**From the Principal**

I start this week with a reminder about student attendance at school. We have many fantastic programmes and people at Bundamba State Secondary College, but it is important that our students are on time and at school to get the benefits of this. With many co and extra-curricular events already underway it is great to see the participation from students and staff across the school, however I would like to remind families that our school day gets underway at 8.45am and we need our students ready to start by this time. We have seen an improvement in attendance so far in 2011, but we can still be doing better with our students getting great benefits from being on time and in class at Bundamba State Secondary College.

As part of our focus on student learning and outcomes we have been looking closely at the performance of our senior students. I have enjoyed the opportunity to interview a number of our OP students as we work to ensure they have a clear understanding of where they are positioned at the moment and what strategies they may use to improve their performance in 2011. I have also had the opportunity to talk to a number of non-OP students about the importance of their work to ensure they can leave the school with strong qualifications and skills to enable them to take their next step into further training or the workforce. I know the students I have spoken to are well and truly aware that the school will be working hard to support them this year, yet their effort and resolve will determine the results and outcomes they receive at the end of the year. It is a key focus of our school that students will be able to leave at the end of Year 12 with valid and valuable skills, qualifications, and opportunities for future success. This focus will move down the school through all students as we work hard to ensure our focus on achieving great outcomes for our students remains clear and sharp.

I would like to congratulate our Leadership Team who were recognised at our recent Leadership Induction morning. Our Principal for the Day, Mr Steve Walters, was also our guest speaker and he was able to talk about the outstanding leaders he has been involved with through his football career. Mr Shayne Newman MLA also attended the ceremony and was very proud of the performance of the leaders at his "old" school. The great start to the year by our Leadership Team will continue in the coming weeks as they attend our Leadership Camp with our Senior Co-ordinator Mr Shaun Cassidy and English Head of Department and Student Council Co-ordinator Ms Tara Griffiths.

At the time of writing this report the full impact of the Earthquake in Christchurch is just coming to light. As a school community I’ve no doubt our thoughts and prayers go out to the people affected by this tragedy.

Since our last newsletter families would have received a letter from me outlining a disturbance of asbestos at the school. I would like to congratulate the swift response from our staff and the work by QBuild to remove the asbestos immediately without an impact on our health or learning.

Finally, good luck to our numerous sporting teams who have begun their summer season of sport. The hard work of the students and their coaches will no doubt make the season a success and I look forward to the opportunity to get out and see as many of our teams representing the school as possible in the coming weeks.

*Andrew Peach*
*A/Principal*

**Student Support Services Update**

What a busy two weeks it has been for the staff and students of BSSC. Bundamba Student Services Support Team has been busy organising events that engage and benefit our students.

**SchoolAid Flood Relief**

On February 17 staff and students participated in SchoolAid a national flood relief appeal for those communities and their families affected by the floods and Cyclone Yasi. On the day staff and students were asked to give a gold coin donation and in the afternoon the flag was lowered to half mast and a minutes silence in respect for those who lost their lives. As usual the generosity of our school community was very evident with the school raising $241.00. Thank you to all who participated.

**ARTIE Launch**

On Wednesday 8 February BSSC launched the ARTIE (Achieving Results Through Indigenous Education) Program for 2011. Steve Price was our guest speaker for the event and gave an excellent motivational speech to our Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islanders and Student Council Leaders. Special thanks to Aunty Therese and Aunty MyFawny as well as the parents and family members who came to support the launch.

**2011 Pacifica Forum**

Planning for our first 2011 Pacifica Forum is currently underway with Jackie our Pacifica Liaison Officer, Joan our Pacifica Tutor and Reg our P and C President busily preparing the program, further information will be forwarded to families in the near future.

**The Role of BSSC Student Services Support Team**

Adolescence is an exciting time with many wonderful moments and from time to time some difficult challenges. We recognise
that all students, at some time in their high school years, need support. Our response to this has been to place a strong focus on developing a BSSC Student Support Service. The Student Support Service Team’s focus is to support students to successfully engage in learning by ensuring that their academic and social emotional wellbeing is monitored and managed throughout their years at school.

The service has an extensive team of both teaching and specialised staff whose sole responsibility is to guide and support students through any challenges that they may face in their five year secondary journey. Student well being is so important to us here at Bundamba that we have created an extensive Support Services Team which includes a Learning Engagement Officer, Community Liaison Officer (Attendance), Indigenous Community Education Counsellor, English as a Second Language teacher, Polynesian Liaison Officer, School Chaplain, Special Education Coordinator, a team of Special Education teachers, Learning Support teachers and a wonderful band of Teacher Aides and tutors.

Along with this team is a dedicated group of personnel from Queensland Health (School Nurse), local community and volunteer agencies who regularly visit and support our students to meet and manage the challenges that many face.

Please contact anyone of these support staff to discuss the needs of your student and encourage your student to approach these staff members to assist them as they journey through their high school years at BSSC.

Josette Moffatt
Head of Student Support Services

Year 8 Swimming Carnival 2011

The Summer Season of After School Sport begins this week, with plenty of our Bundamba students getting involved.

We had success in our first week of competition with our Year 8 Boys Indoor Soccer team beating Bremer SHS 5 – 3. Congratulations to Mr Shanks and his boys for a fantastic start to the season. Our Year 9 Boys weren’t so lucky, coming up against the 2010 Champions in the first round and having a loss to start the season. Only one way to go from here boys, UP UP UP! Fingers crossed our Year 8 and 9 Girls Basketball, Year 8 Boys Basketball, Open Boys Touch and Open Boys Indoor Soccer team have a great start to their season.

The Bundamba SSC Sport website is up and running with draws and information for parents found on there. The website is the hub of Sport at Bundamba, with students being able to nominate for After School Sport and the many District Trials on offer.

The website address is http://bundambassc.eq.edu.au/home/mbrya20/sport.html so please keep checking in to see what is happening in sport at our College. You might even see a video or photo of yourself pop up on there somewhere!

If you wish to contact me with regard to sport at Bundamba please email sport@bundambassc.eq.edu.au or phone 3816 6378. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Megan Bryant
Sports Coordinator

What’s Happening in “The Art’s”

- Sign ups for “The POTTER” Musical takes place this week. All student’s who have talent are invited - See Performance Art staff for more details
- Teacher / Students / Community Choir rehearsing now every Friday morning at 8am Music Room (lower G block) see Ms Hogan for more details
- String Ensemble has been postponed until Term 2
- Art Workshops begin this week in Art room upper E block - see Mrs McSweeney for more details

Mathematics Department

I’d like to welcome to our new Mathematics teachers, Mr Peter Ward and Mr Logan Ishmel who have joined our team. They are both committed to improving the Mathematical outcomes for our students at Bundamba State Secondary College. Also Mr Breen and Mr Shanks take up year 9 Maths classes. Both teachers have already made great contributions to the Mathematics Department.

I encourage all Parents and Guardians to keep in contact with their student’s Mathematics teachers during the year. Mathematics and English are the foundation subjects for all learning and when students get behind it is always much more difficult to keep up.

Several students have taken the opportunity to buy either a Graphics Calculator ($165.00-For year 11/12 Maths B/C students) or a Scientific Calculator ($19.00-For general use in all classes) from our suppliers in Perth, ABACUS Calculators. Each calculator comes with a 2 year warranty. Students who wish to purchase a calculator through ABACUS should listen for the next round of purchases. A form will be distributed in early March for calculator distribution in late March.

It was wonderful to see the excellent year 12 OP results from 2010. All the students in the top OP levels achieved first class results in their various Mathematics subjects. This gives an indication of how important success in Mathematics is to overall success at school.

Mathematics tutoring will be available most Wednesday afternoons in H28 from 3:00pm to 4:00 pm. All students are welcome.

Mathematics Competitions that students at BSSC can involve themselves in include The Australian Mathematics Competition, The Maths Team Challenge, The Year 8 Maths Quiz, The Mathematics Olympiad and The Maths Challenge for Young Australians. I’d encourage all students to consider becoming involved at some level in these competitions if possible.

B.H. Penrose
HOD Mathematics

Community Notices

Are you interested in Military Aircraft or the Air Force? Want to learn about and get up close to various aircraft or bush and survival skills?

The Australian Air Force Cadets is an organisation for youth who are interested in learning about the Defence Force. If you think this could be you please phone Pilot Officer (AAFC) Kelly Dadge, Commanding Officer of 208 Squadron RAAF Base Amberley on: 0458 494 125 or email: Kelly.dadge@gmail.com