Principal’s Report

The end of the term brings with it opportunities for everyone to evaluate and reassess their goals for term 4. Term 3 Interim Reports will be handed out to students in their form class at the end of week 1 next term. It is a good chance for parents to discuss results and plans for improved student performance in term 4.

One of the goals the school has is to have student attendance at 90%. Currently the attendance level is slightly below this figure. One of the main factors in this figure being below our 90% target is attendance on the last days of each term. The last week of each term sees a decline in attendance. These days are the ideal opportunity for students to seek feedback on any assessment completed and plan for success in term 4. We encourage all parents to have their child attend EVERY day of school.

Earlier this term parents, students and staff were provided with the opportunity to have their say as part of the Annual School Opinion Survey. The survey results will form part of the stakeholder feedback that the school will use in developing its strategic plan for 2016-19. Results from the parent survey were very positive with over 90% agreement in 31 of the 35 questions asked. Some of the key questions and results were:

- My child is getting a good education at this school – 94.8% agreement
- My child’s English skills are being developed at this school – 96.6% agreement
- My child’s Mathematics skills are being developed at this school – 96.6% agreement
- This is a good school – 92.9% agreement.

Thank you to all those parents who contributed to this survey. The student survey also provided positive results with 25 of the 33 questions scoring over 90% agreement. Key student responses were:

- I am getting a good education at my school – 99.2% agreement
- My English skills are being developed at my school – 90.8% agreement

These results and feedback from the school review are extremely positive and indicates that the school is well on track to further develop its “Improvement Agenda” in the next quadrennial plan.

Glen Robinson - Principal

Sports Dinner

The 2015 Annual Sports Dinner will be held at the Hervey Bay RSL on Wednesday 28th October. Australian Paralympian and Silver medallist, Rheed McCracken, will be our guest speaker. Invitations for the event will be posted soon.

Year 10 English

Year 10 students who studied Shakespearean plays this term were given a few words of advice about the Bard’s plays, Elizabethan words and acting tips from Fraser Coast Deputy Mayor and local actor Robert Garland.

Cr Garland took to the make-shift stage with a plastic sword to show students how the characters from Macbeth and Romeo and Juliet would have handled their weapons. Lincoln McIntyre faced the tip of Cr Garland’s sword as he played the part of Tybalt, protecting Juliet (Kate McCullagh) from young Romeo’s advances.

Although Shakespeare penned his words more than 400 years ago, they are still very much in use today. Cr Garland said that having a wide-ranging vocabulary was important for young people making their way in society. “You never know what you’ll end up doing,” he said.

Cr Garland studied science and was a chemist before managing a job agency and then becoming a local government councillor and deputy mayor. He is also an amateur actor in the local Z-PAC Theatre productions and has been on the national Seven Sunrise morning show doing his now-famous bird calls.

USHS English teacher, Katrina Corcoran, said Cr Garland didn’t know that speaking was going to be a big part of his life as an adult when he headed into the solitude of a science lab years ago. Students who are in high school may think that they will never need to know how to address an audience or perform in
front of a crowd. But most students don’t know what is ahead of them.

“I started life as a journalist before becoming a university lecturer, and now I’m teaching English at high school,” she said. “The time to gain confidence is while you are young.”

Year 10 Pre-Senior Modern History

On Tuesday 8th September, our Year 10 Pre-Senior Modern History class met with members of the Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch through the Community Link Program. The class has been undertaking the RSL Community Link World War One project, researching the lives and war service history of the soldiers whose names appear on the Pialba War Memorial. Over the course of this term, each student was given a name and conducted research using the Australian War Memorial and National Archives web resources. This information has now been turned into feature articles that will be presented to the RSL Sub Branch. Students spoke with Vietnam veteran Mr John Beattie, and ex-servicemen Mr Simon Morley and Mr Craig Standard about their personal experiences in the military/war service and their opinions about the ANZAC Commemoration services we have today. Students were very enthusiastic and thoroughly engaged in the conversations and we thank the local Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch members for their time and generosity in sharing their personal stories with us.

Maths News

Australian Maths Competition Results

We reported recently that a number of our best Maths students sat the Australian Maths Competition at the school. This is an annual competition where over 300,000 students from around Australia and the Pacific nations compete to test their maths skills against some quite difficult problems. Results have been returned to the school and certificates will be distributed on year level assemblies over the coming weeks.

Students who received a Distinction included:

- Year 7: Archie Hinds, Magnus Reeve, Adam Moffat, Emily Hon Fay and Clayton Wilcox
- Year 8: Talissa Searle, Mitch Gainsford, Matthew Killer and Paige Benecke
- Year 9: Dillon Clarke, Kane Michaluk, Blair Kertland and Mitchell Baills
- Year 10: Jack Bennion
- Year 11: Tyson Haynes
- Year 12: Jack Mason

Special mention needs to be made of the achievement of Year 9 student Emily Greaves, who was awarded a prize. From all the students who entered the competition, only one student in 300 from each State is awarded a prize. This is a remarkable result for Emily and our school, and I congratulated her at assembly this week. Emily’s family and the school are very proud of her achievement.

Tutoring sessions

Mathematics students are still able to access free tutorial sessions almost any day of the week at school. Maths staff members are rostered on Monday afternoons, Tuesday morning and lunch, Wednesday morning, lunch and afternoon, Thursday morning, lunch and afternoon and Friday morning and lunch times. This service is freely provided by the Maths teachers, so if your student is struggling with their Maths please encourage them to attend the tutorial sessions in GB05.

QAMT quiz

Three students from Urangan SHS went to Bundaberg to participate in the regional finals of the Queensland Association of Maths Teachers year 7 and 8 quiz on Thursday, 20th August. In a very high-scoring contest not seen for many years, our students scored 26 points, placing fourth behind Toolooa SHS on 30 Points, North Bundaberg SHS on 29.5 and Kepnock SHS on 28 points. Congratulations to the participating students and thanks to Mr Richardson for supervising on the day.

Members of the Urangan SHS regional final team: L to R Emily Hon Fay, Latarni Thompson and Mitch Gainsford.

Paul Waters – HOD Maths
Language Perfect Queensland Championships

Seventy-four Students from year 7 to year 12 recently participated in the 2015 Urangan State High School Language Perfect Competition. They have done an amazing job and answered 67,047 questions in total within 7 days! Denya Hopkins (7,231 points) from Year 10, Daniel Cottrell (3,113 points) and Alyssa Mason (3,007 points) from Year 7 won the first, second and third position. All students have demonstrated strong determination and excellent effort which were highly regarded by the competition organiser.

Eight thousand students in Queensland participated in the 2015 Language Perfect Queensland Championships. Year 10 student, Denya Hopkins, came fourth for the languages combined (16 languages) competition. However, she is the first amongst the contestants for Chinese only. She has done a massive and amazing job! If you see her, please congratulate her! Well done, Denya (丹妮娅)!

Another Case Solved at Urangan

The second group of Forensics students have completed their course and used their skills to solve the latest ‘murder’. Students have spent the term learning about fingerprinting, blood typing, entomology and psychology and it was time to test their knowledge. Yesterday students spent their lunch time gathering evidence from the crime scene to take to the lab to test. Well done to all students who have been involved!

Woolworths Earn and Learn

As you know, our school has been participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. The program has now finished for this year, so a big thanks to everyone who supported our school. We’re now at the important stage of the program where the sticker sheets are collected and lodged as our Earn & Learn claim. We will then be able to get new educational equipment for our school. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. So this week, please send in your Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheets and any loose Earn & Learn stickers you may have. So far we are up to 22,000 stickers. Every little bit helps. Thank you again for all your support!

Student Assessment Calendar

Did you know that you can access information about your child’s assessment calendar through the school’s website? On the bottom right hand side of the website homepage, under the heading Quicklinks, is the link Assessment Calendar. All you need to do to access their calendar is to enter their login ID in the Login field. Your child will be able to tell you what their login ID is.

This also provides the email addresses for all your child’s current teachers so that you are able to contact them with any questions or concerns that you may have regarding the subject.

Early Leave Passes

If your child needs to leave school early please either:

- call the school as soon as possible on 4197 0159
- with the details so that we can prepare the leave
pass in plenty of time for your child to collect the pass and be ready to leave at the correct time, or provide your child with a note which they can bring to student services at any time to receive their leave pass.

Students are not permitted to leave their class without a valid leave pass or a note from a parent. All students leaving the school early must be signed out through student services so that we have an accurate record of the students currently at the school in case of an emergency.

School Calendar

Don’t forget that you can view the school calendar from our website to check on any up-coming events or important dates. Where possible, the parent letter provided for an excursion or event has been linked to the event on the calendar for you.

MoodGYM

MoodGYM, https://moodgym.anu.edu.au/ , is a free, interactive, 5 module self-help tool designed to support those suffering anxiety. It works on:

• Why you feel the way you do
• Changing the way you think
• Knowing what makes you upset, and
• Assertiveness and Interpersonal skills training.

English Tutorials 2015

English tutorials will continue to run in term 3. Tutorials are free and run from 3-4pm in GC02 every Wednesday afternoon.

Uniform Shop

The school’s uniform shop will be open during the Christmas holidays from Monday 11 January 2016 to Saturday 23 January 2016 at the following times:

- Monday: 7:00am to 2:00pm
- Tuesday: 10:00am to 2:00pm
- Wednesday: 3:00pm to 7:00pm
- Thursday: 12:00pm to 6:00pm
- Friday: 10:00am to 2:00pm
- Saturday: 10:00am to 2:00pm

To help manage the number of parents and students coming to the uniform shop during these opening times we are asking that you book a time using the online booking application at www.schoolinterviews.com.au. The steps required to make a booking are provided in the following document using the password 7S3ZF.

Please remember to make only one 15 minute booking per child. The online booking process is now open. If you do not have access to the internet, please call Megan at the uniform shop between 8:15am and 10am on 4197 0116 to make a booking through her.

Pre-ordering of uniforms for 2016 is also now underway. The order form and price list are available via the Newsletter Forms and Documents side panel. If you would like to utilise this service and to ensure sufficient stock, please fill in the form and return with your child to the uniform shop where Megan will check sizes with your child. Payment options include Cash, EFTPOS, Centrepay, Cheque and Credit Card. Please make cheques out to Urangan State High School P & C.

For general enquiries and purchasing, the uniform shop is open 8:15am to 10:00am Monday to Friday, 3:00pm to 6:00pm Thursday and 10:00am to 2:00pm on the last Saturday of the month.

Youth Mentoring

Domestic Violence Hurts Children Too

Domestic Violence (DV) is violence within a relationship and it is very common. It damages families. Children growing up with DV are more likely to be physically abused than other children – both by the abuser and the victim. DV is about one person in a relationship using power to control the other person. This can be by: verbal abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, controlling money or isolation from family and friends. Domestic Violence is a crime. It is a serious violation of human rights.

Children affected by domestic violence may:

- Blame themselves for the violence
- Feel Helpless
- Find it hard to play and make friends
- Become quiet and fearful
- Become rude and aggressive (copying the abusive adult)
- Have sleeping problems
- Find it difficult to concentrate and learn
- Develop problems with wetting or soiling
- Show signs of stress like headaches and tummy aches
- Hurt pets
- Do risky things like running away or trying alcohol and drugs
- Think violence and power is normal in a relationship.
- What can you do if violence is affecting your family?
- If you are living with violence, it is harming your family/children. Make a serious plan for their safety and your own.

PHONE 4194 3074 or EMAIL youthmentoring@bnh.edu.au FOR MORE INFO
Talk to someone used to working with families affected by violence. Leaving an abusive and controlling relationship can be very difficult. They will support you to do what is best for you and the children.

Telling the children they are not to blame and that you can protect them will NOT work until your kids really feel safe. Safety is the first priority.

Once you are safe, make a plan about what to do if the violence happens again. Give the children telephone numbers, including the police and practice what to say.

Make it clear that abuse is never OK and that you don’t approve of the abuser’s behaviour.

Adapted from NAPCAN, Preventing child Abuse

Community News

Bunnings Recruiting

Bunnings Hervey Bay is currently recruiting for casual team members. They are looking for enthusiastic, energetic, service focused people interested in retail work whilst at school, or as they move into further study. They are recruiting from the age of 14 years 9 months. Students need to go onto bunnings.com.au to register. Applications close Thursday 17 September at midnight.

Touch Sign-On

Illumination Parade

Hervey Bay Whale Festival illumination CONCERT & parade 2015

Saturday 17 October Seafront Oval From 4pm

Kawungan SS Trivia Night

Parent and Citizens Association’s Trivia Night

When: Friday, 23rd October, 2015
Where: Kawungan State School Hall
Time: Doors open at 6:30pm. Trivia will start at 7:00pm.

Teams of max. 8 people. $15 per person, includes light refreshments for your team.

- Licenced bar available
- Multi draw raffle
- Prizes for the best dressed team

* Limited tables! Register your team at Kawungan State School office (ph. 41979111) by Monday 19th October
Dance Party

Robs Warriors
Relay for Life Team

Presenting

UNDER 18'S DANCE PARTY

Around the World in 18hrs Dundee Style (Crocodile Dundee that is – Aussie Style)
In Support of- Robs Warriors and the Cancer Council

Friday 18th September 2015
Great Hall, Hervey Bay High, Beach Rd Pialba

All School Age Students WELCOME

Primary School Age: 5.30pm – 7.30pm
Parent Lounge during Dance Party

Emergency Contact Numbers will be required for every Primary School Age Child and Sign in / Sign out

High School Age: 8.00pm – 10.30pm
No unattended Children

Security and Fully Supervised / No Pass Outs
Prizes: Fairy Floss, Coffee Cart, Slushies, Chips, Lollies and Drinks for purchase

ONLY $5.00 Entry

Support Our
They Support Us
Pre-play of Summertime Will Be Guaranteed