



25 March 2014

Principals Report

Members of Bremer State High School community,

Unfortunately Mr Michael Knox has taken ill and will be unable to return to Bremer SHS. I have been asked to be the Principal at Bremer SHS until such time as Mr Saxby's retirement becomes effective, something that gives me immense pride to be at the flagship school in Ipswich.

In the thirteen days I have been at Bremer SHS, I have been impressed by many things. Let me share with you the things I have seen ...

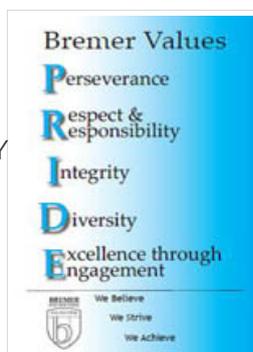
The students are great! I have had the opportunity to speak with many during our breaks or visiting their lessons. They are courteous, welcoming, engaged in their learning and immensely proud of their school. I've watched with admiration how the student leaders run parades and speak about agendas and priorities for their fellow students as well as outlining the variety of events that they offer for other students. I'm impressed by the way students look after other students.

Of course, student behaviours are influenced by parent values and teacher guidance. The staff spend a lot of time working with students to allow them to flourish. They provide a variety of activities and rewards for positive student behaviours and engagement such as Shave for a Cure and Harmony Day. Staff at Bremer SHS go the extra mile to ensure that the environment in this school is safe and supportive and conducive to learning.

The facilities are modern and state-of-the-art. I have been in many schools and Bremer SHS students are extremely fortunate. The staff and students know this and are extremely proud of their school.

This brings me to the school values, Bremer P.R.I.D.E.

- P ERSERVERANCE
- R ESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY
- I NTEGRITY
- D IVERSITY
- E XCELLENCE through ENGAGEMENT



These are the values that we encourage and expect of not only our students, but all members of our community. Students who receive level 1 PRIDE status are eligible to attend DOSAs Day on the last day of term. Please refer to DOSA News for further details about this day.

We have also refocussed on aspects of our uniform policy. This policy has been in effect since the new Bremer SHS site has opened and is part of the conditions of enrolment. Our P & C have assisted in developing this policy. Our attention to jewellery and hair acknowledges that some students may be non-compliant and unaware and to this end we are re-educating them about the policy and provided students and parents with the rest of this term and the Easter vacation to address this ready for the start of Term 2. Should you wish to clarify this further, please contact your child's form teacher, year co-ordinator or DOSA.

With PRIDE,

Mr Paul Robertson
Principal

Deputy Principal's Desk

Assessment

As we approach the end of term students will be completing assignments and exams. These important assessment items will give students and parents feedback on how well students are progressing through their subject areas and will allow teachers to make judgements around how best to support further development of knowledge, skills and higher order thinking strategies.

Reporting

Term reports will be distributed after the Easter holiday and Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held on Tuesday May 6 from 3:10 pm to 7:30 pm. Information will be available with the reports on how to make appointments for interviews.

Uniform

As we approach the end of term one, students are being reminded of the school uniform requirements. We have been focussing on hair, make-up and jewellery. We have been giving students opportunities to address these issues in preparation for the commencement of term 2.

Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

There has been a confirmed case of Whooping Cough (Pertussis) reported in our school. Please see the Queensland Health Fact Sheet below for information about this illness.

Student Leaders Badge Ceremony



Student Council Executive

School Captains	Tyler Daines
	Jessica Donald
Vice Captains	Zane Sloan
	Emily Hunt
Pride Director	Kate Alsop
Social Director	Elizabeth Bais
Sport Director	Jade Kickbusch
Arts Director	Jason Coles
Pride Leadership	Laurynn Harrod
	Farrah Turner
Social Leadership	Alice Jackson
	Jackson Parnell
Sport Leadership	Taylor Moskwa-Hudspith
	Imogen Blacka
Arts Leadership	Sabrina Haines
	Elaine Coomber

Home Economics

Our students have started the year with a great deal of enthusiasm and excitement as they commence their learning experiences in the kitchens. At this time the Home Economics staff would like to take the opportunity to reinforce some of the procedures that are vital for the efficient running of the department and the students achieving success in their cooking.

- Utensils list must be completed for homework.
- Tea towels are to be brought from home for students in Years 8 – 10.
- Ingredients are to be placed in the kitchens promptly between 8.30 – 8.40am. Staff will not be available after this time due to other school commitments.
- Food prepared in class is to be collected at 2.50pm due to food health & safety.

- Finally our aim is to have all students achieving success, the most successful way to do this is to ensure you child participates in practical classes for all scheduled sessions. This way the students are better prepared for their practical assessments. If you know ahead your child is unable to participate please contact the school as early as possible so alternate arrangements may be made.

We appreciate your support in assisting the students on their learning journey.

UPDATES.....

Congratulations to a small number of Senior Hospitality students who assisted Mrs Ace and Mrs Campbell in preparing morning tea and lunch for 33 staff from various schools around the district. Feedback from staff attending the morning tea and lunch was positive and we see this as an extremely important opportunity for the Senior Hospitality students improve their skills and advance their knowledge. This was a great learning experience for the students as they prepare for their upcoming assessment of serving one hundred staff at parent teacher evening.



Shining Star Award

February

Congratulations to the following students for demonstrating Leadership.

Junior

- 7 Kiara Jones
- 8 Misayo Baker
- 9 Jyasi Stanley
- 10 Eloise Warwick

Honourable Mention

- 8 Hayley Whittaker

Senior

- 11 Clint Franke
- 12 Felicity Dor

Honourable Mention

- 11 Alyssa Worcester
- 12 Chloe Muller

The focus area for April - May is 'TEAMWORK'.
"Home Economics.....
Everyday skills for everyday life."

Rugby League Program

Bremer State High's Rugby League Development Program has been a success this year kicking it off with the Manager of the University of Queensland, Ipswich Campus, Dr Tony Sadler, the QT and a reporter from the ABC coming to the grand opening of the Rugby League program's gym. With UQ having donated to the gym, Dr Tony Sadler is happy to see the funds being so well spent. The morning tea worked a charm and was quite an enjoyable occasion for all.

With the excitement level still on a high, five professional rugby league players, including Paul Rokolati from the Sydney Roosters, ran a training session with the team, who loved every minute of it. The players even promised to come back and run some more sessions. At the end of the day the Bremer State High School Rugby League program was not only to improve the team's rugby skills but also to create better people entering the world.

Have a look at our article in the Queensland Times.

<http://www.qt.com.au/news/uni-campus-provides-financial-muscle-for-school-gy/2187038/>

Zane Kurtz and Samoi Kinsella



Shave for A CURE at Bremer SHS

The Social Committee had the privilege of hosting Bremer's 'World's Greatest Shave' for Term 1. The event created a vibrant and exciting culture and atmosphere throughout each year level ready for the year to come. There were an outstanding number of students who supported the cause by colouring their hair and an extraordinary 8 students who were brave enough to shave their head.

This year, the school fundraised nearly double of what they did in 2013, a HUGE \$1668.45! The Social Committee is so thankful for all supporters and donations. The top four fundraisers were: Karlee O'Halloran in Year 10 who raised an amazing \$540; Jarrod Hoffman in Year 11 raised \$443; Kaylah Dixon and Ashleigh-Rose Green in Year 7 raised \$167, and Angelique Year 7 and Elle Martin in Year 9 raised over \$90. These fundraisers did an incredible job! All together the day was a success leaving watchers with smiles on their face, participants with coloured hair or no hair at all and the Social Leaders with hair spray stained hand. Thank you to all who supported!

Social Director



Library News

We have begun the year with many students using the library. It's great to see so many new students coming into the library and borrowing books. Library staff have been particularly pleased with the number of Year 8 students who are borrowing books. Our graphic novels are once again very popular.

During lunch breaks, students are welcome to come into the library to look at books or magazines. We also have jigsaw puzzles for students to solve. The computer rooms are available from Monday to Friday for students to do their own research, check school emails, use paint or play the games available on ABC3 or Brainpop. Students cannot play other games.

We have had approximately one hundred students take the **Bremer Reading Challenge** information sheets, so that is very promising. For those not aware of this challenge, here is how it works:

Students in Year 7 have to read at least 10 books between 1st March and 31st October, 2014. The books must include one from four of the listed categories and then free choice of books more than 150 pages. This may include one only from Graphic Fiction.

Students in Years 8 and 9 have to read at least 12 books between 1st March and 31st October, 2014. There must be at least one from four of the listed categories, then free choice of books more than 200 pages. This may include one only from Graphic Fiction.

Prizes: Any students who achieve the above goals will be eligible for a prize up to \$20 in value. The two students from each year level who read the most books will be eligible for a further prize of a free book.

Students need to show a good knowledge of each book by keeping a log in which they write 100 words on each book they read, and these entries must reflect particular knowledge about the books. Students can obtain a log book from library staff, and their information sheet has ideas for writing.



Bremer Students Enrolled at University.

Two of our Year 12 students are already experiencing university life. They are enjoying the challenge.

Studying a University course as well as completing Year 12 can be challenging. Mainly it means taking time out of our already hectic lives to do a little extra homework and to read a few extra

pages of a pre-lecture reading. However, personally we have found it extremely beneficial. The course itself, Fundamentals of Writing, teaches us about writing, punctuation, and basically how to improve our overall communication. For Kate it was to help improve her formal writing, such as, essays and reports. For me it was more learning how to help the reader understand my creative writing. The class is very small consisting of a total of five students including Kate and I. We have already found, even after only a few weeks of the course, our writing has greatly improved. We are very appreciative of the opportunity UQ and Bremer have given us to improve in this way.

By Zoe Russell and Kate Alsop

Chaplaincy

The end of term one is almost over and this term has gone very quickly. Since the beginning of this year I have begun to prepare for programs and regularly meeting with the support staff on a weekly basis to collectively plan the best way to support the students of Bremer SHS. This has greatly helped me to assist Bremer SHS in the areas most needed and for support staff to provide input into the programs which I am associated with. 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.

RI & Lifetime

For the first time this year, the religious instruction for Bremer State High School began. The program is called Lifetime and has been a huge part of Bremer. Students from all grades attend this program with the intent of hearing more about Christianity in an informative, relevant and inactive way during class time. Lifetime was organised by a local church, Centro Church. Blake Young spoke and performed some of his own original Hip Hop songs. Blake also invited students to participate in the program and even had one student share their own dance moves to the crowd. Blake also spoke to the 250 students who attended and incorporated one of the schools values, perseverance into his story. All students who have given feedback of the program said they enjoyed the program and look forward to the next Lifetime.

Programs

This term I have assisted the Youth Support Coordinator, Guidance Officer and Aeron Jones in a boy's resilience program for Year 8 and 9 boys. This program is aimed to assist these young boys in achieving personal goals and to help support these boys in the classrooms. We have seen these boys improve throughout the term and are proud to say that some of them will be graduating from the program very shortly. This is a

massive step for these boys and I look forward to seeing them excel in the school community.

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 to 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. Another way that won't add anymore cost to you is placing your CTP Insurance with QBE. You can do this by visiting www.partnerprogram.com.au and stating you wish to support Bremer SHS. 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

Student Resource Scheme

All eligible students should have collected their textbooks from the Resource Room (N1), if not they may do so at Major Break.

Rules & Conditions

Students are required to:

- Write their name, class, year of issue and condition inside each text book.
- Students are required to return the same book they are issued.
- Students are not to lend their books to other students. Parents will be charged if the books are not returned or damaged.
- Books issued to the students are to be kept in a good condition. Books damaged or lost will have replacement costs incurred. (Paragraph 31, Participation Agreement Form).
- Students are not to vandalise their books by writing on them. They are to use "Post Its" for making notes. No graffiti and no circling around numbers.
- The Resource Room should be immediately notified of the loss of any textbook.
- All textbooks provided under the scheme remain the property of the scheme and must be returned to the Resource Room when a student leaves or at the end of the school year.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Interviews will be held on Tuesday, 6 May, between 3:10 and 7:30pm. The Defence Transition Mentor, Belinda Grey-McCreath, will be available for interviews with families currently serving in the Australian Defence Forces.

There are three options to book an interview:

1. Book School Interviews Online:
www.schoolinterviews.com.au
2. Book Interviews by Telephone if you do not have internet access.
3. If you are unable to book online or by telephone complete the form on the letter with the report and return to the Student Resource Room (N1).

These sessions are limited to 10 minutes per teacher.

Bookings open Tuesday 29 April at 9:00am and close on Monday, 5 May at 1:00 pm.

Detailed information, including Event Code, will be included with your child's report.

Accessing Science Resources

Community Notices

The Base Youth Agency

Free Information Night for Parents: "Drugs your Teen and their friends".

Singing and Music Lessons

Volunteer Host Families

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange is once again seeking volunteer host families to host international exchange students arriving in July 2014 for a stay of one term, one or two semesters.

LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF !

As Abraham Lincoln said "The best way to predict the future is to create it"

Volunteer to host an international high school student in February 2014 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Help determine the future resilience, diversity and global awareness of your children and family.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July 2014 for one term, one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Spain. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au , email scceast@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.