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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

Recent highlights:

It has been an absolute pleasure for the Heads of Year, Deputy Principals and I to conduct the process around selection of Student Leaders for 2016. The process is both rigorous and accountable as it needs to be given the role descriptions of these positions and I am proud to say that all applicants have conducted themselves in a manner which reflects so positively on the remains of their families and our School. 2016 Captains and Vice Captains were announced to the school community at Awards Night 27 October and, along with all other Student Leader positions, were later announced to the student community on full school parade 3 November.

Year 10 students Abigail Carter, Eli Silvonen-Walsh and Jessica Williams have just been inducted into the UQ Young Academy and its Program Plan which will span 2016 and 2017. This is such a great program – one with which we engage each year. It provides financial subsidy to students in Years 11 and 12 and also in University years should they choose to move on to study at UQ. It also links them with UQ student mentors and a familiarisation camp. This year our graduates from the program were Year 12 students Katrina Lacy, Evelyne Mihuhi and Chloe Ochnio.

The annual Mayoral Awards Ceremony was its usual inspiration with our nominees Sam Pinkerton, Jeff Morrish and Zoe Kendall shining on the night. Mayor Paul Antonio presented our students and many others from local schools with their awards which acknowledge young people who rise above very difficult personal circumstances. Just superb for families.

The annual Showband Tour was yet again an outstanding success. We are always appreciative of a sneak look at the show on the Tuesday night before departure and once again it was a super display of our student talent.

Vicki Wilson Netball Tournament, All Schools Touch, Chantelle Cramb Futsal Competition on recent weekends give our students further opportunities to live the whole schooling experience as does participation in the Music Extension throughout the year. I remain always thankful to our staff who constantly go above and beyond in support of our students. In terms of our students’ Music Extension teacher Janelle Duane a comment by one of her students Ben Willis ‘we would not be anywhere near as able without her’.

Significant thanks to the families of every one of our 300 Year 10 students who participated in our 2 day Senior Education and Training Plan (SETP) interviews. We have 15 interviewers going from early morning to early evening on both days with the whole focus on plotting, with our students, the best possible pathway to success over the ensuing two years. It truly is a great experience.

Congratulations to the Year 11 and Year 9 students in our 2015 Student Leadership Team – the running of the School Social was entirely an exercise for them and it was so well done – nearly 400 students and such a smooth and enjoyable evening.

Year 9 student Jing Jie Wong won a competition as part of his Maths Science Enrichment class activity called Fiji Power. He proposed, using renewable energy sources, a solution to the operation of a vaccination fridge in a very remote medical centre on a Fijian Island. In early October Jing Jie flew to Fiji to participate in the installation of a solar powered system to operate the fridge. Our school also donated first aid kits and sporting materials for Jing Jie to take. A sensational experience!

Upcoming dates:

1. Year 12 Exam block – Monday 9 to Wednesday 11 November inclusive. Students who do not have exams in this period have been advised to come in to school and complete any work outstanding to ensure all is completed and their eligibility to attend the Formal is not compromised. Students are aware from the beginning of Year 12 that all work is to be completed.

2. Parents of Year 12 students – a reminder that our students understand they are not permitted to be absent from school on any day or part of the day in their last week of school. They understand that major effort has gone into to creating a very relevant exit program for them and their attendance and participation shows respect for such.

3. Year 10 Exam day – Friday 20 November. Year 10s do not have classes on this day rather every student is required to attend school to sit their Maths exam and then depart for home. This format introduces them to the rigour of an exam block which they will encounter in year 11.

4. Year 11 Exam block – Friday 20 November through to Tuesday 24 November inclusive. Once again students are not required at school unless they have an exam however they are advised to come to school to complete any work outstanding to end the year on top of their commitments.

5. Year 11 QCS Writing Task practice Wednesday 25 November 2015 – every Year 11 student is required at school on this day. At the start of the year I write to all employers of our school based trainees with advice on days where they will not be at work due to school commitments. This is one of those days. It is the introduction to what our Year 11 students will experience in Term 1, 2016 and once again, in Term 1, there is no exception to participation in this program at that time. The instruction our students receive, whether they are OP bound or not, is wonderful support for all of their subject learning.
6. End of year trips to Dreamworld and Wet and Wild – Year 10s and 11s on Friday 27 November and Years 7, 8 and 9 on Thursday 10 December. Students who are on Gold level are eligible to participate in these trips. They have enormous fun on such days and I am thankful to our teaching staff for providing these opportunities.

7. Remaining Formal Uniform Days Term 4:
   - Year 7 and 8 – Tuesday 10 November
   - Year 9 – Wednesday 11 November
   - Year 10 Thursday 12 November
   - Year 11 Friday 13 November

8. Our Flexi School Graduation Wednesday 11 November from 9.30am and Formal the same night with arrivals from 5pm. Venue is Empire Church Theatre – these are absolutely delightful occasions as will be the mainstream Graduation on Friday 20 November at Hume Ridge and the Formal that same night at Picnic Point – arrivals also from 5pm.

Facilities update:

As we continue to grow in student number we are yet again in need of more classrooms - under C block will be enclosed to add two more classrooms and a staffroom - in the order of $300,000. Our very precious handball courts will be relocated – let me tell you that is important strategic ‘stuff’ as I remain accountable to our junior boys!

Our Flexi School Mentoring Hub will finally begin this Term. It is an additional building to our existing Flexi structure with the intent to allow for the growth of the tremendously successful relationship between our students and their TOMNET [Toowoomba Older Mens’ Network] mentors - $700,000

The refurbishment of existing classrooms into an extra workshop designed to allow for the delivery of the subject, Furnishing – such is the growth in student preference for Industrial Skills - $17,000

Of course our new electronic street sign – doesn’t it look fantastic? I am especially appreciative of the sponsorship of a number of local businesses who have donated funds to allow us to complete this project much earlier than we had hoped. These businesses will be named in our school Newsletter. The cost of approx $30,000 will be made up in spades given the hours it will save for our wonderful Janitor Col French. We have grown exponentially in years gone by yet there still remains just one of him – anyway we can save his time makes sense to me

Great stories:

Just recently the Mum of our co-founder of Flexi School Glen Postle turned 100 years old. Her name is Dorrie Postle. For many years she has donated $50 of her pension to Flexi and now tells us she wishes to increase that to $100!

In discussion recently with a Mum who said her son was in need of a haircut but money was tight – a contact, with the intention of our school lending a helping hand, was made to one of our local businesses Vicki’s Hair Design to book this lad in and within 10 minutes Vicki returned the call to say she would happily do this for free! Aren’t people good?

Best wishes

Maryanne Walsh, Principal

SCHOOL SIGN

Our sincere thanks to the following local businesses for their generous sponsorship and contribution to our new electronic school sign.

- Southtown Shopping Centre
- South Street Newsagency
- Five Star Supermarkets
- Downs Office Equipment
- R & O Communications
- Think Office Technology
- Darren Low Painters
- Toowoomba Tree Care
- J & C Cleaning Service
- Hutchinson Builders
- CEOffice

Your continued support of our school is valued.

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Maryanne Walsh, Principal

ACCIDENT INSURANCE COVER FOR STUDENTS

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
Despite this term being our last, student involvement in a wide range of activities continues at a frantic pace. Recently 120 students (predominantly from our Year 7 and 8 cohorts) took the opportunity to participate in the Oktoberfest 4 Teens event at the RNA Showgrounds in Brisbane. This was a fantastic occasion for our students studying German as they participated in German singing, dancing, games and a number of show rides during the action-packed day.

Three of our Junior Secondary captains proudly recently represented our school at the Regional Principal’s Meeting at Highfields spending the morning greeting special guests including our Director General Dr Jim Watterston. Following on from this another four leaders (Year 7 and 8 Student Council Representatives and Captains) represented our school at the Choose Your Own Adventure at USQ which was conducted by the Toowoomba Regional Council. The students did a fantastic job outlining their ideas and plans for the future of our local community.

At the end of this term (second last day of the school year) students who have obtained ‘Gold Level’ will have the opportunity to have a fun day with their friends at Dreamworld and White Water World on the Gold Coast. This is always a great way to end the year with excitement already building.

On Tuesday, December 8 our 2016 Year 7 cohort will spend a day familiarising themselves with their new school. This year we will also take the opportunity on this day to provide our current Year 7 students with some experiences to assist with their transition to Year 8.

Tim O’Connell, HOD Junior Secondary & Languages
Tuesday Sport for Years 9 and 10 has been replaced by Core PE in 2015. Half day carnivals at the end of terms one and two have occurred where students pitted their skills against their school mates in a semi competitive environment. Year 11 and 12 Sport and Recreation students officiated and had an enjoyable time developing their leadership skills. In Term 4, whole day carnivals will take place to finalise the 2015 Core PE program.

The PE Staff work to develop in students a positive attitude to a healthy lifestyle. A wide range of activities are covered in class. The aim is students find something they enjoy and choose to stay active. Aerobics is a lifetime sport and is being introduced as an optional PE activity. Class sets of various aerobics equipment have been purchased and a storage cupboard built in the Hall to allow aerobics to occur.

The replacement Oval Storeroom under the new year seven building has been fitted out. The storeroom has far more space allowing us to purchase trolleys to improve the safe storage and transport of athletics equipment. The room has also been wired for internet access, fitted out with a desktop computer and large screen TV/ DVD etc., which are used to enhance teaching options.

The Weights Room has also had a large screen TV/ DVD installed which is used to enhance teaching options. Examples: show footage of an elite athlete performing a skill then go to the Oval and practice the skill that was demonstrated.

The external gym knocked down when the Home Economics Block was built has finally been replaced. The new ten station gym is on the top oval between the Discus and Hammer Cages.

The carpet on the Main Oval Cricket Pitch was replaced this year. In 2016 it is hoped to build Cricket Practice Nets to replace the ones removed when the Pool car park was built. A spot on the bottom Oval has been set aside for this. The location would facilitate its use at lunchtime and provide an activity to help cater for our ever increasing student population.

The Main and Bottom Ovals have been repeatedly aerated, fertilised and recently sprayed for weeds. Mr Gary Barrett, Ag Science teacher and Rugby Union coach has been instrumental in reactivating the bore. The P&C has purchased a replacement travelling large broadcast sprinkler to improve the grass cover on the ovals. Its planned to install a larger pump and storage tank to help with this. We are incredibly thankful to our P&C.

The marking of the Athletics Track on the oval is an exacting, time consuming task. To make it easier for 2016 a Surveyor has been employed to do a GPS Survey and set out in ground reference points on the oval boundaries to facilitate the line marking for future carnivals.

A new Long Jump pit has been built on the bottom oval to replace the pit covered by the access road for the new year seven building.

Under C Block is being built to install two classrooms. We will miss the option of using the eight Table tennis tables in this area in wet weather on the many occasions when the Hall is unavailable. Fold up tables will be purchased and stored on the Hall stage to maintain this sport so popular with our large population of students born overseas. Discussions are underway to find a replacement undercover spot for the two Handball courts used by the students every school break.

As you may know Centenary’s Social was recently held in our School Hall in the last week of term 3. I must say after a lot of planning and through the dedication and commitment of the Year 11 contingent of our Student Leadership Team, the Social turned out to be a huge success. This years theme was DISCO. Bright colours, headbands and afros. It was great to see so many people get into the spirit of things and dress up. In total we had approximately 400 students attend and made a resounding profit of approximately $1900.

Thank you again to the students, staff and any outside help that contributed to this event.

Jared David, Head of Social Committee

Mike Mulligan, HOD Health & Physical Education

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
September and October were busy months for the Faculty. In the last week of Term 3, our Year 12 Drama students presented their Collage Drama, ‘Breaking the Social Norms’, for an appreciative audience in the assembly hall. Without exception, the students gave of their best and tackled some challenging and, at times, confronting material with great sensitivity and polish. Congratulations!

Towards the end of Term 3, our Harmony Singers, Orchestra, String Ensemble and Show Band were putting the final touches to rehearsals for their participation in the annual TYME Festival at USQ. Unfortunately, heavy rain and the forecast of severe storms caused the cancellation of the event. Not to be deterred, many of these students put their energy into preparations for performances scheduled for the beginning of Term 4.

Rather than have a performance marathon, the largest ever Music Extension class had its final concert split over two nights - Friday 9th and Monday 12th October. The overall quality of the work presented on both evenings was outstanding. “I would happily have paid to see that at the Empire Theatre,” was the comment of one audience member. A number of these students hope to pursue careers in Music. We wish them well and look forward to hearing of their successes.

The next evening, Tuesday 13th, our String Ensemble and Orchestra entertained a large audience as the ‘warm-up’ act to our Show Band’s pre-tour concert. It was a great way to start the evening! The pre-tour concert, which was a dress rehearsal for the Show Band’s tour of Northern New South Wales was very well received.

Primary school students in Tenterfield, Tamworth and Armidale provided enthusiastic support for our Show Band performances. The show, which was pitched at lower primary school audiences, had the ‘littlies’ singing along to Geronimo and screaming enthusiastically at the entrance of SpongeBob. Their enthusiasm was infectious and provided great feedback to the performers who grew in their own enjoyment of performing as the tour progressed.

Our final performances for October were at the school’s Awards Night held at HumeRidge. Once again, our students provided quality entertainment which was really appreciated by those in attendance.

Congratulations to all students and staff who have shared their talents and made possible some wonderful memories for so many.

Sandy Caldwell, HOD Performing Arts

INTERACT CLUB Report

Term 4 always seems to fly by quickly! Just to recap, Jeans for Genes Day in August went well with donations and money given for the ‘privilege’ of wearing jeans to school totalling $500 for genetic research. This is an annual event that the school community enthusiastically supports.

Last year in October we ran Operation B4B – Books for the Bush, sending 960 books to the Longreach School of the Air. This October we decided to answer the call for assistance to our farmers battling severe drought. We kept it as ‘Operation B4B’ but this time it was ‘Bales for the Bush’ (although the official organisation is ‘Buy a Bale.’) This cause was close to home for many in our school community and $3000 was donated which provided for 150 bales!! What an incredible effort from our students & staff! Well done to everyone who gave to this charity. Every dollar goes directly to help out those families affected by the drought.

The 30th October celebrates CanTeen’s Bandanna Day where we sell bandannas to support teenagers who are affected by cancer. This too is an annual event at school which is well supported. All bandannas were sold with $300 being donated to CanTeen. Three examples yet again of our school community reaching out to others in need – the traditions continue – if we all give a little it will add up to a lot so we can Interact with Impact!!!

Sandy Feldman, Interact Club Co-ordinator
FUTURE STATE GREATS

Future State Greats is a state-based organisation committed to helping children and their families in need, by unlocking opportunities identified through sport from within the Queensland Education System. Essentially, the organisation believes that participation in school sport has far-reaching benefits for all involved. With the support of QT Mutual Bank, many students from Centenary Heights have had some financial assistance to achieve their sporting dreams. This year, Future State Greats has supported many of our students from Centenary Heights SHS across a number of sports. Student recipients are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sport</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brielle Erbacher</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Erbacher</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santener Skina</td>
<td>AWD Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannah-Lisa Xavier</td>
<td>AWD Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Izaak Shepherd</td>
<td>AWD Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie Wollstein</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max Harding</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mia Stower</td>
<td>Netball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashton Weribone</td>
<td>Softball</td>
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</tbody>
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This term provided the culmination of a year’s worth of training for the annual Qld All Schools Touch Carnival in Brisbane. This event is held over 5 days. CHSHS represented in 6 divisions. Whilst no team made the quarter finals, it was an impressive effort. A couple of teams did not make it through due to one or two tries. This shows just how tight the competition was. Well done to students who participated and to all staff who have coached and supervised at this event.

On the very same weekend, our Senior Vicki Wilson Netball Team competed at the State Vicki Wilson Finals with 15 other teams. These teams were all winners from their regional competitions. Our team placed 12th last year with a hard fought improvement to 9th this year. The team were well and truly in the running for top 8 positioning but a very determined opposition relegated the girls to a lower placing. This is still an outstanding effort considering the team comes together for this competition only and does not play together as a team on a weekly basis. Well done ladies.

Mr McMicking recently coached our Open Boys Futsal team in the SWQ Futsal Schools Competition. The boys won one game and fought hard in the other three. Games were extremely close with the boys providing tough competition for all opponents.

Over the holidays Robert Odell, Brandon Walker and Connor Banim played in the Secondary Schools National Futsal Championships at the Brisbane Entertainment Centre. Spectators at this event praised these boys stating “boys from your school were great ambassadors for your school, playing the game with great sportsmanship and dedication”. Great news to hear and well done gentlemen. From this event, Robert was selected in the Australian Youth Men’s Futsal Team. His performance at the National Futsal Championships was exceptional and Robert will now travel to Taiwan in May 2016. Congratulations Robert, this is a fantastic achievement.

There is only one Darling Downs Trial left for 2015 which is Triathlon on Sunday November 15. This will end 2015 in the sporting area. A reminder to all parents that if they wish to check sporting trials dates, they are listed on our school website and through the Darling Downs School Sport website. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at school or via email at cbart46@eq.edu.au

We acknowledge and thank Future State Greats for providing our students support and assistance.

Chris Bartlett, Sports Co-ordinator