13 May 2015

Principal’s Report

It was great to see the turnout of students and parents at last Tuesday’s Education and Career Planning (ECP) meetings. During the day I heard many wonderful and detailed conversations where the students owned their learning and communicated their intention for improvement with those who can assist them most. The challenge is now to put the intentions into practice and I believe this is where we need support from the home environment. Please take the opportunity to follow up the ECP conversations over the coming weeks leading into the end of semester assessment.

From the beginning of the year the school has had a focus on improving its performance in a number of key areas in line with regional and state priorities. Those performance areas are in LITERACY, NUMERACY, UPPER 2 BANDS of NAPLAN, ATTENDANCE and QCE ATTAINMENT. The school has implemented a number of strategies this year to ensure the opportunity for improvement is given every chance. The creation of a School Improvement Team, including a Head of Department, Expert Teaching Team (ETT), Support Teachers – Literacy and Numeracy as well as additional teacher aide time for the core subjects have been integral steps in the school’s improvement agenda as outlined in the Greater Results Guarantee which can be found on the school website.

As indicated above, three of the priorities can be measured through the school results in the annual NAPLAN tests. I am confident that the work done, not only by this year’s Year 7 and 9 teachers but those who taught our year 8 students last year, will result in improved LITERACY, NUMERACY and UPPER 2 BANDS. Individual student results for NAPLAN will be available to schools and families in August.

Glen Robinson - Acting Principal

School Uniform Survey

In 2013, the P&C and the school conducted an extensive process in consulting the school community in relation to the school uniform. One item adopted as a result of this consultation was a school jumper/jacket. The school is interested in receiving your feedback on the proposed styles as shown below. These samples are also available to view in our Student Services foyer. The anticipate cost for the jumper will be around $40.

Please access the link below to provide your feedback. Thank you.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/38FKWNR

Queensland Core Skills Test Community Representatives

Urangan State High School invites expressions of interest from members of the community to nominate for appointment to the positions of Chief Community Representative or Community Representative for the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test. You must be available Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd of September 2015.

For more information visit the following website:

If you can support us with your application please call me on 4197 0101. To view the application forms or print them for yourself visit the following website address:
Science and Engineering Challenge, USQ

Twenty-eight year 9 and 10 students competed in the regional Science and Engineering Challenge hosted by USQ. The Challenge allowed students to try their hand at solving engineering problems and applying their ideas and innovative solutions to problems with a real life application. Some of the popular activities included building a catapult, constructing a ‘bionic’ hand capable of picking up a bundle of straws and creating a bridge that was tested with a trolley loaded with ‘gold’.

P&C Trivia Night

The third annual P&C Trivia Night is being held on Saturday 13 June in the school gym from 7pm. Tickets are now available at Student Services for $10 per person or $60 per team of 6. There is a $5 buffet dinner available from 6pm with RSVP for the dinner required by Friday 5 June. The theme for this year’s night is Super Heroes. There will be a licenced bar and canteen facilities available. No BYO. If you don’t have a team of six, don’t worry, come along and join another table and meet new friends. Everyone has a great night.

If you have a business and would like to sponsor the evening in the form of lucky door and team prizes, $100 round sponsorships or gold, silver or bronze sponsorships please contact Damien Symes on 4197 0111. All contributions towards this event are greatly appreciated. Businesses that support this P&C Fundraiser are promoted in our school newsletter and on each and every table on the night. Round Sponsorship means that your business name is prominently displayed during the round on a projected screen and on the score sheets, as well as announced by the Quiz Master at the beginning and end of your sponsored round.

Funds raised from this event will assist the P&C in supporting the education of our students through creating and developing sustainable projects at the school. For further information, please do not hesitate in contacting Damien Symes, P&C Secretary, on 4197 0111.

ANZAC Day Ceremony and March

Urangan SHS held its first whole school ANZAC Day Ceremony on Friday 24 April at 10:30am on the school oval. The weather could not have been better with the sun shining and not a cloud in the sky. The ceremony started with members of the local Navy & Army Cadets, Venturer Scouts and Girl Guides leading the dignitaries into the ceremony with a drum march. The cadets then took their position around the cross statue and on the stage. Our Venturer Scout and Girl Guide, Liam Sharp and Lilyjayn Kelly, were responsible for the raising and lowering of the flag through key moments during the ceremony.

Our dignitaries consisted of Councillor Darren Everard, MP Councillor Ted Sorensen, Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch President Mr BJ Tidyman, P&C President Mr David Whittaker and P&C Vice-President Mrs Nardia Taranto.

Both Junior and Senior Captains presented a very polished and professional service taking in reciting poems and readings to signify the importance of ANZAC Day and the ANZAC Spirit. The concert band, conducted by Mr Paul Brindley, performed a spectacular rendition of the National Anthem and the hymn ‘Amazing Grace’. Year 10 student, James Cresswell, performed a very heart-warming Last Post with year 10 student, Sam Beattie, concluding the ceremony with his very own compilation of Waltzing Matilda on the acoustic guitar.

Saturday morning saw a contingency of 160 students and 20 staff participate in the Hervey Bay March and Ceremony at Freedom Park. Nothing but praise has been awarded thus far towards the behaviour and high level of professionalism displayed by the participating students. The marching band sounded fantastic and received enormous rounds of applause from the crowd. Urangan High is proud of their students for their behaviour and dedication during both events.

Dunk a Teacher

During the Cross Country on Friday 24 April, 18 teachers participated in ‘Dunk a Teacher’. School Leaders have been selling raffle tickets over the past term for the opportunity to...
dunk a teacher with a bucket of icy cold water. Our Principal, Mr Glen Robinson, made sure that the water was icy cold by purchasing bags of ice to top up the buckets just prior to the event. Thank you to the teachers who bravely participated and congratulations to the students who won the right to ‘Dunk a Teacher’.

SITE Vacancies, Programs and Career Opportunities

Year 12 Indigenous students

Indigenous School Based Traineeship in Hospitality

A local Hotel is looking to employ an Indigenous School Based trainee to complete a Certificate in Hospitality. Any interested year 12 students please see Bev in the SITE office as soon as possible to apply.

Year 11 and 12 Students

Police Work Experience Program

The Queensland Police, Metro North Region, is allowing us to join their work experience program from 13 – 15 October 2015. If you are interested in a career in the Police Force you should not miss this opportunity as it is not available in our local area. This program takes you through all facets of policing from the Academy, Dog Squad, Water Police, Boat Squad Watch House and other areas. You must be able to confirm your attendance and must be able to provide your own transport and accommodation in the Brisbane area. If you would like an application pack please see Bev, our Youth Support Coordinator, as soon as possible. Limited places are available.

Year 10 Students

High School Student Engagement for Health Program

Are you interested in an exciting career in health care? Imagine you are part of the team attending the scene of a motor vehicle accident involving a young person with serious injuries. This is your chance to get involved and follow the journey through the health service and work with health practitioners that will care for this young person as part of the team in a virtual setting. Fraser Coast Health Service (Maryborough & Hervey Bay Hospitals) is offering students from local high schools the opportunity to apply to participate in the High School Student Engagement for Health Program. This program is aimed at giving students hands-on experience and involvement with a wide range of professionals from the health sector. In 2015 this program will be held on the 13th and 14th and the 27th and 28th August. Please see the Bev, our Youth Support Coordinator, for an application pack as soon as possible if you would like to attend.

Fraser Coast Jobs & Careers Expo

The Fraser Coast Jobs and Careers Expo will be held on Wednesday 27th May at the Brolga Theatre.

Job Vacancies

Don’t forget to check the job vacancy window at the SITE office for current online vacancies.

If you are interested in obtaining more information or applying for one of the above opportunities contact the Bev, our Youth Support Coordinator, at the SITE Office or contact her by phone on 4197 0127 or via email at bdang9@eq.edu.au.

Australian Science Innovations

High achieving year 10 and 11 students are invited to challenge themselves by sitting one or more of the four Australian Science Olympiad Exams now on offer. Testing students’ knowledge, critical thinking and problem solving skills, each exam lasts two hours and takes place in school on the following days:

- Chemistry: 5 August 2015
- Earth and Environmental Science: 7 August 2015
- Biology: 10 August 2015
- Physics: 12 August 2015

New this year is Olympiads Online which is a free online support program for students preparing for the Australian Science Olympiad Exams. This allows students to work through past exam questions at their own pace, receive feedback and monitor their progress.

If you are a student interested in participating please see Mr Clancy, HOD Science in Staff Room 1 or your Science teacher. Registrations close 22 July 2015.

ConocoPhillips Science Experience

The ConocoPhillips Science Experience is a three or four day hands-on science activities program being conducted in 35 universities and tertiary institutions around Australia in 2015/2016. These programs are designed for students in years 9 and 10. The aim is to inform students of the importance of science and technology while stimulating and heightening their interest in a wide range of science disciplines. Programs will be held at Griffith University (Gold Coast), James Cook University (Cairns and Townsville), University of Southern Queensland (Toowoomba) and University of Queensland (St Lucia).

Full cost of enrolment is $120 per student for three days and $160 for the four day program. Rotary sponsorship is often available for those who need it. There is no selection process and students can enrol online at www.scienceexperience.com.au.

Microsoft Office 2013

All state school students can now download multiple free copies of the Microsoft Office 2013 Suite to their personal home and mobile computer equipment. Please take advantage of this marvellous opportunity, and if you need any help, please see Mrs Kuzio-Barnes in the library. You can download your free copy from https://mishelp.eq.edu.au/studentadvantage/Pages/default.aspx.

English Tutorials 2015

English tutorials will continue to run in term 2. This term will focus on reading comprehension, sentences and improving
vocabulary. Weeks 4, 9 and 10 will be dedicated to assessment. So if students require one-on-one help on their English assignments, they should attend tutorials during these times. Tutorials are free and run from 3-4pm in GC02 every Wednesday afternoon.

Family Squabbles
Parents often worry about brothers and sisters quarrelling. A certain amount of quarrelling is normal for children in families. It is one of the ways that they learn how to get on with other people. Quarrelling can be positive. Sometimes however, you may need to step in if tempers become frayed and you can see that things are getting out of control.

What causes quarrelling?
Learning to get on with others
Arguments between brothers and sisters are one of the ways that children learn to respect other people’s belongings and feelings. It is one of the ways children learn to solve problems. Learning to argue fairly and without hurting each other will help them get along with others.

Parents’ attention
Children in families also fight about parents’ love and attention. To children, love means time and attention. Young children do require more attention, but allocating time to an older child is just as important and will make for better relationships all round.

Health
When feeling unwell, resistance can be low for coping with adversity. We may be more sensitive to comments and less able to manage our own emotions.

What parents can do
Here are some steps you can take to help lessen quarrels.

- Protect the needs of each child, for example prevent older children’s activities from being interfered with by younger children and vice versa.
- Spend special time with each child on a regular basis.
- Allow each child to own some special things of their own that they don’t have to share. For younger children, see that there is more than one of the same toy, such as matchbox cars, so that they can play together without having to share. Two second hand bicycles are often better fun than one new one that has to be shared. If you have three children make sure that the same one is not left out every time.
- Invite other children over. Children learn social skills through exposure and practise.
- Children need their own bit of space which will not be interfered with by others, even if it is only a drawer.
- Try not to compare children with each other. This always leads to bad feelings.
- Be generous with hugs and affection to all your children –even the teenager that appears to pull away – deep down they love the contact.
- Make ground rules. Get your children to help you make some rules about what behaviour is and isn’t allowed in your home, for example name calling or hitting, being respectful. Then if you have to step in, you do so because someone has broken a rule, not to take sides.
- When you can see that children are feeling upset, help them to find ways to express their feelings by talking about feelings. For young children, play that helps with feelings include water play, painting and play dough. For older children and adolescents it may be something like going for a run or playing their music and especially the opportunity to talk and problem solve themselves.
- Maintain good health. Healthy, active children may exhibit greater tolerance / resilience and manage their emotions more appropriately when needed.

Children need adults to teach them how to solve problems, and while squabbles may be annoying and stressful they also may be the means of teaching resilience as well as developing skills for managing relationships throughout our lives.

Adapted from ‘Parenting SA’, Government of South Australia

Community News

Rhee Tae Kwon Do
At Rhee Tae Kwon Do children are encouraged towards principles such as doing your best, respect, self-discipline and being a good role model to others. Its no tournament policy takes the emphasis off having to come first to be a winner. Classes are held at Dundowran, Torquay, Maryborough and Tinana. Free trial lessons are available. Phone 4125 4669 or 0417 637 306 for more information.

Walk to ‘D-Feet’
Walk to ‘D-Feet’ will be held on Sunday May 17 at 10am to raise awareness and funds for Motor Neurone Disease.

Hervey Bay Oztag Senior Winter Season Sign-On
Oztag is a non-tackling game with limited contact. Passing, catching, tagging, evasion and kicking are the foundation skills utilised in Oztag.

When: Winter season starts Wednesday 27th May.
Who: Men’s, mixed and ladies’ divisions for teams and individuals. If you don’t have a team, we will find an appropriate one for your skill level.
Cost: $100 season registration per player, $25 Oztag shorts. No game fees.
Where: Seagulls Rugby League grounds, Bideford St Torquay.
Sign on: You can sign up online via the link on our webpage: www.herveybayoztag.com or come along to our sign on night on Wednesday 20th May from 5.30pm until 7.00pm at Seagulls Rugby League Club, Bideford St Torquay.
Info: www.herveybayoztag.com or call Glenn on 0414 893 840.

Come and join one of the fastest growing sports in Queensland.
GET TAGGED, YOU’LL LOVE IT!