Our Sports Awards Evening last week was highly successful and we thank all members of our community who attended. The evening highlighted the incredible amount of sporting talent we have at Robina State High School.

Some of the major award winners for 2013 included:

JUNIOR SPORTS ALLROUNDER GIRLS - GEORGIA FORDEN
JUNIOR SPORTS ALLROUNDER BOYS - KAI JUDD
SENIOR SPORTS ALLROUNDER GIRLS - EMMA ELLIS
SENIOR SPORTS ALLROUNDER BOYS - OSKAR T YCHO
SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR - AMY WALSH
SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR (JOINT AWARD) - LYNDON DYKES AND HAYDEN TIMBERLAKE

On Tuesday evening, I was delighted to be able to attend the Instrumental Music end-of-year concert. The performances were of an extremely high standard and a testimony to the great work of our Instrumental Music teachers. Congratulations to all students for the great progress you have made in 2013.

This Monday, we continue to celebrate student achievement at our annual Awards Night ceremony. Our school captains and Junior Secondary captains will be announced as part of the proceedings.

It is with mixed feelings that we are starting to count down the days until our Year 12s graduate. This week has seen them complete final exams and assessments for the year. Next week will see them officially graduate and attend their formal. These are wonderful rites of passage that we hope all students enjoy. Although I have only known these young people for a year, I have been very impressed with them as individuals and a cohort. We trust they will enjoy their final weeks at Robina State High school.
Senior Secondary Update

YEAR 12 – FAREWELL

This is the final newsletter for our current Year 12 cohort. 39 of our students have already been accepted by a tertiary institution with guaranteed entry in 2014 to their selected course of study. That’s a fabulous achievement. Many more have applied through QTAC for university and TAFE courses whilst some have clear ideas of travel, work or sports excellence. It’s wonderful that it seems every Year 12 student I speak to has a clear pathway in place. That gives us a great feeling of satisfaction that our young people are exiting school well equipped for the ‘adventures’ of adulthood.

Next week many students will participate in their final Awards Evening. All are welcome to attend of course. As well, Year 12 students graduate on Tuesday evening in the SAC in front of teachers, family and friends. Students will have a practice in Period 1 & 2 that day and then may leave the school for graduation preparation. Full day-school uniform is required for all please at the Graduation. This is a true celebratory night where we acknowledge students commitment in completing 13 years of education.

Finally, we will farewell our Year 12 students at an assembly on Wednesday morning. This allows the whole school to acknowledge the completion of one year and the coming in of another. Year 12 exit the school grounds at the end of the assembly for the final time. Their very last official school function, under school rules, is the formal on Friday evening. As usual there will be tears and cheers from teachers, family friends and students. We sincerely wish every Year 12 student a very fulfilling and happy life and hope they attain their future dreams, whatever they may be.

YEAR 11 & 10 : Are you on track? Do you have subject or career concerns?

A number of students in both Years 11 & 10, are concerned about whether they have selected the correct subject for 2014, or if they should continue subjects in which they may not have achieved success. Students in this situation or who need a bit of career guidance are invited to see me in the Support House. It’s most important that students understand the various pathways and options open to them and prerequisites they may need for certain career pathways. Our door is always open for both students and parents alike. Appointments can be made for both students and parents through the usual school office or by contacting me directly on 55623446. It’s also a great time for applying for one the many school based traineeships we have on offer. These opportunities are on the school website , but a stroll down to the Support House is helpful too.

Finally this is timely reminder to both Year 11 & 10 students that we are still taking enrolments for the Diploma in Business which will be delivered at school by King’s Unitech for our students next year. This is the full Diploma in Business and gives a student a Selection Rank of 82 or the equivalency of an OP 9. It also feeds directly in to the second year of many Bachelor courses at Griffith, Bond and Southern Cross universities. VET FEE help or King’s Unitech payment plan are available for this course. Please call or drop in if you’re interested.

Jeanette McDonald
Head of Department
Student Pathways
Year 9 – Junior Secondary Graduation Ceremony

Please join us in the school Performing Arts Centre for our Junior Secondary Graduation Ceremony that recognises our current Year 9 Students moving into the Senior School.

9.15 am start in the PAC

Wednesday, 11 December 2013

RSVP is essential to Judy Galbraith on jgalb2@eq.edu.au or (07) 5562 3444

NEW PHILOSOPHY COURSE

“I think, therefore I am,” declared the famous French philosopher René Descartes. Well, a select group of our Year 11 students will do precisely that in a new subject which will be introduced next year. Philosophy and Reason, as the course will be known, is already taught in a number of Gold Coast secondary schools, including Somerset College, Palm Beach Currumbin State High School and A.B. Paterson College. It focuses on three major areas: critical reasoning, deductive logic and philosophy. Students are encouraged to express and justify views about major topics. Developing a confident and open-minded attitude to social issues and the views of others is a major aim in the course.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Have you told us about your child’s medical condition? If you are unsure, please email info@robinashs.eq.edu.au and our records can then be updated.

DID YOU TELL US?

Moved house recently, or, changed your phone number? Please email info@robinashs.eq.edu.au to update your child’s records.

IBM EX.I.T.E. Camps introduce girls to the wonder and promise of technical careers. Robina students have enthusiastically participated in the EXITE program for the last five years and as a result we were the only school in QLD selected for a visit from IBM executives from all around the globe. During their visit they engaged in a discussion with our 10 Extension Science students about their work in disaster management and their careers at IBM.
Futsal

The 16 Years Boys went to nationals and won all their preliminary games but one. They went 7 wins and one loss; that ranked us number 2 going into the semi-finals. We played Toowoomba Grammar in the semi-finals, and it was a great game. The game was end to end with Oskar Tycho finally scoring a great goal to break the deadlock. We ended up winning 4:1 with a fabulous team performance.

The final had us meet Sunshine Coast Grammar. It was an amazing final full of emotional highs and lows. We were up 5:3 with about 5 minutes to go when we missed two easy chances to put the game away. They were able to get two quick goals and the momentum shifted and we could not recover. We ended up losing 7:5. It was a massive 3 days and the boys ended up playing 10 matches across 3 days. The games were 40 minutes in length, so the boys ended up playing 400 minutes of Futsal, and Kai Judd played about 396. The boys represented Robina High with great pride and skill, we had outstanding performances from Kai Judd, Oskar Tycho, Tom Andersen, Konan Warren, and Jayden Taylor.

Other members of the team were:

Brett Lloyd Matthews
Jake Hodgson
Sam Wallis
Sam Platt
Josh Buxton

Our 16 Years Girls Futsal team also competed in the National Futsal Championships last Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The girls were unlucky not to make it into the finals, but the competition was tough and all games were close. We had some fantastic performances from Izzy Garth in goal, Jodi Crowley in defence, and Tayla Marshall, Claire Poissant and Beth Curtis in attack. Emma Ellis was our leading goal scorer throughout the tournament. Other team members were Casey Watson, Taylor Harris and Cahlia Clothier – Tom (who is only 13). This group of girls, as always, were outstanding sporting ambassadors for Robina High and are a real credit to our school.
SAITAMA GOVERNMENT DELEGATION visits to plan 30th Anniversary Events in 2014

Last week we welcomed four delegates from Saitama, Japan. Saitama is Queensland’s Sister State and in 2014 we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of our sister state relationship. Robina High School has a long standing relationship with Chichibu High School – our sister school – which is in Saitama. Chichibu High has been our sister school since 1998. Last week Mr Junichi Yoshino, Executive Director, Department of Public Services and Mr Yukio Yajima, Mr Tamura Kazuhiko and Mr Blain Keller from the International Division of Saitama Prefectural Government visited our school to discuss plans for some special events in 2014. One of these special events will be a visit to our school by the Mayor of Saitama. This is a very prestigious plan and we are very honoured to be a part of it.

During the visit our guests participated in a school tour and observed two classes. In Mrs Napier’s Year 8 Japanese class and Mrs Logan’s Japanese Immersion Maths we saw excellent learning in action and our guests were very impressed with students’ efforts and abilities in Japanese. Mrs Gray then delivered a power point presentation that contained photos of our 16 year relationship with Chichibu High. Our guests said they could see our school had a true interest in Japan and it’s culture and they looked forward to developing plans about next year with us.

It was a pleasure to showcase our school to our Saitama guests. All staff and students involved are to be congratulated for their participation in this successful activity.

YUNG PING STUDY TOUR

This week we welcome 11 students and one teacher from Yung Ping High School Taiwan who will be with us until 13 November. Last year Mr MacAvoy and I visited Yung Ping High and we were welcomed most heartily. It is our pleasure to host the group for the next week.

Yung Ping High has a number of Specialist Programs and the students who are visiting us are from the Hospitality and Catering Course.

In order to integrate these students in meaningful and relevant curriculum activities Mrs Rackley and Mrs Daniels offered to have them involved in Year 10 Hospitality classes for a 10 day period. During this time our guests cooked rosti and cookies and made thick shakes with Robina students. Yung Ping students also taught us about breakfast in Taiwan – cooking us pork dumplings, asian pancakes and savoury rice. They also made us bubble tea which students found most interesting!

Thanks to all host families for welcoming students into their homes and thanks to all Robina buddies for being so friendly. We are sure our Yung Ping guests will return home with many happy memories.
YUNG PING HIGH, TAIWAN, STUDY TOUR NOVEMBER 2-13
Youth Health Nurse
Helen Dredge

This year's theme is keeping men and boys safe.

Every year throughout the world over half a million people die from violence. 83% are men and boys. A similar proportion of the global burden of disease (ill health, disability or early death) from violence is borne by boys and men. Yet while there are a number of deserved global campaigns to tackle violence towards women and girls there is no such campaign to help men and boys.

Tackling male suicide

Every minute of every day one more man reaches the point where he thinks the only option is for him to take his own life. According to WHO, (World Health Organization) it is estimated that nearly one million people take their lives every year and most of them are men.

In developed countries men are generally 3-4 times more likely to take their own lives.

All over the world men suffer from gender life gap. A man in Swaziland can expect to die 55 years younger than a woman born in Japan. Early death is not inevitable. The average Australian man lives till 79 but still has nearly 5 years less of life to enjoy than the average Australian Woman. A Russian man on average lives only to his 62nd birthday.

One of the ways to help men enjoy a longer healthier life is to keep them safe from avoidable illness. A great male role model for a boy will encourage self care on all levels and this includes constructive ways of maintaining positive mental health.

Depression in men is often under-diagnosed because depressed men are more likely to talk about physical symptoms (like constant tiredness) than emotional or psychological ones. Men and boys often do take action to deal with their experience of depression by self-medicating but this is often in harmful ways. Right idea in doing something about it, just the wrong solution.

Keeping men and boys safe by promoting fathers as role models

Studies have shown that involvement of a father or a positive male role model in the lives of children has profound effects on them.

Father-child interaction promotes a child's physical well being, perceptual ability and competency for relating with others. These children also demonstrate greater ability to take initiative, and evidence of self-control.

How can you make a positive difference for these children?

• If you are a mother you can encourage the involvement of positive male role models in the life of your child.
• If you are a non-custodial dad you can make the effort to visit with your child more often and be intentional about teaching them important life lessons.
• If you are a father with your children at home, know that you make a difference. Your child wants to spend quality time with you and know what it’s like to feel valued and connected to you by positive interaction.

Every child needs someone who is absolutely crazy about them and encourages the best in them. It is up to us to look after our boys and young men and see this trend change.
Whooping cough (Pertussis) alert

The Gold Coast Public Health Unit has been notified of a confirmed case of whooping cough (pertussis) in year 8 at Robina State High School, Robina. Whooping cough is a highly contagious respiratory infection that can be life threatening for babies and young children. Symptoms can range in severity from quite mild to coughing fits which often end with a gag or a vomit. Whooping cough usually starts with symptoms typical of a head cold with a runny nose, sneezing and tiredness and then the cough develops.

People with whooping cough are infectious for the first three weeks of the illness or until they have received 5 days of the 7 day course of the appropriate antibiotics. If you have any concerns about the symptoms of whooping cough in your child then you should exclude them from school and take them to your doctor as soon as possible. If the illness is detected early in its course, treatment will speed recovery and reduce the period of infectivity for other people.

The following recommendations are made to reduce the risk of further cases of whooping cough in the community especially to the very young or unimmunised children.

1. Please make sure your family is fully up to date with all their vaccinations. Vaccination against whooping cough is included in vaccinations given at 2, 4 and 6 months and again at 4 years. A funded booster dose is provided for Year 10 students through the School Based Vaccination program. Vaccination gives good protection, but unfortunately this protection does wane with time.

2. For those not eligible for funded vaccine, a once only dose of adult Pertussis Booster vaccine is available at a vaccine cost of approximately $30-45. The vaccine is recommended for those working with young children such as health care workers, child care workers and teachers and is available on prescription from your GP.

3. All children or staff recently diagnosed with whooping cough are to be excluded from the school until they have received either 5 days of a 7 day course of appropriate antibiotics or excluded for 21 days from the onset of coughing.

For further information please contact
the Gold Coast Public Health Unit on 5668 3700 during business hours
or 13 Health (13 432584) after hours
or your General Practitioner
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To receive two nights free accommodation, you are required to purchase one breakfast and dinner (per person), per day/night of your stay, in a participating hotel.

Alternatively no meal requirements apply when you receive one night’s free accommodation and pay for another night in participating hotels.

You can apply the full or partial value of your getaway dollars towards the amount shown within a property featured and book as many holidays until the full amount of getaway dollars has been used.

Book your holiday on line at www.augetaway.com.au
AWARD RECIPIENTS

6 November

Congratulations! You are receiving an award at the Annual Awards Ceremony. If you DID NOT receive a letter at home please see Mrs Galbraith, Admin.

dhand5 Harding, Danielle
aha5e1 Hasegawa, Ayuna
jhill56 Hill, Joshua
sho5g1 Hodges, Shannon
chop58 Hopkins, Cherie
sho5w9 Howarth, Sarah
elhu5t1 Huoth, Elizabeth
jhyd5e7 Hyde, Jacob
sgjam1 James, Sunny
sgjam5 Jameson, Grace
sjone4 Jones, Sam
kka5m4 Kampen, Kate
tkoe52 Keefe, Tahlia
akem52 Kern, Amber
ykim17 Kim, Yoon
i1king59 King, Lochle
dkgi55 Kington, Daniel
skkom1 Komemoto, Karin
ikup51 Kupper, Issie
ala5e4 Lake, Aaron
blamb7 Lambert, Brittany
klang52 Langenberger, Keira
rlim18 Lim, Ryan
mlhu53 Liu, Mia
flock35 Lock, Jared
chu5o3 Luo, Candee
mye5y3 Ly, Matthew
hmack Mackenzie, Heather
annad3 Maddison, Amelia
imake5 Makepeace, Liam
cmars1 Marshall, Chloe
emao5o Mason, Emma
amcc5a McCullum, Alicia
dmcc54 McCarthy, Dawn
emcc5e McCarden, Errol
smck50 McKenzie, Saraya
jnuc6q9 McQuade, Jack
mcm5t Mils, Courtney
kmia3 Miyazawa, Kana
cmoir5 Moisley, Connor
mnur5r Murray, Megan
mnagh Naghipour, Mona
bnch51 Nicholls, Brendan
gnic51 Nicol, Georgia
mnix5o Nixon, Madison
snor56 North, Spencer
jpnt53 Panther, John
pgett12 Patterson, Gabbi
lpmb59 Pemberton, Luke
lpemb8 Pemberton, Rhys
ipl5e2 Plessius, Lisa
mpny54 Pope, Molly
raah53 Rasha, Raynne
aray5m Raymond, Annabelle
are5a1 Reaburn, Anna
ltbere2 Reardon, Tiana
erdr5h Redhead, Ethan
irel51 Relly, Lena
crob52 Robinson, Callum
trole3 Roles, Tarran
aros58 Ross, Ashleigh
msae5n Saensrimon, Moy
ssak5u1 Sakural, Shogo
lsch5m Schmids, Lukas
ssch5u Schutt, Sarah
ssch5u Schutt, Skye
mschu Schulz, Melanie
bsb5o2 Sibotti, Blanca
csin5s Sim, Clay
asl5o6 Sloane, Alex
hsni5m Smibert, Holly
bspee5 Speers, Bobby-Jo
mpsee Speers, Mia
lstd51 St George, Luke
astep5 Stephen, Alana
nstp51 Stephens, Nicole
hstew2 Stewart, Hayley
estri53 Strickland, Emma
btag5g Taggart, Bridgette
atan58 Tan, Anney
xlate8 Tate, Katelyn
rthom59 Thomson-King, Remi
lute55 Utsas, Leighchae
wwet1 Veltch, Whitney
hers51 Versluis, Lachlan
voge53 Vogelaar, Luke
awals2 Walsh, Amy
gwats2 Watson, Griffin
swel5o Welby, Simon
jwhe5x Wheatley, Jack
jwhy56 Whybird, Jasmine
gwil10 Williams, Georgia
awth51 Withers, Alicia
awang5 Wong, Adam
awang5 Wong, Adrian
rye5e1 Yelavathri, Reethika