Kariya High School Visit

The students from Kariya High School in Tokyo certainly enjoyed their short stay with families from our school. They came to school and had lessons in English and The Great Barrier Reef. The students also visited several science classes and presented their own research work which was accompanied by posters and explanations in English. All had a very exciting time and there were tears at the bus as we wished them a safe journey home. It was over too quickly for our host students and the Japanese visitors. However, both groups have been left with happy memories and I hope some special friends. We express our thanks to those families who offered to host our Kariya High School students.

From the Deputy Principal

JUNIOR SECONDARY
Parent / Teacher interviews were held and were highly supported and eagerly attended by our parents and carers. Our Parent / Teacher interviews provided a fantastic opportunity for our teachers to gain a deeper understanding of the students in their respective classes whilst cementing positive relationships between home and school. Our parents were provided with current and progressive academic information, targets were set for future success and areas of growth were identified. Thank you to our supportive parents / carers and our dedicated teaching staff for another successful program. If you were unable to attend the interviews please contact your child’s teacher to schedule a meeting at a time more suitable.
JUNIOR SECONDARY OPEN DAY
We were overwhelmed with the support from our primary partner schools, parents and carers. The Junior Secondary Open Day was an opportunity to experience “a school in action”, meet both our teaching and support staff and gain valuable information about all curriculum areas. Our Jazz Band was exceptional and provided an inviting and enthusiastic atmosphere. Another amazing performance by our Instrumental Music students. Our highly engaged and organised Student Council representatives conducted interactive school tours. The tours were extremely popular and our student council representatives were kept very busy throughout the day.

Year 6 Transition Days are scheduled for the 29th and 30th of April. Our partner primary schools will be provided with detailed information regarding the schedule and process for those days. Please visit our school website www.willrosshss.eq.edu.au to discover our comprehensive and clearly defined Junior Secondary Program.

At William Ross SHS we believe that education is a shared responsibility of schools, parents and the wider school community. We encourage parental involvement in all areas of school life and look forward to a rewarding partnership with you and your child / children.

Pam PRICHARD
Deputy Principal
ppric10@eq.edu.au

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28 Apr–1 May</td>
<td>Year 8 Camp - Kinchant Dam</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 – 30 April</td>
<td>Year 6 – 7 Transition Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 – 24 May</td>
<td>School Musical “Meant to Be”</td>
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From the Student Council

WILLIAM ROSS SHAVES FOR A CURE
On Friday 14th of March, William Ross held its annual World Greatest Shave event in an effort to raise vital funds for the Leukaemia Foundation. To celebrate, we held a crazy colour day and encouraged students to dress in crazy socks and ties at the cost of a gold coin donation. It was great to see the majority of the school sporting crazy socks and ties in support of such a good cause!

The shave was held at first break on the outdoor stage where students Taylor Metcalfe, Blake Anders and parent Brian Figg bravely shaved their heads and Liam Wivell, Mrs Parker, Mrs Jackson and Mrs Briant waxed onstage. Students also had the opportunity to buy a sausage from the sausage sizzle, get their face painted or have their hair sprayed with all proceeds going to the Leukaemia Foundation. The event proved to be really popular and we raised a total of $1700 - a great effort!!!

From the Principal

With first term drawing to a close it is refreshing to end on a favourable note. Last week we completed three very successful Parent/Teacher interview nights. These nights are designed to provide a time, place and opportunity for parents to meet and discuss their child’s education with the subject teachers.
These informed discussions were tailored against the Interim Reports that were handed to each student and posted out to all parents. This report measures a student's progress throughout the term and as determined by the professional judgement of the teacher where no formal or significant assessment had taken place. This style of feedback is to ensure parents are constantly updated on their son or daughter’s progress.

Another significant event approaching in 2015 is the arrival of our year 7 students. Year 7 students will be permanently placed in secondary education across Queensland. In future, Junior Secondary will consist of Year 7, 8 and 9, while Senior Secondary will then be acknowledged as Years 10, 11 and 12. William Ross is now in the grips of a building boom to address our new cohort. A number of facility developments throughout 2014 will be managed to directly meet the needs of this approach.

This progress will not deter from our more formal events, the 2014 school’s recognition of Anzac Day early next term. Thursday the 24th of April at 9:00am, this ceremony will be conducted in our Student Centre and I extend an invitation to all parents to be part of this event. Also in keeping with past years, William Ross State High has a tradition of providing a strong contingent of students at both the Anzac Dawn Service and Day March on the 25th of April. I will be requesting support from all parents to permit their child to be part of our school’s assembly on these occasions and will be distributing more details in the very near future.

Parent Consultation, Participation and Collaboration:
Parent participation is encouraged in all aspects of schooling at William Ross State High School. Parents are recognised as a significant aspect of a child’s education, not only to monitor their child’s education but also to contribute to the processes involved within the school. The most acknowledged avenue that does exist is through the Parents and Citizens’ Association – not by accepting a job within the association but by participating in discussions and planning that has a direct impact on the school. Our Parents and Citizens’ Association meetings are scheduled on the third Tuesday of each month and start at 7:30pm in the school Administration Building. All parents, carers and members of our school community are welcome.

These processes create effective partnerships that guide the school in responding to the needs of our students, our parents / carers and our wider community.

Allan EVANS
Principal
tevan38@eq.edu.au

From the STLaN Department

NAPLAN 2014
At the release of this newsletter, there will be less than 20 school days before the NAPLAN tests for year 9 students at William Ross. To provide the year 9 parents with an insight into the content, style and layout of these tests, a sample will be posted. If you would like an idea of what the actual tests look like, visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au. Generally, the language convention tests assesses the students’ spelling, grammar and punctuation skills. Students may be asked to identify and spell incorrectly spelt words, re-arrange sentences to make them grammatically correct and place various punctuation marks (like commas) in the correct location. In the reading tests, the students are provided with a mix of texts to read and then answer questions about them. These are all multiple choice questions. There are two numeracy tests, one where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not. The skills assessed are across all strands of maths; number and space, algebra and patterns, measurement, chance and data. Students are asked to solve problems by selecting the correct answer (multiple choice – colour in a bubble) or writing the correct answer in a box (short response – write the answer in a box or on a line). In the writing task, the students are provided with a stimulus (usually a picture with some text on it) and are asked to write a response to this prompt. This year the students will either be writing a narrative or persuasive piece of text. Their text must be written in the booklets provided and their handwriting must be legible.

William Ross teaching and support staff are working on ensuring the students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance.
NUMERACY TIP

Children develop numeracy skills when they use mathematical ideas in their everyday situations. Every day there are various opportunities to raise and enhance your child’s numeracy skills.

Travelling: how long will it take at certain speeds, distances, directions and unit conversions, how far on a map, petrol prices and car usage, reading a speedometer, difference between alternative routes on Google Earth.

Sport: scores, predictions, likelihood, possibilities as fractions, percentages and ratios, time remaining, speeds or run, swim or projectiles, depth of ocean or pool, volume of water, capacity in water bottles, ratio of Powerade mix.

At home: how long until the TV show is on, shopping calculations, reading tables and labels of quantities, altering quantities in a recipe, garden mix ratios, budgeting.

Ask your child questions such as „how do you know that“, „how did you work it out“, „what might happen if…“, to assist them to make sense of everyday situations.

Cheryl PHILLIPS & Sandra SNEWIN
Support Teachers Literacy & Numeracy (STLaN)
cphil139@eq.edu.au
ssnew1@eq.edu.au

From Information Technology

NORTHERN CHINESE REGIONAL SPEAKING COMPETITION

Every year the Confucius Institute at QUT (CIQ) and the Chinese Language Teachers’ Association of Queensland Inc. (CLTAQ) organise a Chinese language speaking competition that stretches across North Queensland. In the Northern Region William Ross State High School hosts this event. This year the competition will be held on Friday the 9th of May from 9:00am onwards in our Performing Arts Block. The event is open to all primary and secondary schools in the district that teach Mandarin Chinese. Our feeder schools Annandale State School and Oonoonba State School have always been active participants.

Winners from this competition will receive bursaries to assist with travel to participate in the State competition at the Confucius Institute at QUT Brisbane on the 31st of May.

Representatives from the Consulate-General of PR China in Brisbane will be invited guests and many students of Chinese language attend along with their teachers, their parents and community members. The main aims of the Chinese Speaking Competition are to promote the value of learning Chinese language, to give learners the opportunity to effectively express their ideas in Chinese, display their language skills and to gain confidence in using the language. There are 4 speech categories; Section A (Year 11 & 12), Section B (Year 9 & 10), Section C (Year 7 & 8) and Section D (Year 6). Official speeches and presentation of prizes directly follows the competition. Prizes for participation and for merit are also presented. If you would like more information please contact Patricia Winter.

Patricia WINTER
HOD (LOTE)
pwint5@eq.edu.au

From the HPE Department

HPE WEEK

Thank you so much to all students and staff for their involvement in the 2014 Queensland HPE Week. It was a great success. Students had the opportunity to get involved in some fun and challenging activities to help celebrate all things physical. The Burpee Challenge on Monday saw students complete one burpee in the first minute, two burpees in the second minute and followed this pattern until they could no longer continue.
Year 11 student **Andrew Strachan** was crowned the winner falling one burpee short of completing 18 minutes (for those maths whizzes that means he completed 170 burpees!!). Tug-of-war Tuesday allowed all students the chance to test themselves in a battle of strength. All battles were fought bravely with the biggest upset coming from the juniors who defeated the year 12 boys in a massive upset! Tough Mudder Wednesday saw students challenged in a demanding obstacle course over balance beams, under bars, over mats and through hoops. The highlight of the day was definitely the “Seal Walk”. A huge thanks to Mr Welsh for his course design. The culminating event for the week was the Footstep Flash Mob dance routine. Students had been practicing at second lunch breaks (often after already competing at morning tea) a dance routine set to Pharrell William’s hit *Happy*. After practicing their choreography for three days (a big thanks to Miss Williams for her assistance) students performed their routine….and it was amazing. Having over 70 students all performing the dance (mostly in time) was a testament to the recognised importance of HPE week and I can’t wait to see what 2015 brings.

**From the Sports Department**

**SPORTS NEWS**

Our Rhinos sporting teams continue to excel in representing our school at block sport and inter-school tournaments.

**Netball** – Congratulations to the U15 Netball squads who have dominated on the court this term with our B team winning all matches and our A team losing only one match.

**Volleyball** – Some very impressive court play from both our Open Boys and Open Girls teams. Our Boys B team lost only one match to our Rhinos A team, well done boys!

**Water Polo** continues to grow with popularity, with our biggest squad ever in the girls competition and the newly formed Open boys team. We are looking forward to seeing some good results when they return to the pool in term 4.

**Block Sport**

Rhinos block sport teams for Term 2 are almost finalised. Students are reminded to see the Rhinos block sport coaches to collect a permission form in week one of term 2. Sports for term 2 are Open Hockey, Open Netball, Open and U15, U14, U13 Rugby Union, U15 Football, U15 Basketball, U14 Cricket, and Year 8 Netball.

**Townsville Secondary School Sports trials continue next term:**

**U15 Football** - Tuesday 27 May, Brolga Park Annandale

**U15 Basketball** - Tuesday 27 May, Murray Basketball

**U15 Rugby Union** - Tuesday 27 May, Hugh St Currajong

**Please note the procedure for attending these trials:**

Forms are to be collected from the DOS (Director of Sport) in Staffroom 2. Forms are completed by parents and returned to be signed by the DOS. Student names are passed to the office to confirm student will be attending a school activity on the trial day and names are sent to the trial convenor. Students collect forms prior to day of trial. The form goes to the trial convenor at the venue. All students must sign out at the office and arrange their own transport to the venue. Forms handed in on the day of the trial cannot be accepted.
Inter-House Cross Country Date: Tuesday 6 May 2014 – Whole School Event

Our Inter-House cross country carnival has been moved to term two because of the extensive road works which are occurring on the Ring Road near Annandale Central. Students will be transported by bus to the course at Bicentennial Park in Hermit Park for our half day competition. Students will be reminded of this event early next term and encouraged to train in the weeks prior to achieve their best result.

Futsal Champions: Open Girls Champions and U16 Boys Champions 2014

The North Queensland Futsal Championships were held on the 18th and 19th of March at the Townsville Basketball Stadium. The four Rhinos Futsal teams which participated did extremely well. The Open Girls were undefeated and U14 Girls were finalists. The U16 Boys went through undefeated as well and our Open Boys made the finals but were unable to compete due to injuries. Check out the great photos of our Champion teams.

WATER POLO

2014 has seen the first ever boys and girls Water Polo team compete in the Block Sport Water Polo competition. Senior boys and girls made a splash in the pool and despite having little knowledge of the game they surprised everyone with their skills improving each week. All students represented William Ross well and we are proud of their performance. I must mention my top players, Chloe McMaster played with aggression and had a never give up attitude while Elliot Dale and Harry Newton showed some potential in the pool with their determination to score a goal. A special thank you must also go to Mitchell Timms for his off side coaching. I look forward to doing it all again in term 4.

INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Tuesday the 11th of March, 39 William Ross State High School students made a splash in the pool going up against other „B“ division schools for the annual interschool swimming carnival. There were multiple students who achieved top 3 results over the day, so a big congratulations must go to all students. It is also important to note that both boys and girls teams won overall. More specifically the boys under 13, 14 and 15 won their age groups and for the girls, under 13, 15 and opens won their age group. The sensational results of this year’s carnival will see William Ross off to a fantastic start for the year, leading the „B“ Schools division with only more success to come.

Ann NEWTON
Director of Sport
anewt22@eq.edu.au

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Wednesday 2 April 2014

P6

Making the Difference
2014 Interschool Swimming Team

Boys
Noah Evans
Kieran Lennox
Carl Malan
Lachlan Royce
Jack McCarthy
Aaron Smyth
Cameron Bealing
Jade Simpson
Connor Dechaufepie
Mitchell Timms

Alex Darams
Mitchell Miller
Hayden Purvis
Kyle Coburn
Logan Thomas
Kasper Richter
Chris Hunter
Tim Nickson
Matt Miller

Girls
Shaylen De Jongh
Kass McKain
Kiana Weaich
Tara Archer
Mara-Jade O'Brien
Rhianne Dance
Nicole Shepherd
Natasha Pecchiar
Isabella Farina
Sarah Mitchell

Ellie Hampson
Taylor Ray
Georgia Barber
Morgan Kirkham
Brittany Foster
Chloe Purvis
Sarah Law
Georgia Rowley
Natasha Chaffey

From the Year 8 Co-ordinator

Our year 8 students have been working hard this term and have transitioned into the high school routine without fault. Classroom teachers have been reinforcing the school expectations which are outlined in the student diary, Be Safe, Be Engaged and Be Respectful. The Term 2 calendar is full with school sport on a Wednesday, Year 8 Camp, Year 6/7 Transition Days, Immunisations, and NAPLAN for year 9 students.

Uniform
As the cooler months approach us please ensure that students are in correct school uniform. Please refer to the student diary for more information.

Camp
The Year 8 Camp to Kinchant Dam will occur in term 2 from the 28th of April to the 1st of May. Permission forms and full payment must be submitted by Friday the 4th of April. Students who are not participating in the camp will be required to attend school to participate every day in a clearly structured year 8 Engagement Program.

Lunch Activities
Students have also had the opportunity to participate in lunchtime activities such as soccer, AFL, Touch and Trivia with Ceri. Next term we will have new sports and a card making centre set up in a classroom.

Attendance
Please ensure your child is arriving to school before 8:40am. If for whatever reason they are late, absent, or must leave early, it is imperative that parents and caregivers provide a note providing a clear explanation. It is EQ Policy that students achieve a 95% attendance for the entire year.

Natalie ANDERSON
Year 8 Co-Ordinator
nmand0@eq.edu.au

Sharna ALLOWAY
Manager
sallo9@eq.edu.au
CHAPPY’S CORNER
The end of term has come so quickly and what an amazing term it has been!
I have had the pleasure of sneaking into a few rehearsals of the school musical "Meant to Be" and all I can say is it is GOOD. If you're available on the 23rd and 24th of May make sure you come down to watch it!
My favourite part of this term however, would have to be the "Pay it Forward" principle in the "Tag You're It" presentation by Az Hamilton from Just Motivation. The principle consisted of each Year 9 student receiving an armband or a "tag" to wear until they performed a random act of kindness for somebody else. Then they would hand over the tag to the next person so the acts of kindness could flow on and on throughout the year level. This presentation achieved some great results and really touched my heart, especially those students who are thinking globally about strategic ways to change many lives of those less fortunate. I love it when people think BIG!
Next week we are celebrating National Youth Week with the theme "Our Voice, Our Impact". The Youth Support Coordinator Natasha and I have been working collaboratively to organise a fun filled week with a variety of events planned during first break including Easter craft, Sausage Sizzle, Photo Booth, Library Displays and even a Student vs Teacher handball competition! Be sure to check out the Townsville City Council website for all action packed events in the community for National Youth Week 2014!
In relation to National Youth Week on Friday August the 11th from 4:00 – 8:00pm during the holidays there will be an Event called Speak Out! Stand Up! This is a youth crime forum focused on exploring ideas to this ever-increasing issue. The event is being organised by Life Community Connect and is supported by the Townsville City Council and Aitkenvale PCYC. We believe as young people come together we can make a difference with the youth crime in the city of Townsville. So if you’re a young person (or young at heart) make sure you come down to the forum and speak out and step out.
Have a happy and safe Easter break!

Kristin MARTIN
School Chaplain
kmart333@eq.edu.au

Pierre De Coubertin Awards
Nominations are now open for the prestigious Pierre De Coubertin Awards!
Each year secondary schools are invited to nominate a candidate as its Pierre de Coubertin Award nominee. This award is designed to recognise students who demonstrate initiative, teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play through participation in a variety of sports in the competitive arena.
The awards recognise students who demonstrate consistent attributes with the fundamental aims of the Olympic movement, with particular emphasis on participation and commendable sporting behaviour.
“The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle.” Baron Pierre de Coubertin, Founder of the Modern Olympic Games.
Past Pierre De Coubertin award recipients include dual Olympian pole vaulter, Alana Boyd and Corporal Daniel Keighran who was the recipient of the Victoria Cross.
Students eligible for award nomination (may be from Year 10, 11 or 12) must have represented the school, district or region as a participant in at least 3 sports in the competitive arena during their high school years (8-12). One of those sports must be on the current Olympic program.
The Award recipient must submit an original piece of literacy OR artistic work, which illustrates their appreciation of the Olympic Movement. The 2014 theme is Youth and the future of Olympism in a digital world.
Nominations close 16th May for the 2014 awards.
If you or your colleagues know of a student who meets the award criteria, please contact the Sports Co-ordinator who has received the award nomination pack. The recipient will no doubt be a valuable role model for the entire school community; this award provides an ideal opportunity for you to acknowledge them.
As Georgia Applehof from Brigidine College shared: “My receiving the Award shows other students that you don’t always have to be „a star“ to be recognised,” “It’s important to be prepared to „have a go“ and just do your best in whatever sport is played.”
As part of our Indigenous Youth Career Pathway Program, we have school based Traineeship & Apprenticeship Vacancies In:

- Certificate 3 Hospitality traineeship
- Certificate 3 Commercial Cookery Apprenticeship
- Certificate 3 Engineering (Boilermaker) Apprenticeship
- Certificate 3 business / food retail Traineeship

All the positions are open to any indigenous students in year 10, 11 & 12.

Julie McDonald
Field Consultant – Apprentice Mentor | Extrashift Apprenticeships | Recruitment Solutions | Australian Business Solutions Group

501 Flinders Street West, Townsville QLD 4810
P.O Box 3485 Hermit Park QLD 4812
Tel 07 4750 1650 Mob 0448 916 417 | Fax 07 3013 3456 | Web australianbusiness.com.au

Townsville Water Polo Association would like to invite children aged from 8-11 years old to come and try Flipper Ball (Beginners Water Polo), at Long Tan Aquatic Centre, during the next school holidays. Dates 9th/10th & 15th/16th of April from 10:00am to 11:30am each day. Pool entry is required to be paid. For further information please phone 0422 276 237.

Come and try a great team sport.

SOCcer - No room in your local team? Or no team in your age group this year? You don't have to sit out the year - Brothers Tsv Football Club is looking for players in Under 16’s (turning 15 or 16 this year). Guaranteed places in the team. Ring Christen 0448 993 685 (outside school hours) or email cdeholla@bigpond.net.au. Limited vacancies available in most age groups.