5 August 2016

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Parents and Citizens’ Association Meeting

The next meeting of State High’s P&C will be held on Tuesday 9th August, commencing 6.30pm, in the administration block. All welcome. Student learning is enhanced when parents and schools work together.

Sports Carnival

It was fantastic to see so many students participating in and supporting our Interhouse Athletics Carnival. I would like to congratulate all of our competitors, especially those breaking records, of which there were several. (Please see sports section of this newsletter.) I would also like to thank parents, families and guardians who attended to support students.

Charters Towers Show

Thank you to Mrs Brenda Chappel and Mrs Carol King and to all the students and staff who provided items for our show display.

Same Day Contact for Absences

As part of Education Queensland’s policy for same day contact for students with unexplained absences, we have adopted a SMS based system report sent throughout the day. This makes it more important than ever that parents and guardians keep their contact details up to date and that you use this opportunity to do so.

The by-default SMS is sent to the first contact listed on our management system in most cases, however, biological parents take priority. In case of shared custody both groups of parents are listed and notified. If you would like to check who is set to be the default notified person and or request a change please contact the office.

Social Media, Screen Time Management, Electronic Devices at School

Social Media

Social Media can be an extremely powerful tool for both family and friends but, unfortunately, relies on its users to be both responsible and mature which can be difficult for our students who are still developing in those areas. The level of connectedness often means there is no “Down Time” when students are not in contact with each other.

It is also a tool that can be quite easily misused, particularly in the heat of the moment and once posted to the Internet the information is there forever, even when deleted.

Below is a link to the safety website with some extremely useful information around helping to manage our students in the Social Media Age including how to manage Cyber Bullying and inappropriate use.

Screen Time Management

Managing our students’ access to computers is a tough process for all of us and how much time is enough is a decision that each parent/guardian needs to make for themselves, however, I would like to suggest a couple of tools for helping manage when you would like to remove or restrict access at home.

1. Wireless devices. These can be often easily restricted by using a second wireless device for students only to connect to. This way they can be turned off manually at any time.

2. A second router (this is a specific device that can plug into your existing internet router). Selecting the right model can give you access to filtering, time schedules and other features without impacting on when you as the parent need to use it.

3. Microsoft provides the ability to add child accounts to their Microsoft accounts. This allows you to set restrictions on screen time and get reports on various activities. Many modern systems such as Windows 8 and 10 provide the ability to sign on with these accounts.

Electronic Devices at School

At Charters Towers State High School, electronic devices are a banned item and are prohibited from use at school. The school recommends students not to bring electronic devices to school. Students who have an electronic device in use at school will have it confiscated and it will be required to be picked up by the office by a parent.

School Formal

Year 12 students had a good time at the Combined Schools’ Formal hosted by CCC last Friday night.

Motivational Media

State High will once again be hosting Motivational Media on Monday 22nd August. These presentations have in the past provided focus for students to make smart choices regarding their futures.

Sad Farewell

It was with much sadness that we learned of the passing of Mrs Janice Ellen Fellows, after a long illness. Jan served our school for 26 years, retiring 6 years ago. Many members of staff, past and present, attended her funeral last week.

NEW STAFF

We are pleased to welcome four new members of our teaching staff: Jennifer Barkley, Vitoria Ape, Cathrine Briner and Stephanie Hall. (Sorry, photos not yet available.)

Home is the Sunshine Coast where my daughter lives but we are from the Northern Territory. I teach Science, HPE and Math, and have taught subjects like Marine Science, Outdoor Rec and Fitness. I am looking forward to completing my rural service here at State High. Cathie Briner

I am happy to take up the leadership position of Junior Secondary Head of Department and the teaching position within the Maths/Science Departments at Charters Towers State High School. I come to the school with much expertise which I have gathered from varied teaching positions in a number of different schools within Australia and the United Kingdom. My goal is to help the students become confident learners and reach their full potential. I have a calm, reflective attitude that allows for open communication with staff, students and parents. Jennifer Barkley

I have just moved here from the Sunshine Coast and teach Chemistry, Science and Maths. I graduated from Griffith with a degree in Forensic Chemistry and Criminology and Criminal Justice. Recently I graduated from University of the Sunshine Coast’s Grad. Dip program for Teaching. I love teaching and have so far loved my time here at State High. I’m looking forward to working with you all. Stephanie Hall
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Michael Harrison and Charli Schluter, Year 10 Students of the Week.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOVpczBL_po

SPORT

Interhouse Athletics

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<th>GIRLS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CHAMPIONS</strong></td>
<td><strong>RUNNERS UP</strong></td>
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<td>Kathleen Polsen</td>
<td>Tanieka Kyle</td>
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<td>Crystal-Lee Walsh</td>
<td>Louise Polsen</td>
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<td>Stephanie Lowe</td>
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<td>Simone Major</td>
<td>Hatana Haber</td>
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<td>Alicia Polsen</td>
<td>Kyra Crombie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daisha Johnson</td>
<td>Becky Bowden</td>
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Clarke House won the day with 583.5 points, followed by Friemann with 554 points.

Congratulations to the following record breakers:

- **Kathleen Polsen** – 12 Girls High Jump – 1.23m (previous record 1.18m in 2015)
- **Ky Kerr** - 12 Boys 100m Sprint – 14.34 (previous record 15.07 in 2015)
- **Josh Rafferty** – 12 Boys Shot Put – 8.52m (previous record 8.27m 2015)
- **Josh Rafferty** – 12 Boys Long Jump – 4.06m (previous record 3.49m in 2015)
- **Josh Rafferty** – 12 Boys Discus – 17.03m (previous record 12.77m in 2015)
- **Daisha Johnson** – Open Girls Triple Jump – 8.56m (previous record 8.51m in 2014)

A special mention must go to Nash Lowis – Open Boys Shot Put – 15.49m (previous record 13.66m held since 1958) and also for – Open Boys Javelin – a **massive** 70.59m (previous record 56.77m held since 2003) and **Kyra Crombie** – 16 Girls Javelin – 28.33m (previous record 26.5m held since 1987)!

Matthew de Brenni, Sport Coordinator

Term 2 Touch Challenge

Last term saw our four House teams compete on the Touch field. The competition was well fought with our House Captains rising to the challenge to motivate, coach and referee each game. The end result saw Clarke and Mosman face off in the grand finale; a big thanks to Bo Moore-Reid for stepping up to referee. While both teams put in a fantastic effort, Mosman were the clear winners in the end; result 6 to 3.

Mosman then went on to play the elite teachers’ team, who showed good sportsmanship through some questionable referee decisions. The score sheet was unfortunately misplaced but all who were there would have recognised that both teams showed a lot of skill and heart which is more important than the final score.

Louise Halfpenny, Teacher and Coordinator

Vicki Wilson Cup for Netball

In a first for State High, 12 girls made the trip to Townsville to compete in the preliminary rounds of the Vicki Wilson Netball Cup. Vicki Wilson Cup is a joint competition run by Netball QLD and Queensland School Sport. High Schools across Queensland are able to nominate, and first play against other schools in their school sport region in the Preliminary Rounds. The top 16 schools then compete in Vicki Wilson Cup Finals Series in Brisbane. Our girls competed against five other schools such as St Margaret Mary’s College, Bowen State High School, Ryan Catholic College, The Cathedral School and Herbert River TBC. The day included 6 games and our students showed a lot of determination and team spirit for a team that had not previously played together. I think we all agreed that it
was a great day and it will be on again next year. A big thank you to Mr Anthony Johnson for his efforts as coach.

Louise Halfpenny, Teacher

STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

Thank you to all the parents, staff and students who attended the Student-Led Conferences at the beginning of the term. It was a successful event with a fantastic turnout. Our dedicated staff volunteered their time to ensure they were present on all three nights of the event. As the name suggests the conferences were student led which allowed the student to be in the driver seat. The student was able to discuss their results, suggest reasons for their successes and strategies for improvement. I was very impressed that our students left the meeting with a positive attitude and with specific strategies to improve for the term ahead. It also opened up communication lines between the school and the community. Thank you again for the parents who took the time out of their busy days to come and meet with our dedicate staff. Your continual support is greatly appreciated.

Iljiaz Memedovski, Head of Junior School

DTTC CAREERS EXPO

On Wednesday 27th July our Year 10, 11, 12 students had the opportunity to attend the Dalymple Trade Training Centre for the Careers Expo. Students were able to ask questions, make connections and look at future pathways to consider as they continue their schooling journey. There were a large number of stalls, with a variety of options to look at from universities, TAFE, local industry and the Defence Forces, just to name a few. We look forward to attending again next year!

Student feedback was very positive with the following being said;

"On Wednesday 27th July all of the different job opportunities came together for a career expo. I learnt about career pathways that could be a possibility for when I leave school after Year 12. I got to ask vital questions and received many helpful answers. This has helped me gain a better understanding about universities and what TAFE offer according to job choices." – Tylah Stanton Year 10

"At the careers expo I learnt about what opportunities TAFE offers and how it can benefit me in the future. I also learnt there are a wide range of universities that were there letting students know what they offer. The careers expo was a great experience for all students to help them get an idea about life after school." - Charli Schluter, Year 10

"I learnt a lot at the Careers Expo at the DTTC. I received a lot of useful information and thoroughly enjoyed the experience – the free sausage sizzle was my favourite part – thanks to those who organised it!" - Zahli Gough, Year 11

Sharon Hackman, Head of Department

BIOLOGY CAMP

From Monday 25th to Wednesday 27th July our Year 11 and 12 Biology students attended their field study excursion to Paluma Environmental Education Centre as part of the curriculum’s mandatory requirements. The students developed their observation skills whilst undertaking transects of logged, unlogged and open forest sites, and recording abiotic factors for comparisons. As the camp progressed everyone immersed themselves in the rainforest ecosystem wonders; discovering unique birds and nocturnal mammals, identifying invertebrates, patiently observing luminous fungi and glow worms, and using our senses (and trusted guide’s instructions) to lead us through the sensory trail. We even enjoyed a few roasted (or in the case of some eager students – FLAMING) marshmallows around the fire pit with stories of ‘good ol school days’. The staff, Pam Smith and Brett Murphy, were brimming with praise and compliments for our students’ engagement in educational activities and their high levels of respect and responsibility. Thank you and congratulations students.

We were lucky enough to have a parent, Darren Binns, as our bus driver and assisting with our learning experiences, and Brenda Chappel, our Science Operations Officer taking membrable photographs. Thank you both for your commitment as it would not have been such a wonderful excursion without your efforts.

Experiential learning has no equal in life and I am confident that our students have been positively changed by their experiences in Paluma’s rainforest ecosystem; they feel a unique connection and responsibility to conserve it for future generations to enjoy. This sets them up well to dive into their assessment task which asks them to decide if some deforestation to construct educational facilities at Paluma is justified by compiling an evidential report based ecological factors of support, which Paluma staff are keen to read when completed.

Selena Komodzinska, Teacher

CHEMISTRY

This term Year 11/12 Chemistry students are doing a unit on ‘Chemistry in a shopping trolley’. This unit investigates the chemistry that may be found in the market place and, in particular, the types of reactions that occur. The main focus of this unit will be an EEI (Extended Experimental Investigation) in relation to general consumer products such as vinegar, orange juice and detergents. In this assessment students will be designing their own research question and hypothesis to conduct an experiment using Titrations. Students have been involved in conducting a practice Titrations experiment using acids (HCl) and bases (NaOH). Students have compared and marked an EEI exemplar based on A and C standards to give
them an understanding of what is expected of them when writing their own EEI. Students have already been given this task, the draft will be due in week 6 and the final is due in week 8. In week 9, students will start their next unit on ‘Under Pressure’, for Term 4.

Aman Bhullar, Teacher

Japanese language opportunity, for year 7 – year 12 students

Secondary student scholarships for university vacation programs 2016

Applications are open for students to attend James Cook University Academy Modern Languages’ vacation program (Cairns and Townsville campuses) from 26–30 September 2016.

Cairns campus: Applications are open to Year 7–12 students studying Chinese (Mandarin), French, Italian, Japanese or Spanish.

Townville campus: Applications are open to Year 7–12 students studying Chinese (Mandarin), French, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese or Spanish.

Please view this website for further information:

and email to corinne.scholl@det.qld.gov.au no later than 19 August 2016.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We take pleasure in welcoming Ms Briner to the junior secondary HPE teaching team. Ms Briner comes from the Sunshine Coast (and previously, the Northern Territory).

We have an exciting program in junior HPE this term. Year 7 students will be testing their personal physical control through applying movement from both yoga and Tae Kwon Do. Year 8 will be lacing up their dancing boots for some boot scootin’ ho down dancing fun and Year 9 will, hopefully, not get lost testing their sense of direction in the sport of orienteering.

In the classroom students will be learning about healthy eating (Year 7), cyber safety (Y8) and social responsibility and perceptions of adolescents (Y9).

We have another great term filled with laughter, positiveness and, of course, lots of learning.

If you have questions regarding curriculum please contact the school office to arrange an appointment with your child’s teacher or another member of the junior secondary HPE teaching team.

Leon Goldenberg, Teacher

SCIENCE

Year 10

As the year progresses, science seems to become more and more fun. As we have now wrapped up our chemistry unit from last term, we now move in to the fun area of physics, the mother science. Physics relates to how and why things do the things they do. Students will be looking at forces and motion and how they specifically relate to the transfer and transformation of energy in collisions. Students will be conduction an investigation into how safety devices in cars help save lives, and how particular features of cars do this. They will need to design a safety device in order to demonstrate their knowledge, during an experiment. This unit of work will go for the whole term culminating in a written assessment piece in the form of a scientific report. We are all looking forward to the coming semester and the increasing achievement of our students. If you have any queries, please contact any of the 10 science teaching staff at the school.

Free tutoring for science will be available on Wednesday mornings from 8am to 9am in ILB4 with Mr. Morris.

Nathan Morris, Rebecca Kadvany, Selena Komodzinska and Jennifer Barkley

Year 9

The Year 9 Science students will be travelling to Cape Pallarenda Conservation Park on 23rd August to collect data on different ecosystems in the area. They will be looking at the progression of life from the shore line, the water quality as it gets closer to manmade structures, as well as all abiotic and biotic factors in the area. The students will be leaving school at 9am and returning by 3pm. The data collected will be brought back to school and the students will use it, along with their research of ecosystems, to complete their assessment.

Carl Brough and Nathan Morris, Teachers

MATHEMATICS

The end of the year is fast approaching and it is assessment time once again. Throughout this term, the Year 10 maths classes have been look at analysing data and evaluating it for meaning. This has required students to look for specific sets of data and construct box plots to give a visual representation of the data. This has culminated in an assessment task that looks primarily at the yearly incomes of people who finished Year 12 compared to those who did not. Students have found this quite interesting, and particularly useful in making their future decisions with regard to further education. Continuing on from this, students will be studying geometry, which is an area of maths relating to shapes. Throughout this unit students will be revisiting prior leaning of volume and surface area and will be extending their knowledge to the congruence of triangles. This will then all be assessed in an exam at the end of term. We are all looking forward to a productive second half of the year. If you have any queries, please contact any member of the mathematics teaching team at the school.
Free tutoring for mathematics will be available on Wednesday afternoons from 3pm to 4pm in D35 with Mr. Morris.

Nathan Morris, Deng Jurkuch and Aman Bhullar

40 HOUR FAMINE

Students involved in the 2016 World Vision 40 Hour Famine fundraiser are invited to participate in the 40hr Famine ‘Lock in for a Cause’ in the State High Resource Centre on Friday 19th August from 3.00pm until 9.30am on Saturday 20th August 2016.

Students can commence the famine at 5pm on Thursday 18th August and will be able to see out the final hours of the famine with students and staff. The evening will be a fun packed celebration of the students’ commitment to raising funds to support World Vision. Movies, Wii, board games and karaoke will be engaged in at various times throughout the evening; all fully supervised by State High staff.

Dinner on the Friday night will be provided to those students who are giving up something other than food for the 40 hours and a breakfast for all students will be provided on the Saturday morning to congratulate all students on completing the Famine.

Carl Brough and Kelcey Kirkpatrick, Teachers