4 November 2014

Principal’s Report

Fresh Eyes

I am delighted and honoured to be writing my first Principal’s report in the Bremer SHS newsletter. My name is Richard Morrison and I have been appointed as the permanent Principal of Bremer State High School. I am delighted to be here and I am here to stay!

I have enjoyed a long and diverse career of educational leadership for Education Queensland and I have recently benefitted from the added bonus of three years of contributing as a leader in the largest and most expensive educational reform in the world in Abu Dhabi. Now I am excited about applying my experiences and knowledge to contribute to the refinement and improvement of Bremer State High School.

One of the best things about a new principal arriving in a school is the opportunity for that person to “see” things that those in the school can no longer “see”. Fresh eyes are a great tool to observe the strengths of a school and also to identify the opportunities for further development and refinement.

Some early observations:

- The entire Bremer SHS community has worked so hard to establish a positive learning environment in which students and staff can focus on learning. There is a very positive tone to the way people relate to each other in this school and it’s wonderful to be part of.
- Student behaviour and uniform is of a very high standard. The proportion of students in full school uniform is the highest I have seen in any of the six schools which I have been principal of.
- The school facilities and general resources are of the very highest standard. This is a great set of buildings laid out in very attractive surrounds. Most public and private schools would give anything for a school site like this.
- The school is blessed with an amazingly energetic, enthusiastic and talented staff. I have never before experienced such a high quality collection of staff and school leaders in one school. They do and we will continue to do amazing work for our students.

And finally……..

- Bremer State High School students are friendly, open and genuine.

My Challenge

My job as Principal is to ensure that this school takes all of these wonderful “ingredients” and supports students to move their outcomes to the next level.

I intend to lead the team in an unrelenting focus on students improving their literacy and numeracy and to also keep driving the further development of the learning environment at this school. When we all work well in supporting our students through encouragement and praise, set high expectations and accept nothing but their and our best, we serve our community and our young people as well as we possibly can.

PRIDE

As principal, I fully support the existing Bremer State High School values:

- Perseverance
- Respect and responsibility
- Integrity
- Diversity
- Excellence through engagement

And expect:

- Students and staff (myself included) to do their best
- Students to be in full school uniform
- Students to behave positively
- Students to come to school prepared to learn and wanting to succeed

I look forward to working and learning with you over the coming years as together we all strive for Bremer State High School to be the best that it can be.

Richard Morrison
Principal
**Student Resource Scheme 2015**

Bremer SHS will be offering parents/guardians this service in 2015. The objective of this scheme is to offer parents/guardians a cost friendly alternative for purchasing school resources and textbooks. The Student Resource Scheme for 2015 will be $200.00 per student. This is approximately $5.00 per week. This contribution is in addition to the Government Textbook Allowance for all students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 participating in the scheme. Forms and further information on the 2015 Student Resource Scheme will be available shortly.

**FINANCE NEWS**

As a consequence to the end of financial rollover to 2015 all end of year activities/excursions on the calendar ie.

- Seaworld
- Dreamworld
- Whitewater World
- Planetarium
- Leadership Camp

have a deadline for payments as of Friday 21st November with no extension possible so please make sure your student doesn’t miss out as some are also limited to a specific number.

The Student Resource Scheme Agreement Form for 2015 (cream) with additional information including Subject Fees will be distributed to current students as soon as finalised. It is a requirement for this form to be completed and returned for each individual student as soon as possible this year to enable collating/ recording prior to the beginning of next year. Payments can be made this year but are not required until the start of the new school year. It is requested that an initial instalment of $100 be made within the first 2 weeks of school.

The Finance Office will be available for receipting purposes from Monday 19th January 2015 (a week prior to students returning to school) from 8.15 am – 3.30 pm daily.

**SMART ART**

When creativity and persistence meet, wonderful things evolve.

Graduating Visual Art students who have attained Visual Art awards developed their creativity with persistence during the past five years of art studies at Bremer State High School. They include Erin Blyth (Visual Art and Certificate II in Visual Art), Kaeani Hendriks (Certificate II in Visual Art) and Jack Whitfield (Visual Art Studies). The persistence demonstrated by these graduating students exemplifies the qualities which lead to success in their careers and life. These students are the Senior Visual Art prize recipients for 2014 and they are some of the many visual art students who explore, experiment, develop concepts, technologies, media and techniques to express their own personal responses to our curriculum. Two Year 11 prize recipients include Megan Maudsley (Creative Arts) and Pearl Fuifui who in Year 11 created positive foundations for success in their studies for their upcoming senior year. As a team of Visual Art Teachers, we are in awe of students who demonstrate the qualities and creativity of these determined and hardworking students. We encourage students preparing to enter the senior school so we can extend the capabilities and creative confidence of our students.

One student entering her senior studies in 2015 is Katelyn Vaughan who is completing her Year 10 year studying a Certificate I in Visual Art. Katelyn, from Year 8 at Bremer State High School, has demonstrated qualities of persistence with her willingness and desire to extend her creative capabilities by producing an extensive Body of Work for homework just because she loves the creativity and expression of Visual Art. Katelyn is the prize recipient for Visual Art for her Certificate I in Visual Art. Katelyn as a gifted and talented student has produced an entire exhibition of paintings as extension work. One of the paintings in this exhibition Katelyn designed and painted specially for the Yearbook cover. This painting of two birds taking flight signifies our senior students leaving the educational nest and taking flight into their adulthood and life. This work exhibited in the Art Gallery space in the Visual Art Block demonstrates her love of Visual Art and her attitude of persistence. Katelyn is so enthusiastic about Visual Art that she is completely self-directed and motivated in the work she produces. Her persistence will continue to reap rewards as she heads into the Senior School Visual Art studies.

Visual Art teachers are primed for recognising these qualities in students studying Visual Art in Year 7, 8 and 9. Emily May and Angelique Martin (Year 7), Tahlia Dowling and Kate Armstrong (Year 8) and Misaki Brockman (Year 9) are prize recipients who are already shining in the middle school. These students are already exhibiting a high standard of creative responses to tasks and the art teachers look forward to supporting the progress of these students in future years. As only one or two
prizes are awarded per year level many students who deserve recognition for their talent, creativity and persistence miss out on this however the art teachers are fully aware of the talent we have in every class and work hard to encourage and support these students to further develop their ability. The team of Visual Art teachers including Dr Barnett, Mr Pedroni, Ms Bopp and Mrs Evans perpetuate successful outcomes in the senior school by recognising, mentoring and developing creative talent and persistence from as early as Year 7 and the outcomes can be exemplified by our current Year 12 students particularly Erin Blyth.

Erin’s Body of Work “Stolen” exhibited in the Creative Generation Metropolitan Region Exhibition held at Ipswich Regional Gallery. Erin studies two Visual Art subjects and since Year 8 has responded to the curriculum with very high levels of problem-solving and innovation. She has developed technical expertise with her enthusiastic approach to creating art objects with diverse media. She also responds to concepts like the one for her work ‘Stolen.’ In Erin’s words; ‘My artwork represents the cultural injustice of the Stolen Generation and its effects upon indigenous families. I have deconstructed some stories of the Stolen Generations and this provides an insight into the loss of culture, identity and land. The colour purple of the Hibiscus flower signifies healing and is emblematic of the Stolen Generations. The painting on the front of the dress signifies the land, various ‘Mobs’ and individuals affected. The embellishments of the blue resin and wire beads represent tears or rain which signifies the washing away of culture and identity. This issue is a national concern.’ Students in Visual Arts at Bremer State High School learn to create innovative responses to concepts to express their personal ideas. Our students also have the opportunity to attain qualifications in Visual Art while studying Visual Art in years 10, 11 and 12 and this is a distinct advantage for our graduates.

One graduating student who persisted to attain her first academic qualifications with Certificates I and II in Visual Art is Kaeani Hendriks. This qualification is a stepping stone to University study and further qualifications which give Kaeani a head start in further studies or on the job front as she finishes her secondary schooling with recognisable qualifications. Kaeani is currently finalising her last folios of art and design studies through Bremer State High School’s Certificate II in Visual Arts programme. A culmination of five years of study have seen Kaeani develop from fundamental design explorations in junior school to extending, researching and developing industry standard skills in commercial arts, craft, design and fine art. Her consistent commitment to producing work of the highest standard and collaborating with peers and staff are living evidence of a truly transforming culture of the Bremer Visual Art Department.

2014 now draws to a close and we prepare to farewell another Year 12 cohort. Our current 2014 graduates will stand as our last connection to the “old” Bremer. While we prepare to say goodbye and formally close another year, we reflect on the successes of this special graduating cohort. Bremer art has definitely had its share of successes since its relocation. New buildings and facilities, exciting specialist staff members and current and connected programmes are just few evidences of the transforming culture here at Bremer State High. Departmental successes have seen our students branching further and deeper into media and creative explorations like never before. A culture of excellence is fast developing through persistence and creativity, collaboration and positive student/ teacher partnerships. To add to this culture of excellence we appreciate the support of the Deputy Principals (particularly Mrs Heironimus and Mr Goodger) for leading innovation in our department by approving the addition of a new Fashion Design subject which we are implementing in 2015 for our Year 11 cohort. We close the 2014 year celebrating our successes and look forward very much to 2015 and new directions our new Principal Mr Richard Morrison will lead us in.

Ms Bopp and Mr Pedroni

Home Economics

During the year the Home Economics staff highlighted the interpersonal skills students studying Home Economics develop throughout the duration of their course. These skills help guide our youth to successful relationships with in the community as they seek employment and connect with in a variety of social groups. While you are discussing subject choices with your child or children consider the skills for life your child gains through studying Home Economics.

REMININDERS ......

• Students and their families are reminded the kitchens are open from 8.30am to 8.40am for ingredients to be left for their lessons. Teachers are not available to let students in after this time due to commitments such as taking form class which is followed by lesson one classes.

• Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students will be commencing their café and restaurant assessments over the next three weeks. Year 11 students are required to submit their written component one week after the completion of their café task.

• All students in the Home Economics department will be commencing their exams in week 7 of term four; we would all of our students to start revising their notes in preparation for their upcoming assessment.
SNAPSHOT......

We have included a couple of images of food prepared by the Year 11 Hospitality students. Both Year 11 classes have been working on and consolidating ideas for their upcoming café lunch for staff.

All food and beverages are prepared and served at the Boulevard Café.

The Year 12 classes will work together throughout the day in preparation for their restaurant on the evening of the 12th November. This annual restaurant is a showcase of the skills our Year 12 students have developed through the course of their studies. It also raises awareness for the Pyjama Foundation, a local charity whose pyjama angels work with foster children through reading books and playing games. Guests on the evening can make a donation to help the charity through donations of books or games. If you would like to make a donation but are not involved in this event, books and games can be left at the front office or delivered to one of the Home Economics teachers. The three events will be held a week apart, allowing the staff to experience an alternate dining experience and celebrate the successes of the students.

"Home Economics......Everyday skills for everyday life."

Sports Awards

A year to remember for sport at Bremer SHS winning the CISSSA competition and taking out Champion School for 2014. Bremer will be welcoming a full cohort of Year 7’s next year and will be looking to build on this year’s success and strengthening the sporting culture within the Bremer community.

The 2014 Sports People of the Year:

Senior Sports Woman and Senior Sportsman—Timothy Paret-Delbridge
Junior Sports Woman—Caleisha Harper and Junior Sportsman—Zach Grose

SEU Formal

The first SEU Formal was held 13 October 2014. After 5 years of trying to get students to attend the main formals we decided to try our own combining both Year 11 and 12 into one formal.

It was a fantastic night enjoyed by all.

I would like to thank the staff in the SEU for all their hard work organising the event and for making the evening magical for the students, for painting nails, doing hair, buying formal dresses, shoes, ties, suits etc. The students looked stunning, you are awesome!!!

I would also like to thank the GO’s, Helen and Bec, also Richard and Allison for attending the evening and helping to make the students feel very important.

Date Claimers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 November</td>
<td>Year 8 HPE Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 November</td>
<td>Year 12 return textbooks to Bremer Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 November</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 9:00am to 1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 November</td>
<td>Formal</td>
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### V.E.T news

School-Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships continue to be a fantastic option for Senior School students not working towards an OP. We recently celebrated Joshua Curson for being named Metropolitan Region’s School based Trainee of the Year. While Joshua was not successful at the subsequent Queensland Training Awards, it did highlight the success that can be achieved in these pathways. Currently our students are out in the workforce earning qualifications in areas such as Hairdressing, Hospitality, Children’s Services, Business Administration, Engineering Fabrication and Electro technology. Job vacancies are regularly advertised to students through their school emails, but we are also able to assist families set up a traineeship is they establish their own employment contact.

As we near the end of the school year, many students are beginning to look for fulltime employment opportunities. A great source for vacancies in the Apprenticeship Central website (see link below). It is advised that students have an up to date resume ready as well as a cover letter if they are interested in applying for a position.


Any questions regarding Vocational Training can be directed to Ben Ward – bward11@eq.edu.au

### Bremer Resources

#### Returns for 2014

All textbooks, blazers and athletic singlets (laundered) are to be returned to the Student Resource Room (N1) by the following dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>21 November</td>
<td>Year 12 finish</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Years 11 &amp; 10 return textbooks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>to Bremer Resources</td>
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<td>26 November</td>
<td>Semi-Formal</td>
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<td>Red Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 November</td>
<td>Year 11 and 10 finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 December</td>
<td>Years 7, 8 &amp; 9 return textbooks</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to Bremer Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 December</td>
<td>Deans Day Years 7,8,9</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Orientation Day 7–8</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 December</td>
<td>Term 4 Ends</td>
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Uniform Blazers issued to School Captains and Leaders are to be dry-cleaned before returning to the Student Resource Room (with dry-cleaning tag attached).

### General Rules and Conditions

- Students are required to return the same item they are issued.
- Students will be issued with Textbooks at the commencement of each year, when their previous books have been returned.
- Resources issued to the student should be kept in good condition.
- All textbooks and materials provided under the scheme remain the property of the Bremer SHS and must be returned at the end of the year or when a student leaves.

*“Where an item is not returned, the parent/carer will be responsible for payment of the replacement cost of the item.”*

- Items negligently damaged or lost will have replacement costs incurred.

### Chaplaincy

With the end of Term 3 behind us, I look forward to the exciting possibilities of this coming term. As the weeks flew by, I was kept very busy with support programs, Lifetime, conferences and training. As we approach the end of the year, the school is beginning to prepare for the influx of students of 2015, this also includes chaplaincy. During this time, I will endeavour to continue to provide support to parents, students and staff of Bremer SHS.

### So what does a Chaplain do?

A school Chaplain supports students, parents/caregivers and staff. This happens in numerous ways, from being available for pastoral care to talk to people, working with other support staff, organising programs and activities for students, offering religious instruction and guidance, through to simply building positive relationships and a community spirit. While Chaplaincy at Bremer High operates from Christian principles and values, we are available to everyone regardless of their spiritual beliefs.

### Programs

Last term I had the opportunity to partner with some community groups to provide supportive and relevant programs for students within Bremer SHS. This term my focus was to assist young men in understanding ideals of manhood, healthy relationships and controlling their emotions. As part of these programs, students were taught life skills which could be adapted in everyday life. As part of this focus, I also attended training in the “Rock and Water Program”. This program teaches young students how to control our reactions to bullying, situational pressures and other teenage difficulties. I am looking forward to providing this program to the students.

### Men and Machines Shed Program

In association with Ipswich Connect, Men and Machines Shed Program was introduced to the school. This program provides Year 11-12 boys practical skills in automotive mechanics. The students chosen for the program have been identified as displaying negative behaviour or have a general interest in this career. We had a nine boys attend on a regular basis and
trained by a professional. The boys have really enjoyed the program and have seen improvements in their behaviour according to parents. The students have been working tirelessly on the HK Holden and nearing completion.

**Young Men’s Group**

Chaplaincy partnered with Matthew Pronger from Anglicare to facilitate a Young Men’s Group for Year 9 boys. The program mentored the boys and covered topics which centred on the ideals of being a man and how we can control our emotions. The program had 8 students attend on a regular basis with visible improvements from the students on how they interacted with each other and with the leaders.

**Lifetime Program**

On the 15th August, the Lifetime Program was organised by Central Church and their youth group, 180 Youth. The program is the religious instruction for the school. As Lifetime continues to be organised by local churches, I have seen a huge increase of students wanting to participate in the program. Thank you to Central Church for organising and running this program for Term 3 and the speaker, David Hooper. The program saw 320 students attend. The focus of the talk was on ‘Respect’, keeping with the values of the school.

**40 Hour Famine**

Last term, fundraising for the 40 Hour Famine saw 60 students participate for a worthy cause. The school has managed to raise $1300 for those suffering poverty in Africa. Most students gave up something important to them, food being one of them, for 40 hours. It was a blessing to see students rally behind such a worthy cause.

Bremer SHS has seen a massive growth over the past few years and this will continue due to the professionalism and standards the staff displays and the opportunities the students have to reach their potential. For 2014 I wish to increase my employment from 4 days a week to 5 days. For this to happen I need the support of the community to help raise this money. If you wish to help there are a few ways you can support this support network. If you have a mobile plan through Network Communications (Optus), you can support Chaplaincy by asking to donate part of your monthly payments to Bremer SHS. This comes to no extra cost to you. You can also donate monthly which is tax deductible. For more information please visit www.suqld.org.au. If you wish to donate monthly please place Bremer SHS as the school.

I would lastly like to thank everyone who has shown support for myself personally and for the Chaplaincy service. If you would like more information about Chaplaincy at Bremer State High School, please contact me on 3810 9333 or email me on ahess21@eq.edu.au (Mon-Wed & Fri)

**Adam Hess**  
Chaplain

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**From the P&C**

**Canteen**

Please remember that the last day for trading this year will be Tuesday 9 December, 2014. If your child is attending the last three days of this term, they will need to bring their own lunch.

**Uniform Shop**

The Uniform Shop will be open on Saturday 15 November from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Laybys are welcomed.

Extra hours: We will be opened Thursday 4th and Friday 5th December from 8:00 to 11:00am.

**2015 Bus Passes and School Bus Services**

Each year, Westside Bus Company (WBC) reviews school services with TransLink. As you will be aware, the 2015 review process was different with respect to the movement of Year 7 to high schools. It was also more objective in that TransLink requested student data from a number of sources including Education Queensland and schools. WBC has planned to cater for changes based on current numbers and forecasted numbers from the data collected and will be closely monitoring student numbers during the first term of 2015.

Final school runs will be published on the WBC website at http://www.busqld.com.au once approved by TransLink later this year. If you have any questions regarding the 2015 changes, please contact our Network Officer at paul.carlson@busqld.com.au.

Separately, WBC plan on making small changes to the process of issuing of student bus passes based on feedback from parents last year. The changes for schools to note are:

1. WBC are encouraging parents to submit bus pass applications before school starts to avoid a backlog, being anytime from 5 January 2015.
2. WBC will be printing bus passes before school term starts if the application is received before 20 January 2015. WBC will then distribute these passes to schools on the 27 January 2015 for pickup by students.
3. Any application received after 20 January 2015 may not have a bus pass printed in time for the first week of school, however note that WBC will have a grace period on school passes for the months of January and February 2015.

**Alcohol supply: no minor offence**

As end of year celebrations approach, parents and guardians are reminded that the supply of alcohol to anyone under 18 for unsupervised consumption in a private place is an offence. It carries a fine of up to $9108. For more information visit http://www.qld.gov.au/families/education/pages/drug.html
ADC CENT SALE

Amberley D Communities are holding a Cent Sale Friday November 8th. So what is a Cent Sale? A cent sale is a huge raffle where you come along and view items, selecting the items you would like to win by placing tickets in the corresponding boxes for those prizes. Winners are drawn once everyone has placed tickets in the boxes. A page of 20 tickets is just $1 (so for $20 you can have a lot of fun?)! You can choose to put all the tickets on one item or pick multiple items. With over 300+ prizes from VIP Passes to WB Movie World, Wet and Wild, and Seaworld; Vouchers to everything from the Good Guys to Day Spas; as well as items from Jewellery to Soft Toys the sale has something for everyone. A great fun way to spend a night with friends! Why not organise a table and remember there is face painting for the little ones and food will also be available, although you are most welcome to BYO a picnic. Bookings available now – see the flyer below!

Ipswich Hospital Open Day

The Open Day is an opportunity to showcase Ipswich Hospital’s exciting future as part of West Moreton Hospital and Health Service. We have a state-of-the-art new facility and a new Health Service Plan specifically prepared for the West Moreton catchment to guide our service delivery in the years ahead. We also have five Community Reference Groups across West Moreton Hospital and Health Service and the overarching Community Advisory Council formed to ensure a community voice in the provision and planning of health services.

The Open Day is being planned in collaboration with the Ipswich Hospital Foundation. The event, to be held from 9am – 1pm will include tours of the hospital facilities, as well as interactive displays and activities supporting key health messages.