PRINCIPAL UPDATE AUGUST

For the second year running Bundamba State Secondary College has been recognized as Finalists in the Queensland Reconciliation Awards. Congratulations to all members of our school community for the ongoing contribution you make in helping to ensure we have such a positive and supportive school environment.

As part of our review of performance aligned to our next four year strategic plan we were fortunate to start Term 3 with a Teaching and Learning Audit. This process has been running in Queensland state schools for a number of years and provides the opportunity for two experienced Principals to come into our school to assess our performance in eight key areas. The Auditors talk with staff, students and parents about the progress of the school. The 2013 Audit has confirmed the strong evidence of improvement within our school, with the Auditors particularly pleased with our performance. The Executive Summary and overview of the report is published on our website, but in broad terms we have improved in all eight areas and have gone from being marked as “Low” in some areas in 2010, to being marked “Outstanding” (the highest mark) in some areas in 2013. This is a great reinforcement of the work which is occurring at BSSC and provides the opportunity for us to continue to work towards our goal of being a World Class Education facility.

Congratulations to Wombats who were crowned Athletics Champions in 2013. Each House was well represented, with students from all grades participating to a very high standard. We had six new school records (possibly a record in itself), including Victor who broke the 32 year old Discus record in the Open Boys. Well done also to Naomi (100m & Shot Put), and the Wombats (Jnr Boys), Magpies (Senior Girls) and Goannas (Senior Boys) Relay Teams. Well done also to the staff who did such a great job coordinating the day. In particular the Sport Department and Mr Tickner.

EVENTS in AUGUST

1st
Nerima Farewell Assembly and Dinner
Maths Competition
Origin Energy Site Tour Yr 10
5th
Mad Scientist Week starts
Toodey Forest Ecovan
6th
AIME Excursion
Yr 10 Subject Talk—The Arts
NASA Parent Night
District Athletics
7th
Brain Break Morning Tea
8th
Yr 10 Subject Talk—Technology
SET Plan Parent Night
District Athletics
9th
Sub Zero Day
Engineering Challenge
Primary School Galaxy Day
10th
Ski Trip Depart
12th
Week 6 Excursion Week
Yr 10 Media Excursions
Yr 11 & 12 Social & Com Tree Planting
13th
Yr 9 UQ Experience Day
14th
Hairspray Full Day rehearsal
15th
Hairspray Matinee
History of Flight Night
16th
NASA Excursion
16th & 17th
Hairspray Performances
20th
Yr 10 SET Plan Day
Yr 11 Leadership Day
22nd
Seniors Week Hairspray Performance
24th
Pro Wrestling in the Hall
27th
QTAC Talks
Regional Athletics
P&E Meeting

Regular Activities

MONDAY
Homework Club
TUESDAY
Musical Rehearsal
Food Bank Breakfast
WEDNESDAY
English Tutoring
Maths Tutoring
Homework Club
Arts Tutoring
Business Tutoring
Rock Climbing Club
THURSDAY
Science Tutoring
TADS

KEY PRIORITIES:

⇒ STUDENT OUTCOMES
⇒ LITERACY / NUMERACY
⇒ STUDENT WELLBEING
⇒ ENGAGEMENT - Students, Staff, Parents & Community

August is month when over twelve months of preparation comes together for our Hairspray performances. We have two Matinee sessions (Thursday the 15th and 22nd) and two night sessions (Friday 16th and Saturday 17th). It will be great to see the finished product, with staff and students working so hard to provide a professional and enjoyable event for our school community.

We also have a strong focus on our Yr 10 Senior Education and Training Plans in August. Yr 10 students have been working on a Career Education programme in BDP and will have a number of information sessions from the various subject offerings, along with a Parent Information evening on the 8th of August to help prepare for the SET Plan day on August 20th. It is an expectation that all Yr 10 students and a parent/caregiver comes along on the day to formulate a plan for Yr 11 and 12 which will provide the focus of achievement in the senior years. This process has been refined over the years to ensure we have a clear focus for students to achieve their goals and I would encourage all parents to discuss the long term hopes and aspirations of your children so that we can work to help them be successful. To help continue this process, we also survey all Yr 10, 11 and 12 students each year to check to see if their goals or plans have changed, to enable us to assist them in the best possible way.

Thank you to the families who have assisted by hosting students from the Nerima (Japan) schools at the start of August. Mr Fynes-Clinton has once again done a wonderful job in coordinating the Study Tour and no doubt our students will benefit greatly from the opportunity to interact with our guests.

Congratulations to Mr Cavanagh and the Pedal Prix team. Once again the work through the year has helped to ensure the two days at Willowbank were both challenging and enjoyable. Well done.

Finally, I’d encourage parents to participate in National Science Week (10-18), with the NASA group hosting an event at Studio 188 on the 15th. Check out our website for more information.

PRIDE RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY EMPOWERMENT

www.bundambassc.eq.edu.au

Andrew Peach    Principal