20 June 2011

From the Principal

It is with great pride that I write this newsletter article after recently being informed that I will be the permanent Principal at Bundamba State Secondary College from the start of Semester Two. Mrs Blinks has recently made the decision to extend her leave and in doing so chose to relinquish her position at Bundamba so that a permanent principal could be appointed.

I would like to thank Mrs Blinks for her work as principal at Bundamba and the time and effort she put in during her tenure as Principal. She was able to come in last week for a farewell morning tea with staff and she is no doubt enjoying her time with her family while on leave.

During the week we were also informed that Mrs Beverley Zerr has been appointed as our permanent Arts Head of Department. Congratulations to Beverley and we look forward to a continuation of the outcomes from this hard working and high performing department.

We have had a number of very successful events since our last newsletter. The State Schools of Tomorrow opening on the 31st of May was a great success, with local member Jo-Anne Miller officially opening our new facilities. The presentations from our students and the work of compares John and Ellie made for another memorable and enjoyable evening at Bundamba State Secondary College. We also hosted a wonderful Music Gala evening and the performances by students and staff were outstanding. The efforts of our staff, parents and families in ensuring these evenings are such great successes are part of what makes Bundamba great.

With the semester coming to a close reporting is well underway. Reports will be finalised in early Term 3 for distribution before our Parent Teacher Interviews. We will once again be using the online booking system which proved successful in our first round of interviews. Monday the 25th of July is the date for our Interview evening and once again I would encourage parents to take the opportunity to come in to discuss your child's progress with our staff.

In recent weeks the school has been dealing with a number of issues related to Facebook or Social Media. This has proven to be an issue in most communities and many schools as students gain greater access to these forms of communication through mobile phones and the internet. We are working with the Booval Police, and in particular Constable Michael Ryan, who has been a great proactive presence at the school to help educate and where necessary discipline students in this area. In Term 3 we are hoping to host a parent information evening to help parents and families learn and understand the implications of this form of interaction and will continue to work with families to assist where we can.

Finally I would like to thank our school community for their efforts and support during Semester One and look forward to a busy, rewarding and successful Semester Two at Bundamba State Secondary College after the holidays. Enjoy a restful and safe break.

Andrew Peach
Principal

From the Deputy Principal – Senior School

In the movie "Conan the Barbarian", Conan is asked, "What is good?" Well, according to him it's, "to crush your enemies, to see them driven before you and to hear the lamentations of their women". Then again, he is a barbarian whose main job is going around crushing his enemies and wearing furry underpants. Both of which don't really suit living in Twenty-first Century Queensland (especially the furry underpants which don’t offer much protection from these cold Ipswich winter mornings). Now, if the movie was called "Conan the Bundamba State Secondary College Student" and he was asked the same question he would have answered, "Term 2". What made Term 2 such a good term? The fact that it was chock full of amazing opportunities, fantastic events and, let’s be honest, so many long weekends!

The fortnight before exam block showed what a vibrant community Bundamba State Secondary College is with a series of major events held after school. The State Schools of Tomorrow Opening showcased not only our world class facilities but also the world class talent of our students, especially with the taster of the school's musical. More talent was on display at the Performing Arts Gala night and an enjoyable evening was had by all at the movie night. Well done to all the staff and students involved in these events.

Currently in the School Wide Positive Behaviour Classes are working on their entries for the first ever "Bundamba's Got Respect" competition. Classes are developing and presenting a multi-modal entry demonstrating the importance of respect in a school, in particular focusing on the value of following instructions in the classroom. Across the college, classes are coming up with unique, funny and exciting entries, so the competition will be close.

SET Plans are coming up for the Year Tens. Parents of Year Tens will be joining their students in this planning process for their final stage of learning and beyond. The Year Tens will be more than familiar with all acronyms for their senior phase from this term’s BDP lessons; QCE, OP, VET, QSA... the list goes on. The aim being that students are responsible for their learning and part of that responsibility is having the knowledge to make informed, appropriate decisions.

Exam block is all but over and across the college students have been busy completing assessment. Students who have put an effort into their studies and have been focused on their work...
throughout the term will soon be reaping the rewards of this when they receive their Semester One reports. These students will answer, when asked like Conan, "What is good?" by saying, "My report card!" Congratulations to all the students who have demonstrated pride, responsibility, respect and empowerment this term.

Shaun Cassidy
Deputy Principal (Acting)

Volunteers Day

A special thanks to GE Money for choosing our school to give their support back to the Ipswich community.

The GE Money Ipswich team supervised by Mr C Brice chose our school to give their services on Volunteer Day.

The group of hard working volunteers attended to our gardens and enjoyed a splash of painting around the school.

News from the Student Council!

The past week has kept BSSC Student Council members on their toes with three massive events taking place on Wednesday 8th June. The day kicked off with students collecting Free Dress Day money donations. Lunch time was spent in the hall being annihilated by the teachers in the Teacher vs. Student Volleyball competition all whilst fundraising for the Senior Formal by selling baked goods such as cakes, slices and biscuits.

The day for these students didn’t end there however with the Movie Night being held from 6:00 -10:00pm in the hall. Over 100 students attended the event where they were treated to two movies, Grown Ups and Tangled and delicious food from the canteen. Together with the bake sale, students raised over $500.00 – Congratulations Seniors!

On behalf of the Student Council, I thank the staff and students who supported the seniors by participating in these activities. A special thanks to our technical crew and to Skye Ebert, Sophie Fynes-Clinton, John Bond, Ellie Keim, Brad Guy, Paige Ashby, Rebecca Cochran, and Brandon Newby for making the day a huge success! We look forward to our next social event in Term 3.

Ms Griffith
Student Council Coordinator

Sport Report

Another week of sports and fun! All students in Winter After school sport turned out some exhilarating performances in this week's fixtures. To start the week the Open Girls Volleyball game kicked off the week with a great win against Bremer SHS. They won 2 sets to nil, well done girls. The star of the match was Aiga Siligi, for her outstanding leadership and encouragement on the court.

The 14 boy’s rugby league was also an entertaining game, with the boys involved in a tight loss. After going down by only 2 points, the boys are sure to bounce back this week. All of the boys played well, and deserved congratulations after such a nail biting game.

The open girl’s soccer wasn’t such a great game, going down 3 nil. Everybody played well considering they have never played together, and for some of them, never played at all! A wonderful head butting effort from Storm Bond on her debut hasn’t gone unnoticed.

The open boy’s basketball team had a narrow defeat against Redbank Plains SHS. Jackie’s team had a few minor hiccups but with a score of 52 to 17, the only way to go is up! MJ Naunau was presented Player of the Match, with great attacking and defending skills.

Bundamba went across to Woodcrest missing 2 key players, halfback Shae and rampaging front rower Kealey. Both co captains Richard and Brodie had busy games, Richard moved up into the front row and handled the switch impressively. Brodie moved out of the forwards into the 5/8 spot and handled the faster pace with ease. Ethol was our man of the match with a standout performance with plenty of hit ups and tackles with some great off loads which gave us better field position. Paris had his usual creative game scoring a try. Well done boys good effort considering players were playing out of position, final score Woodcrest 24 Bundamba 18.

Last week we also saw Bundamba’s first girls rugby league team playing in a competition. The Australian Rugby League’s Girl’s Gala day was a fantastic day, with plenty of raw talent and dedication to the game on display. The junior player of the day was Shelby Green, and the intermediate player of the day was Tahnee Rogers. Special thanks to coach Andrew Breen for his outstanding coaching skills, and even better first aid advice!

Megan Bryant
Sports Co – coordinator

Uniform Shop News

The P&C would like to announce we now have Spray Jackets for sale.

Sizes are Small – XXL.

Prices are Small – Medium $60.00 and Large – XXL $65.00

A Flying Start for Queensland Children

Last Thursday the State Government announced that Year 7 will become part of high school in Queensland by 2015.

The introduction of Prep in 2007 and raising the Year 1 entry age by six months the following year in 2008 means that by 2015 our Year 7 students will be in their eighth year of schooling and more than half of these students will turn 13 during the year. This is the right time for them to start high school. These students are looking for new learning challenges by this time.

The decision to move Year 7, and introduce Junior Secondary in state schools to support the transition of Years 7, 8 and 9, was made after extensive consultation last year during forums with parents and school communities around the state. Junior Secondary will be introduced by 2013 for Years 8 and 9, and will be in place to welcome our Year 7 students in 2015.
This important reform is of great benefit to students because it means they will have the same learning opportunities as their interstate counterparts once the Australian Curriculum is introduced. High school is a good environment for this age group in terms of their social, emotional and academic development.

This is an important reform that is strongly supported by Queensland’s key education stakeholders for the benefits it will bring to young people in the future.

For more information please visit www.qld.gov.au/flyingstart

**Scholarships for senior Indigenous students**

The Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QATSIF) is running a scholarship program for Indigenous students who will enter Year 11 and 12 next year.

This is the third time the program has been available and it helps families offset the practical costs of education.

To apply, students must be QCE eligible and have an attendance record of 80% or more. There is a range of other criteria to consider also.

Students who are currently in Year 10 can apply now for next year, and those who are currently in Year 11 can apply for the 2012 scholarship, if they haven’t received it previously.

More information and a full list of eligibility criteria can be viewed on the QATSIF website www.qatsif.org.au

Applications are now open and they must be received by no later than 1 August 2011.