PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Dear Families

It is the end of another busy term in our School and I know that everyone is looking forward to a well-earned break. My thanks to staff, parents, and students for all that you have achieved this term and I hope that you enjoy a chance to have a break and recharge the batteries for the second half of the year.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to be the Acting Principal of Centenary Heights SHS for the last four weeks. During my time I have had the opportunity to meet with staff, parents, and students and learn more about the school and how it operates. I look forward to returning to my school at Crow’s Nest with a new way of looking at things and changes that I now wish to make.

Mrs Joy Craig, Principal of Clifton State High School will be Acting Principal for the start of Term 3.

Term 2 report card mailout – Year 7-12 report cards will be mailed and emailed from Friday 17 July. Keep an eye out for these.

Upcoming dates in Term 3 for your calendars:

- Parent/Student/Teacher interviews Thursday 6 August.
- Wednesday 22 July and Friday 31 July - Formal Uniform days for all students.
- Musical - Thursday Matinee 30 July 10am + Thursday 30 July, Friday 31 July and Saturday 1 August at 7.30pm.

QParent

From Week 3 of next term, our School will be trialling the use of QParents as an additional means for the parents/carers of our students to communicate with the school. QParents is a web and mobile application that allows parents/carers of Queensland state school students to access and update information about their child and to communicate directly with the school.

Once a parent has registered an account with QParents and has added their students, they will have secure online access to information such as their student’s:

• attendance details
• report cards
• timetables
• invoices
• payment details

QParents account owners will also be able to update student details and let the school know of changes to normal routine, such as when the student is unwell or has to leave early.”

Next term one parent from each family will be invited to apply for a password which allows them to view the above information about their child. This invitation will be in the form of an email or letter if no email address is on file early next term.

Best wishes

Scott Edmunds, A/Principal
CHINESE Competition

Year 10 student Charlotte Lyon has won the 8th “Chinese Bridge” Chinese Proficiency Competition for Secondary School Students hosted by the Confucius Institute at QUT Brisbane.

This competition aims to create an opportunity for secondary school students across Queensland to display their Chinese language ability and to learn more about Chinese language and culture. The competition consists of three (3) parts:
- Section A is a 15-minute written test about Chinese language and culture
- Section B is a speech competition. A 3-minute speech in Chinese
- Section C is a 3-5 minute cultural performance.

After finishing third last year in the competition for 15 to 20 year olds, Charlotte was the Queensland winner in 2015 and is now eligible to represent her state at the final bridge competition in China, co-ordinated by Confucius Institute at QUT (CIQ) and sponsored by Hanban.

On the same day, Charlotte also won the Chinese Language Speaking Competition for her 60-strong division collecting a prize of $280. Her Chinese teacher, Ms Yao Wu, commented on how well deserved these prestigious awards were given Charlotte’s dedication and preparation – giving up many lunch hours and afterschool time to work with her teacher.

Tim O’Connell, HOD Junior Secondary & Languages

MATHEMATICS Update

Semester One has seen a busy and exciting start to 2015 for the Mathematics Faculty. Top of the list has been the addition of Year 7 to our school community. My thanks to the mix of new staff members, Bron Blinco, Matt Russell, Cody Corum, Peter Sykes, and Chris Cuthill, for combining and working cooperatively so well with our existing staff, Tim O’Connell, Kathryn Gorton, and Melissa Schmocker, to introduce the teaching Year 7 Mathematics into our high school environment. From my prospective as Head of Department it has been a seamless introduction and my sincere thanks goes to the professionalism of the above quality people for the many hours of hard work planning and teaching that has been happening and will continue to happen. Year 7 parents, feel free to email your feedback/perspective on how the year has started in Mathematics for your student to me at mbowd15@eq.edu.au

In other Semester One Mathematics Department events: Some ten or so Year 9 and 10 students participated in the USQ Maths Enrichment Program - a series of workshops run after school on Thursday afternoons at USQ throughout the semester.

Also, students from Year 7 to 12 entered the Maths Team Challenge, a Toowoomba District Mathematics competition, where they competed in teams of five against teams from other schools. The teams competed two rounds of challenging problem solving questions, where the emphasis was as much about teamwork as individual talent. By all reports all students involved enjoyed the experience, and congratulations to the Year 10 team which finished a close third, and the Year 7 team which finished fifth in the Year 7 and 8 division.

Term three date claimers: Australian Mathematics competition - 30th of August; ICAS Mathematics Competition - 11th of August; Closing date for registration for Australian Statistics Competition – 5th of August.

Michael Bowden, HOD Mathematics & Numeracy

EXTENDED ABSENCES

Are you planning an extended time away from school for your child (e.g. holiday; medical intervention etc.)? For any period of time over 10 consecutive days you are required to follow an official process.

Education Queensland has a policy - Exemptions from Compulsory Schooling and Compulsory Participation - which needs to be followed if your child/children will be absent from school for this period of time or longer.

Fact Sheets providing further details and Application Forms may be requested from the school office.

For any further information please visit http://education.qld.gov.au/studentservices/inclusive/exemptions/index.html
INTRODUCING INTERNET SAFE FAMILIES

INESS has been helping schools and teachers work with children to create safe and constructive environments online for 7 years.

As the online world continues to become a bigger part of our children’s lives, INESS have launched a new programme for parents to access the resources and skills needed to foster these environments at home.

Internet Safe Families publish regular articles with information on social networking websites and apps as well as providing training materials to help parents build an open and supportive environment for their children at home.

Direct link to the sign up page is: https://forms.sign-up.to/33939/1250

HOME ECONOMICS Update

Home Economics and Hospitality are both well supported by student numbers at the school. This year all Year 8s study Home Economics, for one semester, 2 lessons a week. Year 7s will begin in 2016. The construction of the frog in Year 8 has now been replaced by the sewing of a calico apron where students design their own pocket. These are then worn by the students in their cookery lessons the following term.

Year 9 and 10 Food Studies and Food/Textile Studies enjoy their practical work with health and well-being a major focus of the courses.

For the fourth consecutive year two teams of two students will compete in the Culinary Challenge designed especially for Year 10 Home Economics students. Students need to finish either first or second in the regional finals in July to compete at the State finals which are held at the Ekka in August.

Home Economics in senior school is an OP eligible subject with literacy an integral component of the course.

Year 12 Hospitality students are well underway to their completion of their ‘Certificate II in Hospitality’ while Year 11 students are just beginning their journey.

Karen Vorpagel, Home Ec & Hospitality Teacher

CHESS Competition

The Toowoomba District Individual Junior Chess Championship were held at Toowoomba Grammar School on the 13th and 14th June. Year 9 student Joshua Eastment and two Year 7 students Sathmi Wanniarachchi and Emily Payne competed against students from across the Toowoomba region. The competition involved six games over the two days. Although CHSHS did not take any of the placings, the students had a great time and proudly represented our school.

Amanda Kilgour, Chess Club Co-ordinator

ARTWORK Display

Congratulations to the following Year 9 students whose work has been selected for display in the school office.

On Thursday 21 May, Year 11 students attended the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness Program (RYDA) out at the Clifford Park Race Track. The RYDA program has been designed for 16-18 year old students who are approaching that crucial time in their lives where they start to drive independently or are travelling as passengers of novice drivers. RYDA was a series of practical and powerful workshops that aimed to change the way young people thought about road safety. As part of an interactive one-day experience, students experienced braking at different speeds, devised travel strategies that would work for them in the real world and got tips from road safety experts on how to protect themselves, their friends and family. Perhaps the most impactful moments came from the personal stories of loss and survival.

In one session, students watched a powerful and emotional video on the life and tragic death of an 18 year old provisional driver and her best friend. And in another, students sat with a crash survivor and heard first-hand, how one poor choice changed a life forever.

Students got a lot out of the day, and gained an appreciation for how fragile human life is, and how the split-second reactions in a car, can be life-impacting. As a school, we were exceptionally pleased with the outstanding behaviour and appearance of our students.

Melissa Rohde-Bidgood, Year 11 Head of Year

Interact has once again been busy during the month of May coordinating the Annual Lifeline Can Appeal. This is the 13th year our school community has embraced the Interact motto of ‘Interact with Impact’ by collecting non-perishable food items to donate to Lifeline for distribution to those in need. As Maria O’Keefe, Chief Operating Officer Human Services for Lifeline Darling Downs and SW Qld mentioned during the presentation on school parade, Government grants have been cut and times are getting tougher, so there is even more need for us to reach out and show others we care.

This year the school donated around 5900 food items, most of which went to Lifeline while a proportion was given to Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Services for their emergency uses. Each Pastoral Care Group collected food over the 4 weeks in May and the items were delivered to the large Melco container near the hall. Once again, we are very appreciative of Melco’s ongoing support of our annual venture with the free use of the container for the month; it certainly makes for convenient and hygienic storage of the food. A very sincere ‘Thank you’ for all families who donated food! It was great to have the new Year 7s and 8s support this venture and of course the other year levels who have participated in previous years.

PCG 12D for the 4th year, collected the most for their particular year level and are to be congratulated on such a wonderful demonstration of commitment from Year 9 through to Year 12! Next year, we’ll be collecting again for Lifeline as they really rely on our school’s donations. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if 3 other schools took up the challenge and also collected during the other 3 school terms!! Wow!! What an impact that would have for our Toowoomba community!! (Ring Mrs Feldman for details!!)

Sandy Feldman, Interact Club Co-ordinator

The first steps welcoming our second cohort of Year 7 students to Centenary SHS have already been taken. On Tuesday, June 9 in excess of 140 families joined us for an Enrolment Information Evening to gain early details about our school and the process for transition and enrolment. The following Friday, 15 families took a tour of our school with further tours planned for Terms 3 and 4. Students in our cluster schools will also join us for orientation sessions this year in preparation for 2016 and many former students will also visit their ‘old’ primary schools to share their experiences in high school.

Tim O’Connell, HOD Junior Secondary & Languages
**Printers**

The big news this term is the implementation of PaperCut to manage our printing around the school. We have been trying to reduce the number of printers around the school for some time, by consolidating with MegaPrinters and Copiers. We have installed the third-party software PaperCut and we are now using a “follow me” print queue.

When a student now prints to a MegaPrinter it just sits in the queue, they can then go to any of the MegaPrinters around the school to release their job (there are currently four). This has the advantages of zero wasted paper, cheaper printing per page, and there being no reason for a student to leave class to pick up printing as they can get it at any time after they print. The student simply enters their username and password into the MegaPrinter interface and their job is released. We are therefore going back to original plan of not replacing the smaller, more expensive printers as they stop working.

We have also purchased a Colour MegaPrinter that resides in the library, this will incur a cost of 10c per sheet (our actual cost is 8.6c) to prevent unnecessary wasted printing.

**NBN**

We are in the final stages of upgrading to our 100Mb NBN fibre internet connection, all the infrastructure is installed, and we are hoping to cutover to be ready for the start of Term 3.

John Harman, IT Manager

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**STUDY OF RELIGION Excursion**

On Friday the 8th of May, both Study of Religion Classes from our school had the privilege to join other schools at a Multi-Faith Youth Forum at various places of Spiritual importance around Toowoomba.

At the start of the day, we went to the Mosque and listened to three young speakers talk about their experiences in their faith; Islam. We participated in trying on various items of traditional clothing such as hijabs and abayas and had our names written in Arabic.

Afterwards, we were bussed to the Pure Lands Learning Centre where we took part in Buddhist walking meditation and listened to a Buddhist Monk speak about their way of life. We were then treated to a vegetarian lunch with yummy tofu.

Finally, we travelled to St. Patrick’s Cathedral to listen to a youth’s perspective on Catholicism. We were allowed to look around the Cathedral to investigate all the articles of religious significance in the church.

At the end of the day all the significant leaders of the Islamic, Buddhist, Anglican and Catholic practices gathered to answer some of our queries from the day.

The day was very informative and we learnt lots about different perspectives from other cultures and religions. Thanks to all of the centres, including Rosie’s, for providing catering to us throughout the day.

Bryn Keane & Sarah Brown, Year 11 SOR Students
A lot of sport has been conducted over the past term. We have held our Annual School Cross Country (congratulations Swartz House) and many teams have competed in events around the region. Below is a list of our latest sporting accomplishments. You can also find our Cross Country results in detail and other sporting results on our school website.

**SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Softball** - Golden Glove Softball: Girls placed 5th & Boys placed 3rd


**Futsal** - Under 15 Boys – Semi Finalists – Finished 3rd, Open Boys - Semi Finalists – Finished 3rd

**Basketball** - MacDonald’s Cup: Open Girls – Champions, Open Boys Div 1 – Runners Up & Open Boys Div2 – Runners Up

**Darling Downs Representatives who competed at State Carnivals in Term 2** - Brielle Erbacher (Touch), Emma Taylor and Bianca Freeman (Netball), Malik Brown, Junior Chong Nee and Bilal Danine (Rugby League), Bula Ashby-Kaukau, Connor Duncombe (Rugby Union), James Cunliffe, Max Harding and Katie Wollstein, Flynn Hilton (Hockey), Courtney Edmondstone, Jasmine Gardiner, Sean Lucas, Matt Chappell, Adam Edmondstone, Charlie Kiehne, Corey Taylor, Chris Longford, Shyiah Saal, Bilal Danine, Jonty Young (Basketball), Abdullah Haddad and Jonty Young (AFL), Connor Doherty (Softball Umpiring), Connor Banim, Abdullah Haddad, Taylor Williams (AFL Umpiring), Jack Stephenson (Orienteering)

Term 3 brings our Annual School Athletics Carnival in Week 4 – August 4 and 5. Our current 12 year old Yr 7 students have been busy on Tuesday afternoons nominating for this annual event. Our 13 year old Yr 7 and 8 students begin this process in Week 10 of this term. All other students will be nominating in House Meetings at the beginning of Term 3.

Chris Bartlett, Sports Co-ordinator

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**STUDENTS’ HEALTH**

A reminder to parents/carers to notify the school about your child’s health.

Centenary Heights State High School is committed to supporting students’ health and wellbeing. We would appreciate parents/carers providing the school with any relevant health information that is required to support your child at school. This information is also collected at enrolment but needs to be updated regularly or if a new health condition develops.

Information about medically diagnosed conditions such as allergies, asthma, diabetes and epilepsy and other health conditions that may require school staff to provide support to students, including administering medication and performing health procedures, should be provided to the school. Additionally, any health need that may impact on school activities such as sports, outings (including camps) should also be discussed with the school.

Information should be provided in writing, and any specific health plans (only to be completed and signed by the medical practitioner) should be included. Please contact the school to discuss any specific requirements.

Please inform the school office staff of any changes to contact details or the contact details of the people nominated as emergency contacts.

Thank you for your assistance in this regard. All information is kept confidential and only disclosed to the relevant staff required to supporting your child.

For any enquiries, please contact the school office on telephone (07) 4636 7500.