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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

Many recent wonderful occasions on which to reflect:

- Our **Awards Night** – a packed auditorium at HumeRidge, speeches by our students that impressed everyone in terms of their wonderful delivery, celebration for students who were presented with awards, the smooth running of the event by our School Captains and Vice Captains - all features of a superb family occasion.

- Our **Flexi School Graduation/Awards and Formal** – the most stunning celebrations both at the Empire Church theatre. A super mix of community members who give so much time to our students at Flexi, business people and organisations who provide scholarships to further learning and of course families, so proud.

- Our **mainstream Graduation and Formal** – The Graduation was mixed with warmth, humour, reflection and was a stellar celebration for our young people. The Formal, for the first time at USQ given our number of 600, was a show of major proportions as we witnessed our young people absolutely transformed from the green uniform.

- **Excellent QCS results** have come through for those Year 12s who are OP eligible.

- **The Walker Film and TV Awards night** which showcased the absolutely superb work of our students in Years 11 and 12 and saw the introduction of the inaugural Bennett Zeller award in memory of our delightful Ben.

- Our **Christmas Choir** singing at Bupa Mackenzie Street – an annual event and again this year, the effect for our lovely older generation was tangible – smiles everywhere.

- Our **Cross Cultural Captains 2018** Charlene Marom and Cynthia Zhang, along with fellow Year 11 student Priyenka Menon, speaking as part of the Youth Panel at the recent National Interfaith Conference held in Toowoomba. Their topic – how to respect people of all cultures and faiths in a diverse community. My goodness they were sensational to listen to.

- Our **Junior and Senior Gold Ceremonies** – again, lovely to recognise so many of our students who continue to show respect for themselves, their families and their school.

- **Our Junior Captains and Vice Captains accompanying me to the recent White Ribbon Day Toowoomba Community Breakfast** – we are a dedicated White Ribbon Ambassador school which means within our school we talk about domestic and family violence, how to support our students in such situations, how to skill our students as ethical bystanders in terms of their actions to act protectively when they are aware of such situations and work with our students so they, as adults, do not become victims or perpetrators.

Looking ahead to 2018:

- **Day 1 of Term 1 is Monday 22 January** and we welcome Year 7, 8 and 12 students that day. **Day 2 – Tuesday 23 January** - all students are required on this day and this means we are joined by our Year 9, 10 and 11 students. On their first day students in the respective year levels are required to wear full Formal Uniform inclusive of their black leather shoes.

- **BYOD [Bring Your Own Device] laptops for all students in Years 7-10 inclusive** – in 2017 all of our Year 7s and 8s have been required to bring their own laptops to school. This has been a major success and is the strategy now employed by state secondary schools as the previous federal government funding for computers in schools has come to an end. In 2018, all students in Years 9 and 10 will join our Year 7s and 8s in terms of being required to bring a laptop to school. Our Year 11s and 12s are also already doing so. Families, please access our school website [on the home page under Quicklinks] to download the specifications required for when you purchase a laptop. The laptop you purchase should be a minimum of 128gb to allow for the work that needs to be done in working weeks in school – anything less will not cope with the software that will be installed in the on-boarding process by our Computer Technicians.

Stay away from anything that is 32gb or 64gb. On-boarding – what is it? For a cost of \$50 our students will be linked to our network and Office will be loaded on – saving hundreds of dollars to our families. So – do not buy anything with Office or Adobe on it already – our Computer Technicians will load these on when on-boarding. Screen size – best size is between 14 and 15.6 inches. Anything bigger may not fit into your child's school locker. Also stay away from the \$300 specials you may see advertised – these are normally coloured laptops – they just do not have the capacity needed. Investing in a second battery [around \$50] is a good idea as well as a charging facility is not provided at school. Some of our students bring a version of the portable battery pack. I notice in Toowoomba there is currently a really good machine for sale for \$797. It has storage of 1TB and a 15.6" screen. As I say though – go to our website and check all details.

- **If you have changed addresses please do let us know** – we always like to think that what we post to you actually arrives and in a timely fashion.

- **Formal Uniform dates 2018** – these dates are

scheduled for 2018 and will be in the mail-out that is posted this week. Please place those perhaps on your fridge at home so you are always aware. Heads of Year will also give the dates to their year level students in Week 1 2018. On these days the formal uniform is required to be worn in full. The dates are on our website under Calendar and News/Events Calendar.

- **50th Anniversary of our school** – again check our website [on the home page under Quicklinks] but **Saturday 28 April** past students have a tour and a lunch; **Sunday 29 April** past and current staff have a lunch and a Community Fair is planned for **Sunday 4 November** with market stalls, food and drink, outdoor theatre at night. From 90 students in 1968 to 1673 students in 2018. Overwhelming!

Thank you to you all, on behalf of all of our staff, for what has felt like such a quick year but one packed with the joy of young people, their happiness and their success.

Best wishes

Maryanne Walsh, Principal

WALKER AWARDS

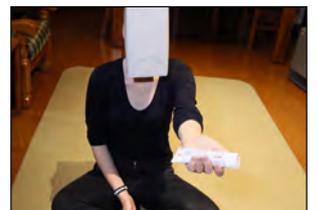
As a festival of student productions, The Walker Awards recognises the talents, energy, determination and creativity of the students. Hopefully, it also goes some way to rewarding the time and tears undoubtedly given by the parents, carers and talent who support these students throughout 2017 – thank you for your invaluable input.

This year the films were judged by industry professionals, which was an exciting addition to our program. We also introduced the Bennett Zeller Award for Dedication to Film, in honour of 2011 graduate Bennett Zeller, who sadly passed away earlier this year. This award was presented to the student who has gone over and above in commitment to the Film department. Congratulations to Nic Reis who received the inaugural award.

The other major winners on the night were: Layne Genrich (Best Year 11 Trailer) and Blake Hohenhaus (Best Year 12 New Media Production and Best Year 12 Alternative Production).

Although not every production can be a winner, I would like to congratulate all of the students for their excellent work this year. It has been fantastic to see such great skills amongst our up and coming filmmakers.

Sheradyn Dale, Teacher



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>

INTERACT *Wrap-Up*



Here's a Calendar Snapshot of another busy year for Interact Club 2017:-

JANUARY – Australia Day Celebrations selling Fairy Floss.

FEBRUARY – \$1361 raised selling roses on Valentine's Day for our Indian sponsor child Sanjai; \$500.00 to Pedal Prix group.

MARCH – Change-Over ceremony for Interact Board of Officers, hosted by Rotary Club of Toowoomba South. Many thanks to Rotarians Mr Bill Mason and Mr Paul Merry for their continued support.

APRIL – attended two Westhaven RSL Anzac Day services.

MAY – Our biggest event for the year - The Lifeline Can Appeal! We collected a total **5172** non-perishable food items!; also attended the Mayoral Prayer Breakfast. Many thanks to Melco once again for the use of their container free of charge.

AUGUST – Supported Jeans for Jeans Day; \$600.00 raised for genetic research.

SEPTEMBER – Assisting with the assembly of floats for the Carnival of Flowers parade.

OCTOBER – Supported CanTeen on Bandana Day raising \$300 for teens affected by cancer.

NOVEMBER – As this goes to print, hopefully 34 + backpacks given to 'Hope for Our Children' charity to help children in our own community who are placed in a position needing to leave their home immediately for various reasons.

Board 2017 = **President** Angela Hills, **Vice President** Gemma Leslie, **Secretary** Melissa Bechteler-Weickhardt, **Directors** Tamicah Dreyer, Alora Simon, Arwen Nugteren, Hope Brown.



Thanks Interact Club members and our whole school community, for everyone's continued support. We wish next year's Interact Club every success in continuing our motto of **'Interact with Impact'!**

Sandy Feldman & Jessica Zylstra, Interact Coordinators

JUNIOR SECONDARY *Update*

As the year draws to a close it is timely to announce our elected 2018 Junior Secondary Leaders:

Captains: Kate McGilvray and Elliott Pflaum

Vice Captains: Marissa Cumming and Ashdyn Lance

These four were elected from a very hot pool of applicants and have already begun duties recently attending the HALOGEN YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE at the Convention Centre in Brisbane. On Saturday, November 11 both Kate and Elliott joined Sharnee Harrison (Year 12) at Westhaven Village to represent our school in two

Remembrance Day Services. They not only 'looked the part', their contribution to the services was outstanding and they have very quickly affirmed the decision staff and their peers made in electing them to their leadership positions.

As this will be the last opportunity it is important to acknowledge the great job our 2017 Junior Secondary Leaders did also: Grace Callow, Rocco Wighton, Chelsea Golding and Lachlan Sharpe.

Tim O'Connell, HOD Junior Secondary & Languages



Ashdyn, Elliott, Kate and Marissa all smiles and ready for what 2018 has to offer.



Sharnee, Elliott and Kate were excellent ambassadors and were made very welcome at Westhaven Village.



GOOD FOOD & WINE SHOW

What a fantastic way to complete the Certificate II Hospitality with an invaluable cooking experience with celebrity Chef, Matt Golinski and the Good Food and Wine Show Excursion. Matt Golinski guided the students in creating spectacular entrees and mains, cooking techniques and teaching the students the art of modern plating. Matt also spoke about his journey into the hospitality industry, as a chef and as a restaurant owner and some key employment skills.

We love going to the Good Food and Wine Show; the experience the students have is phenomenal. To see them progress though over 200 food and beverage exhibitors and then to share their experience with me is a truly joyful time. The students got to sample ice-cream made from camel's milk from Beaudesert, Triple Cream Brie from South Yarra Valley, Truffle Oil from Western Australia, Pizza from 400 Gradi in Melbourne, Grove Orange Juice from Moonie; the list goes on. The students also watched cooking demonstrations from Masterchef winner Adam Liaw and Matt Moran. To add this we then visited the on trend food vendors at Southbank; MisterFitz, DoughnutTime, Chester Street Baker and had dessert at dessert bar Cowch.



Amanda MacNellie, Hospitality Teacher



SEP YEAR 12 MORNING TEA

This year, in lieu of the traditional 'Night in November' the Year 12 students who were supported through the Special Education Program were invited to attend a morning tea to acknowledge and congratulate them on their successes. Students were taken down memory lane with a PowerPoint presentation of their time at Centenary Heights, starting where it all began as newly enrolled Year 8 students through to their final year of schooling in Year 12.

A presentation of an engraved pen was made to each student as a memento of their time at Centenary Heights and to congratulate them on achieving success. The morning tea was also attended by the Year 12 Case Managers, the HOSES, Heads of Year, Ms Walsh, Deputy Principals, school captains and invited guests from Regional Office, Mrs Bec Smith and Mr Mark Hohnke. Meric Woodward gave a moving address on behalf his Year 12 peers recounting the numerous opportunities they have been offered at school and their growth over their five year journey. It was an enjoyable occasion which enabled us to celebrate the academic and personal growth of these remarkable young men and women. We look forward to hearing where their journey next takes them.

Jenny Purse, Year 12 Case Manager



Meric Woodward cut the cake on behalf of the Year 12s.



On presentation of their commemorative pens, students gave a brief outline of their plans for 2018.

Josie Hughes plans to take a gap year before studying Education. She hopes to return to Centenary Heights SHS in 2018 to work as a teacher aide, hopefully within the Special Education Program or in Learning Support..

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/student-services/inclusive/exemptions/index.html>

YEAR 12 GRADUATION & FORMAL

On November 17th the seniors of 2017 gathered to celebrate their hard work of five years in two special events. The Graduation Ceremony took place at HumeRidge Centre and was packed with students, staff, parents and well-wishers, and as always, a beautiful cake to help celebrate.

Their Head of Year, Dave McMillan, reflected on the students' time at Centenary Heights and the future that lies before them. The captains shared their reflections of their time at school, and their memories of this special group of students.

The ceremony ended with staff forming a guard of honour to congratulate each student as they made their way out of the auditorium, symbolising the end of an era and the beginning of the rest of their lives.

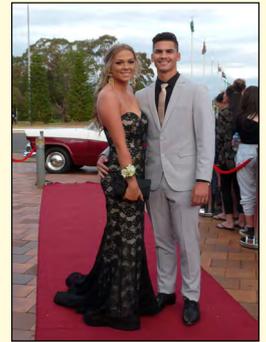
After all emotions were spent, the wonderful cake made by Noelene Fairweather was eaten up quickly, students rushed to 'suit up' or to their

long awaited appointments with hair and makeup in preparation for the formal. The arrivals were, as always, spectacular, with a beautiful range of classic vehicles, and a stretch limo and a truck, just for something a little more unique. The new venue of USQ allowed for beautiful shots both around the campus, and at the Japanese Gardens, as well as access to the professional photographers before the event, allowing families to get shots together before the formalities began.

The seniors celebrated long into the night, dancing right until the DJ finished up, showing just how much they mean to each other, by sharing the fantastic night together.

All in all this was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of a very special era in all the graduating students' lives, and to wish them well in what is to come next.

Catherine Andress, Assistant Head of Year 12



SPORT Report

As the year comes to a close, our sporting opportunities have started to cease. This term has continued to involve many and varied opportunities for our Centenary Heights SHS students and staff.

We would like to congratulate our Rugby 7s young ladies for their commitment over the term to their Tuesday evening games. The girls have played two games every Tuesday for a period of six weeks. Whilst the girls did not make the finals, they have improved over this time and are keen to continue again in 2018. Special thanks to Mr Cuthill for the time he has given to prepare these young ladies to participate in this competition.

Our Junior Girls Volleyball team continued to have great success this term in the Tuesday night Volleyball competition. They have dominated their age group and have done a wonderful job at playing their game with enthusiasm and passion. The girls have been a delight to watch in action. Under the great coaching of one of our Yr 11 students, Nicholas von Xanten and exceptionally supported by Miss Zylstra, the girls made the Grand Final. They lost their first game, came back to win the second and won the third by 2 points. A very exciting game was witnessed by all spectators. A massive congratulations to these young ladies and their coaching staff.

Recently our Junior students competed in the Darling Downs Junior Hockey competition with two teams entered. Our Division 2 team had a wonderful day with some learning new skills and developing as a team. Our Division 1 team was crowned Champions for the second year in a row. These young students played wonderful Hockey and are very deserved winners. Many thanks goes to Mr Stefanowicz for his coaching and mentoring for these young athletes.

As the year comes to a close, we would like to acknowledge all staff who give of their time to assist in allowing opportunities for our students to compete and participate in the many and varied sporting events that occur throughout our school year. Without staff coaching and supporting these athletes, our students would not be in a position to attend these events.

We look forward to another jammed packed sporting calendar in 2018. A reminder that all sport information regarding our Tuesday Afternoon Sport Program, TSSS Trials, Central Zone Trials, Darling Downs Trials, School Sport Teams and Gala Day Carnivals is on our school website. The website will be updated with the latest information in Week 10 of this term for those of you who would like to have a look at what is on offer in 2018.

Chris Bartlett, Sports Coordinator

ACCIDENT INSURANCE COVER

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised that the department does not have Student Accident Insurance cover for students. If your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs, are the responsibility of the child, parent or caregiver. Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If parents have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered through the private health insurance. Any other costs would be borne by the parents. Student Accident Insurance is an insurance policy that pays certain benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident. It is a personal decision for parents as to the types and levels of private insurance they arrange to cover their child for any accidental injury that may occur. Parents should contact their insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker for more information about student personal accident insurance cover for their child. For more info visit: <http://education.qld.gov.au/parents/school-life/health-wellbeing/accident-insurance-cover.html>

mark your diaries

JAN		5	School Photos - Years 7, 8, 9 & 10
22	First Day of Term 1 - Years 7, 8, 12 Full Formal Uniform Day - Years 7, 8, 12	7	Swimming Carnival - Years 7-9
		8	School Photos - Years 11 & 12
23	First Day of Term 1 - Years 9, 10, 11 Full Formal Uniform Day - Years 9, 10, 11		Year 7 Meet & Greet BBQ
26	Australia Day	12	Year 7 Immunisations
FEB		13	Year 10 Immunisations
1	Full Formal Uniform Day - All students Year 12 Senior Badge Ceremony	19-22	Year 7 Camp
		20	P&C AGM Meeting
		27	Swimming Carnival - Years 10-12