Year 12 Camp  
by Amber Barba, Dejanee Lampton and Emily Staines

After a week of heavy rain and a passing cyclone we were finally able to head to camp. Our first surprise was the double decker bus – whatever camp would bring, we were heading off in style to Camp Kinchant. After unpacking and safety briefings, the fun began. While those who would hold our safety in their hands undertook belay training and experienced those harnesses for the first time, the rest of us played “Run the Gauntlet”. Who would have thought that a game using water and sponges could be so much fun, tiring and strategic? Kitchen duty, doing our own washing up, and having an awesome feed were all preludes to the celebration of Damon’s 18th birthday.

After an invigorating morning run (at 6 am!) we moved into our chocolate groups for the day’s activities. High ropes, the g-swing, and the flying fox were all run by the friendly Kinchant staff – our teachers also got in on the fun and even took up the challenge for some activities. Another record was set, with Amber Barba and her group surpassing the efforts of the 2012 Year 12s in the Tower of Terror. Lenise also excelled, with her belaying ability noticed by, not only, Miss Ruge, but also the Kinchant Staff. The group initiative also tested our problem solving, with some people stepping up to lead with great success. These activities pushed us all as individuals and as team players.

Our last full day saw the hosting of the Survivor Challenge. After their success in the Iron Man Challenge the previous day, Banks started with a very slight advantage. This challenge tests the resilience, wisdom and strength of the teams, and saw the successful rescue of all missing tribe members via the paths of enlightenment. A highlight was the fair play exhibited by teams, the sheer strength and courage of Justin King and Callan Nicholson, the tracking ability of Jamahl White, the hiding ability of Jeuan Zaro, and the determination of Caitlin Bohl. Not to mention the dominance of Banks (at last!).

The grand finale of the camp was really the camp concert, where students embraced the challenge to show their talents. People sang in front of a crowd for the first time, designed stunning outfits from scrap, wrote unique raps, danced (or tried), and entertained us all. It was not the greatest concert in the world – it was just a tribute!

Camp was exhausting, frustrating, challenging, rewarding, bonding, emotional and worth every second. We hope we have done the Kinchant Gods proud!
From the Principal
by Mr Craig Whittred, Principal
Editorial - Newsletter No. 3 22/03/13

As Term one comes to an end most of our students are engaged with various types of assessment. Last week on our whole school parade I spoke with the students about the importance of planning their time during an assessment period. I encouraged the students to create a specific study timetable for the period to enable them to effectively complete all tasks. Some of the key points that I spoke to the students about was to allow for short, sharp study sessions on a topic, meaning they should really plan to work hard for 30 - 45 minutes and then have a short break and move on to another task. Research shows that for the average student, study sessions on one topic longer than this have a marked drop-off in effectiveness. I also encouraged students to talk with their parents and carers and discuss their study plan to ensure students are able to adjust their home and social commitments to provide the best opportunity for the students to achieve their personal best.

I have spoken before about the importance of 100% attendance at school. There is a direct relationship between student attendance and academic success. As a school we are focusing on improving our attendance right across the school. We are tracking our attendance data and are working with students and families to improve our school-wide attendance data. So far in term 1 we have improved attendance which is terrific but towards the backend of the term our absences are growing. I encourage all students and parents to work together to maximise attendance at school; make the best use of the fantastic staff and resources we provide and get an education that will provide positive choices either into the workforce or further study.

It's been great to see the amount of participation in interschool sports. The enthusiasm and sportsmanship shown by our students has been second to none and I would like to congratulate the students on their efforts. I would also like to thank staff who put in extra efforts to support students in these activities. (It's also been great to hear that the HAWKS have been giving the other schools a touch-up!)

Next week on Monday evening we will be holding an open meeting to kick off our uniform review. This meeting will be held at 7.30 – 9.00 pm at the Smart Media Centre. We will be looking for parents, students and community members to provide feedback and input into the direction of our school uniform. I encourage anyone who is interested to come along.

Yours in education
Craig Whittred
Principal

Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the first Australians in the Constitution
by Lauren Myles, Kerri-ann Camilotto, Breanna Ritchie, Katrelle Granshaw

The 2013 North Queensland Constitutional Convention was attended by four Year 12 Legal Studies students; Breanna Ritchie, Kerri-Ann Camilotto, Katrelle Granshaw and Lauren Myles. Other schools that attended were Pimlico, Heatley, Ingham and Kirwan. The topic of the day was recognising Indigenous Australians in the Australian Constitution. Activities undertaken throughout the day included listening to Josephine Bourne from the Panel of Constitutional Recognition of Indigenous Australians and group activities such as writing a mock-up of a new preamble for the Constitution. One student from each school presented a four minute speech on the topic and Jesse from Kirwan won the majority vote and is on his way to Canberra for the National Constitutional Convention. As well as, Abbie from Pimlico, Ayr High delegate, Lauren Myles, received runner-up for her speech and won a Kindle and $30 voucher for the ABC shop. It was a great day and all who attended learnt a lot about the topic.
**Northern (NQ) Selections**
*by Ms Courtney Carrigan, Sports Co-ordinator*

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected in Northern sport squads recently and who will participate at their respective Queensland Championships later in the year:

- Shane Kennedy (Year 12) - Open Boys Rugby Union
- Molly Barbagallo (Year 11) - Open Girls Basketball
- René Le Feuvre (Year 10) - U15 AFL
- Natalie Holt (Year 10) - Open Girls Football
- Tyrone Sims (Year 10) - U15 Rugby League.

Special mention to the following students who were selected as shadow players:

- Chantel Mohle (Year 11) - Open Girls Netball
- Shane Kennedy (Year 12) - Open Boys Basketball.

Well done to all students. We wish them well.

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**Cross Country & adidas School Fun Run**
*by Ms Courtney Carrigan, Sports Co-ordinator*

The annual Interhouse Cross Country and adidas School Fun Run will be held on Wednesday 24 April (Session 4).

The Cross Country starts at 1.30 pm and is raced in four divisions: Junior Boys and Junior Girls (4 km) and Senior Boys (6 km) and Senior Girls (4 km). In order to compete, students must collect a permission form from their House Captains and return it to Ms Carrigan by Tuesday 23 April.

This year we are running the adidas School Fun Run again which will act as a major fundraising event. Students were given Sponsorship Forms on Friday 15 March and are encouraged to seek sponsorship from the generosity of family, friends and the local/wider community. Students can even invite family and friends living interstate or overseas to sponsor them with the new online fundraising option.

The adidas School Fun Run supports health education by raising vital extra funds (sports equipment, uniforms) for our school while making fitness fun. All students competing will receive a free Juicies frozen treat (iceblock) after completion of the Fun Run.

Students are rewarded for their efforts with quality prizes for monetary totals from $10 - $600+ and highest fundraiser. In the Sponsorship Form you will find many other benefits such as opportunities to train online with sports stars and the chance to win a family holiday to Disneyland!

We encourage all parents/caregivers to support the health and education of their children by helping them obtain sponsor support. Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

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**Sport News**

**Interschool Rugby League 12/03/13**

**U15 Boys:**
vs Bowen  Win 18 - 8

**Open Boys:**
vs Bowen  Loss  Forfeit

**Interschool Rugby League 19/03/13**

**U15 Boys:**
vs HHSHS  Win 38 - 0

**Open Boys:**
vs HHSHS  Win 22 - 18

**Interschool Netball 12/03/13**

**U15 Girls:**
vs Bowen  Loss 12 - 13

**Open Girls:**
vs Bowen  Loss

**Interschool Netball 19/03/13**

**U15 Girls:**
vs HHSHS  Loss

**Open Girls:**
vs HHSHS  Loss 12 - 21

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**Cross Country & Fun Run**

**Wednesday 24 April 2013**

**Session 4**

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**Boardies Day**
*by Shane Kennedy, School Captain*

On Thursday 21 February, Ayr State High hosted their very own Boardies Day. Boardies Day is a fun day where students get to wear their favourite boardies to raise awareness for Surf Lifesaving and is held across the country. Ayr High’s funds went towards the Burdekin’s local club Ayr Surf Lifesavers. Ayr’s club is small and runs off fundraisers and other events to keep the club going. A HUGE thanks to everyone that helped to raise funds for our local club which runs down at Alva Beach.

An amount of $262 was raised which was presented to teacher and local club member Miss Heather Scott.

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**Keep a watch on our school these holidays**

**School Watch - 13 17 88**

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On Monday, 4 March 2013, several local business owners joined our Business Management class as part of our first unit, “Success in Small Business”. Our guests were local people with their own business. They shared their experiences with a small group of students who had interview questions previously prepared. Participating business owners were Chantelle Stenning (Clove Restaurant), Michael Taylor (Red Rooster), Nora and Peter Andersen (Andersen Real Estate), Nicola Williams (Nikki’z Hair Design), Jaynai Slater (Rythym Edge Dance Studio) and Nicky Achurra (Do-It-All Bookkeeping and Bella Danza). Common discussion topics included staffing issues, finding free time, risks involved and benefits of being a small business owner.

Following these interviews, the students completed assessment tasks both as a small group and individually. The groups will give an oral presentation on their business owner, accompanied by a digital presentation. Individually, students will analyse their own personal strengths and weaknesses to determine whether or not they could potentially be successful business owners in their adult lives.

We are very grateful to our guests for giving up their valuable time to provide an insight for our students as to what it means to be a small business owner – including the challenges and the rewards. Their honesty enables students to gain an understanding of what it really means to be in business and the implications this has on their personal and professional lives.

**A Challenge for...YOU!!**

Do you want a challenge?
Do you want a certificate or an award to put in your resume?
Do you want to be like thousands of other academic students across the country?
Do you want personal satisfaction of a ‘job well done’?

**Australian Science Competition** $5.00
**Australian Maths Competition** $5.00
**UNSW Maths Competition** $5.00

*Payable to the office by FRIDAY 3 MAY.*

*Collect an invitation letter from your Maths or Science teacher.*

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**Upcoming Events**

- **25 Mar**
  - School Uniform Review Meeting (7.30-9.00pm)
- **26 Mar**
  - Interschool Rugby League/Netball (3.30pm)
  - Students vs Teachers (Cricket)
  - Pink Stumps Day (Fundraiser for Jane McGrath) . Free Dress in Pink
- **27 Mar**
  - Celebr8 Year 8 Activity Days (2 days)
- **28 Mar**
  - Good Friday (Public Holiday)
- **2-12 Apr**
  - Easter School Holidays
- **16 Apr**
  - Yr 9, 10 Engineering Challenge
  - Interschool Rugby League/Netball (3.30pm)
- **17 Apr**
  - Yr 8 & 10 Vaccinations
- **22 Apr**
  - Interschool Football 15/19 Yrs (3.30pm)
- **23 Apr**
  - Interschool Rugby League/Netball (Final)
- **24 Apr**
  - Anzac Day Assembly (S1)
  - Interhouse Cross Country/Fun Run (S4)
- **25 Apr**
  - Anzac Day (Public Holiday)
- **3 May**
  - Drama Festival
**DNA to the MAX**
*by Claire Brock, Senior Science Teacher*

Sixty year 10 students were given the opportunity to participate in a CSIRO workshop during their regular science class on Monday 4 March. Students who had been performing to the best of their ability in Unit 1 of Science were offered this session as a reward for their efforts.

“DNA to the MAX” is a workshop offered by CSIRO that uses gene technology to introduce biotechnology to students. During the workshop students extracted DNA from barley plants using a centrifuge. This DNA was then pipetted onto gel trays for Electrophoresis and gene profiling. It was great to see the enthusiasm of our aspiring scientists as they manipulated university standard equipment.

**A Busy Drama Department!**
*by Miss Maree Longworth*

This term busy drama students welcomed two separate theatre companies into their classroom to watch performances and participate in workshops.

The year 10 drama class is reading the play X-Stacy. We were fortunate to have a performance of the play come to us! On Friday 1 March, the Year 10, 11 and 12 Drama students watched the performance of the play on our brand new stage.

The students enjoyed the play and loved watching professional actors on stage.

On Saturday 16 March, the Queensland Theatre Company visited to take acting workshops with Drama students from Years 9 – 12. The students loved the workshops and participated in activities that challenged their acting abilities.

As well, progress is underway to perform at the Interschool Burdekin Drama Festival. Rehearsals will be every Wednesday afternoon, with one Sunday rehearsal next term. The date for Drama Festival is Friday 3 May and tickets will be on sale soon!

Looking forward to next term!

**Construction Project Continues**
*by Mr Bruce Johnson, Guidance Officer*

The year 12 Construction class have poured a second slab to facilitate the installation of further aluminium seating at the Burdekin Touch fields.

The boys had the opportunity to develop their skills; taking levels, operating a mini earth mover, setting up formwork and reinforcing mesh as well as demolishing some concrete seating that needed to be removed.

Even though it was a very hot day, the boys toiled manfully until the slab was finally poured and screeded off just before 3 pm. Special mention must be made of Mr Peter Jensen who waited patiently for the concrete to go off so final trowelling could take place. He made the finishing touches under floodlight and surrounded by mosquitoes at 7.30 pm! That’s dedication!!

The boys will now remove the formwork, backfill and landscape around the slab before constructing and installing three more sets of tiered seating.
Year 11’s participate in the annual RYDA program!

by Mr Chris Milne, Year 11 Co-ordinator

On Tuesday, 5 March, the entire Year 11 cohort boarded a bus, joined Burdekin Catholic and Home Hill State High School and headed to the Home Hill TAFE College to participate in the Rotary Youth Driving Association program. This program is held every year and aims to teach the youth of the Burdekin about defensive and safe driving. The students participated in a range of activities such as; sitting in a car of different speeds to see the distance it took to brake, a lecture on distractions and risks, every day car issues such as insurance as well as a drink driving lecture. The students benefited the most from a visit from a crash victim, who told the group about the struggles of dealing with life after a car crash which changed his and his family’s life.

Parents/Family Members or Friends collecting students during the school day

by Ms Lesley Olsen, Senior Secondary Deputy Principal

It is a requirement by Education Queensland that when students are collected from school during the school day the register is completed. The register is located at the school office. Photo ID is required.

P&C Meeting

Monday 6 May 2013
7.30 pm,
Resource Centre

Junior Astronomy Group JAG

North Queensland’s first Junior Astronomy Group holds monthly meetings. Outside telescope viewing is involved, so closed shoes are essential as well as a hat (to keep dew off), insect repellent, notebook, pencil. Students with their own telescope should bring it along.

Where: Osborne State School
When: Friday 19 April
Time: 6.30 - 8.30 pm
Open to secondary and primary school students over the age of 10 years.

Contact:
Rob Black (0429 774 757)
nqastronomy@solarastronomy.org
Hayley Laidlow (4782 6254)
hlaid2@eq.edu.au

Absentee Hotline

4790 4353

If your child is away either:
• phone the hotline
• text message or
• hand in a note on return