‘Celebrating Our Successes’
A Record four Students achieved the highest possible OP score of 1

Alan Schaul

This year I will be attending the University of Queensland where I will undertake a course of study in engineering. I am particularly interested in challenging work, especially in the design of materials and products to meet specific needs and purposes. I am therefore looking for a rewarding career in either chemical or mechanical engineering. I hope to be studying at the forefront of my chosen field, in the hope of becoming an experienced and competent engineer.

Sean Watson

Throughout the next few years I intend to study engineering at the University of Queensland because, although I could study a higher earning course, I feel that it is important to work in a field that I find interesting. Although it will be a challenging course, I hope that with the skills and knowledge I have gained in my years at Mareeba State High School I will excel at my studies.

Laura Leighton

I am enrolled in a Bachelor of Science at the University of Queensland. I have received a Merit Scholarship from UQ and have been invited to apply for a place in the Advanced Studies Program in Science. I have also been awarded a Fellowship to work with Environmental Scientists for two weeks in April in Western Australia.

I am not yet certain of my long term ambitions - only that it will be science based, possibly bio-medical or genetics based research.

Alena Broesder

Having completed year 12, I had applied during the course of the year to do a gap year as part of Student Exchange Australia in France. I was accepted and I’m currently in France at the moment. This year will require me to live with another family and go to school.

I hope to utilise this year to learn French and at the completion of this year I return to Mareeba before heading to the University Of Melbourne, where I have been offered a place to study for a Commerce degree. After three years of commerce I hope to continue my studies for a post graduate law degree called the Jurisdoctor. I am very excited about the future.
Welcome to the 2011 School Year. I wish to extend a very special welcome to all families and students who are new to the school this year, and also to the new staff at the school:

Kylie Lambert – Head of Department (Visual and Performing Arts)
Kristy Braes - Instrumental Music
Brett Hamilton – Humanities
Adam Kinley - Science
Nicole Michael - HPE
Myra Riber – Learning Support
Christine Reghanzani

I would like to welcome back, one of our Deputy Principals, Mr Mark Aitken who is back from extended leave. Mr Serge Venturato will continue to be on leave this semester and Ms Lesa Pershouse will continue in the Acting Deputy Principal role. Mr Aitken is responsible for Years 9 & 10 and Ms Pershouse for Years 8 & 11. I will be responsible for Year 12. If you have a query about your child at school, in the first instance, you should contact your child’s Year Coordinator. This year the Year Coordinators are:

Year 8  Sally Levi
Year 9  Kim McClelland/Denise Lambert
Year 10  Chris Keating
Year 11  Toni Stevens
Year 12  Tim Ralph

I am also new to the school so I should tell you a little about myself. I am an educator with over 20 years’ experience in the Queensland public education, across urban, regional and remote settings. Although originally a city girl having been born and raised in Sydney. I applied through QTAC to go to Griffith University and was accepted and moved to Brisbane. Upon graduating I received the Daito Bunka University Scholarship, so I lived and studied in Japan for a year. It was in Japan that I first became a teacher, teaching English. When I returned to Australia, I studied to be a teacher in Canberra and worked there for a time until my husband was moved for work to Brisbane. My first appointment in Queensland was Wellington Point SHS. I am no stranger to Far North Queensland with my next schools being Trinity Bay SHS and then Normanton SS. I next went to Coombabah SHS on the Gold Coast. I then worked for 4 years as a state-wide advisor and project manager at the Queensland Studies Authority and then was appointed to Calamvale Community College. While at Calamvale CC, I received a CSIRO Scholarship to work alongside genetic researchers on Merino sheep which gave me an insight into current scientific practices. I was next promoted to Deputy Principal at Yeronga SHS. Along the way, I also gained my Master’s degree in Education through QUT. I am a life-long learner and truly believe that we all continue to learn throughout our lives. I am married and have two adult children. I feel really privileged to have been appointed to Mareeba SHS and will work my hardest for the young people of the school. Enough about me – time to focus on more important things.

Congratulations to the Seniors 2010, their OP Scores were outstanding. 80.5% of our students achieved OP Scores between 1 – 15 which means that they are likely to enter the course or institution of their choice. Alena Broesder, Laura Leighton, Alan Schaul and Sean Watson each received an OP1 which is the highest result possible in Queensland. There were 84 VET qualifications awarded which gives young people a head start if they wish to enter the workforce or go to further training through TAFE or other training organisations.

Our new Science Centre ($1.97 m) was completed late last year and is already being well used. The building is designed on sustainable principles and has the latest technology included. The Trade Training Centre is nearly ready for occupancy and will provide additional vocational training opportunities for our young people. The floods across Queensland have delayed completion of the commercial kitchen. It is now expected to be completed in February.

It has been pleasing to see students commencing the school year in full school uniform. Thanks to parents for ensuring that students are appropriately dressed – it is tremendous to see the personal and school pride. It is important that students must wear face up black leather shoes or black, white or grey joggers to ankle length with protective uppers for Workplace Health and Safety. Canvas or cloth shoes are not safe or protective and therefore not permitted.

Students are also required to wear the school sunsafe hat whilst in school grounds and in particular for any outdoor activities, it is compulsory. School hats are available for purchase from the Tuckshop at $15. The official school hat is a reversible hat which matches the sporting house the student is allocated. Other hats or caps are not permitted in the school grounds. If you are unsure as to what is permitted, please refer to student diary for current Uniform and Dress Code endorsed by P and C Association. Please encourage your children to comply with this. Included in this edition are many items of information including the school calendar and medical forms. If you would like to be kept informed about school activities or events by email, I invite you to become part of the Email Discussion List – Parentnet, by completing the attached proforma and having your child return it to the school by Friday 18 February or sooner.

I would like to remind parents/carers that alternate newsletters will again be published in the Tablelands Advertiser (colour) this year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors for supporting this throughout 2010 and 2011.

I look forward to meeting many of our parents/carers at our first P and C Meeting on 8 February 2010. The meeting starts at 5.30 pm. Warm regards to all families,

Jo Soothill
Acting Principal
2011 Administration Team

After what seems to be months of rain it has been a joy to see the blue sky. After six months leave I have returned for duty and look forward to supporting the Year 9 and 10 students with their schooling. At present we are concentrating on ensuring the students timetables are correct and any changes of subject are complete so that they can do a full Semester in all of they subjects. If you have any concerns with your child’s course of study please contact the school as soon as you can.

By now your child would have met their Form teacher and Year Level Coordinator. These teachers have an important part to play in the support and welfare of your child throughout the year. If you have any issues of concern please contact them by phone or organise a time to meet with them.

All the best for 2011.

Mr Mark Aitken
Deputy Principal – Years 9 and 10

Welcome back to all the students.

I’m back for Semester One this year as Acting Deputy Principal for Mr Ventruato who is on leave. I will be looking after the Year 8 and Year 11 Cohorts.

I am looking forward to working with both groups of students as they are both beginning a new phase of their Education. There will be many challenges for them to face in the coming months as they settle into new routines, make new friends and adapt to the new requirements of the curriculum requirements.

Parents of Year 8 and 11 students please contact your student’s teachers if you have any concerns about their progress in classes. Myself and the Year Coordinators (Ms Levi Year 8 and Ms Stevens Year 11) are also your point of contact if you have any pressing concerns regarding your student.

We have a new system for timetabling this year. All Education Queensland secondary schools are on the new system. We have encountered some issues with data transfer from our current systems to the new one. This has meant that some students have had discrepancies on their timetables. I’m pleased to say that despite the initial problems all students have their correct timetables. I would like to thank the staff and students for their patience adjusting to the new system.

Lastly I would like to welcome our new Principal Ms Jo Soothill to Mareeba High School. I am looking forward to working with her and wish her the best for the coming months.

Ms Lesa Pershouse
Acting Deputy Principal – Years 8 and 11

(Left to Right: Mr Mark Aitken – Deputy Principal, Ms Jo Soothill – Acting Principal, Ms Lesa Pershouse – Acting Deputy Principal)
More Great Results

As a past Aboriginal student at Mareeba State High School, I was given many opportunities to excel during my time here. As a result of the hard working staff I was able to attain an OP 3, which was high enough to get me into my desired tertiary course of Dental Surgery at James Cook University, Cairns. The next five years are going to be a challenge but I’m positive the lessons I have learnt at MSHS have prepared me for it.

Robert Hodgson

Immunisations

As part of Queensland Health’s School Based Vaccination Program, all Year 8 and Year 10 students will be offered free vaccinations at school.

Year 8 students are offered vaccines to protect against Hepatitis B, Varicella (chickenpox) and for girls, Human Papillomavirus (cervical cancer). Year 10 students are offered vaccines against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough).

Parents can find out more about how the Program works and download resources from:


You will receive more detailed information closer to the vaccination date. Please note that no child will be vaccinated without parental consent. For more information, call 13 HEALTH (13432584).

Electronic Newsletter

Don’t forget, our newsletter is now only going to be mailed out four times per year, and will be available for viewing electronically on the school’s website at:

www.mareebashs.eq.edu.au

Should you still wish to receive the newsletter in paper form, you will need to register with the school office on 07 4086 2777.

We would recommend that you join the ‘Parentnet’ email list by completing the enclosed form, and you will receive an email advising you when the latest edition is available on the website for viewing.

Accident insurance cover for students

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury.

Parents are advised that the Department of Education and Training does not have Student Accident Insurance cover for students. Therefore, if your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs, are the responsibility of the child, parent or caregiver. Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If parents have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered through the private health insurance. Any other costs would be borne by the parents.

Student Accident Insurance is an insurance policy that pays certain benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident. It is a personal decision for parents as to the types and levels of private insurance they arrange to cover their child for any accidental injury that may occur. Parents should contact their insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker if they choose to take out student personal accident insurance cover for their child.

Attention Douglas Junior Netballers

Pre-Season training will commence Thursday the 27th January, 2011
When: 4pm
Where: Port Douglas Netball Courts

Under 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16 age groups are invited to attend, training will be for girls wanting to get fit in readiness for the upcoming season.

Beginners Welcome!!!

Training is essential for players wanting to trial for Douglas Representative Netball.

Junior Netball Sign On 15th February 4pm at either Mossman Indoor sports centre or at Douglas Netball Courts.
Under 8s and 10s welcome, training will commence after sign on.
- You can sign on individually or enter a team in each respective age group.

We require coaches, umpires and volunteers to help us through the season, if you would like to participate or require any more information, please contact Sharon Beechey 4099 4998 or Treveen Page 0438120855
email: stay@beachterraces.com.au
Staff Profiles

Name: Catherine (Catie) Peters
Teaching: Business, HPE, Home Economics
Background: Over 15 years experience in Commercial Business, mainly in the Hospitality, Travel and Tourism markets, including running my own business.
Special Interests: Sports, including golf, soccer, netball and boxing, dog obedience, watching movies, reading and eating out.

Name: Luke Vanni
Teaching: Drama, English, Geography
Background: Studied Batchelor of Education at Griffith University, background in Performing Arts.
Special Interests: Performing Arts, reading and history. Looking forward to the upcoming School Musical ‘Little Shop of Horrors’

Name: Brett Hamilton
Teaching: English
Background: Completed my Batchelor of Education immediately after completing Year 12. Currently in my second year of teaching.
Special Interests: Drums/percussion, rugby, soccer, running, swimming and exploring.

Name: Myna Riber
Teaching: Year 8 English, Project Language Arts, Learning Support.
Background: Batchelor of Science (Environmental Science), Graduate Batchelor of Education. Middle School Teacher at Bently Park College, Literacy Mentor for Mareeba Small Schools Cluster (2010).
Special Interests: Reading, bushwalking, travelling, functional model of language. (functional grammar).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Teaching</th>
<th>Background</th>
<th>Special Interests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Michael</td>
<td>Health and Physical Education</td>
<td>Studied a double degree in Sport and Exercise Science and Education. Fresh out of Uni and raring to go!</td>
<td>I am a sport fanatic. I love anything outdoors, and have a special interest in soccer, touch football, rugby, gym and dancing. Other interests include health, fitness and nutrition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Gray</td>
<td>School Based Youth Health Nurse</td>
<td>Registered Clinical Nurse, 30 Years service as a Nurse, currently serving second year with Mareeba State High School.</td>
<td>Sailing, music and family activities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Well as another year passes a new and exciting year commences. As the School Based Police Officer for the Mareeba District, part of my role is to work with teachers, parents and students to build positive relationships between the school communities and police. Being a parent myself, I understand the responsibility and concerns that you have regarding your children, and I believe strongly that our children should be provided with vital knowledge and skills to ensure that they become a successful and productive part of the community.

As part of my role, I will also attend police related matters within the school, and contribute to the understanding of law and legal processes and procedures, particularly in relation to youth.

The School Based Policing Program is an integral part of the Queensland Police Service approach to community policing and is a very beneficial program. I am available to speak with parents and/or students with regard to any legal matter or inquiry. I can be contacted through the Mareeba State High School or the Mareeba Police Station. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or queries you may have.

In regards to road safety, Police will be patrolling the school zones regularly during the year, please be aware of the speed limit and adhere to the road rules within these zones to ensure the safety of our students.

Stay safe

Sue GILL
A/Senior Constable
School Based Police Officer
Mareeba District