3 February 2015

Principal’s Report

Welcome back for the 2015 school year at Bremer State High School. A special welcome to the parents and caregivers of our new 2015 Year 7 and Year 8 students. We welcome you to our community.

It’s great to be back. We are full of energy and ready for action in 2015.

The following staff have joined us or returned to Bremer State High School for 2015:

• Jashu Vekariya - Guidance Officer
• Edmee Le Roy - English/SOSE
• Emily Prenzler - English/SOSE
• Anna Milne - Health & Physical Education
• Neil Fearon - Manual Arts
• Kellie Nicholson - Maths/Science
• Samantha Brown - Maths/Science

Our Focus in 2015:

As I indicated at the very end of 2014, this year at Bremer State High School is all about these three things:

• Literacy
• Numeracy
• Refreshing our expectations of students

We are adopting an unrelenting focus on the improvement of our students’ capacity and results in Literacy and Numeracy. Initially our work will focus on Year 7, 8 and 9 students, but we will also in time, transition this focus into the upper year levels.

Our goal is that “in the future, every Bremer State High School student who graduates from this school at the end of Year 12 will be both literate and numerate”.

This is critical to their lives, their prosperity and their future. It is also critical for the future of our state and nation. Watch out for information about our Literacy, Numeracy focus in future newsletters.

Raising the bar of expectations in 2015

The entire staff have been talking to students about our expectations of them in 2015. In short, we want everyone at our school to be safe, happy and learning this year. Therefore we need students to:

• Follow teacher instructions
• Not cause harm to others
• Use appropriate language
• Allow learning

This is not rocket science, is it? We just need every Bremer State High School student doing what the majority of Bremer State High School students do every day.

We also are continuing our focus with students on uniform, attendance and being in class on time.

Well done Year 12, 2014

We received very positive news about the achievements of our Year 12 students in 2014. In fact the data is the best in the school’s history:

• OP 1 to 15 – 70% of students
• Queensland Certificate of Education – 97% of students
• VET : 95% of the 2014 Year 12 Cohort received a VET certificate; 81% received a Certificate II or higher; 46 students received a Certificate III or higher

My congratulations to the Year 12’s and of course the Bremer State High School teaching and support staff who support our students in these achievements. Nice job!

Boom in enrolments

Business is certainly booming at Bremer State High School in 2015. We have been flooded with enrolment requests from families who live outside our catchment area. This school is clearly a high demand location in our area.
This is a strong affirmation of our approach, our staff and our current students and how they represent all of us in the community.

Richard Morrison
Principal

School Photo Day is fast approaching.

Have your child’s school memories captured forever on Wednesday, 11th February 2015.

Read all relevant instructions for your preferred payment method. **All payments are due on photo day.**

- You may pay by cash, or place your order online using your child’s individual ‘shootkey’ listed on their envelope and pay with your credit card.
- Please enclose correct money as no change will be given.
- Do not seal envelopes inside each other. You may include payment for all children in one envelope, however please indicate on this envelope the names of all the children you are paying for.
- All students should wear their formal school uniform.
- Students appearing in any Extra Curricular Group Photos will be notified on how to order these, via a personalised letter, issued along with their school photos.

**For any enquiries, please feel free to contact**
MSP Photography
p 07 3848 3946

2015 School Immunisation Program

The program for 2015 will provide vaccinations to:

Year 8 students – all students
- HPV (3 doses)
- Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (Boostrix) 1st round only
- Chickenpox – (2nd round only)

Year 10 students – all students
- **Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (Boostrix) 1st round only**

1st Visit:

Wednesday 18th March 2015 – 9am
Year 8 Students – HPV 1st dose and Boostrix (all students)
Year 10 Students – Boostrix (all students)

2nd Visit:

Wednesday 20th May 2015 - 9am
Year 8 Students – HPV 2nd dose (all students) and Chickenpox

3rd Visit:

Wednesday 14th October 2015 – 9am
Year 8 Students – HPV 3rd dose (all students)

An officer from Ipswich City Council’s Immunisation Services Team will **collect completed consent forms on 2nd March, 2015.**

From your School Based Youth Health Nurse-Trink

My name is Trink and I am the School Based Youth Health Nurse (SBYHN) for Bremer State High School. My role is to promote health and wellbeing within the school community by working with students, school staff and parents. I also help in connecting people to other support services. This is because at times other services can provide more appropriate or further support.

I provide information on issues that affect young people including:

- Healthy eating and physical activity
- Feeling unhappy or stressed
- Relationships
- Personal and family problems
- Growth and development
- Sexual health and contraception
- Smoking, alcohol and other drugs.

My role does not provide medical treatment or ongoing counselling.

The SBYHN service is both voluntary and confidential; the information is not shared unless permission is given. As a health service provider I respect this, however, there are some things which I must refer or act upon. Please discuss what can be expected about confidentiality with me at the time of our visit. In most cases it is best for young people to talk to their parents or guardians about health and wellbeing issues and a large part of my role is to support students to do this. I am at the school on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the Administration block and offer a drop in service during breaks or see the staff at the student office to organise an appointment.
Bremer Sport Houses

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FINANCE NEWS

A reminder that the Student Resource Scheme Form for 2015 (cream) is to be completed and returned for all students. If you require another copy students can collect one from the general office, finance window or resource room.

The initial payment of $100 to participate in the Student Resource Scheme is due.

Subject Area fees which relate to Year 11/12 students are also due and must be paid to allow the student to continue within those specialised subjects.

Those parents who indicated on the Student Resource Scheme Form to pay by Term Instalments and completed their Credit/Debit Card details, these will be processed during Week 2 of each term as agreed.

Please note the school will no longer be selling the basic $20 Scientific Calculator mentioned in the prospectus due to limited interest in previous years. The Maths Department doesn’t specify any particular model to purchase but from past experience the Casio FX-82AU PLUS II (available locally) is universally approved by educational authorities.

Bremer Resources

Textbooks for 2015 will not be issued to students with outstanding textbooks from 2014. Any student with outstanding textbooks from previous years should return these to the Resource Room (N1). Paragraphs 31 and 32 of Participation Agreement Form:

31. All textbooks and resources provided for temporary use by the scheme remain the property of the scheme and shall be returned at the end of the course or school year or when the student leaves the school, whichever is the earlier. Where an item is not returned, the parent/carer will be responsible for payment to the scheme of the replacement cost of the item. Failure to make payment may result in debt recovery action being undertaken.

32. Textbooks and other resources provided for temporary student use by the scheme shall be kept in good condition by the student. The school Administration Office shall be notified immediately of the loss or negligent damage to any issued item. Where an issued item is lost or negligently damaged, parents/carers will be responsible for payment to the scheme of the replacement cost of the item. Failure to make payment may result in debt recovery action being undertaken.

Eligible Year 12 Students will be able to collect textbooks from Week 2 times will be published in Student Notices.

Parents when your child collects their textbooks, please ensure that their name is written in the space provided (inside the front or back cover). The following terms should be used in recording the condition of the book: NEW; GOOD; FAIR; POOR.

Team Uniforms

Many of the Bremer sporting team uniforms and athletic singlets are missing. If your child has one of these at home please return to the Student Resource Room asap.

Smoking banned 5 metres around school grounds.

Smoking any tobacco products or using an electronic cigarette within five metres of any state or private school grounds has been banned. This applies before, during or after school hours as well as over weekends and school holidays.
On the spot fines can be issued by environmental health officers, police or other officers authorised by the local government to anyone found in breach of this legislation. The ban does not extend to businesses or residences that share a property boundary with a school.

Smokers are asked to put out your cigarette and dispose of the litter thoughtfully well before you reach the school boundary.

**Australia Day Nomination**

This year, our Indigenous Dance Troupe was nominated for an Australia Day Award – Cultural category. Despite not winning the category, our students proudly represented the Troupe and Bremer State High School at the ceremony. Our congratulations to all the dancers, teachers and support staff for the nomination. Well done!

**Community Notices**

**Ipswich Hockey**

Ipswich Hockey are hosting a Come and Try day on Sunday 8th February (4-7pm) and would love to get the message out far and wide about what a great sport hockey is for all ages.

Hockey is an all-inclusive sport and we are able to tailor programs to suit children of all ages and for those who may have special needs.