Year 8 High Achievers Excursion

Last term marked a first in High Achievers opportunities with an exciting, action packed excursion to Brisbane for Year 8. After navigating the public transport to the city the 51 students, Mr Laverty, Mr Anderson and Miss Thomson made their way to South Brisbane where our accommodation was located. After an overwhelming rush through the crowded city we took a bus up to Mt Cootha Botanical Gardens and watched the “Planets Collide” show at the Brisbane Planetarium. The next day we explored the Museum, the Science Centre and both Art Galleries, all on South Bank and returned to the Parklands for amazing burgers at Grill’d. Our final day half the group went to the Lego Education Centre to learn about renewable energy and vehicles, while the rest went on a walking tour across the bridge and into Queensland University and the City Botanical Gardens. A very exhausted and well travelled group trooped back onto the train for our homeward journey. The students were extremely well behaved and while they are still learning the art of walking to the left on crowded sidewalks they were great ambassadors for the school. Many thanks to Mr Laverty and Mr Anderson for accompanying the group.

A reminder to all Year 8 students that we look forward to seeing new faces in the High Achievers program for Year 9 so that more students can enjoy enrichment and extension activities such as the Brisbane Experience.

Miss Thomson
Year 8 Year Adviser
From the Deputy

**URGENT Year 12 reminders**

**Exams**
Year 12 exams begin next Monday 14th Oct with the English exams in the School MPU at 11:20 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please check the information sent to parents carefully regarding the venue. It is important that students arrive well before the start of the examination and that they abide by the rules of the examinations. Please make sure you are aware of rules regarding mobile phones, ipods, calculators or other items that you may wish to take into exams.

If your child is unable to attend an exam due to illness or misadventure please contact the school immediately. Misadventure forms need to be collected from the school or head examiner and completed by the due date. Missing an exam due to illness will require a doctor’s certificate.

**Help during the HSC period**
Year 12 students are most welcome to meet with teachers re any concerns or questions they may have about the upcoming exams. Please be aware that teachers will still be teaching Years 7-11 classes and may not be available at any given time - please contact the teachers re meeting times.

**Formal**
Please don’t forget the Year 12 Formal on Friday 15th November. Tickets are available at the school for $36 per ticket.

**Sign-out days for Year 12**
Friday 25th October and Friday 8th November.

Mrs D Williamson
Deputy Principal

**Student success**
Katie Payne of Year 9 has been incredibly successful in both Dance and Gymnastics over the past few months. Katie has achieved incredible results in the Far North Coast Eisteddfod in Byron Bay in and the Lismore Eisteddfod in Dance and in the Country Championships for Rhythmic Gymnastics.

Katie has recently taken up rhythmic gymnastics, in Term 3 this year. She competed in a Level 4 competition and was awarded 2nd in her hoop routine, 2nd for her club routine, 5th for the ball and 2nd in the overall competition.
In the Far North Coast Eisteddfod she completed three solo dance performances and received a 1st in Jazz, 2nd in Duo and a Highly Commended in Contemporary Dance.
In the Lismore Eisteddfod Katie performed in 12 group performances and 8 individual performances scoring a total of nine firsts, six seconds, one third and four highly commended awards.
Dear Parents and Caregivers

It is great to be back to start Term 4. Currently our Year 12 students are very focused with their study and preparing for their upcoming examinations. We wish them the very best of luck. This week Mrs Williamson and myself have been following up with our Year 11 students who have received “N Award” warning letters for potentially not meeting all the necessary completion of course requirements. This is another supportive process so that students understand their obligations in terms of meeting requirements for the HSC. A diligent and sustained effort is required by each student in every course which includes regular attendance and full assessment completion. Successful completion of Year 11 is paramount to ensure students are eligible to receive their HSC at the end of next year.

Next week our new school captains, Madeleine Moore and Oliver James will be leading the Acknowledgement of Country at the Primary School Public Speaking Competition. The competition is being held at Lismore Town Hall on Thursday 17 October and begins at 10 a.m. If you get a chance please come along and enjoy the tremendous public speaking talent from students in our partner primary schools. Students from Richmond River will also be performing a musical item shortly after 10 a.m.

Enjoy your weekend.

Mr Dave Harvey
Principal

From the Deputy

Another Great Term

It’s great to be back at school for Term 4 which is always an exciting time. Our staff will continue to support Year 12 students as they prepare for their final external exams conducted by the Board of Studies. Meanwhile, our current Year 11 students who have successfully completed the requirements of their Preliminary Course subjects, will commence study for the 2014 HSC this term.

Across the rest of the school teachers are busily finalising plans for assessment in Years 7 to 10, which will allow reports to be completed and distributed at the end of this term.

In addition, we will continue to work with our 27 partner primary schools in ensuring a continued smooth and positive transition of Year 6 students into Year 7 at Richmond River High School. Our focus this term will not only be on next year’s incoming Year 7 cohort, but also on a series of Year 5 student experience days at Richmond River High School later this term, in which students zoned for our school, currently in Year 5, and about to make the choice of which high school to attend in 2015, get a taste of what our school has to offer.

In addition to all of the above, we will continue to offer our usual array of extra curricular opportunities for students, including, but not limited to, our participation in the North Coast National next week under the leadership of Mr Woodward, the Nymboida outdoor sports excursion for Year 9 and our traditional “reward excursions” offered to all of our students who consistently demonstrate all of the positive behaviours that come with being a Richmond River High School student.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

Our focus for PBL teaching during morning Year Meetings next week will be on Honesty in the classroom. In particular, students will be asked to reflect on the importance of telling the truth, of respecting the property of others and of the school, and also of remaining in class at all times. It is unfortunate that issues such as these have caused problems in the past – accordingly, the rationale behind our PBL program is to positively and explicitly teach students the importance of honesty, along with being respectful, responsible and safe, as part of achieving success at Richmond River High School.

Senior Student Peer Relationships

As our Year 11 students begin their studies for the HSC, this week has presented an important and timely opportunity to remind them of the importance of looking after one another, with particular regard to the challenging and pressure driven times which will come next year.

Any form of harassment will not be tolerated at Richmond River High School. I have attached an excerpt from the Department’s definition of harassment (bullying) for all students and their parents and carers to read, reflect on and possibly relate to their experience at school:

Bullying involves the abuse of power in relationships. Bullying behaviour that will not be tolerated at Richmond River High School includes:

Verbal: name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, sarcasm, insults, threats, racist remarks or insults regarding religious and/or social background/grouping.

Physical: hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, spitting, & tripping.

Social: excluding, ostracising, alienating, and making inappropriate gestures.

Psychological: spreading rumours, repeated deliberate dirty looks, hiding or damaging possessions, malicious SMS and email messages, inappropriate use of camera phones ie. Acts that instil a sense of fear and anxiety.

Written: which may include inappropriate graffiti, notes, letters.

Sexual Harassment: which is based on the sexual orientation and/or gender of the victim and may include discrimination, intimidation, demeaning comments, jokes, unwanted contact, gestures, inappropriate language and drawings.

Cyber-bullying: using information and communication technologies to support repeated and deliberate hostile behaviour intended to harm others. This can take the form of posting or sending of inappropriate photos or video, threats, comments or rumours via SMS, email, internet chat rooms or social media.

Bullying devalues isolates and frightens. It affects the individual's ability to achieve and has long term effects on those engaging in bullying behaviour, those who are subjects of behaviour and the onlookers and bystanders.

If any student feels that they have been affected by any of the above forms of harassment at school, they should report the matter to a teacher or one of the Deputy Principals.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable, warm and sunny weekend.

Mr Michael Hensley
Deputy Principal

Being RRHS
Is:
Responsible
Respectful
Honest
Safe
Richmond River High School  Telephone: 6621 3456  www.richmondri-h.schools.nsw.edu.au  Canteen: 6621 4890

Monday 14/10/2013

- Year 12 HSC English Exam at RRHS
- Tuesday 15/10/2013

- Wednesday 16/10/2013
  - Years 6-7 Sports Day 11 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
- Thursday 17/10/2013
  - Agriculture Excursion to North Coast National Show
- Friday 18/10/2013
  - Agriculture Excursion to North Coast National Show
  - Indigenous Mentoring at Southern Cross University
  - Premiers Sporting Challenge

RRHS - Term 4 Week 2

Mon 13th November 2013

P & C Meeting
6.00 - 7.30 p.m.
Wednesday

CANTEEN ROSTER - Term 4 Week 2

Monday 14/10/2013
Kathy Goulding

Tuesday 15/10/2013
Sue Parrish

Wednesday 16/10/2013
Meryl Condon

Thursday 17/10/2013
Kelly Wilson

Friday 18/10/2013
Kelly Wilson

Canteen volunteers are needed.
If you can help please phone
Kathy Claydon on 6621 4890.
Half Day or Full Day

Southern Cross University

www.scu.edu.au/uni-bound

Year 7 - “Uni Opens Up Your World”
Tuesday 19 November 2013

Southern Cross University will host Year 7 students participating in the UNI-BOUND program at Lismore campus for a “Uni Opens Up Your World” experience.

www.scu.edu.au/uni-bound
www.scu.edu.au/scuinfoday

SCU Info Day

Parents, students and community members are invited to come along to Lismore campus for an SCU Info Day.

www.scu.edu.au/uni-bound
www.scu.edu.au/scuinfoday

Teens Workshop: If you:
- have little or no work experience
- want to start earning your own money
- desire personal freedom
- want to increase your self-belief and confidence in your abilities

Then come along and meet inspiration author Lisa-Marie Kerr! In Get Job Ready, you will learn the secrets to:
- Discovering your talents and passions
- Effectively communicating your skills and passions to potential employers
- Writing a killer interview-winning resume and cover letter
- Finding a job you really want… and going for it

Once you know the secrets, you will be well on the way to landing your first job.

Thursday 17th October.
Pizza and drinks provided.
4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Limited spaces, bookings essential at the Lismore Library. For bookings and enquiries call 66212464. You will receive a copy of her book valued at $25 if you attend this workshop.
PCYC Lismore
Community Fun Day!

Saturday 12th October
9am - 2pm
Lismore PCYC,
Dawson Street Lismore

Market Stalls • Lucky Door Prizes • Face Painting
Family Entertainment • Live Music • Sausage Sizzle

Fun for the whole family!

other sponsors

If you would like to book a $20 space for a stall please call Monique Pollock T: 02 6621 6276
All proceeds go to PCYC Lismore!
BUNDJALUNG NGHARI

The Gathering

Come and meet leading Indigenous artists as they share their inspirational stories

FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER
5.30-7pm LISMORE CITY HALL

Internationally acclaimed Indigenous artists discuss nourishing culture through performance.

Over the next three years NORPA is developing a major new dance theatre work about Bundjalung country. Come and meet the inspirational artists involved and join a conversation about storytelling, performance and fostering local pride in the Northern Rivers.

Join us afterwards for wood-fired pizza.

Come and meet

David Page
Sound Designer & Musician, Bangarra Dance Theatre (Bundjalung)

Rhoda Roberts
Indigenous Programmer, Sydney Opera House & Boomerang Festival Director (Bundjalung)

Djon Mundine OAM
Curator and Writer (Bundjalung)

Melissa Lucashenko
Author Mullumbimby (Bundjalung)

Frances Rings
Choreographer, Bangarra Dance Theatre (Kokatha)

WWW.NORPA.ORG.AU