3 June 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear parents, care-givers and students,

The past week has seen the school recognised again for our excellence in education innovation with creative and responsive pathways for our students.

Regional Showcase Awards – Awards for Excellence in Schools

At the Regional Showcase Awards held last week, Redbank Plains State High School was again recognised as a Regional Winner in the category of “Community and Industry Partnerships”.

Last year for students in Years 10 and 11, who were at risk of disengaging with school, undertook a Certificate II in Creative Industries in partnership with 5 Arrows Productions. This partnership with 5 Arrows provided our students with weekly exposure to international music industry professionals on a weekly basis. The students worked with international recording artists, producers and technicians to enhance their skills, knowledge and confidence across all facets of the industry. This program involved the students giving up many hours of their own time to commit to and complete their Certificate II qualification that gave them 4 QCE credits to bank in their learning account. One of their significant achievements was the writing and composing of the ‘REAL’ song that has been performed now many times for students and staff. The students also performed for the Education Minister at the GenR8 graduation last year.

Staff from 5 Arrows are currently organising the entertainment for the upcoming international G8 conference in Brisbane later in the year. The next program for the new intake of students will be beginning shortly. Congratulations to Mrs Watterson, Mr Winton, Mr Stratton, Mrs Clarkson and all other staff who supported the students through the program. Good luck in this application to the State Finals to the team.

Metropolitan Finals Success

Last week also saw our Year 8 Boys Volleyball team compete in the semi-finals and grand final of the Metropolitan Championships. This competition involves schools from Caboolture through to Coomera and out to Laidley. Clearly, this is a significant number of high schools involved, both state and private in this competition.

The boys defeated Craiglea SHS from the north side in the grand final 2 sets-0. Craiglea SHS has a volleyball history of over 30 years and produced a significant number of Australian players over many years. This is a tremendous achievement by the boys and their coach Mr Ramm. Well done.

Year 6 and 7 Roadshows to Primary Schools

The school is currently undertaking visits to all our local feeder primary schools to ensure that the students and parents have access to the information needed to make a decision about where to enrol their child for high school. It is great to see our Year 8 students returning to their feeder schools to talk to their peers about their high school experiences. They are doing a fantastic job as ambassadors for our school. Enrolment packs are available from the local primary schools while enrolment forms are also available on the school website. Scholarships are available for academic, Instrumental music, performing arts and sports development programs in all year levels 7-12. Application forms for these too are available on the internet.

Attendance

I spoke to all the students on assembly this week about our attendance levels. Our target for the year is 92% attendance. Last week was the first week that all year levels had dropped their attendance below 90% for the week. This was very disappointing. It is impossible to be a learner if you are not at school engaging effectively in the process. Our mantra is still “Be at school, all day every day”. We need our parents to support the school and their students in building a strong attendance ethic as this is what will stand them in good stead for employment in the future.

Regards

Llew Paulger
PRINCIPAL
DATE CLAIMERS

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UPDATE YOUR DETAILS

From time to time family circumstances change, for example, custody issues, addresses, new phone numbers and emergency contacts.

It is critical that the school has the correct information on students. The school will not release a student to someone who is not listed as a contact on our system. Please ensure your emergency contact details are correct.

Attached is a Change of Details Form, please complete and return to Student Office with accurate information if your circumstances have changed.

WORLD VISION GLOBAL LEADERS CONVENTION

On Wednesday, May 14; Year 10 Students Tehana, Ackerley, Joevelie, Anonuevo, Xanthia, Wendel and Courtney Harm took part in the World Vision Global Leaders Convention. These one-day events are held around Australia and are designed to empower students to lead their communities in the fight against global hunger.

This year the focus of the convention was the Rwandan Genocide which occurred in 1994 and resulted in almost 1 million people being slaughtered within the space of 100 days. Rwanda was made up of three ethnic groups the Hutu (85%), the Tutsi (14%) and Twa (1%). The Hutu blamed the Tutsi for the social, economic and political problems within the country and this unrest came to a head when President Habyarimana (a Hutu) was killed when his plane was shot down. War was launched by the Hutu extremists, with the goal of destroying the entire Tutsi population and their supporters. In the 100 days that followed, the world stood by and did nothing, as neighbour killed neighbour, brother killed brother and entire families were lost.

Not only did this event have an immediate effect on families who suffered enormous losses, but it has continued to impact on the community to this day. The genocide resulted in an entire generation of people being almost lost along with their valuable knowledge and skills. This in turn has contributed to the ongoing poverty within the country.

Throughout the day Tehana, Joevelie, Xanthia and Courtney were shocked, as they learnt about what has occurred in Rwanda and the impact it has had on the people. They listened to guest speakers, including a survivor of the genocide, and participated in activities designed to help them understand how tough life is for the Rwandan people.

Upon returning to school the girls were very inspired to make a difference and they are keen to make this year’s 40 Hour Famine a huge success. Along with the assistance of Mrs Harvey the girls are working hard to share what they have learned and they are planning some amazing fundraising events.

The 40 Hour Famine will take place in August this year and no doubt it will be a huge success.

AUSTRALIA’S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea features Platters on Willow’s treats

Last week our Platters on Willow hospitality students catered for the staff’s “Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea”. Not only did the morning tea raise much needed funds for the Cancer Council, staff was treated to a delicious array of sweet and savoury goodies!

Thanks to Mrs Dawson for organising another successful Biggest Morning Tea and to Mrs Jeevaji and her talented hospitality students for providing such an amazing spread of food!

YEAR 7/8 ENROLMENTS FOR 2015

If you have a son or daughter currently in Year 6 or 7 who is coming to Redbank Plains State High School in 2015; please note we are now enrolling. Please collect an enrolment pack from your student’s present school or the school office at Redbank Plains State High School.

Appointments information below:

2015 Enrolment dates and times for Year 7/8

All students commencing Year 7 or 8 in 2015 must attend an enrolment session with their parent/carer. Students who
are enrolled during Term 2 and 3, 2014 will receive a $10.00 discount on the Resource Hire Scheme fee.

Term 2 and 3 dates and times are as follows; please phone the school office on 3432 1222 to book your session:

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 23 July</td>
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<td>SCHOOL OPEN DAY</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
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Please ensure you have completed ALL PAPERWORK included in the enrolment pack prior to attending your appointment. COPIES of student birth certificate and parent/carer driver’s licence and Medicare card must also be provided. Please bring originals of these documents for sighting.

Please ensure you arrive to your appointment 5 - 10 minutes early. Late arrivals will not be able to join an enrolment session once it has started.

Natalie Uhlmann
Community Relations Manager

STUDENT DETAILS FORM

Student detail forms have been sent home and they MUST be filled in and returned to Student Office for Students to obtain their ID cards. Can you also note that all medical details must be included on the form? Please check that all information is correct on both sides of the form.

SENIOR SCHOOLING NEWS

Careers Day Excursion

On Friday, 23 May, 50 enthusiastic students attended the Brisbane Career and Employment Expo at the Brisbane Convention Centre. Students visited stalls from over 60 training organisations and employers and were able to investigate and ask questions about a wide range of career options. The students represented our school well. Thanks to Mr Lologa, Mr Stratton and Mr Ezzy for helping on the day.

Marianne Watterson
HOD Senior Schooling

Creative Industries

Tuesday evening of May 27 was the launch of the Creative Industries Program for 2014 at Redbank Plains State High School. The Creative Industries Program is in its second year. The Creative Industries is a successful program that introduces students to the world of music production, song writing, stage craft and dance. At the end of the program students will gain a Certificate II in Creative Industries (Media) which will contribute 4 credits towards the QCE.

Redbank Plains State High School is the first and only school to deliver this program. The Creative Schools initiative was recognised only last month at the Showcase 2014 Awards in Excellence. We won the Regional Award in the category of Community or Industry Partnerships, for the significant contribution to improving student’s outcomes.

We are already accepting students into this program for 2014. If your child is interested in this field and is in Year 10 or 11 please send them to see Senior Schooling staff ASAP. The program will commence in early June 2014 and will conclude in Term 4. The sessions will start at 12:10pm and will go through to 5pm on Thursdays. For more information see the staff in Senior Schooling.

Protocols For Students On Out Of School Programs When Absent

We have a number of students in the Senior School who are involved in a school based traineeship, apprenticeship or work placement outside of school. If your child is unable to attend their out of school scheduled day, please make sure that they inform the workplace prior to the start of their shift or training.

Any student who is absent due to sickness or illness and visits the doctor needs to provide a doctor’s certificate to the student office. If your student attends school instead of work, please ensure your student informs student office BEFORE morning roll-marking.

If you have any questions, please call the school on 3432 1222.

Amy Luxton
Senior Studies Room Coordinator

COMMUNITY NOTICES

BE eSmart! - Online Parenting – Understand your child’s digital world

FREE INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PARENTS and CARERS

Join Ipswich Libraries for a FREE information awareness session, “Online Parenting: understand your child’s digital world” is part of our eSmart Libraries program and covers topics including:

- Cyberbullying
- How kids connect using apps and social media
- Risks to kids’ personal safety
- Teaching kids how to stay safe online and more

Guest speaker Skye McPhee from ‘Pathways to Protection’ will be presenting two sessions that would ideally suit parents, grandparents and carers of children in Year 4 and older.
• Thursday 12 June 2014 - 9:30am – 11:00am at Redbank Plaza Library, Redbank Plaza Shopping Centre, 1 Collingwood Drive, Redbank.

Booking are essential. Book online at www.library.ipswich.qld.gov.au/events or phone Ipswich Central Library (07) 3810 6815
Redbank Plaza Library (07) 3810 6177