall by midnight. However, the morning hours saw youthful enthusiasm being overcome by fatigued legs and tired minds…by 9:00am hopes of a top ten finish were fading. Our mixed team of eight year 12 students maintained a consistent performance throughout, avoiding the mechanical meltdowns that plagued them last year. Our young mixed team including five year 8 students thoroughly enjoyed their first HPV experience, putting in everything they could muster, but pitting young bodies coupled with a shortage of riders (a late withdrawal left them with only seven) against 24 hours straight riding was a little too much for the team. They took a break in the dark hours of early morning but returned with vigour to ride the rest of the race strongly to the finish. Michael Kerby’s girls achieved an awesome start thanks to an amazing qualifying lap by Lilly Selliars. Despite a couple of roll-overs (AGAIN damaging the paint job of which Kerby was so proud) they finished well up in their field.

While none of our teams managed a podium finish, they all made us very proud. The competition this year was the strongest we have seen, and on this trend our students are going to have to work long and hard to keep up with past results!

In the history of Urangan’s participation in Human Powered Vehicles, we have now travelled over 13000km, ridden a total of 650hrs, and involved 250 students. Much of this would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors. We would like to extend special thanks to Thompsons Cycle World, Bay Ceramic Tiles, the RSL, Bank of Queensland, Jeep Parts, Wayne’s Mechanical, and Battery World.

With the end of term 4 and another Human Powered Vehicles race come and gone, we are left pondering what HPV 2015 will bring. All we can say right now is BRING IT ON!!!

Alan Whyborn – HPV Co-ordinator

Sports News and Results

Wide Bay Athletics

In the last week of term 3 we had 18 students compete in the Wide Bay Athletics Carnival in Gayndah. All students did exceptionally well with four of our students qualifying to represent the Wide Bay at the Queensland Championships in Brisbane. Good luck to Gabbi Wilcox, Ashleigh Delosa, Brandi Alberts and Rose Robe.

Interschool Basketball Competition

A huge congratulations to our junior boys’ basketball team who won the Fraser Coast U15 boys competition. The boys managed to defeat Xavier in the final 58-39. Well done to all players involved.

Qld All-Schools Touch Football

This year was the first time that Urangan SHS has taken a team to the Qld All-Schools Touch Football Competition in Brisbane from October 9th-12th. The open mixed team with students from year 9 to 11 have been training three times a week for the past 10 weeks. The first day of the competition started off very well with two wins over Flagstone Catholic College and Charleville High. Unfortunately the next two days saw some narrow losses to Noosa, Chancellor, Upper Coomera and Mansfield. A fantastic effort was put in by all players. We are looking forward to continued success and building from this experience in the future years.

Sports Dinner

The annual school Sports Dinner is coming up on Wednesday 29th October. Invitations have been sent to those students who have represented the school at Wide Bay sports, been School Carnival Age Champions, Queensland and Australia Futsal Representatives and various school team best and fairest players. The cost is $25 per student and $30 for adults. Please RSVP and make payment to the school by Friday 24th October if you are coming. It should be a great night with special guest speaker, Abby Bishop who has represented Australia and participated in the Olympics.
Facebook

Urangan SHS Sport on Facebook - Reminder: Sport at Urangan High has its own Facebook page. Like ‘Urangan SHS Sport’ to get up to date information on school sporting events, results, cancellations and other details that may arise.

AMart Community Kickbacks

Don’t forget that you can support the school by shopping at AMart Sports. Under the Community Kickbacks program, the school earns 5% of your purchases at AMart Sports as in-store credit to spend on our school programs. If you’re already a member, don’t forget to swipe your card when making a purchase. If you haven’t joined yet, all you need to do is join Team AMart @ teamamart.com.au or in store, select our school from the list of participating groups and swipe your loyalty card every time you make a purchase at AMart Sports. You’ll receive access to great member prices and other initiatives and the school will receive a 5% credit. Thanks for your support.

Kayla Worth - Sport Coordinator

School Based Vaccination Program (SBVP) Round 3

Round 3 of the SBVP will be held on Thursday, October 30th for males and females in Year 8, where they will receive Dose 3 of the HPV Vaccine. Male students in Year 10 will receive dose 3 of HPV on Thursday, 6th November. If you have any questions please contact Janet Morrow (School Based Youth Health Nurse) at the school on 4197 0111.

QUT STEM Camp

Christensen Beni attended the QUT STEM Camp in Brisbane during September. This is a prestigious opportunity which only a select few students have the chance to attend. Chris was the only student selected from all of the schools in Hervey Bay.

During the STEM Camp, students toured QUT and attended lectures. They participated in activities with current university students, and in small groups focussed on specific topics. Chris’s group mathematically modelled real life situations such as disease epidemics and predicted the effects of these. Other group activities included printing 3D body parts, aircraft aerofoils, DNA sampling and investigating crime scenes.

Chris said the camp was a very enjoyable experience and it definitely made him more aware of the possible career opportunities available in the fields of Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics.

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SITE Vacancies / Career Opportunities

Indigenous School Based Traineeships

The ANZ Bank has 6 indigenous SATS available with local ANZ branches for year 10 and 11 students. Applications have to be made on their website. While completing year 11 and year 12 studies, trainees will:

- work at least one day a week in an ANZ branch
- receive an income while learning new skills
- achieve a National Certificate qualification
- be supported by ANZ staff and Aboriginal mentors
- be able to take on career opportunities with ANZ or other opportunities at the end of their traineeship.

DATSIMA are looking at taking on an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander trainee for the commencement of the 2015 school year. They are open to either a current year 10 or 11 student. They are flexible in relation to the field of study, and this can be discussed with the successful applicant it will most likely be Certificate 3 in Government or Certificate 3 in Community Services.

ANZ Pialba currently has a full time traineeship position available for an indigenous year 12 school leaver. If you would like to apply, please see the SITE officer as soon as possible. Closing date for applicants will be Friday 31st October.
USQ Tertiary Preparation Program Intensive Pathway 2014

Year 12 students who are eager to start University in 2015 but don’t think they’ll qualify could benefit by completing the USQ Tertiary Preparation Program Intensive Pathway. On successful completion of the TPPIP students have guaranteed entry to a USQ degree program. This will be offered at five campus locations: Toowoomba, Springfield, Ipswich, Maryborough and Fraser Coast. This program is free of charge and offers accommodation options if necessary. The school will run from 24 November 2014 to 13 February 2015. It includes two, two week intensive workshops from 1-12 December 2014 and 12-23 January 2015. The application form can be downloaded at usq.edu.au/tppintensive . Please note that a parent will need to sign the form.

If you are interested in obtaining more information or apply for one of the above opportunities contact the SITE Office at school on 4197 0127 or via email at bdaang@eq.edu.au

Parenting Tips

Parents sometimes say they don’t know where to begin to have a ‘real’ conversation with their child. These questions will get you started. Rather than badgering your child with them, use one as the jumping off point for a two way conversation. Start by asking your child the question, and listen to the answer, remembering to reflect back what she’s saying so she knows you understand.

Don’t shy away from expressing your opinion; as long as you remember not to lecture, children are often curious what parents think. The point is developing the habit of conversation and deepening your relationship. These questions also work well to launch family dinner table conversations.

Getting to Know Your Child

- What are the three most interesting things about you?
- Name five reasons you’re glad to be alive.
- If you could have any super power, what would it be and why?
- What’s your favourite song? Why?
- What do you want to do when you grow up?
- What is your favourite movie? Why?
- Why do you think kids put rings in their eyebrows and noses and bellybuttons?
- How about tattoos?
- Do you think you would ever want to do that? Why or why not?
- If we could go anywhere you wanted on vacation, where would you choose? Why?

Mannly Dubroy - Guidance Officer

Community News

Rhee Taekwondo

Rhee taekwondo will be hosting two free self-defence classes for the community designed for people who have had absolutely no martial arts experience before. The classes will teach easy to follow techniques that anyone can do. You will learn valuable knowledge on how to effectively defend yourself in some common situations whilst also learning ways to boost your own confidence and self-esteem. To guarantee a spot for yourself or a group of friends, call 4124 7835 or 0404 747 413.

Migaloo Starlight Swing

Music and moonlight will provide the perfect backdrop for the all-white Migaloo Starlight Swing at Urangan’s Pier Park on Friday 31 October. The free event is the final celebration in the season-long Hervey Bay Whale Festival. The theme is white in honour of Migaloo, the famous white whale who visits Hervey Bay waters, and people are asked to wear white and dress formally.

BYO picnic or grab dinner from local cafes and takeaways and use the table seating provided. There will be food platters for sale and a licensed bar. Music by Soul City, an eight piece cover band. Entry by gold coin donation to conservation partners IFAW, the International Federation for Animal Welfare Australia. The Migaloo Starlight Swing starts at 6.30pm and finishes at 10pm. www.whalesherveybay.com.au

Eating Disorder Group

Eating Disorder Support Group, Hervey bay. Phone Nancy 0496 965 728 or Sarah 0401 709 048.