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15 May 2015

Principal's Report



Dear Parent

It is hard to believe that only 6 weeks of Term 2 remain and only 2 ½ weeks before the start of Interruption Free Time prior to end of Semester exams for Years 11 and 12. Our focus at this stage of the term is on preparing students for these important assessments.

Once again I encourage you to discuss the achievement targets and goals your student is hoping to achieve on their Semester 1 Report and ensure that he/she has completed the 'Targets and Goal Setting' information on pages 3 – 5 of the 2015 Student Organiser. Discuss what these targets mean for their study routine and whether he / she is on track or confident to achieve them.

Thank you to the many students and parents who attended the recent Term 1 reporting interviews. In all, 1340 interviews took place. You may wish to reiterate the important messages and advice given by teachers at interview as part of your discussion.

Staff News

Today I announce the retirement of Mal Zischke, Deputy Principal – Senior School, at the end of Semester 1 2015. Mal commenced his teaching career as a Maths/ Science teacher at Gladstone State High School in 1980, where I was fortunate enough to be employed as Head of Department – Science and therefore have Mal on staff. He was transferred to Mackay State High School in the same year and then to Miami State High School as Subject Master – Science in 1986.

Mal was promoted to Deputy Principal at Miami State High School in 2005 and has served our school community for 29 ½ years since. He is held in the highest regard by staff and students as a trusted colleague and mentor and has always been there to fill the role of Principal during my absence.

A special retirement function will be held in his honour closer to the end of semester and we wish him all the very best for a long and happy retirement.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate Melinda Jackson on her appointment as Acting Deputy Principal – Junior School and Daniel Dooley as Acting Head of Department – Professional Practices for the remainder of this term.

Paula Hamilton will continue as Master Teacher and I am pleased to announce that Pippa McGinniskin will backfill her position as Year 12 Coordinator.

Welcome to Matthew Eastwell as a contract teacher for the remainder of term, replacing various staff on leave and Armani Sparks replacing Ed Roelink in the Arts department for the next 3 weeks.

Welcome to Helen East as receptionist in the front office replacing Jennie Fitzgerald who remains on leave until the end of Semester 1.

Official opening of our 'Inspire Building'

Our Inspire Building was officially opened by Kate Jones, Minister of Education and Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games, on Thursday 30 April 2015. Michael Hart, MP Burleigh Heads, and numerous representatives from Department of Education and Training, Project Management, Building Contractor, P & C Representatives, local primary school Principals, selected staff and students attended the opening. It was a memorable ceremony befitting the opening of this 'state of the art' learning facility.

A further article in the newsletter acknowledges the wonderful leadership of staff and students on the day.



Student Attendance

'Every day does count for learning' and I congratulate the many parents who promote the importance of this through their student's attendance.

Our attendance rates at the end of Term 1 2015 were as follows:

- Year 7 - 94.3%
- Year 8 - 95.1%
- Year 9 - 92%
- Year 10 - 89.8%
- Year 11 - 93%
- Year 12 - 91.7%

Whilst these results are a credit to all our families, I am aware as the year progresses, attendance tends to drop. It is imperative that we work together to keep our students at school. We are all aware that:

- One day absent each week quickly adds up to 2 months of missed lessons in a year
- Skipping the last day of each term adds up to more than a whole term of schooling missed throughout a student's education
- Skipping a whole week of school each term means your student will miss more than 15 months of their education

Unless your student is ill, it is expected that he/she will be at school learning every day of the school year. Our staff monitor attendance regularly and we ask your assistance in assuring that if your student is away, you inform the Student Services team on 5554 0333 as each student absence is expected to be explained. We love educating your students, so do not let them skip school - every day counts.

At this point, approximately one third of our student absences are 'unexplained' so I would appreciate your swift attention to advise us on these absences to ensure our records are as current as possible.

Once again many thanks to our wonderful parents for encouraging their students to attend and assist us with our attendance focus.

Signing out from Interschool Sport

Over 90% of our students engage in Interschool Sport, however, there seems to be an increasing number of students who gain their parents support to sign out before sport on a Friday.

If your student is not injured, then I discourage this practice. Please be advised that written permission to leave school prior to sport must be received before school on sport days. No phone calls on the day will be accepted as permission for your student to leave school. This is a deliberate strategy to discourage a student's non participation in sport.

As you are aware, teenage obesity is a growing problem in society and sport provides the opportunity for students to 'get active' in a safe and supported environment.

Q Parents

Q Parents is an application that allows you to access your student's reports, attendance details, personal details, timetable and subject information, and behaviour records online.

At this stage the Q Parents application is available to parents of Year 7 and 8 students, and Year 9 and 10 in the near future.

Invitations will be sent via email and I strongly recommend you take up the offer as it provides you a quick and easy alternative to updating and communicating with the school and keeping informed of your student's learning.

Parents who have already taken up the offer are extremely pleased with the advantages. The process requires you to present 100 points of identification and this is understandable given the access it provides to personal and confidential information. Nevertheless I encourage you to not be daunted by this process. If you have been invited but have been unable to meet the 100 point verification online, please bring in an alternative piece of identification to the school office as it might allow us to complete the process.

Direct Dialling into the School

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents to utilise the direct dialling options given when you phone our school. Be reassured that the system in place is effective and any messages left on an extension are actioned. There is no need to then follow up with another phone call direct to the office to confirm that your original message has been received.

Please be reminded that you can dial the extension option directly without listening to the entire message.

Dave Hughes Comedy Night

As you may be aware, our school will host the Dave Hughes Comedy Night in the Great Hall on Friday 29 May. Tickets are on sale from the school office for \$35 so please support this fundraising venture by the Parent and Citizens Association and bring along a group of friends.

It is an adult only night with food and drinks available from 6pm and the performance from 8pm.

Please hurry to purchase your tickets.

Regards

Jim Baker
Principal

Dates to Remember

14 May	Year 11 ORE Indoor Rock Climbing Excursion
15 May	Miami High Cross Country
18 May	Year 11 Aquatic Practices Snorkelling Assessment
19 May	Year 7 Well Being Day
19 May	P & C Meeting

20 – 22 May	Year 12 Biology Camp – Hastings Point
20 May	Year 7, 8 & 10 SEP Science/ History Queensland Museum Excursion
22 May	Round 4 Interschool Sport
28 May	Oceanic Cross Country
28 May	Year 7, 8, 10 & 11 SEP Science/ History Gold Coast Museum Excursion
29 May	Round 5 Interschool Sport
5 June	Round 6 Interschool Sport
8 June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
9 June	Year 12 Business Management – Griffith University Excursion
10 June	Interschool Sport Finals
11 – 18 June	Exam Shutdown - Year 11 & 12 Students
16 June	P & C Meeting

Year 7 Scholarship Opportunities for 2016

Excellence program information and scholarship applications are now available at Miami State High School administration office, the front office or select primary schools and online at www.miamishs.eq.edu.au. Please note that applications close on **Friday 15 May 2015**. For telephone enquiries please call 07 5554 0333. Please click on the link below for information on Auditions/ Exams or Try Outs.

Important Information from TransLink

From January, use TransLink's online journey planner to find the best travel options for your child to travel to and from school. Our helpful tips for journey planning for school services makes planning your child's school journey even easier.



Alternatively, you can also use the school timetables search if you already know your bus route number.

Travel to school with go card

When your child travels to and from school on public transport with go card, they can save at least 30% compared to the cost of a single paper ticket. That's in addition to the 50% discount that school students pay compared to adults. These savings quickly add up!

Grab a go card for your child online or at selected retailers today.

Visit the TransLink website for full details on school transport, tickets and fares.

Is your child eligible for STAS?

The Queensland Government provides eligible school students travelling to and from primary and secondary schools with assistance via the School Transport Assistance Scheme (STAS).

Find out if your child is eligible and beat the rush – apply now and pick up your child's travel pass from your local operator today!

Kind regards

TransLink Customer Relations

Finance Office/Uniform Shop hours of operation

REMINDER: The **finance counter DOES NOT operate on Fridays for receipting**. This closure coincides with the current arrangements in place with the uniform/bookshop closed each Friday. Hours of operation are 8.00am to 2.00pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week.

Kellie Johnston

Business Services Manager

Payments Via Internet Banking

Paying for Miami High School excursions and/or fees is possible using Internet Banking.

The traditional payment methods are still available (Cash/EFTPOS/Credit Cards), but some people find Internet Banking much quicker and easier – especially because you can make payments 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from the comfort of your own home or office.

INTERNET BANKING DETAILS

Account Name: Miami State High School General A/c

Bank: Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Branch: Burleigh Heads

BSB: 064-404

Account Number: 00090020

PAYMENT REFERENCES

Each child has a unique Education Queensland Identification number (EQ ID). For all internet payments we will require you to use your child's EQ ID number to identify your payment, e.g. 0011223344W.

Please ensure each payment sent through has the following details within the Payment Reference so that we can clearly identify your payment.

Excursions:

>>Student EQ ID Excursion>> e.g 0011223344W Seaworld

Please ensure only one payment per student per excursion – If you have multiple students/excursions to pay for, please put each one through individually, unless otherwise arranged with the school office. As internet banking payments are not instant, please ensure internet payments are done 48 hours prior to payment cut-off date.

School Fees:

<<Student EQ ID Fees>> e.g. 0011223344W 2013 Text

If you have any questions relating to payments, please contact the payment office on 07 55540333 or email Angie Johnson on ajohn543@eq.edu.au.

Kellie Johnston
Business Services Manager

Update your Contact Details

ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE – INCLUDING EMERGENCY CONTACTS?

We have been experiencing a number of students presenting to sick bay with serious illnesses/injuries to warrant the school needing to urgently contact a parent/guardian or an emergency contact but with no success. Could you please make sure that your contact details are up to date and ensure your emergency contacts are available if you're not able to be contacted. This is especially important for when parents are travelling away during the school term and leaving students with guardians. Please feel free to contact the school either by email admin@miamishs.eq.edu.au or telephoning 5554 0333 to confirm your current details.

RTC SMS Text – Home Communication

To improve the communication between parents and the school, Responsible Thinking Classroom (RTC) SMS text messages will be sent daily for all students referred to the RTC. This will provide immediate feedback for parents allowing them to discuss issues with their student, and if they have any concerns, contact the school for clarification. The following texts will be used:

SMS text for daily RTC referral.

Dear parent, please be advised your student was referred to RTC today. Please discuss with your student and contact Miami SHS 55540333 if concerned.

SMS text for student reaching RTC Level 3.

Dear parent, your student has reached Level 3 on RTC. Please support by discussing this with your student. Thank you from Miami SHS.

SMS text for student reaching RTC Level 5.

Dear parent, your student has reached Level 5 on RTC. Please contact Miami SHS on 5554 0333 to arrange an intervention meeting time asap. Thank you.

SMS text for student reaching RTC Level 7.

Dear parent, your student has reached Level 7 on RTC. One more referral may result in suspension. Your urgent support is appreciated. Thanks Miami SHS 5554 0333.

Please take the opportunity to discuss this with your student, should you receive a text message regarding RTC. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Tiffany Grant / Glenn Smits
Student Support Coordinators

SEP News

JELLYBABIES PLAYGROUP

Miami State High School's 'Jellybabies' Playgroup, in conjunction with Playgroup Australia, welcomes parents/caregivers of young children to their playgroup every Wednesday morning (in school term) from 9:00-10:30am for fun-filled adventures with other young children while participating in educational games, craft, painting, water play table, dress-ups, sandpit, play dough, singing and other adventures whilst playing with other young children.

Students undertaking their Certificate III in Children's Services assist with activities. Morning tea is provided. Cost is \$4.00 per visit per family (no charge on your first visit). For further information please call Julieta Thomas at Miami High School direct 5554 0333 or email jthom843@eq.edu.au.

Education Minister Kate Jones Visits Miami High Students

The Honourable Kate Jones, Minister for Education, Tourism, Small Business and Commonwealth Games visited Miami High on Thursday 30th May 2015. She officially opened The Inspire Building with the help of some of our Year 7 students. The Year 7 Representatives welcomed the Minister. Noah van Drimmelen had a broad smile and a strong handshake and Josephine Dutton was the MC of the formal proceedings. Our Year 7 students were keen to share their thoughts and feelings about being in high school and Luke Robinson, did us all proud as he was interviewed by the media and told them that he "loved learning at Miami High".

Sharon Donald, Regional Director from Education Queensland also formally recognised our Flying Start teachers with a certificate. We have been lucky enough to be working with teachers who have made the transition from primary school to high school. Carol Petschler came in 2013 and Paula Andre in 2014. It is the first year of teaching in our high school for Jill Pead, Michelle Flynn, Tarley Hawke, Danielle Stewart and Jennifer McCarthy. Sharon was eager to hear about how they are finding teaching in the high school setting and she was happy to be reassured that they are enjoying it.



Year 7 Students at the opening of The Inspire Building

Year 11 Legal Studies

On Tuesday March 17, our Year 11 Legal Studies class had the chance to attend the Supreme and District Courts in Brisbane. This annual excursion provides students with the opportunity

to see the law in action and is always a fun day. This year students were lucky enough to see a variety of stages in the court process.



Supreme and District Courts in Brisbane

One group were present for the empanelling of a jury. This is the process whereby potential jurors are selected at random to walk past the lawyers to the jury box. At any stage before they reach the bailiff and are asked to swear their oath, either the prosecutor or the defence can object – no reason is given, and this often involves a lot of stereotyping based on the person’s appearance. As we had recently done an empanelling exercise in class, this was a really relevant and exciting lesson. We got to guess who might be challenged, and most of the time – got it right. We were also extremely lucky to have the judge offer us his time during an adjournment. He sat with us for about 20 minutes answering questions and sharing his thoughts about the law. It was a really great opportunity.

Other students chose to attend a trial that was mid-way through. They got to see witness testimony and observe the ways in which lawyers will cross-examine and try to trip up the other side’s witnesses. They found the whole session to be so dramatic that they couldn’t bring themselves to move onto any of the other cases.

Students will be attending the courts again next year. This will be more of a research exercise as they will go to the Supreme Court Library to help them with their Year 12 independent assignment, and if we have time we might sit in on a few cases again.

Learning about the law in a classroom is one thing, but seeing it in the real world is something completely different. Sometimes going to court and seeing it for themselves is the catalyst that inspires young people to want to become lawyers and judges – who knows if our day together this year will do just that.

Thanks for a great day Year 11.

Rebecca Churchouse
Legal Studies Coordinator

Year 7I Australian Native Animal Paintings

In Art recently, students in 7I have been studying the painting styles of Australian artists Dean Rotumah and Del Kathryn Barton who both depict Australian native animals in their works using symbols and patterns. Students combined colours, lines, shapes and dots to form these designs. Although only recently being changed into Visual Art, all of the students have done an amazing job of illustrating Australia’s dynamic and vibrant fauna. These paintings are currently on display in the office of Deputy Principal Melinda Jackson.



Year 7I Australian Native Animal Paintings

Year 9 Art

During Term One, Mr Barnard’s Year 9 Art class created self-portraits using symbolism to communicate each student’s identity. They developed methods of visual literacy and learned the importance of research to implement an informed visual style when approaching creative tasks. Every student in this class has learned the importance of preparation for a major artwork and they have seen the benefits. Students have effectively used media and mediums with a focus on watercolours, ink and paint. They have increased their knowledge about the elements and principles of design, particularly in the areas of: colour, line, shape, balance, composition and focal point. Students also critiqued a famous Australian artwork in a 500 word assignment. Through this unit of work, students have learned about both themselves and that art can be more than just personal expression – even if it is a self-portrait.



Artwork by Daniel, Year 9 Art Student

Get Active Miami High

‘an active body leads to an active brain’



Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning		7am Run Club (meet shades) 7am League Training (oval)	7.30 - 8.30 Miami Cheerleading	7.45am – 8.15am Dance Fitness (flexibility/stretch)	

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				Dance Studio	
Lunch	Soccer Competition (oval)	Soccer Competition (oval)		Soccer Competition (oval)	
Afternoon				3pm Allschools touch (oval)	Kokoda training (check E block staffroom)

Upcoming events: Cross Country Fri 15th May, Oceanic Cross Country Thurs 28th May

Gold Coast Suns Youth Girls AFL Cup

On the 28th of April, 21 girls from Miami State High School came together to represent the school at the 2015 Gold Coast Suns Youth Girls' AFL Cup after weeks of training and preparation. The competition was fierce, with 8 schools competing for the prestigious title. We won our first two games, 46-0 and 46-14 respectively. All of the girls played courageously. Jess Stephenson, Lucy Single, Bianca Perry, Amy Emerton, Liv Stephenson and Ashley Irvine were crowned players of the match by the two coaches, Miss McGinniskin and Miss Hawke and the Captain Liv Stephenson. Despite an outstanding performance, we were narrowly defeated in the final by one point. We will be back next year!



Miami High Girls AFL Team

Monday Night Touch Football

Over the past four weeks, over forty dedicated Miami SHS students have been competing in the Monday night Palm Beach Touch Football Competition. This year we have four teams including: 13 Girls, 13 Boys, 15 Boys and Open Mixed. This competition is assisting in the development of our students' touch football skills in preparation for the annual October 'All Schools Touch Football' competition in Brisbane. These students have also committed to weekly training sessions to further increase their touch football knowledge and performance. Coaches Mr Marshall, Mr Wilkinson, Mr Cross, Miss McGinniskin, Miss Buchanan and Mr Dowker are very proud of the students' determination so far and cannot wait to compete against school teams from Queensland, interstate and overseas.



Reef Trip

On the 13th of April, 2015, 30 senior students supervised by Mrs Coleman, Mr Hardman and Mr Unsworth were given the opportunity to experience the sunny paradise of Cairns and the Great Barrier Reef. The first day consisted of a quick free roam around Cairns followed by a "Reef Teach" presentation which prepared us for the many marine animals we were going to spot out on the reef.

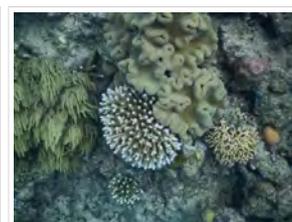
On the second day, after an hour boat ride to Fitzroy Island, we participated in sea kayaking and snorkelling in Shark Bay and along the coast line of the island. After waking in our tents at the crack of dawn, we had the opportunity to climb for 1.8km and appreciate the breathtaking view from the Fitzroy Island lighthouse. The third day consisted of a number of snorkelling opportunities, a chance to see turtles up-close in the turtle rehabilitation centre, a trip to Nudey beach and undertaking a survey for 'Eye on the Reef'. The Eye on the Reef program involved the use of waterproof pencils and slates to conduct underwater surveys while snorkelling. The data we collected will be used to further help the marine environment.

During the next day on the 'Cairns Dive Centre' boat, we had the opportunity to snorkel around Moore Reef and even scuba dive during scheduled times. Some students even took the opportunity to do their first ever night time scuba dive. The next day, once adapted to the constant rockiness of the boat, we had many more snorkelling and diving opportunities and even a few games of twister and Uno on the upper deck of the boat.

For our last day in Cairns we had a scavenger hunt around the city, informing us about local history and culture. Unfortunately, the scavenger hunt was done in torrential rain; however, we still had lots of fun.

The Reef Trip gave all of us a chance to appreciate the marine life up close and personal while bringing home many life time memories that we will never forget.

Taleea Menyweather **Year 12 Student**



Miami High Dance Excellence News

Miami High Dance Excellence 2015

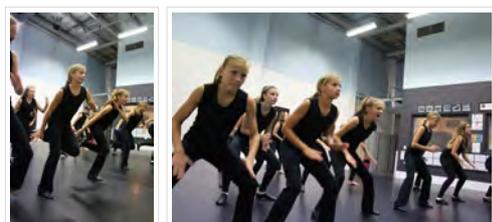
The Miami High Dance Studio is alive with activity as Term 2 begins with all 4 crews and Dance Xtreme busy rehearsing at lunch breaks.



- MDC, our boys hip hop crew led by Matt Carlson and Dane Shaw rehearse Monday lunch.
- MGC Jr., our junior girls dance crew led by Casey O'Leary and Jazmin O'Hare rehearse Tuesday lunch.
- MDA, (new to 2015) is Miami's dance acrobatics squad and they are busy flipping Wednesday lunch and
- MGC Sr., our senior girls dance crew led by Amber Wemyss rehearse Thursday lunch.
- Dance Xtreme, rehearse Friday lunch and Sport.

Students have been tapping, stepping and krumping up a storm in class participating in workshops provided by Raw Dance Company. The Year 8 Dance Excellence students have enjoyed a body percussion workshop assisting them with choreographic ideas for their Percussive Dance routines and the Year 10 and Year 11 Dance students thoroughly enjoyed their hip hop workshops, again providing choreographic ideas for their Popular Dance assessment tasks.

This term, classes will take to the stage performing class routines. Week 4 will see the Year 8 Dance Excellence class debut performing their modern jazz routine from Term 1 and week 6 will see the Year 12 Dance students perform their Term 1 musical theatre routine. Any opportunity to perform is always an exciting time so the students are certainly looking forward to doing so.



Miranda van't Hof
Dance Excellence Teacher | Artistic Director Dance Xtreme

Miami High Dance Xtreme News

Miami High Dance Xtreme 2015

The Dance Xtreme Program is designed as an extension program in Dance enabling students to further develop their abilities, undertake workshops with professional choreographers, showcase Miami High, compete at eisteddfods and foster primary links. The Dance Xtreme Students underwent a three-phase audition process to demonstrate their diversity as dancers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the overwhelming number of dancers who auditioned for their efforts. Students of the program are committed to a strenuous rehearsal schedule



throughout the year which is both in and out of school hours, attend weekly lessons during lunch hours, compete at an elite level, teach within the primary schools and push their bodies to discover the endless possibilities within dance. On Friday 1st May, at a special presentation on assembly, the students were formally introduced and presented with their Miami High Dance Xtreme kit followed by the announcement of the 2015 Miami High Dance Xtreme Captain, Eliza Joiner. The presentation concluded with the dancers performing their 2015 squad routine titled, Heroes.

Year 7 Dance Excellence

- Caitlyn Carlson
- Jay Grant

Year 8 Dance Excellence

- Maddison Levi
- Alixana McFarlane

Year 9 Dance Excellence

- Zoe Joiner
- Claudia Mitchell
- Jazmin O'Hare
- Casey O'Leary

Year 11 Dance

- Tiahna Laan
- Amber Wemyss

Year 12 Dance

- Morgan Hull
- Eliza Joiner (Captain)
- Lachlan McKee



Dance Rehearsals

Miranda van't Hof
Dance Excellence Teacher | Artistic Director Dance Xtreme

7H Art

Class 7H working on construction and painting of Candy Skulls in their visual art unit.



Study Tour Home Stay



Become a part of our International Student Program

Miami State High School is looking for families to welcome International Study Tour Students into their homes for 3 weeks.

This is a fun and rewarding experience for everyone and if you fit into the following, we want to hear from you!

- **Every person in the household over the age of 18 must hold a Blue Card (this can be applied for through us).**
- **The home needs to be within 3km range of the School.**

Payment discussed on application.

If you or anyone you know may be interested in this wonderful experience

Please contact the International Student Department on
07 5554 0333



Miami High School Study Tour Home Stay Opportunity

Southport Yacht Club Open Day

Southport Yacht Club is holding their Open Day on Sunday 31 May 2015. Please see the attached flyer for full details.

Community News

Tennis Central at Miami Open Day

This is the official launch of Tennis Central at Miami High School. Please see the attached flyer for more information.



Tennis Open Day



Join us at your local tennis club and play tennis with our coaches for FREE!!

Try our ANZ Hot shots program

Free professional coaching

Free Prizes

Free prizes

Come on down with your friends

Meet our fantastic coaches

Fast4 Tennis

TennisCentral
10 am – 2 pm
14th June 2015
Miami state school
info@tenniscentralmiami.com
0424703942



For more details visit
<http://www.tenniscentralmiami.com/#!openday/cev1>