Toolooa State High School
Tune In Toolooa

Principal's Piece: Garry Goltz

School Leaders for 2015
We would like to congratulate our School Captains and Vice-Captains for 2015.
School Captains: Georgia Robertson and Kaitlyn Read
School Vice Captains: Georgia Muir and Sarah Lumsden
School Leader: Megan Pascoe

The pool of students vying for leadership opportunities was extremely strong and we feel very fortunate to have young people of this quality leading our school in 2015. As was the theme at this year’s awards evening: The Future is Yours!

Last week for year 12
12 years of hard work and persistence are paying off for our graduating class of 2014. This really is an important milestone and we look forward to sharing this event with our students. We encourage our parents to support them to keep on track over this final week; it is essential that the high expectations built with this group continue right to the last day so that they can finish strong.

Uniform news
As we have explained previously, from 2015 the Toolooa SHS uniform will be sold by our P&C from the uniform room attached to the tuckshop building. Over the next few weeks, an information pack will be posted home which will outline the ordering procedures, sizing charts and pick up times. We recognise that our parents and students are very keen to get organised and we thank you for your patience as we transition to this new process.

Teaching and Learning Audit
Over the next few weeks we will receive some more detailed feedback about our recent Teaching and Learning Audit however I feel that it is important to pass on some of the general feedback. A very strong culture for learning has been developed at Toolooa SHS and this showed through very clearly in the audit. Student have high expectations of themselves, we have a staff that believe in the direction our school is headed and we have a community that recognises the tremendous improvement at Toolooa High. A range of the innovative approaches in our school were also identified along with some recommended areas to continue to focus on. It provided a great foundation for our continued journey of improvement. We look forward to continue to build this very strong school.

Attendance Improvement
I would like to personally thank our parents, students and staff for the significant improvement in attendance at Toolooa SHS this year. Our overall attendance has improved by over 3% this year which reflects the clear focus in our school and supported by a range of targeted approaches aimed at greater connectedness with students and parents. This increase in attendance enables our students to access more of the quality teaching more often, clearly leading to improved outcomes. We look forward to continue the attendance improvements next year.

Reading
How often do your children read? What do they read? In the digital age we seem to have less and less of our young people reading for pleasure. How does this connect to their current and future needs? Put simply, the ability to read and comprehend effectively is an essential life-long skill. At Toolooa SHS we have a very clear, deliberate focus on improving the ability of our young people to engage in text and effectively comprehend what they are reading. Substantial time and expertise is being targeted to this area for 2015 and we look forward to seeing the improvements from the hard work. We would encourage our parents to also make reading a focus at home.

Term Attendance Level:

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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
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<td>Year 8</td>
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<td>Year 9</td>
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<td>Year 10</td>
<td>88.7%</td>
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<td>Year 11</td>
<td>92.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>93.8%</td>
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For the Fridge
- Year 12’s Final Day
- Whole School Parade
- Year 9 & 10 Attendance Celebration
- Year 10 & 11 Final Day
- Canberra Trip for Yr. 9’s
- Transition Day Yr. 6-7
- Transition Day Yrs. 7-8 2015
- P&C Meeting—6:30pm
- Last Day for Yrs. 7,8 & 9.
Term 4 Week 7

This week marks the end of school life for our year 12 students. They are participating in a variety of activities and programs that will assist them in their transition to the next stage in their journey. No doubt there will be some tears of sadness and of joy. We wish them all the very best for the future.

Students in year 7 through to 11 are currently working hard in every lesson completing tests, assignments and other assessment tasks. There are a large number of items due towards the end of the term and it is important that you talk with your child about the need to be organised and plan ahead so that they are able to complete all of the assigned tasks. Chat with your child about the grade in each subject that they are currently sitting on, ask them what their goal has been for this term. Your child will be able to tell you what he or she needs to do to improve their grade.

One of Toolooa’s School priorities has been to try and improve attendance. While our attendance is gradually improving we are keen to encourage those students who are attending consistently. Hence the logic behind our attendance celebration sessions each term.

On Monday afternoon we saw the year 7 and 8 attendance celebration afternoon. The students had a fabulous time. Possibly the highlight was when they were able to slime the teachers. Next week the year 9 and 10 students will participate in their attendance celebration. This afternoon will involve lots of fun and possibly a fairly generous amount of water.

There is one more positive event that needs to be shared. Last Thursday students in the Doorways to Civil Construction Program had their graduation ceremony. All of the students did an amazing job and their instructors speak very highly of them. Congratulations to the following year 10 students; Aiden Melville, Ryan Elliott, Mitchell Glossop, Hayden Lee, Bradley Howard, and Matthew Fretwell. Further congratulations to Ryan Elliott who was names as Student of the Year at Doorways to Civil Construction.

Students are achieving great results in a variety of different areas. It is lovely to celebrate the achievements of our students.

Cheers

Mrs Danielle Willard

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Toolooa SHS Junior Secondary Orientation days

This year we will again be holding two orientation days, one for students from Year 6 and one for students from Year 7. On Thursday the 4th of December, Year 6 students who will be attending Toolooa SHS in 2015 will visit Toolooa for the day.

On Friday the 5th of December, we will be holding an orientation day for Year 7 students intending to come to Toolooa in 2015.

Both days will begin with a bell at 8:45am and students will move to the shelter. They will be organised into groups and will attend four lessons during the day. TSHS Junior Secondary student leaders have been selected to take groups to each lesson and work in the class with them as well as taking them to and from their lunch area.

Towards the end of lesson 4 on each day, all students will return to the shelter for a question and answer session with our Principal, Mr Garry Goltz. It is important that students are aware that they must organise their own transport to and from Toolooa and that they:

◆ wear full primary school uniform, particularly appropriate footwear
◆ bring an exercise book and pen, pencil and ruler, water bottle and a hat
◆ bring lunch or money to purchase lunch at our canteen

Any required medications should be clearly labelled and taken to our office.

Please note that students will be given all relevant information and handouts to ensure they are ready to commence Year 7 or Year 8 in 2015 on Tuesday, January 27th.

Students will be released from the shelter at 3pm to go home. Staff will be available on bus duty to assist students who are to travel on buses.

Any questions can be directed to the Year 8 Coordinator Craig O’Connor, on 49714341 or via e-mail at cocon20@eq.edu.au or Year 7 Coordinator Andrew Shonhan on 49714352 or ashon3@eq.edu.au.
The Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) Australian National Chemical Analysis (Titration) Competition has been running since 1984. Acid-base titration is a method in chemistry that allows quantitative analysis of the concentration of an unknown acid or base solution. This technique is used for chemical analysis in nearly every working laboratory.

The competition has two stages – the first round involves Regional Competitions in each state. The teams that place 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the Regional Competition are then invited to take part in the National Finals.

This year there were approximately 150 teams who qualified for and competed in the National Final. Toolooa’s Team 1 placed 2nd in the regional competition and were invited to compete in the National Final.

Congratulations to Toolooa Team 1 (consisting of Kahla Button, Zoe Frazer and Kaitlyn Read) for placing 25th in this challenging National Competition, which took place on the 30th of October. Kahla and Zoe both received Gold medallions, while Kaitlyn received a Silver medallion. The team score also means that the team will receive an award for being an Excellent team.

To get an understanding of how accurate students need to be, consider how the scores are calculated. Firstly, students determine the concentration of an unknown substance accurately to 4 significant figures. This figure is then multiplied by one million and subtracted from the actual exact answer times one million. If the difference between these two figures is 20 or less, a student will receive a Gold award. The team score is determined by squaring these individual figures and adding them together. A score of 1000 or less is considered to be an excellent team. This year our team score was 745.

Students participated in four after school practice sessions in order to prepare for the National Final. We would like to thank Miss Cooper and Mrs Heather Warren from QAL for giving up their time to train the titration team. We would also like to thank QAL for donating chemicals which were used in practice sessions and the competition itself.

**Toolooa Team Places 25th in National Final of Titration Competition**

Team 1 - Excellent Team Award, 2 Gold Medals and 1 Silver Medal

Left to Right: Zoe Frazer, Kahla Button, Kaitlyn Read

Left to Right: Kaitlyn, Zoe and Kahla
Youngest Stage Manager Emerges From Toolooa

Local Community member Michael Lunan, scripted an original Musical “The Chrysalides” and recently advertised for members of the community to get involved. Mr Lunan has watched all of the local Musicals at the Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre, and after seeing Toolooa’s fantastic Musical ‘Alice In Wonderland,’ contacted me (Mindi Mewing) to ask for assistance with his production. In our school Musical, many Toolooa students demonstrated skills and talents from acting and singing, to lighting operations and backstage prop management. Due to the skills shown by these students I sought their talents for this new opportunity. Sam Battye, Jarrod Norris and Brad Howard were our Follow Spot Operators up in the ceiling, Gianne Boon, Cheyanne Paech and Michela Guidi were our swift stage ninjas that moved all of the props and set, and Anna Miekle who was our Ninja leader and Stage Manager’s assistant in ‘Alice In Wonderland’ was promoted to Stage Manager for “The Chrysalides.” Many Toolooa students had also already auditioned and been selected as main cast members such as Josie Fulton Smith, Taylor Gilmore, Tara and Cat O’rourke, Jeffrey Seminski, Skye Kierys and many more.

The energetic musical was a fantastic opportunity for students to apply their skills, make new friends and develop their abilities. This was a great opportunity for Anna Miekle – grade 8 student at Toolooa to develop her leadership capacity. Anna demonstrated patience, perseverance, maturity, high levels of focus, and took to the leadership role like a duck to water. As the weeks went by, her confidence grew, her understanding of the process of being a stage manager progressed and the scaffolded support I needed to provide was able to slowly melt away until she was completely in charge of calling the cues for the show.

When an audience collects their tickets to a musical- they often don’t understand the magnitude of what happens behind stage to create the visual delight they are about to encounter. Anna watched the rehearsals, read the script, assisted in planning the lighting colours and effects, where curtains and blackout were needed, where and when props and sets need to change, where sound effects need to be included etc. Once the planning was in place, she participated in the long light plotting process where we sat with the Entertainment Centre’s lighting technician, and explained which and when lights needed to change so that he could plot it into his computer system. Anna then chatted with the Technicians over a headset system as they stepped through the plotted lights to polish up the timing of when she needed to call the cues and to test the visual effect.

Anna started out nervous and just listening and watching the process, to stepping in and taking charge. Her vocal delivery of calling cues developed out of sight, and her timing of calling the cues was spot on. She worked towards calling the entire show, and by the final day- she called 2 shows completely by herself. The Entertainment Centre technicians and myself were extremely impressed by Anna’s leadership abilities and she is officially the youngest Stage Manager to run a large production such as this- at the young age of 13! It was an absolute delight teaching Anna the skills to run a show. Stage Manager is the most important role in an entire production. The follow spot operators, props manager, director, lighting and sound technicians, curtain operators and fly operators all listen to the cues called by the Stage Manager. Every time a light changed, a sound effect occurred, a follow spot was used, a prop was moved, the orchestra played a song and confetti etc was dropped - it was Anna instructing those actions with precision of timing.

**Anna Miekle:** “Being Stage Manager has possibly been the most rewarding and fun thing I’ve done in a long time. A few months ago when Miss Mewing offered me the position, we started attending rehearsals. I was thinking “how hard can it be?” Then after many weekend rehearsals we moved to the Entertainment centre. The first rehearsal where I started calling the cues, I was unsure and my voice was squeaky. I was really nervous, but I had spent so much time preparing for it to quit, and the Entertainment Centre guys were really nice and patient. By the final show I was calling cues with confidence. I definitely want to do this again, and I’ll probably join Community productions – the sooner the better. Miss Mewing helped me a lot and kept me focussed and gave me more confidence than I had myself.”

**Congratulations Anna!! What an amazing job!!**

Mindi Mewing
Performance Excellence Program Coordinator
Year 9 Dance Enjoys Theatre Outing For “Cinderella” Ballet

The Queensland Ballet together with Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre, recently presented “Cinderella” to a large and excited audience. Miss Meghan Gwynne- year 9 Dance teacher, as part of Toolooa’s Dance Curriculum, took a large group of excited and enthusiastic young future dancers to watch this spellbinding Disney favourite. As part of their assessment- the students were able to engage in a real life theatre experience to reflect on and use as a stimulus for their Responding task. The Arts department prides itself on offering students authentic real life practical experiences, to help them grow in their chosen Arts field.

The year 9 students took the opportunity to dress beautifully for the occasion, and for many, this was the first time they had ever been to a Theatre and the first time also watching a Ballet. The Ballet had students impressed and in awe of the skill and technique, as well as having them in fits of laughter as the ‘ugly step sisters’ bounded around clumsily on the stage. It was a beautiful mix of comedy and classic beauty. It was fantastic to see how many of the students came along - nearly filling an entire row at the Centre. The students were chatting excitedly after the show, commenting on all of the highlights and buzzing from the experience.

The Queensland Ballet brought the story to life with grace and humour. From the sets of the palace, to the glittering gowns and magical carriage pulled by stylistic horses; the Ballet captured the student’s imaginations and hearts.

What a fantastic experience. It was a stunning night that staff and students will remember for a long time. Who knew assessment could be so moving.

-Mindi Mewing
Performance Excellence Program Coordinator

UNIFY Project 2014

As part of our learning culture at Toolooa SHS, we are continually looking for opportunities for our students to extend their learning and challenge themselves. During Term 2 and Term 3, 14 of our Year 8 and Year 9 English Extension students participated in the Unify Project. This project was an online learning project conducted through the Brisbane School of Distance Education in conjunction with the University of Queensland. Students were engaged in a number of activities, including creative writing skills. The aim of the Unify Project is to expose students to creative ways of thinking and upskilling their writing ability.

The students found the experience to be extremely rewarding and were able to apply their online learning to their classroom tasks immediately. Often the students involved would inform their classroom teacher about the exciting information they had gained from their weekly sessions. Overall, the experience and knowledge gained by the students was invaluable and we are looking forward to having the same opportunity in 2015.

The students involved in the 2014 Unify project were: Tara Amine, Nicholas Versic, Merin Ward, Lily Furness, Lachlan Christie, Anna Meikle, Amy Crook, Jarrod Norris, Emily Robertson, Jessica Rose, Jasmine Elliott, Gracie Martin, Emilie Vogler and Atria Rezwan.
Well done to the Year 10 students who graduated from the EQIP Doorways to Civil Construction program on Thursday 13th November: Aiden Melville, Ryan Elliott, Mitchell Glossop, Hayden Lee, Bradley Howard, and Matthew Fretwell. The EQIP Doorways to Civil Construction is delivered at McCosker Contracting Pty Ltd, Gladstone, where Year 10 students commit to 1 day per week on-site and structured work placements with Civil Construction companies. The program aims to develop baseline skills for young people in school wanting to enter the industry. Year 10 students remain enrolled at their base school and are on site one day per week working with a variety of mentors at McCosker Contracting performing real tasks in real contracting situations. Students in the EQIP Doorways to Civil Construction program are enrolled in a Certificate 1 in Resource and Infrastructure Operations which is an entry qualification for careers in civil construction and mining industries amongst others. Congratulations to Ryan Elliott who was awarded Student of the Year for excellent effort and commitment in all aspects of the EQIP Doorways to Civil Construction Program (theory, practical work, and structured workplace learning).

Congratulations to Noah Saumalu Johnson for completing the Santos GLNG Work Readiness and Retention Program, a Santos GLNG school-based apprenticeship and traineeship program, delivered in partnership with BUSY At Work, local host employers and Toolooa, Tannum Sands and Gladstone State High Schools. The school-based apprenticeship and traineeship initiative is a two-year program funded by Santos GLNG that provides pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to begin work placements and complete formal qualifications in their chosen fields. Noah is pictured with his grandfather Uncle Lindsay Johnson, Busy At Work General Manager Workforce Planning Sue Loche and Santos GLNG Stakeholder Manager Garry Scanlan.
Career Opportunities and News

QTAC Final Date to Change Preferences
Wednesday 7th January is the final date to add, move or delete preferences for the main offer round.
http://www.qtac.edu.au/Applying-NonYear12/KeyDates.html

QUT: New Double Degrees with Biomedical Science
QUT has introduced two new double degrees, both available for entry in Semester 1, 2015:
Bachelor of Biomedical Science/Bachelor of Business, 4 years full-time
Bachelor of Biomedical Science/Bachelor of Laws (Honours), 5.5 years full-time
A double degree in biomedical science with business or laws prepares graduates to work as part of multidisciplinary teams in biomedical research, development and commercialisation.

University of the Sunshine Coast: New Programs in 2015
USC have 18 new programs beginning in 2015 including:
Bachelor of Animal Ecology
Bachelor of Criminology and Justice
Bachelor of Design and Marketing
Bachelor of Health and Community Care Management
Bachelor of Laws / Bachelor of Commerce (Financial Planning)
Diploma in Languages
http://www.usc.edu.au/rise#degrees

JMC Academy Creative Industries Open Day
Saturday 17th January, 2015 @ JMC Academy Brisbane
Check out what your future could hold with JMC Academy. On the day you will take a campus tour, undertake a focused overview on your course of interest, and speak first-hand with current students and staff.

Aviation Australia Careers Day
Saturday 13th December, 8:30am - 10:30am @ 25 Boronia Rd, Eagle Farm, Brisbane
Explore the Brisbane campus, experience some of the most advanced training equipment and speak to industry experts to discover what life as an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer is like.

Jazz Music Institute Summer Jazz Clinics
Registrations are now open for the 2015 JMI Summer Jazz Clinics. The 4-day Jazz Clinics will be held between 19th & 22nd January and are designed for students of all ages and abilities.
The clinic costs $300.
For more information and to register, visit the website:
http://www.jazz.qld.edu.au/

Remembrance Day Service 2014
Tuesday 11th November saw a group of student leaders from Toolooa attend the Remembrance day service at Anzac Park. While students at school remembered those who died or suffered for Australia’s cause in wars and conflicts by observing one minutes silence the student leaders showed their respect at the community service and by laying a wreath of remembrance.
The students who attended represented themselves and Toolooa with respect and dignity deserving of such an occasion.
Year 8 Students Create Model Cells

This term, as part of a biology unit in year eight science, students were required to research and report upon typical and specialised plant and animal cells. As a culmination to this task, students created cell models out of their favourite foods. Some students chose to use savoury ingredients, creating a curry or a pasta dish. Other students used cookies or cakes as their base and topped them with icing. The most popular of all the options was a jelly base with the most ridiculous combination of lollies available!

Kieren Clements  Kael Brennan  Merin Ward

Declan Hage  Tara Amine & Anna Meikle

Tierney Sunderland  Lily Furness
Feeling Lost?

Feeling lost? Not sure how to get from Point A to Point B? Well lucky for you our year 12 Maths A students have just completed an intensive unit on navigation. Now they can safely show you how to navigate your vessel via a variety of methods in and around the local water ways and islands off the Gladstone coast.

Greg Hage
HOD Mathematics
Toolooa State High School Office Hours

Monday to Friday 8:00am - 3:30 pm
General Enquiries Ph. 07 4971 4333
Student Absentee Notification Ph. 07 4971 4360

COMMUNITY NOTICES

SYNFEST 2015
Youth Holiday Program
January 5-16 2015

Tickets on Sale
from 10am Wednesday,
December 3
www.gladecc.com.au

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