FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Ours is such a busy school. In an average week such as the one just finished the following occurred:

- The Core Business of the school always takes precedence and classrooms are orderly and brimming with teaching and learning. Students are well on the way to completing their Learning Plans with mid-semester assessment just a couple of weeks away.
- Two Strive is to Shine Program Kedron teams competed in Lego League Robotics in Sydney. One team goes on to represent Australia in July.
- Year 8 Meet and Greet and Welcome Dance organised by the Prefects was a very pleasant evening.
- About 30 Year 10 students attended the Science and Technology Challenge at the University of Queensland.
- Chelsea Vincent was selected for the Met North Softball team and 24 Kedron students attended the Met North Swimming carnival.
- After-school recreational sport was played from Tuesday to Friday and our students played Round 2 of both Junior and Senior Inter-school sport.
- Our debating teams met to prepare for the QDU 1st round next week.
- Our Chess players met for friendly competition.
- Music ensemble practice was held every morning or afternoon for student musicians.
- The Student Council organised a Clean Up Australia Day project.
- Students brought in pencil cases and fillers for our Bundaberg North SS Appeal.
- Qld Rail representative addressed the school on rail safety.
- We had a lockdown practice.
- School photos were taken.

All of that (and more) occurred in one of the quieter weeks in our calendar.

Ours is a thriving, dynamite community and all who contribute to the pulse of Kedron life are to be commended.

Mrs Jenny Hall for Myron McCormick

ASSIGNMENT & ASSESSMENT CALENDARS

Students have now been issued with a paper copy of their year level Semester One Assignment & Assessment Calendars. The school’s ASSIGNMENT & ASSESSMENT POLICY including procedures for assignment extensions is also attached to the calendar. Please take the time to read over this document with your child so you are both aware of their commitments and can assist them in planning their study.

Spare paper copies are available from the Middle School office (Years 8 & 9) and the Senior School office (Years 10 - 12). A copy of the Assignment & Assessment Policy & year level Calendars have also been emailed to each student and to parents.

MID-SEMESTER REPORTS & PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Important Dates for Term 2:

- Mid-Semester Reports issued in form class on Thursday 18 April, 2013 (First week of Term 2).
- Parent/Teacher Interviews – 3.00-7.00pm Thursday 02 May 2013. Booking information will be issued to students with their school reports.

YEAR 8 NEWS

It was great to meet so many new people at the ‘Meet and Greet’. It was a valuable opportunity parents and teachers to meet. The Year 8 dance was a great success with all students getting involved and having a great time. A big thank you to the Prefects and Mr Burton and his Sound and Lighting crew for their work in making these happen. A special thanks also to Mr Smith, the father of one of our School Captains, Declan, who did an amazing job as DJ on the night.

The Year 8 camp will be on the first week of Term 2 from Monday 15th to Wednesday 17th of April. The camp will be held at Maranatha near Yandina which is inland of the Sunshine Coast and has excellent facilities. This is an excellent opportunity for the Year 8’s to broaden their experiences and meet new people and. The culmination of the camp is the selection of Year 8 student leaders so the camp offers an opportunity to develop and demonstrate their leadership skills. If you have not already received a permission letter for the Year 8 Camp please ask your child to see the Middle School Office.

If you have any questions, concerns or just want to touch base please feel free to contact me on mcros95@eq.edu.au or 3630 3362. Mr M. Crosby
QUT ACCOUNTING FORUM
On 15 February, the Year 12 Accounting students and Mrs Maguire went to the QUT Accounting Forum at Gardens Point Campus. There were over 750 students from schools as far away as Bundaberg, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast and Toowoomba to name but a few. It was fun and exciting to attend Uni lectures and mingle with many “INTELLIGENT” students. I could feel their passion!
I chose accounting to be my career pathway, because I love working with numbers, solving puzzles and working in teams. We heard various guest speakers from the Accounting profession and they focused on exciting career opportunities in Australia and overseas and the support networks of the Accounting bodies (ICAA and CPA) and the big accounting firms. We also discussed Electronic Business, Decision Making Using Accounting and Investing in Cash, Shares and Property.
I got to know some students from other schools and made a few new friends. The professors and accountants were very insightful. We completed quizzes and there were lucky door prizes after each lecture.
The last lecture (Investing) was probably the one I loved the most because I won an IPOD TOUCH!! Going to the Forum was one of the best investments I’ve made this year. Other Kedron students won iTunes cards and calculators. We had a great day. I hope you have a good day. 😊 Jenny Fang

EASTER EGG DRIVE
Last year INTERACT, through the Kedron Community, collected enough Easter eggs to give the residents of Clifford House, Ronald MacDonald House and the Royal Children’s Hospital Foundation. This year we’d like to do it again!
Until 20 March, we are collecting smallish eggs and then, at our next meeting, on 21 March, we’ll be wrapping them ready for our trip to Clifford House on 28 March where, as well as delivering the eggs, we will once again be competing for the honour of winning the yearly bocce competition that has so far eluded us.
Please send donations to Mr Thwaites in LA staffroom
Mr Thwaites

LANGUAGES NEWS
A Taste of University Activities
During May, Year 11/12 students are invited to participate in A Taste of University Chinese and Japanese at the School of Languages and Comparative Studies. The program comprises an information session on undergraduate studies and how students can continue and further their language study at the university. Students will participate in a session in the specific language conducted by university staff, followed by afternoon tea.

For further information or to register to attend, please see your language teacher.

Chinese Yumcha Excursion
On Friday 15 February, Year 9 Chinese language students, who have been studying Chinese food this term, were given the opportunity to taste what they had been learning about in the curriculum. Students visited China town to practice their language in the real-life context of ordering Yumcha. Students’ functional Chinese language was well practiced that day as they indulged in an authentic all-you-can-eat dim sum experience. Well done!

Chinese Cultural Morning
Teachers from the Confucius Institute QUT visited Kedron State High on Monday 18 February to provide students with a unique opportunity to experience traditional Chinese culture. Students participated in a number of activities, including taichi, gongfu, dance and Chinese knot tying. Delicious Chinese lunchboxes also provided a welcome change from the monotony of vegemite sandwiches. A great day was had by all.

BIENNIAL SNOW TRIP CANBERRA– PERISHER/SMIGGINS FOR YEARS 10-12
An extra place has opened on the Ekka Week Snow Trip – 10-16 August. Cost is approx. $1600 + spending money and includes return flights, tour of Canberra, on-snow accommodation including breakfasts and dinners, 6 days on snow, ski lessons, gear and equipment and a night ski. Please contact Miss Fairley ASAP to pick up a form and pay your deposit. First in, secures the spot. To enquire, please contact me on: jfair4@eq.edu.au or call 3630-3317.
Miss Fairley
SPORTS NEWS

AFTER SCHOOL SPORT

A reminder that many sports are taking place after school. These sessions are games where the emphasis is on fun and participation. They are completely free and involve just turning up and playing. They are supervised by staff and run from 3pm to 4pm. We encourage as many boys and girls to come down and try these sports as a fun way of staying in shape. All sports are for both male and female students.

Tuesday
- Touch and Netball

Wednesday
- Futsal (indoor soccer) Years 10-12

Thursday
- Futsal, Years 8 and 9

Friday
- Basketball

Netball in particular needs some more numbers so if you know of any Kedron students who would like to play for fun please encourage them to come down on Tuesday afternoons.

CROSS COUNTRY JUST AROUND THE CORNER

This is the time for students to start thinking about their training for the next big school carnival, the House Cross Country on the 24th of April (Wednesday, Term 2, Week 2). That is eight weeks away which is more than enough time to get fit and achieve something great in the race. Kedron has a strong tradition in the cross country as we have won the District Cross Country title the last five years. Hopefully we can continue this dominance.

LONGER JUMPER STARTS SEASON WELL

Kedron sportsman Chris Lofaro (Year 12) had a good start to the athletics season with a strong performance at the Queensland Junior Athletics Championships at UQ. A specialist long jumper Chris competed in the Under 18’s category and finished 5th overall, 3rd in his age group of 17 Years Boys. Along the way he also set a Personal Best jump of 6m 27cms.

Chris is hopeful of making the Queensland Schoolsboys team in this, his final year at school. Last year was a disappointing year with Chris being disqualified on all his jumps at district level and missing out on the Met North team. This looks to have started in the right way and we wish Chris all the best of luck.

RUGBY GETS UNDERWAY AT KEDRON

Rugby League and Rugby Union are about to start their respective seasons here at Kedron and we would encourage as many boys as possible to come down and give it a go.

In Rugby League we play in a local Aspley / Broncos Challenge which pits us against local schools on the North side of Brisbane. This year we will have a combined Year 8 and 9 team which will be coached by Year 8 Co-ordinator Mr 1 Crosby. We will also have a Senior team which will be made up of students from Years 10,11 and 12, which will be coach by Mr Blanshard. Games are after school and players will be bussed to and from games.

In Rugby Union the main focus is on 7-a-side rugby which has recently been made an Olympic sport. The Queensland Rugby Union is running an all day 7’s tournament each term, taking place at Redcliffe, Ballymore and here at Kedron throughout the year. We are hoping to enter 3 teams from the school in the Open, Under 16 and Under 14 age categories.

Training for both these sports takes place on Tuesday afternoons. Come down after school to play and join in.

KEDRON SUPERFISH

Congratulations to our Kedron SHS Swim Team that took out second place at the recent Central Districts swimming carnival.

The team finished behind powerhouse Wavell SHS, who won both the boys and the girls division. Kedron placed a very close second in the girls division, while the boys finished third. Undoubtedly the girls saved the day for Kedron with their strong showing. Hopefully next year we can unearth some male swimmers to redress the balance.

Abigail Tanguilig was the best 17 Years Female swimmer on the day, taking out the Age Champion trophy, with almost double the points of her nearest rival from Sandgate SHS. This dominant performance was across all strokes and showed what an excellent athlete she is.

Abigail was ably supported by Emily Rogers (13 Years Females), Tara Seiffert-Smith (14 Years Female), Samantha Perkins (16 Years Female) and Thomas Pena (18 Years Male), who all came second in their respective Age Championships. Well done to these silver medallists.

Other notable performances came from:

- Caitlin Woodgate 7th in the 13 Years category
- Sophie Trumble 5th in the 14 Years category
- Ivy Lavita 4th in the 15 Years category
- Xanya Wilson 4th in the 16 Years category

- Annabel Persson 4th in the 17 Years category
- Tristan Sweeney 9th in the 13 Years category
- Tom Farrell 11th in the 14 Years category
- Audrey Auman 4th in the 15 Years category

- Wesley Berntsen 5th in the 16 Years category
- Bennett Chilton 3rd in the 17 Years category
- Zac Jane 4th in the 18 Years category

- Abigail Tanguilig 17 yrs
- Emily Rogers 13 yrs
- Tara Seiffert-Smith 14yrs
- Samantha Perkins 16 yrs
- Thomas Pena 18 yrs

SWIMMERS OF THE DAY

4 March 2013

- Abigail Tanguilig
- Emily Rogers
- Tara Seiffert-Smith
- Samantha Perkins
- Thomas Pena

Abigail Tanguilig was the best 17 Years Female swimmer on the day, taking out the Age Champion trophy, with almost double the points of her nearest rival from Sandgate SHS. This dominant performance was across all strokes and showed what an excellent athlete she is.
Overall we had over 40 swimmers qualify for the Met North Swimming Carnival, which is an excellent result.

Finally recognition must go to the long hard work organising the swimming team put in by Mrs Ros Crosthwaite. Mrs Crosthwaite is constantly getting paperwork to and from students, checking entry details, making sure students are organised to go and generally mother hening the swimmers. She has done this for many years and is one of the reasons we have such a successful team that participates in all the events. Congratulations again on a great year Mrs Crosthwaite.

Mr Blanshard

**LEGO LEAGUE ROBOTICS**

Following on from last year’s success, Kedron was invited to send two teams to last February’s First Lego League Robotics National competition in Sydney.

There were close to forty teams from across Australia involved in the competition, held at Macquarie University. Teams were required to complete autonomous missions with their robot within 2 ½ minutes. Research and present an Innovative solution to a problem faced by Senior members of the local community, along with teamwork challenges. Our Kedron 1 robotics team was awarded the overall Teamwork award and Kedron 2 placed well overall. The final standings saw Kedron 1 team finish in the top 5 teams, nationwide and as a result have been invited to represent Australia in the Asia Pacific finals to be held in July. Congratulations to all involved.

**LAPTOP AND GENERAL COMPUTER ISSUES**

**Year 9 laptops.**

The department is finalising the purchase of required laptops for the final round of allocations. We will keep you informed of progress as we are notified.

**Internet Usage**

Students are allocated a very generous monthly download limit. In **ALL** cases where this has been exceeded, it is because students have been using their allowance inappropriately. This may include (but is not limited to):

- Playing games
- Downloading/watching music and videos
- Downloading games and other programs
- Having multiple internet screens open (and maybe minimised) that refresh frequently

As a measure to encourage self-control, the principal has determined that any student who exceeds their monthly download will only receive half that quota in the following month.

**Language used in emails**

Remember to use the THINK principle before sending an email. Is what you are typing: True, Helpful, Inspiring, Necessary and Kind? If you cannot answer “Yes” to all these questions, **DO NOT SEND**. This includes the use of inappropriate language and swear words in emails. Some students have been embarrassed to have a visit from me in their class because of an email that came to me because of its language.

**Email quotas**

Student email is used by a variety of staff to help students stay informed. It is therefore **essential** that students manage their email quotas to ensure they do not miss any information. Emails should be:

- Read regularly and deleted if not needed
- **SENT** items should be deleted
- Trash should be emptied regularly

I have found it necessary to do a blanket deletion of **ALL** student emails occasionally. If a student absolutely **MUST** have an email, then it should be copied and pasted to a Word document and saved either on their laptop or their school H: drive.

**Laptops to school EVERY day**

Your student needs to bring their laptop to school **in its case every day**. Any claims that it is never used in class are invalid. The laptop is an essential and daily piece of equipment, much like a pen or calculator. In many cases, students no longer have to carry around as many textbooks, so schoolbags should actually be **lighter** than before. The laptop must be **in its case** at all times, and the case zipped up when not in use. This protects the laptop and provides a much stronger basis for a warranty claim if something happens. Laptops that are not in their case are usually deemed to have the damage described as “careless” rather than “accidental” which can negate the warranty.

**Laptop usage**

The school provides a laptop to each student currently in Years 10, 11 or 12. The laptop is for the use of a specific student and most students pay a fee to enable the laptop to be taken home. The **laptop at all times remains the property of the school**. Students are allowed to “personalise” the laptop through the choice of screen background, certain software loaded etc, but **no stickers or pen marks** are to be used, nor are the school-applied labels to be removed for any reason. Batteries are not to be swapped with other students.

The laptop is at all times to be optimised to enable full participation in the school’s course of instruction. Many students load “dodgy” software : software that emulates other operating systems, many games; registry hacks etc. that hard drives are overloaded. Students are then reluctant to report a malfunctioning laptop to the technicians and so cannot use it to its full potential. **ANY issues with the laptop requires a visit to the technician.** Students should back-up their data regularly to an external device such as a USB stick – **not the school network**.

Don’t forget that laptops should also be **restarted at school** at least once per week. I suggest that laptops are fully shut down on Sunday night and then restarted at school on Monday morning. All updates can then apply to the laptop to keep them running as smoothly as possible.

The laptop can be a really powerful tool, but only if it is **used appropriately**.
MIDDLE SCHOOL REACHES OUT

A recent letter from the Principal outlined our Community Engagement Projects that will be introduced this year.

In it you will have noticed that the Middle School (Years 8 & 9) will be working together under the theme of “Reaching Out”.

In Term 1 we will be asking students to reach out to the people of Bundaberg, who have been so severely affected by the January floods.
In Term 2 we will be having a winter clothing appeal to benefit the homeless and poor of our city.
In Term 3 our focus will be on preparing First Aid Care packages for places in need, through the Red Cross
In Term 4 we will be supporting the excellent work of Interact in preparing Shoebox Surprises that will be sent to New Guinea. Our students will have an opportunity to make toys to be included in the gift packages.

Term 1 – Reaching Out To The People Of Bundaberg.

We emailed Bundaberg SS to ascertain the school’s need for assistance and offered a suggestion which would be practical from our end, and useful from theirs. These are School Recovery Care Packages - pencil cases filled with school requisites such as pens, erasers, sharpeners, coloured pencils etc. Our students will have the opportunity to write messages of support to students of Bundaberg SS which will be included in the pencil cases.

Below is the text of the email response to our suggestion from the Acting Principal of Bundaberg North SS.

Hi Jenny

Thanks for your concern and kind thoughts. Our school community was hit very hard with the floods with many of our students and their families currently without a home and most of their possessions. Some of these families will never be able to live in their homes again as they were destroyed by the flood. We have had an enormous amount of support which our school chaplain is coordinating and I have spoken with her about your kind offer. Your idea of pencil cases with the items mentioned would be much appreciated and she (Selina) will endeavour to distribute them to those in need.

Our Principal is currently on leave as she was also flooded.

Once again thanks very much for the support of your school community.

Regards

Peter Busch    Acting Principal—Bundaberg North SS

It is our fervent hope that all Kedron Middle School students will be able to make a donation to the pencil case packages in an effort to assist the families of Bundaberg North SS that Peter talks about, if only in a small way. Needed items include: PENCIL CASES; PENS; ERASERS; SHARPENERS; COLOURING PENCILS; PENCILS; HIGHLIGHTERS; RULERS; GLUE STICKS; STAPLERS; STAPLES or anything else that a primary student would find useful or even something a little special. Let’s show the students of Bundaberg SS that we are a caring, helpful community and that we’re happy to help out when times get tough.

The donations will be collected until Monday 11th March, when Year 8 & 9 students will put the packages together, complete with messages of good will, in their KedCare lesson. They will be sent off to Bundaberg North SS that week

Students can bring any donations directly to the Middle School Office or Year 8 & 9 students can take them to their Form class where the donations will be brought to the office on a daily basis.

Information on the Community Engagement projects for Terms 2,3 and 4 will follow in later newsletters.
The Chaplaincy Team
Midway through last year, we welcomed Erin Archer onto the Kedron SHS Chaplaincy Team. Erin is 23 years old and has a passion to see students be empowered to reach their full potential. She is an advocate for the ending of global human trafficking and extreme poverty. In support of these causes, she has organised a number of city-wide fundraisers and, volunteering her time and energy, has travelled overseas to assist in orphanages and support aid agencies. Erin did her secondary schooling at Wavell High School, and it was there that she first got involved with chaplaincy as a participant on the annual chaplain-run camp, Splash Out City. Since leaving high school, she has been a leader on many SU QLD camps and at Metamorphis. Erin has completed a Cert. Four in Youth Ministry and a Cert. Three in Community Services.

Contacting the Chaplains
Ian is in the school Monday to Thursdays.  School: 3630 3304  Mobile: 0411 861 071
Email: chaplain.kedron@eq.edu.au
Erin is at Kedron on Monday, Thursday, Friday.  School: 3630 3351  Mobile: 0426 245 572
Email: erina@chappy.org.au
If you wish to send an email to both chaplains, please use: chaplain@kedronshs.eq.edu.au

GROUPS FOR STUDENTS

Metamorphis
Metamorphis is community youth group run on Friday nights for Kedron students and their friends. Run by the chaplains and an incredible team of youth leaders from local churches, Metamorphis offers the chance for students in Years 7 to 12 to build community through games, café, small groups, excite nights, and camps. Meta encourages teenagers to engage with relevant issues and to grow, socially and spiritually. Metamorphis is on Friday nights in the Kedron SHS Assembly Hall from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. $2.00 entry and bring money for a meal ($5 covers main course, dessert, and a drink.)

Frog
For Year 8 and 9 students, FROG stands for “Fully Relying On God” and happens on Thursdays at first break in the Assembly Hall. This group is run by Year 11 and 12 students and involves fast-paced games, competitions, and a short talk about what it means to F.R.O.G.

Ignite
In its second year, Ignite is for Kedron students who want to grow in their Christian faith. Once again, this is a student-led group with Year 11 and 12 students taking the lead in facilitating small group discussions, playing music, eating together, and building community. Ignite also gives an opportunity for interested students to ask questions about Christianity. Ignite meets on Mondays at first break in Room L16.

Holiday camps
Kedron’s chaplains, along with nearly all chaplains in Queensland state schools (nearly 700 of them), are managed by SU Queensland. SU QLD has a long history of involvement in youth work and camping programs. In every school holiday season, SU QLD run about 10 camps for high school students, which cater for every interest. Some great camps are the Easterfest Camp – spending four days at Toowoomba and hearing some of the best music ever; GENTS camp is a camp that really just lets boys be boys! SMADD is for those students with a passion for Song, Music, Art, Dance or Drama. Training Week in June equips young people to make a difference in their schools and their communities. And don’t forget Splash Out City – a week at the Sunshine Coast of beach, watersports and an opportunity to learn about God. SU QLD also runs some excellent Schoolies alternatives for our Year 12 students. For more information, talk to our chaplains, or go to www.sucamps.org.au

CRICOS No: 00608A