Below is a small excerpt from the speech given by Eric Boardman at our recent Investiture.

Thankyou for the opportunity to speak to you today. This year is a special time for our sons and daughters but also for us as their parents and care givers.

I will begin by addressing the students, the 2014 Year 12 cohort. What an amazing year you have in front of you. This is the culmination of many years of schooling. When I first came to this school with my first daughter Emma-Jayne you all were just starting Year 2. To you it probably seems like a long time ago yeah, but I can assure you that for me and I suspect for your parents, it does not seem like that long ago.

Life is full of challenges and opportunities. It is one aspect of life that we will all share. Something we all have in common; every single one of us. And the measure of our life, our achievements and happiness will come from what we choose to do with those challenges and opportunities.

There will come times when we accept them and fail and other times when we will accept them and succeed but I encourage you to never stop accepting them because that is the pathway to greatness

This is the defining characteristic of a leader - someone who accepts the challenges that life presents them and does their best regardless of the risks.

Leadership is not a privilege it is a responsibility. If life presents you with a challenge or opportunity, we have a duty to accept it and do our best to overcome it. Create a better world.

Leadership… what does it mean to be a leader? It’s not always the person out the front telling others what to do. Leaders help others achieve greatness.

Identify what your passion is. What is it that excites you?

There are many types of leadership and many behaviours that are attributed to leaders. Leaders need to be:

- Consultative but not so much that they lack direction
- Innovative but with respect and understanding of history and tradition
- Have a dream but also have their feet firmly on the ground
- Be driven but also need to be centred in the now
- Be charismatic but also must allow others to shine
- Think of the collective good but also be able to engage with individuals.

No one person has all the attributes of leadership. Leadership is in essence about a group and it is one of the most powerful forces for social change that you will ever be a part of.

Margaret Mead spent a lifetime studying societies and cultures and how they operated and changed and she recognised this power when she said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

IT IS THE ONLY THING THAT HAS EVER CHANGED THE WORLD

So….. “a small group of thoughtful committed people” is all we need. Does that mean that really there is no need for a leader? No.

The purpose of a leader is to make sure there is leadership, to ensure that there is:

1. a shared, motivating group purpose or vision
2. action, progress and results
3. collective unity or team spirit
4. attention to individuals.

But leadership is not about one person or even a select few. Leadership is a shared responsibility amongst any and all who put their hand up to accept it. Leadership can be found in very small acts as well as the grand.

The P&C Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 24 February and I am pleased to announce our new Executive Committee:

President – Lynne Auld
Vice President – Michelle Rixon
Secretary – Sandi Brown
Treasurer – Sue Levitt

Judi Newman - Principal
Dates for 2014 School Immunisation Clinics

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<th>Round</th>
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<th>Immunisation Details</th>
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<td>Round 1</td>
<td>11/3/14</td>
<td>Yr 8 Boys &amp; Girls</td>
<td>- HPV (1st dose)</td>
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<td>- dtpa (Diptheria, Tetanus &amp; Whooping cough)</td>
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<td>11/3/14</td>
<td>Yr 10 Boys</td>
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<td>- dtpa (Diptheria, Tetanus &amp; Whooping cough)</td>
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<td>Round 2</td>
<td>13/5/14</td>
<td>Yr 8 Boys &amp; Girls</td>
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<td>- Chickenpox</td>
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<td>13/5/14</td>
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<td>- Plus catch up students</td>
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<td>Round 3</td>
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<td>Yr 8 Boys &amp; Girls</td>
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Information Evening
Parents of Students wishing to attend North Rockhampton High School Year 7 & 8, 2015

An information evening will be held in the school’s PAC in Simpson Street on Wednesday 19 March, 5pm – 7pm. We have the School Principal, Deputies, Year Coordinators and Teachers will be available at this evening providing an opportunity for you to meet them and ask any questions you may. We look forward to seeing you there.

DATE CLAIMERS

Term 1 2014

Wed 19 March  | Information Evening
Thurs 3 Apr   | Reports issued to students and emailed home
Fri 4 Apr     | Cross Country – Kemp Beach

END OF TERM I

Term 2

Tues 13 – 15 May | NAPLAN testing week Year 9
Tues 13 May     | Vaccinations Yr 8 Girls/Boys
                | Yr 10 Boys

Road Safety Week 17–23 March 2014

Capricornia Police in conjunction with the Department of Transport and Emergency Services are hosting a Road Safety Week commencing March 17 and concluding with an Expo at the Rockhampton Heritage Village on March 23.

Road Safety Week has been developed to reinforce safety messages to all road users. As you are aware, children’s perceptions of the need to obey road rules and avoid high risk behaviours are greatly influenced by the examples given by adult drivers, particularly their parents. By emphasising the main causes of fatal traffic accidents and educating children on these topics, it is anticipated a reduction in fatal incidents will occur when these children are old enough to drive on the road.

During the past five years the Central Region has averaged around 100 deaths a year as a consequence of traffic crashes.

Most of those deaths could have been prevented!

For employment/training opportunities, follow the link to the .ETOB:

SJ2 Website:
Junior Maths

It has been an exciting start to 2014 for the new Junior Maths Department. We have taken up residence in the newly renovated G Block, along with the Junior Science Department. The Junior Maths Department is responsible for Yr 8 and Yr 9 Mathematics and Numeracy lessons this year, and will also include Yr 7 in 2015. All our Maths lessons are in the G Block rooms and most classes will be taught by the same teacher for both Maths and Science.

We are all enthusiastic about the new furniture that will arrive soon for this building, and we are eager to create an environment to meet the needs of our Junior School students.

Students will be encouraged to participate in Mathematics competitions throughout the year. Participation in these provides students with an alternative opportunity to test their maths skills. Certificates from these competitions are great assets to a resume. Consent forms will come home via your student's Maths teachers.

To support your student's teachers, please encourage your students to come prepared to school each day with exercise books, pencil case, ruler and calculator.

If you have any concerns, please contact me in the Junior Maths Department on 49 247 823.

Annellie Reid
A/Junior Maths Head of Department

News from the Senior Mathematics and Science Department

What an exciting start to the year it has been! The Senior Mathematics and Science staff members are now all located in K block. This means students who are studying one or more of these subjects in years 10 - 12 can get help from their teachers from the one area.

There is also now a Senior Tutorial area set up just outside the staffroom for Year 11 and 12 students to do private study, seek help one-on-one from a teacher or to research specific topics with access to a senior library. This is available before school or during lunch breaks.

Tutorial with Mrs Littleton is held every Friday morning from 8:15am in H06 for English and Mathematics. Mrs Graham also offers lunch time tutorials in Fl3 on Wednesday first lunch while Mrs Littleton offers Monday, Tuesday and Thursday first lunch tutes.

Our annual Year 11 Maths B, Physics and Biology excursion to the Gold Coast will be going ahead in term 3. Students will get to participate in real-life educational experiences at Dreamworld, White Water World and the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary. This excursion is also part of their assessment. The cost is usually around $320. Further details will be out later this term.

Year 11 Marine and Aquatic Practice students have commenced snorkelling practice this term and are learning correct techniques over at the RockPool Water Park every Monday afternoon. They are first taught the skills in calm water before practical application later in the course. Practical aspects of Marine and Aquatic practices in both Year 11 and 12 are to be completed to pass this subject.

Competitions for Mathematics and Science occur throughout the year and will be announced to students via notices. There is a small cost associated with these competitions which will be identified on the consent forms when they go out.

Finally, if you or someone else in the community would be interested in being a Guest Speaker for our Mathematics or Science students, please call me on 49247831 or send an email to nhous8@eq.edu.au. We would really like to build stronger relationships with people in the community and to also talk to our students about the application of Science and Mathematics in your chosen profession.

Kindest Regards
Nadene Housman
Head of Department – Senior Mathematics & Science
**NAPLAN – (13 – 15 May)**

**What is NAPLAN?**
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

**Why do students do NAPLAN tests?**
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians have the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the critical foundation for other learning and for their productive and rewarding participation in the community. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and which areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of each school’s assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

**What will be tested?**
NAPLAN is a skills test. It tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. The content of each test is informed by the *National Statement of Learning for English* and *National Statement of Learning for Mathematics* which underpin state and territory learning frameworks. NAPLAN tests will be aligned with the Australian Curriculum once it has been substantially implemented in schools.

**What types of questions are in the tests?**
Questions are multiple choice or require a short written response for all tests except the Writing test. Students are expected to write a continuous test for the Writing task.

**What happens if my child is sick on one of the test days?**
Schools can organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during testing week.

**Are any students exempt from NAPLAN tests?**
Yes. Students can be exempted from one or more NAPLAN tests if they have significant or complex disability, or if they are from a non-English speaking background and arrived in Australia less than one year before the tests. However, exemption is not automatic and parents may choose for their child to participate. Support can be provided for students with disability participate in the NAPLAN tests. Signed parent/carer consent forms are required for students to be exempted from the tests. All Australian governments have committed to promoting maximum participation of students in the national assessment process.

**What additional support can schools provide for students with disability?**
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments which reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated. A formal exemption may be granted for students who have severe or complex disabilities.

**Can I withdraw my child from the tests?**
While participation by all students is expected, students may be withdrawn from the testing program by their parent/carer. This is a matter for consideration by individual parents/carers. Withdrawals are intended to address issues such as religious beliefs and philosophical objections to testing. A formal application in the manner specified for each state or territory must be received by the principal prior to testing.

For further enquiries please contact the school on 49 247 888.