



MOSSMAN HIGH NEWS

PRINCIPAL
Deborah Kachel

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS
Leanne Stollery
Stephen Guthrie

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS
Carol Allery
Tracy Butland
Belinda Guthrie
Cassie Morris
Jim Murdoch
Julia Toft
Christina Uhlík
James Wall

YEAR CO-ORDINATORS
Year 9 – Ben Vikionkorpi
Year 10 – Gavin Jacks
Year 11 – Stacy Weber
Year 12 – Greg Cox

ATTENDANCE OFFICER
Kim Edwards / Susan Fischer

BUSINESS SERVICE MANAGER
Cindy Chamberlain

COMMUNITY EDUCATION
COUNSELLOR
Eileen Burchill

GUIDANCE OFFICE
Denise Landers

SENIOR PATHWAYS COORDINATOR
Greg Hamilton

SOCIAL WORKER
Anne Mayne / Sue Annell

YOUTH HEALTH NURSE
Wendy Fry

OFFICE HOURS
8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Monday – Friday

TELEPHONE – 4084 1333
FAX – 4084 1304

POSTAL ADDRESS
PO Box 178
Mossman Q 4873

EMAIL
info@mossmanshs.eq.edu.au

WEBSITE
www.mossmanshs.eq.edu.au/

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:
@https://www.facebook.com/
MossmanStateHighSchool

Issue 8

1st December, 2015

Principal's Message...

As we move into the final two weeks of the school year our Senior classes have completed their studies for this year, and our junior classes are preparing for final assessment tasks. I have been reminding students to maintain their focus, putting in their best effort and finishing on a positive note.

Our Year 12 students are now awaiting the arrival of their Queensland Certificates of Education, offers of entry into university courses and entering the workforce. We wish each of them every success and happiness as they move into this next stage of their lives.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are reminded that they will be involved in timetabled classes up until Thursday 10th December and must be attending each day. We have organised alternative activities on the last day, Friday 11th December. We will be watching a movie in the morning, having a sausage sizzle lunch (with other treats) and going to the pool for the afternoon. Teachers are preparing classroom activities for the last week to give students the opportunity to experience new learning and we will also have some different lunch time activities.

As we reflect on this year we realise that it has been a very challenging one. We have experienced great joy and great sadness; and each of the experiences that have brought us to the heights of our emotions will stay with us forever.

Preparations for the end of year also include preparations for next year. We are currently preparing our Strategic Plan for 2016 – 2019, our Annual Implementation Plan and related documents as well as curriculum plans and annual events. Our priorities for 2016 are:

- Developing Teaching Capability
- Improving Attendance Rates for all students
- Positive Behaviour for Learning

The Christmas and New Year period is a time when many of us reflect on our past behaviour and attitudes and look to improving aspects of our lives. I ask all parents and caregivers to encourage their young people to reflect on their behaviours and attitudes as we will be focusing on positive behaviours for learning in 2016.

I wish everyone a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to seeing each of you at the beginning of our school year in 2016.

Kind regards

Deborah Kachel

Principal



Student Laptop News

Discussions were held at the P & C meeting on 12th November, relating to the equity issues of ensuring as many students as possible have the opportunity to access a laptop when required for classwork. Some solutions were discussed and these are outlined below.

The Federal Government Computers for Students Program has ended and the Education Department is recommending a connectivity system for Bring Your Own X. The X provides for connectivity, filtered school internet, access to file storage on school servers.

Solution 1: (Long Term)

BYOx Bring Your Own Laptop system which requires students to bring a personal laptop to use in classes. Devices should use a windows operating system, Antivirus (at minimal cost) and Microsoft Office 365 - (Free). Links have been made available to students through their school email to the install documentation for use on personal devices.

When considering the purchase of a laptop for your student some *minimum* specifications would be:-

Processor - i3 or i5

RAM (minimum) - 4Gb

Hard Drive - 500 GB

Wireless Network - Intel Dual Band Wireless-N 7260 802.11 A/B/G/N

Long Life battery 9 - 10 hours minimum (no charging facilities will be provided by the school)

Protective carry case

4 years warranty (onsite is faster)

4 years accidental damage cover (Read damage policy insurance carefully as to what IS covered)



Students studying Film and Television, Photography, Graphics will need a more powerful device to make full use of the software used in these subjects. *Responsibility for maintaining these devices rest solely with parents and students.*

Solution 2: (Short Term)

Existing laptops owned by the school (out of warranty) can continue to be used by students for the remaining classes this year and for a reduced fee of approximately \$50 for next year; however any malfunction can only be dealt with by our school Technician. Software problems can be resolved for students but hardware issues may not be repairable. We will endeavour to provide an exchange laptop while stocks last. Any accidental damage may not be repairable as we do not have access to spare parts. *Responsibility for backing up data to prevent the loss of school work rests solely with the student.*

Solution 3: (Long term)

The school will maintain 3 computer labs for limited classes to be timetabled or booked into. Some additional workstations in the Library will be maintained.

Solution 4: (Long Term)

Some schools have offered a co-contribution solution. The P&C suggested this may be workable for Years 8 and 10 students in 2016.

The school purchases devices with 3 years onsite warranty and 3 years accidental damage insurance. The school will install Bluecoat Internet filtering on each device and any subject specific software required. Families contribute with an up-front payment of approximately \$990.00 which is about 90% of the cost. Although the school "owns" the device until any residual purchase cost is paid out, the student will be free to take it home and will have sole use of it for the 3 years.

All warranty claims will be processed by the school. Any accidental damage claims may involve an excess insurance charge but will be processed by the school. *Responsibility for maintaining the device rests with the school. The student is responsible for backing up school work.*

Further details of how the above solutions will work will be published as the information becomes available.

Neville Mogg

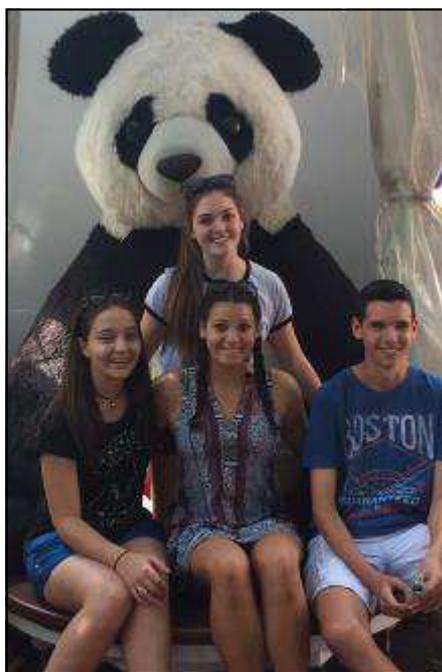
Computer Network Manager.

Japan Study Tour

18 students of Japanese, 2 teachers and 1 parent volunteer departed Cairns International Airport on 19 October for a 16 day Study Tour of Japan. Our first destination was the Tokyo area where we visited a variety of places such as Ueno, Shinjuku, Shibuya, Harajuku, Asakusa, Akihabara, Disney Sea, and Hakone. We were fortunate enough to secure tickets for the Tokyo Sumo tournament and here we witnessed sumo giants battling it out in the dojo. Our next stop was Matsumoto in the Japan Alps. We had many opportunities to use and develop our language skills as well as learn firsthand about Japanese culture and customs as we stayed with local families in Takeshi village. We also visited a high school in Ueda City where we were very warmly received. Other activities in the Japan Alps area were also a tour of Matsumoto Castle, noodle making, doll making, fan decorating and making, visiting a dairy farm and wasabi farm and travelling by aerial tramway to a height of 2237 m on Mt Kitsugatake. From Matsumoto we journeyed by train to Hiroshima - City of Hope and Peace. We visited the Atomic Bomb Dome, the Peace Park and the Atomic Bomb Museum. We were privileged to have a lecture by an atomic bomb survivor. It was deeply moving to learn of the scale of human tragedy as a result of the atom bomb. On a lighter note, we visited the Mazda car plant and the beautiful island of Miyajima renowned for Itsukushima shrine. Our next port of call was Osaka were we took in the sights of the Aquarium, one of the biggest in the world, and Universal Studios. Our final city was Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan. Here we dressed in kimono, Japanese traditional dress, and visited a number of stunning World Heritage listed sites such as the Golden Pavilion, Ryoan Temple, Kiyomizu temple and the Arashiyama area.

In addition to a deeper appreciation of Japan and its people that can only come through firsthand experience, many enduring friendships were made and all travellers returned home with memories that will surely last a lifetime.

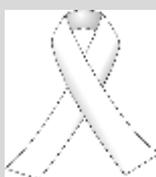
Stephanie Dunn-Balzer



Japan Study Tour



White Ribbon Day



November the 25th is National White Ribbon Day.

White Ribbon is Australia's only national, male led Campaign.

Its aim is to end men's violence against women. While White Ribbon acknowledges that men can be victims of violence and that all forms of violence are wrong, statistics reveal that men perpetrate the most violence. White Ribbon Australia believes that most men are good and good men abhor such violence. Good men cannot and will not sit on the sidelines while those they love are at risk of harm. The White Ribbon Campaign is about recognising the positive role that men play in preventing violence against women. It fosters and encourages male leadership in the prevention of violence against women, based on the understanding that most men aren't violent.

The Mission is to make women's safety, a man's issue too. With a vision that all women will be able to live in safety, free from all forms of men's violence.

The pledge this year is; "Not Silent : Not Violent"

Violence against women is a serious problem in Australia:

Over 12 months, on average, one woman is killed every week as a result of intimate partner violence. Intimate partner violence is the leading contributor to death, disability and ill-health in Australian women aged 15-44.

Mossman SHS supports White Ribbon Day 2015. On Wednesday the 25th you can wear an all-white top to school, for a gold coin donation. You, family and friends are then invited to walk in the community parade, 5.30 pm with the Mossman SHS group, who will be leaving from the Douglas Shire Council and finishing at Raintrees Park. The event will run until 7.30pm in the park. Wrist bands will be on sale that week outside the tuckshop.

Building greater equality and respect between men and women can reduce attitudes that support violence.

Wendy Fry School Based Youth Health Nurse for Queensland Health

DATE CLAIMER

Year 6 Day

Tuesday 1st December

Junior School Disco

Tuesday 1st December

6.30pm - 9.00pm

Year 10/11 Reports Sent

Home

Friday 4th December

Last Day for Year 7/8/9

Reports Posted Home

Friday 11th December

First Day of School 2016

Wednesday 27th January

NQ School Photography

PO Box 5620 Ph: 4035 5388
Cairns QLD 4870 Fax: 4035 6865
email: info@nqsp.com.au
website: www.nqsp.com.au

NQ School Photography recently visited Mossman State High School and took the following group photos:

*Year 12 Group Photo - both a formal & a fun photo *Music Group

*Senior Leaders *School Captains *Junior Leaders *Indigenous Leaders

Both of the Year 12 Group photos will be included in the Year 12 Folder which is available for purchase on NQ School Photography website at www.nqsp.com.au for \$25 using shoot key **CTRFCCVD**. All other photos are \$14 each.



Bama Jalbu Talking

Last term girls from Year 7A and 8A participated in a the Bama Jalbu Talking program designed and run by Ellie Starkey from Child Youth and Mental Health Services. The program ran for six weeks with the following aims:

- Have a better understanding of who they are as young Indigenous Australian women
- Be able to identify their own and other's social and emotional needs and assist where possible
- Have a greater understanding of the effects of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs
- Be able to take general care of themselves
- Display more self-confidence in their overall school performance including attendance



The girls gave positive feedback about the program saying they enjoyed learning a lot about themselves and their culture.

Written by Eileen Burchill

IT at James Cook University



Students from James Cook University recently visited our school to introduce the new Bachelor of Information Technology to students. A small group of enthusiastic Year 11 and 12 students sampled some of the course offerings including 3D interactive gaming. The course is new to the university in 2016 and includes Computer Science and Networking and Human Computer Interaction and Game Design. The course provides an excellent local option for students interested in everything IT.

Written by Denise Landers



SCIENCE

As we near the end of the year, students have been doing some practical work in the laboratory as well as seeing science-in-action in the community.

Our thanks to Trudy Woodall at Shannonvale Tropical Fruit Winery who enlightened the year 11s as to the chemistry involved in winemaking.

Year 11 visit to Shannonvale Tropical Fruit Winery

Meanwhile the year 10s have been studying marine ecology and alternative energy sources, and the year 9s are making some interesting - albeit smelly - pH indicators using red cabbage!

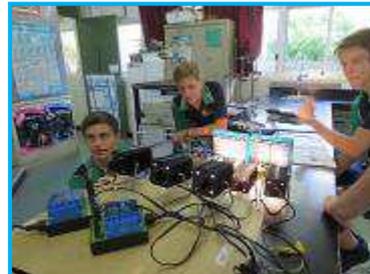
Julia Toft



Year 11 Wine Chemistry



Year 11 Wine Chemistry



Year 10 Physics



Year 9 Making Cabbage

'From the Sports Desk'

Even though this is the last newsletter for the year, there are still more sports going on to finish off this year and already starting for 2016.

Cricket:

The under 14 Peninsula Cricket Championships were held in mid-October with Nathan Deuble being the sole Mossman SHS representative at the trials. It was a special occasion with the Governor of Queensland, the Honorary Paul De Jersey officially opening the championships. Over the two days of competition, Nathan was selected in the Under 14 Peninsula Cricket team. Nathan attends the state championships later this term.



The Under 19 Peninsula Cricket trial was held on Monday 16th November. Although we had some representatives at the trials, no-one was successful in gaining selection. Hopefully this will change for 2016.

Triathlon:

Jorja Harvey and Che' Innes-Collins attended the Peninsula Triathlon Championships a fortnight ago. Both students performed very well with Jorja finishing 6th in her age group, and Che' excelling by finishing first in his age group. Che' has now qualified for the state championships at the beginning of 2016.



Under 12 Swimming:

Friday 27th November sees the Douglas Cluster 12 years Swimming Carnival occurring at the Mossman Riverside Leisure Park. We currently have 8 students attending on the day, with Mr Vikionkorpi accompanying them. They will be representing Mossman SHS, so good luck to those students.



That's it from the Sportsdesk for 2016. We have been very successful this year and are looking forward to even greater success next year.

Ben Vikionkorpi

Year 9 News

Well, we have all managed to get through this year, mostly unscathed and with not too many mental scars. Overall, it has been a successful year with lots of students achieving well academically, sportingly and artistically. It has been a very enjoyable year and I have really enjoyed being the Year 9 Coordinator after being Year 8 Coordinator last year and carrying these kids through. I am going to miss not having this group as their coordinator in 2016 with the change in coordinator roles in the school, however, I will still make myself available to them in 2016 for whatever they need. I look forward to teaching them as year 10s next year and continuing to see them grow and develop into mature, young, respectable adults.

I wish the best of luck for all the students in 2016 in whatever their endeavours are. Thank you for making me feel welcome as your Year Coordinator.

Cheers

Ben Vikionkorpi

Indigenous Leaders of Tomorrow

Journey to the Land of Empowerment

On Friday October 30th Year 11 students Saisha Schoenenberger and Aaleyah Sheldrick-Port travelled to Cairns to attend the Sharing Success Day and Awards Evening held at the Edge Hill State School Performing Arts Centre. As Indigenous leaders the girls had the opportunity to showcase the project they had developed around the theme 'Journey to the Land of Empowerment'.

The concept presented was built around an acrostic representation of the word 'Empowerment'. The first word was Education representing the power of traditional language in building resilience and self-confidence. The girls had visited local primary schools with Elders from the community sharing traditional Kuku Yalanji language with younger students. During the Sharing Success presentation Saisha commenced with Welcome to Country speaking briefly in traditional language followed by translation into English.

Saisha and Aaleyah were praised by the organisers of the program for the quality and depth of their presentation. The girls thanked their mentors Eileen Burchill and Denise Landers for their time, encouragement and support. They also acknowledged the support of the Kuku Yalanji Elders, Lenice Schoenenberger, Andrea Hardy, Ben Gaydon and Aimee Watson for their support with the completion of the project.

Written by Denise Landers



Year 11 Cert II in Tourism

Gold Coast Camp



Reflecting on 2015, one of the highlights for 42 students and 3 teachers was the recent Year 11 Certificate II in Tourism camp at the Gold Coast.

Students began the theory component for their Certificate II in Tourism earlier in the year and this learning was followed up with five days of practical exposure at "Runaway Bay Leadership and Excellence Centre". Here we engaged in motivational talks and activities, leadership challenges and team building tasks. The students embraced each feat fearlessly and we saw many future leaders emerge. Qualities such as respect, acceptance, kindness and support were encouraged.



Each of the 12 hour days were jam packed full of adventure and new experiences as we were showcased the practical aspects of the tourism industry. We were set loose on "Movie World" and "Dream World", attempted ice skating, surfed, manoeuvred obstacle courses and laser skirmish, we paddle boarded, shot arrows, grooved with Zumba, shopped and sweated through a spin/boxing class. All the while negotiating buses, planes and the Gold Coast weather.

The theme of the camp was "Stepping Up" and our students (and staff) certainly did so. Each student gained their Certificate II in Tourism as well as a lot of fond memories and life skills.

Denise Landers, Fiona Cairns and
Gavin Jacks (*Teacher survivors*)

