Words from the Principal

And so another term comes to an end. The opportunities our students have had this term have been boundless. We have had musicals, HPV challenges, Maths competitions, sport, cultural events, Relay for Life and I got to witness my first Red day and Wheele Bin Race. I am still unconvinced that Principal participation is tradition but I guess, we will have to go with it.

When I think about the opportunities that our students have, I am struck by the energy that the teachers, staff and parents have in this school to ensure that these young people have a whole education. Our teachers are very busy at the moment, preparing their folios for year 12 verification. This is a vital part of the process that will contribute to the allocation of OPs at Gladstone State High. Thank you to all the staff for their efforts this term.

Many of our year levels are engaging in end of term trips out and about around Gladstone. These are held in recognition of the efforts of these students during the term. Our students are present, applied to their studies and follow the expectations of the school and its community. They are engaged, respectful, responsible and safe. Congratulations to all of our students who are enjoying a celebration at the end of a great term.

Students in year 10 are in the SET planning process. A fundamental part of movement from 11 to 12 is the subject selection process. At this stage, we have over 40 students who have not completed a subject selection. We encourage students and their parents to be on top of this process so that you do not miss out on a place in a subject you wish to study. Senior staff are assisting our year 10 students with this process.

Yesterday I went to Brisbane with Ms Eleanor Mackenzie (Humanities/English Teacher) to take part in the first Education Recruitment Expo at the Brisbane Entertainment Centre. This was an opportunity for Gladstone State High and the other schools in the region to promote living and working in Gladstone. There was a lot to sell to these graduates: the liveability of the city, access to sport and cultural activities, the great students we have at State High. I have had a number of applications already emailed through late last night by keen university graduates. One thing that struck me was that there is a real shortage in teachers at a secondary level. If you have a senior student contemplating the future, I would certainly be discussing the merits of a career in teaching. For me it has provided me with a great job that is family friendly. As a working mother, it has a lot of benefits. As a professional, the work has been varied and rewarding. There are never two days alike in teaching. The best part of it is though, the idea that sits in the slogan, “Make a difference: teach.” If you ask a group of students to think of one or two teachers they had at school that made a difference to them they would be able to do so. These are names that stay with us a lot longer than the other people that we come across. For me, it was my year 12 Economics teacher. I would encourage our senior students to think about teaching - there is certainly going to continue to be a demand for secondary teachers into the future.

We are looking at our bus processes at the moment, given recent issues we had with bus passes and the rush of students in the afternoon. Mrs Vicary is reworking our procedures in the afternoon to ensure that we have a smooth process in place. We have had concerns with student care and attention on the way to and from school. We must remember we are on a highway and that there are traffic controls in place to ensure student safety. We urge parents to support us in discussion of the expectations around behaviour walking/ riding to and from school. In term 4, we will be looking at the viability of leaving the main driveway open at peak times. Twice last week, students were placed in danger by vehicles reversing out of the admin carpark at 3:10. We are exiting 1600 students at 3:05. We will examine the driver behaviour and make decisions based on that. We need to be mindful of speed and the stop sign at the foot of the driveway. Students are not allowed to drive onto the site. Please consider students when entering the school.
Quick News

Enrolments 2016
We are currently looking at numbers and forming classes and lines for 2016 so it is imperative that families in our catchment areas enrol their children as soon as possible.

Gladstone State High School is enrolment managed, only families living within our enrolment catchment are eligible to enrol. Please see the Catchment Map http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/. If you are unsure or need assistance with this please contact the school office on 4976 6111.

We are asking families who have not already enrolled their child for 2016 to please come into the office to enrol as soon as possible. IMPORTANT: Please bring with you proof of residence; this can include Electricity Invoice, current Council Rates Notice or a lease agreement. If you do not have any of these items please contact the school for further advice.

Should you have any queries in relation to enrolling at Gladstone State High School please feel free to contact the school.

Komatsu Apprenticeship Intake
Komatsu are advertising for a Mobile Plant Technician in Gladstone and Emerald. These positions will commence in 2016. Any students interested positions will commence in Gladstone and Emerald. These Komatsu are advertising for a

Final Reminder to Year 12 Students
If you wish to avoid paying a late fee QTAC applications have to be completed online by 30 September 2015.

Chappy Chat!

Another Shine Group celebrated their last lesson with a delicious three course meal prepared by Year 12 students. Some of their feed-back included:

- “I was able to try new things; get over peer pressure (friends) and had fun. The only negative was it was 1 lesson a week.”
- “It was a really great experience. I liked trying new things and eating new things. We had nice teachers and I liked all the team work activities we did. I just wished it lasted longer and we missed seeing those Zonta ladies.”
- “I liked the cooking and working with people… trying things when I am too scared to have a go.”
- “I loved the activities, the food and getting to know people was fun.”
- “The positives were meeting new people, learning make-up, cooking and trying new things.”
- “It was great! I got more comfortable within myself. I loved Shine and it didn’t feel like a term – it went that quick! I wish this program will last with these wonderful ladies. Shine is a great experience and I am very lucky to have been selected.”
- “The food was amazing. I love the advice everyone gives. I enjoyed spending time with Mrs Mac and Chappy Yvonne and the other girls. I wish there could be more girls invited to Shine and I wish we could do it next year when we have more things we need to talk about.”

Thank you to our local Gladstone Chaplaincy Group who has covered the costs of implementing this program in 2015.

Our Term 3 boys’ Strength groups have also ended. Some boys were open to reflecting on changes that make life easier, more fun and satisfying. Learning that choices we make now affect our future is a difficult journey – but a very valuable understanding to grasp. Learning that strength actually requires courage and determination rather than physical solutions requires positive mentoring from encouraging people in each student’s life. A sincere thank you to our School Based Police Officer (Andrew), and Jarek Reah and Josh Hicks who volunteered their time to facilitate Strength. The boys had the opportunity to actively participate and learn valued lessons under the leadership of these positive role models.

It’s exciting to announce that Jarek will be a second Chaplain at GSHS next term for two days a week. I’m looking forward to working alongside Jarek and know that he brings his own set of valuable skills and enthusiasm. I know that our school community will benefit in many ways by his presence.

Following on from last week’s information on school chaplaincy and the major issues that students face, data shows that 55% receive ongoing pastoral support from chaplain, 14% develop an action plan with the chaplain, 11% are referred, 10% require no further action, 8% are given information, 1% need to advocate for the student, 1% other help. While Chaplains are not employed to do counselling or case management, they respond effectively to day-to-day issues that students face.

Who do chaplains talk to? School chaplaincy services are available to everyone in a school, and students, parents/carers and staff all access chaplaincy services. While chaplains aren’t employed to counsel or case manage, they do complement other school support services by offering support through pastoral conversations. Pastoral Conversations: School Staff- 23% Parents/Carers- 14% Students - 63% You can read more on where the data comes from and how it is collected by going to https://www.suqld.org.

Duke of Edinburgh: We have 3 participants from GSHS joining 4 students from Chanel on a couple of training and exploration weekends in Term 4. Getting together for preparation weekends has been extremely challenging in our busy schedules, but by the end of November all of them should be signed off on this first leg of their Duke of Edinburgh.

Today was the last session of Deep Blue Line which has been targeted at girls who struggle to commit to school. Of the initial 10 girls, 8 have completed all the requirements and have been invited to attend our celebratory weekend and graduation. At today’s debrief, the girls reflected on the best time, the worst part and what they learnt from the program. As expected, the best and worst depended on their likes and skills, the worst often reflected moments that they would change in the future and valuable lessons included:

- If I give respect to people, they will usually treat me respectfully
- It’s better to participate than to sit back
- Get on with people even if you don’t like them
- I need to do what’s right for me and not follow others
- When I do the wrong thing, it can impact others
- My choices determine my consequences

Life is a journey of learning and hopefully valuable understanding has been gained which will positively impact the students’ learning and encourage building healthy relationships in the future.

I hope these holidays refresh or energise you as needed and that you look forward to the challenges that Term 4 brings. For our graduating students, it is their last school holiday and they teeter on the excitement and fear of the unknown knowing that they only have a few weeks left at school. Please enjoy the journey as it is often more important than the destination.

Till next term,

Yvonne Kamholtz - School Chaplain
Quick News

Woolworths Stickers
Don’t forget we are collecting the woolworths stickers. Please either hand in at the Year Co staffroom or give to your care teacher for collection or you can place in the sticker bin in the Admin office. The more stickers we get the more resources we get for the school.

Craft Workshop
Our company has been contracted to do a craft workshop over the holidays at a Gladstone shopping centre, where I would require 2 staff members for 3 hours per day 11am till 2pm for 5 days over the holidays. Monday the 28th of September till Friday the 2nd of October.

Applicants must be 16 or over, outgoing, well presented, polite, be good with kids and have have good communication skills.

We are a well established North Brisbane based business with an excellent reputation. Please feel free to go to our website to have a look.

Interested students can contact me on my mobile below or via email.

Regards,
Vanessa Dallmann
Event co-ordinator
0434 934 125
vanessa@workshopwonders.com

School Musical
The weekend after we presented Seussical the Musical, our students were back at it, attending auditions for next year’s Combined School’s Musical. We have 20 students in the show and seven students in principal roles, these are as follows: Cheyna F – Morticia Addams, Sam D as Uncle Fester, Izzy T as Grandma, Jordan K as Pugsley Addams, Jordan Ke as Lurch, Lachlan H as Mal Bieneke and Jordan D as Lucas Bieneke.

In the picture – Back row (L-R) Charlotte O, Jade C, Mikael B, Cheyna F, Lachlan H & Jordan Ke Middle

Exciting Changes for the Tech College
As the job landscape in Gladstone has changed, the program at the EQIP Tech College has changed with it. Trade based fields such as Diesel Fitters, Electricians, Engineers etc are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. Fields such as Automotive, Hospitality and Logistics are the boom fields moving forward. The program we will offer will reflect this change in direction.

The College is going to focus on 5 pathways to help students obtain a career pathway with the changing environment of Gladstone;
• Automotive
• Construction
• Resources and Infrastructure
• Hospitality
• Business

Students will enrol at the Tech College studying;
• Maths A/Prevocational Maths
• English Communication
• Cert II IDMT
• Cert II Volunteering
• A certificate through CQU in one of the career pathways

The certificates studied through CQU are government funded and are at no extra cost to families.

A lot of feedback has been given to us by employers and employment agencies all agree that this new model will make students more employable as they enter the work force. This is one of the key outcomes for students enrolling at the Tech College.

If you have any further questions please don’t hesitate to contact us

Terry Wells
Head of Department EQIP Technical College Gladstone Region. (07) 4976 6101
HPV Challenge

Well the 24 hour endurance race is now over for another year. This year Gladstone State High entered 4 teams: 1 Junior Mixed (Year 8/9) 1 Senior Girls Team (Year 11/12) and 2 Senior Boys Teams (Years 10,11,12). The bikes looked the most impressive they have in years, due to the extremely hard work by some parents involved in the programme. A number of students and parents worked on the bikes during several working bees at the school, however special mention must be made of 2 students and families in particular: Shawn I and his father Peter worked tirelessly on 2 of the bikes over a number of weeks as well as Joe C and his father Charlie. Print Wright provided all of the stickers and signs for all of the bikes. A big thank you to them as well.

The weekend had rain forecast and several times during set up on Friday this proved to be the case. Luckily we were able to set up tents and communal shade areas during the periods of sunshine. All the students pitched in and by mid afternoon we had passed scrutineering for the bikes and were ready to go.

The race starts at 12pm Saturday and ends 12pm Sunday. The teams all had very promising starts as often the first 3-4 hours is tough as it’s the hottest part of the race. At this stage the Girls Senior Team was only 2-3 laps off the lead teams and the girls saw a competitive race on the cards. The Boys Senior Division is always the most hotly contended division and the main goal for our teams was to get within the top 10. This too seemed likely for the first half of the race as lap times by the riders were consistent. The Junior Mixed Team had a number of new riders in the mix and their goal was to ride strong and to improve on their place position.

By the half way mark however, as if often the case, the game plans had changed quite dramatically. Two of the bikes had a significant amount of time off the track due to a broken axle and other mechanical issues. There had been some spectacular rolls at the hairpin bend and all of the bikes were looking a little more worse for wear. The teams regrouped and and the goal was to finish the race as strongly as possible and to keep the bike on the track. New race strategies were developed to allow the riders more time to rest in between their time slots.

The Boys Senior Team, Great Whites, rode 392 laps in total, the equivalent of riding from Gladstone to Brisbane. The Makoe’s rode an impressive 339 laps and the Girls Senior Team an equally impressive 352 laps. Two of the girls both rode 75 laps each. The Junior Mixed Team after having been off the road for nearly 3 hours with a broken axle rode a commendable 266 laps.

All students shone over the weekend. From their efforts in riding, to cheering each of the teams on, to helping students in and out of the bikes. They were a credit to the school and to themselves. Congratulations to everyone involved and bring on 2016 I say.
**Dates to Remember**

19th September - 4th October - School Holidays
5th October - Public Holiday
6th October - School Resumes

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**SCHOOL PAYMENTS**
- BPOINT - NEW PROCESS AVAILABLE FOR PAYING INVOICES. PLEASE SEE BOTTOM OF INVOICES FROM NOW ON
- PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE DO NOT PROCESS EFTPOS TRANSACTIONS UNDER THE LIMIT OF $10

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**GSHS CORE VALUES**

**VALUES**
To empower students to reach their full potential through quality learning experiences in a supportive and challenging school environment.

**RESPONSIBILITY**
- Give your best
- Be dependable
- Make appropriate choices
- Be fair - Have a go
- Take your opportunity to lead, otherwise be a good team member

**EXCELLENCE**
- Doing your best
- Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable
- Try hard
- Keep trying and pursue excellence
- Expect high standards

**RESPECT**
- Value yourself and others
- Respect your environment
- Act and speak courteously to everyone
- Be kind to animals
- Foster good relationships
- Foster school pride

**HONESTY**
- Be truthful and sincere
- Be trustworthy
- Admit your mistakes
- Learn by your mistakes
- Seek truth, good and right

**SAFETY**
- Look out for yourself and others
- Practise safe and hygienic habits
- Follow the rules

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**Student Absence Notification**

Student Name: 
Care Group: 
Date: 
Reason (Circle): Sick   Personal   Family   Other

Date: 
Reason (Circle): Sick   Personal   Family   Other

Details that need to be included on each of these are:
* Student's Full Name
* Care Class
* Date/s
* Reason

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**Student Absent from School:**
Parents are required to authorise all student absences. This can be done in the following ways:
Email – absentees@gladstonshs.eq.edu.au
Phone: 49766158
Written Note
Notification Slip found in Newsletter (to the left of this article)
Text Messaging Only – 0407 096 034 (reply only to schools text message)

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**2015 Arts Academy**

**THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG**

**Friday Nov 28th**

**7pm**

**Gladstone SHS Hall**