Principal's Report

I have been appointed to the position of 'Primary Coach' at Regional Office. The job will entail travelling to smaller schools in the region and providing them with support to implement various programs and initiatives. I’m looking forward to the position but I’m sad about leaving a wonderful staff and great community. Mr Matt Horton who has been the acting principal at Mirani High School will replace me next year. Mr Horton is experienced but above all very excited about coming to Walkerston. I’d like to take the opportunity to thank the many people who have helped and assisted me at my tenure here and I cherish the friendships I have made.

Australia Champion!

Congratulations to Sean Baker who recently won the National Under 11 Shot Put with a throw of over 14 metres. It was a remarkable effort and I hope one that inspires all our students.

Awards Night

Tonight is Awards Night and an exciting time indeed. All recipients should have received an invitation and we request that all recipients wear their school uniforms. Please bring a plate to share once the awards are over. We are hoping to have the awards completed by 8p.m.

Graduation Night

The year 7’s had their Graduation Night last Tuesday. It was a happy if not noisy affair. We laughed at the photographs that depicted them as little beginners to the photographs showing them as maturing people. Thanks to the organising committee and all others involved in the night.

REPORT CARDS. As you are aware we have been having a lot of trouble with our connectivity and this has delayed somewhat the handing out of report cards. We should be able to issue them on Monday the 9th. On that note we had an IT group in today who were working on the problems, namely replacing the cables that were cut.

CLASS LISTS AND TEACHING STAFF FOR 2014. Most class lists have been finalised and will be up on notice boards early next week. Staffing still has not been finalised for the school because Regional Office are still furiously trying to sort out 2014 circuits and transfers. We have to be a little patient and hopefully all will be in place by the middle of next week.
Due to the overwhelming uptake from 434 participating students in 2013, Central Queensland Region has committed more funding in 2014 to deliver four UNIFY projects. Like-minded, high achieving and talent-ed students from across the region will once again have the opportunity to connect in new on-line, higher order thinking challenges via the Brisbane School of Distance Education.

Over the course of the year, more than 700 nominated students with a strong interest or ability in project topics will work with specialist teachers on each of our CQ selected projects. One project will be offered each term, one lesson per week, with up to ten lessons in total per pro-ject. All projects include an on-line event with specialist University reps in each of the chosen project areas. To acknowledge their efforts, participants will have their involvement recorded on semester report cards.

2014 UniFY Projects:
- Term 1 - Shape Up (Years 6, 7 & 8) – math investigative focus
- Term 2 – Critical Thinking (Years 5-9)
- Term 3 – Creative Writing (Years 5-9)
- Term 4 - Scientific Literacy (Years 5-9)

Feedback from students, parents and teachers supports the value of UniFY projects:
- Student from Longreach State High School - “I particularly like all the different activities that we do and all the different people we get to talk to. The teachers are really nice and make the lessons fun.”
- Teacher from Kin Kora State School – “The students have been enthralled every lesson and stay for an extra 30 minutes each lesson to continue the projects. It has been so worthwhile for me to see the extra work that they are prepared to put in at home....they are just so involved.”
- Parent from Eimeo Road State School - “This kind of extra-curricular or extension activity has been invaluable and I believe it has provided my son with deeper knowledge, skills, confidence and a keenness for school.”

For more information contact Russell on 0438330275.