After one year in the role of Principal at Redlynch State College I have had the chance to reflect back on an action filled year through a comprehensive annual review process undertaken by the leadership team. Our strengths have been clearly identified giving us confidence to ensure these practices are well embedded into the future. Areas for school improvement have been carefully identified and detailed strategies developed, ensuring we remain on the path of providing a high quality education that enables all students to reach their potential.

The Primary Campus has had a proven academic record for many years and as the Secondary Campus matures with strong academic cohorts moving through to complete their senior schooling, it gives us confidence that the academic prowess of our students will continue to move from strength to strength. As a high performing school it is important that we:

- Continually revise and renew benchmarks to stretch both student and teacher capabilities.
- Explicitly teach knowledge and skills from respected, research-based programs.
- Provide opportunity to extend our high achieving students in all aspects of the curriculum.
- Monitor all students’ progress closely and regularly, particularly those who are falling behind.
- Provide immediate, relevant, short-term, intensive and early intervention to students who fall behind. Success in literacy and numeracy takes precedence over other learning.
- Provide continuous coaching and feedback to teachers - all teachers operating as high performers.
- Quality control and assurance program delivery and standards.

It has been a very smooth and positive start to the 2013 school year with over 1,830 students enrolled—an increase of 70 students from the previous year. By 10.00am on the first day, all students were in class and actively engaged in new learning. Class sizes and the staffing allocation were finalised at the end of last week and, as expected with an increase on predicted enrolments, there are changes that needed to be enacted across several year levels in the College. This can have an unsettling effect but, unfortunately, is a necessary component of responding to change in an effective way. After this week classroom routine will once again resume optimum efficiency.

At the start of the year all College staff once again focused on the understanding of our school vision of “Learning in our Valley, Thinking beyond the Hills”. Each of these words has a deliberate meaning and forms the basis for all College strategic initiatives. The vision is also supported by our College Philosophy -Relationships, Success, Connections, Equity and Quality (RSCEQ). These 5 words form the foundation of how we conduct ourselves and go about our business. It is important that we continue the promotion of ideals within the total school community.

Phone 24 hours a day to advise the reason why your student will be or was late/absent from school on: 4039 9294
We have so much to celebrate as a leading school within the FNQ Region. It is important to ensure that the broader community and potential enrolments also have an appreciation of what great programs we have to offer. Expanding our marketing approach is one way of achieving this. In 2012 we established a strong foundation for this through increased media coverage, a more professional newsletter, the creation of compendiums for both campuses and, most recently, the installation of a new web site. On 22nd December we launched stage 1 of the new web site featuring a user friendly layout with loads of information at your fingertips. Over the next 10 months you will see many of the drop down boxes expand even further with improved visuals and succinct messages. I encourage you to take the time to scan over the site

NEWSLETTER 2013

This year we will continue to distribute our fortnightly newsletter in a colour format to the youngest student in the family. Please follow up at home to ensure that it safely makes it to your household. The focus for newsletters will once again be the celebration of student and staff achievement and to pass on important information to parents.

PROMOTING STATE EDUCATION

FNQ STATE SCHOOL EDUCATION – FROM CRAYONS TO CAREERS

I am pleased to include in the first College newsletter a copy of a regional brochure called “From Crayons to Careers”. To know more about opportunities available to students in state school education throughout the Far North read From Crayons to Careers. This brief brochure talks about our Service Commitment which states:

100 per cent of students in our state schools will graduate as confident and healthy young Australians and achieve:

• an Overall Position (OP) and enter university, or
• a Vocational Education and Training (VET) pathway to employment, or
• paid employment of 25+ hours per week, or
• alternative pathways for some students with special needs.

As the name suggests From Crayons to Careers includes information from early childhood to future career pathways as well as quotes from students, parents and principals.

High expectations for learning have been clearly set for all students at the start of the year. The first month demands a focus on being organized for class and to be neatly presented. This requires students to be in full school uniform, have all their equipment available, familiarizing themselves with their timetable or classroom routines, arriving to class on time, setting up the student planner and establishing a homework routine. These are all very basic skills but are vital to students achieving their optimum performance and support from home on these matters is also a necessary ingredient.

PARENT TEACHER MEET AND GREET / INFORMATION SESSIONS

These are really important occasions as it gives parents the opportunity to find out more information on the priorities of the classroom and how best to support their child at home. I encourage all to attend.

Primary Campus- Prep to Year 1 - Tuesday 12th Feb, 5.30 to 6.30pm, meet at the covered area near tuckshop
Years 2 and 3 - Tuesday 12th Feb, 6.30 to 7.30pm, meet at the covered area near tuckshop
Year 4- Wednesday 13th Feb, 5.30 to 6.30pm, meet at the covered area near tuckshop
Year 5 - Wednesday 13th Feb, 6.30 to 7.30pm, meet at the covered area near tuckshop
Year 6- Wednesday 13th Feb, 7.30 to 8.30pm, meet at the covered area near tuckshop

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 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.

Our Student Leaders Investiture will be conducted at the Multipurpose Hall on Friday 22nd February at 10.00am. I would like to extend an invitation to all parents/guardians of our Years 4 to 12 students to join us for this celebration.

I would also like to invite parents to contact the school to share your thoughts on any aspect of our school and encourage you to become members of the P & C.
Meetings are usually held every second Tuesday of the month, commencing with a social chat at 6.30pm and the formal meeting commencing at 7.00pm. Due to the parent information night, this month’s meeting (Tuesday, 12th February) will commence at 7.30pm. Through close and positive relationships between parents, students and staff, we are confident that our school can provide excellent learning opportunities for your child. I look forward to an exciting and rewarding year.

Tony Fuller
Principal

WELCOME TO REDLYNCH STATE COLLEGE 7-12 CAMPUS

Welcome to both our continuing parents and students and to those of you who are joining the Redlynch State College community this year.

I hope that you all were fortunate enough to have an enjoyable break over Christmas and that you were able to enjoy the company of family and friends. 2013 promises to be another busy year with plenty of challenges and excitement and the potential for achievement and success for all students.

Towards the end of 2012, and for the first few weeks of 2013, the Administration team on the 7-12 Campus has spent a considerable amount of time talking to parents and students – there are new enrolments, students changing subjects and often parents and students looking at ways to make 2013 a more successful year. My advice on how to be successful at school is very simple, and I hope my following thoughts are useful.

Clearly identify with your son or daughter what it is that they hope to achieve in 2013. The concept of ‘success’ varies from student to student, it could be that the student wants better academic results or a school based apprenticeship or, if in Year 12, a certain OP.

My experience is that students who can clearly answer the question ‘what do I hope to achieve in the coming year?’ will have a successful year and those students who have no idea what they hope to achieve will struggle.

Identify who is responsible for achieving the success. It is very important that students understand that they are responsible for their actions and achievements – parents and school have a very significant responsibility to support and assist the student but it is the student who must take the ultimate responsibility.

Have the correct text books and equipment.

The vast majority of students have joined the text book hire scheme and text books are provided by the school. Check to see that your student has collected the text books. Also check that they have the correct notebooks and equipment as recommended by their teacher.

Build homework into the routine of the student. Students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 should expect to do homework for approx. 5 hours / week. In years 11 and 12 there will be significant variations in homework depending on the course selected. Students studying an academic course should expect to do between 10 and 15 hours homework every week.

INTERNATIONAL HOME STAY STUDY TOUR PROGRAM

HELP NEEDED!

Each year we welcome several groups of international students, wanting to enhance their English Language skills and learn more about our culture. Most of these international visits take place between July and October.

Some of these groups participate in Home Stay where they attend school with “Buddies” and stay with families from our school community.

These home stay visits are usually for 4 to 10 days and families receive remuneration to cover the cost of food, laundry etc.

Lifelong friendships fostered between students and host families are a lasting testament to the value of this program.

We need to expand our data base in 2013. If you would like your family to share in this exciting experience, please contact Robyn Schulte rschu47@eq.edu.au.

YEAR 12 STUDENTS IN 2012

107 students completed year 12 in 2012. These students represented 107 individual characters with their own individual skills and aspirations. It is very important that when we talk about groups of students we remember that there is no simple method of describing the achievements of an individual, let alone a large group.

As a group they contributed positively to a developing College and as individuals I wish them every success for the future. 51 of these students chose to receive an OP and as a College we were happy with the overall distribution. The vast majority of these OP students gained entry to the course of their choice. 40% of these students gained an OP of 10 or better.

Special mention must be made of the College Dux, Stephanie, who has accepted a place studying Engineering at JCU and has also received a $20,000 “Supporting Women in Engineering Scholarship”.

As mentioned in a previous newsletter 2012 College Captain Tayla has been successful in gaining a Dean’s Scholarship to the value of $62,000 to study a double Bachelor of Law and International Relationships at Bond University. Other OP students will be undertaking studies in various areas such as Psychology, Archaeology, Science, Sport and Exercise Science, Education, Business, Multimedia and Nursing.

Mr Wilson, Associate Principal, 7-12 Campus

FROM THE ENGLISH STAFF

Welcome back to all students. We, as an English staff, are very excited about teaching you in 2013. Our staff this year has been enhanced by the addition of three new teachers: Kylie Child, Jodie Hogan and Kate Hall, bringing our team up to 16 members. We also welcome back Arlene Lewis and myself (Pru Pyers) who have been on leave looking after small children in 2012. Thank you students and staff for an amazing start to the year. All reports have been positive so far and I look forward to seeing this continue. Stay tuned for competitions and ventures in the English department for 2013.

Pru Pyers English HOD

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

This year, our Year 10 students will be undertaking work experience in Term 2 from 13 to 17 May. We would like to expand our data base of work experience providers. If you or your employer is able to participate in this program please contact Robyn Schulte rschu47@eq.edu.au. If you have a business card, please drop it into the Office and Robyn will contact you.

7-12 LIBRARY NEWS

Great things are happening for the start of 2012. We have celebrated Australia Day and Chinese New Year with displays and the Valentine’s Day hearts are going up this week.

The new shelf ends have arrived giving the whole Library a facelift.

If you find you have some time on your hands, come in and give us a hand. We have lots of new maths textbooks to cover and history ones are on the way. We will give you lessons and cups of tea.

Contact Jan or Liz in the Library on 30299232.

YEAR 12 CAMP

This year, the Year 12 students are heading out on camp during week 3, the 13th, 14th and 15th February. The camp is at Undara and this year, the focus is “Teamwork”. Activities have been planned to encourage our students to work together as a tight-knit group. Payment must be made by Friday 8th December to the Payments Window and permission forms returned to Mrs Wedmaier.

In 2013 we return to the Undara Experience with a camping experience on the 131st anniversary of the Eureka Stockade. This will be a trip through time, with students returning to the year 1854 for a real experience of the time. Students will be living in tents, cooking on open fires and learning about the people and events that have shaped modern Australia.

The Redlynch State College Relief Cleaners Wanted for 2013

$25.52 per hour split shifts
5am – 8.30am / 2.30pm to 6pm
Training provided by working in a team environment

Redlynch State College
Relief Cleaners Wanted for 2013

More Information:
Please phone Lesley Maykin
Office: 40399210
Mobile: 0427649099
Email: lmayk2@eq.edu.au

FAMILY FESTIVAL BOOK STALL

For all of you who had a clean out over the holidays and have books to give away, please send them in and we will sell them on the Family Festival Book Stall. We are happy to take books, dvds and magazines.
SPORTS CORNER

Redlynch State College is a sun safe school

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. At Redlynch State College, we are committed to providing a sunsafe learning environment for your child. Given that students are at school during peak ultraviolet radiation (UVR) times throughout the day. Can you please assist us by ensuring that your child has a school hat and that they take it with them every day to school.

Trinity Coast North & Barron River District Sports

Students have the opportunity to attend TCN (13 years & older) and Barron River (10 to 12 years old) sports trials which are usually held after school with the intent of representing the school and themselves at a “higher level”. Students who are successful in gaining selection in the TCN or Barron River Team then attend the PENINSULA TRIALS / CHAMPIONSHIPS on a set day and can be eligible to be selected in the Regional Team. These students then have the opportunity to attend the State Championships in their respective sports.

Redlynch State College

Barron River District Sport (10, 11 & 12 year olds)

Trinity Coast North District Sport (Open or 15 & Under)

Peninsula Sport (Regional Team)

Queensland Schools Championships (State Team)

We encourage all our students to attend these trials and work towards achieving their best in sport. Dates and trials are advertised extensively at school and through the newsletter, morning notices and on the sports notice board at the sports hall (7-12).

Date Claimer – TCN TERM 1 2013

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Barron River dates are still yet to be released.

All students who would like to attend any of the above trials MUST see Miss Velonias to collect the relevant paper work and trial information.

CISSA SPORT

Redlynch State College will enter the Cairns Inter-school Sports Competition (CISSA) for the third year running. The competition will take place each Wednesday afternoon during school time throughout semester 1 for students in Years 11 & 12. The competition is run on a home and away basis, with 10 local schools involved. This competition provides senior students with many valuable experiences and opportunities for success in a sporting area. Trials are being held each Wednesday afternoon during school time until week 3.

Swimming Carnival

Our annual swimming carnival is on the 28th February at Smithfield swimming pool. Students from Years 7 to 12 will be taking part in the carnival through competitive and non-competitive races. Nominations for competitive races will be taken in form classes. Information regarding the swimming carnival has been sent home already. Students have the option of catching the bus from the college or meeting us at the pool. Notes and payment need to be returned to the payments window by Friday, 22nd February.
Redlynch State College – Excellence in Sports Awards Dinner
After the success of last year’s event, we will be holding the sports awards dinner on Friday, 18th October. The night will highlight the sporting achievements of students at the College. We would like to form a parent/staff committee to ensure the night is a success. If you are interested in helping out please contact me via email.

Sport House Captains
Congratulations to our 7-12 House Captains for 2013:
Cascades – Emily and Jesse, Rapids – Hilary and Nathan
Falls – Rachel and Cameron and Torrents – Teegan and Kelly

Get out and get involved in sport.
Hooroo,
Cassy Velonias, Sports Coordinator, Redlynch State College  cvelo4@eq.edu.au

P-6 SPORTS
Welcome to Term 1 2013. Year 2 and 3 students will be swimming this term at Smithfield Swimming pool. Swimming starts in Week 3, Monday, February 11th. Money and permission notes need to be returned by Thursday, February 7th. The cost of swimming is $65. If you can help out in any way please see your child’s class teacher. Remember, Monday is swimming day.

In Physical Education lessons students in Prep – Year 3 participate in skill based activities moving into minor games. Years 4-6 participate in Games Sense activities, which involves playing small sided games within the major games. This encourages maximum participation and teaches tactics and strategies in playing the game. It also allows students to play against other students with similar ability.

This term all PE lessons will be held on the Covered Basketball Court. Prep and Year 1 students start with a movement/spatial awareness program, followed by ball control and throwing and catching skills. Years 2 and 3 participate in swimming as well as ball control, throwing, passing and catching skills. Years 4-6 play Basketball, Team Handball and Netball. Year 6 students participate in Friday afternoon sport at Redlynch State College.

Students are encouraged to wear their sports shirt on PE day.

The Bike Bus will start in Term 2.

If you have any questions in regards to Physical Education and Sport at Redlynch State College please come and see me or call me at school.

Andrew Vearing (P-6 PE Teacher)

Sport Sign Ons around the district:
Cairns Hockey Association – Junior Sign on Fri, 22nd February. Contact 4053 2308 or email info@cairnshockey.com.au
Cairns City Lions Juniors AFL Club sign on Sun, 10th February. Contact Polly Lindenmayer on 0448 736 891.
Redlynch Tennis Club sign on Sun, 10th February. Contact Jen Rees 0437 005 389.
Nth Qld Regional Softball Academy sign on Sunday, 17th February. Ph: Vicki 0411 277 974 or email vicki.irwin@bigpond.com.au
Cairns BMX come and try day Sun, 17th February. For more info call 4031 2728 or www.cairnshmx.org.au.
“SEEING DOUBLE IN PREP”

Prep E and Prep F are seeing double with 4 sets of twins!

Seth and Benj are identical and are in Prep F. Kyte and Tiger are also identical and in Prep F. Jessica is in Prep F and her twin sister Erin is in Prep E. Brock is in Prep F and his twin brother Jayden is in Prep E.

Seth and Benji love playing with playdough and making collages. Kyte and Tiger love the jungle and jungle animals. Erin and Jessica and Brock and Jayden love to sit and play with each other at outside time.

The "double trouble" is keeping Prep teachers and children busy both inside and outside!

Mrs Vani Woods, Classroom Teacher

Our new Prep students had a fantastic start to the year. In fact we had more parents with tears than children. It just goes to show how ready the children are to jump into learning. Prep students participated in a range of activities including literacy, numeracy and creative play. They also had opportunities to get hands on with the technology in the classrooms.

A great start to a year that will be filled with wonderful new learning experiences for our youngest learners.

Hello to everyone, my name is Kath Bunney and I am the Head of Special Education Services on the P-6 campus.

I have a long history of working with people with disabilities. For the past 3 years I was Special Education Co-ordinator at Edge Hill and prior to that I was at Woree Primary School.

My own 3 children were educated at Redlynch State College, my youngest finished here last year.

If you have any concerns about your child’s (who has a disability) education, please see the class teacher in the first instance who will confer with the year level Special Education Teacher. Wishing everyone a great week.

Kath
PERFORMING ARTS

Welcome back to RSC’s Performing Arts Department for 2013! This year the Arts faculty has been divided into Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, Music and Instrumental Music) and Practical Arts (Visual Art, Media Studies and MPE). I would like to congratulate Felicity McLeod as the new Practical Arts HOD, she is already doing a fantastic job! I am excited to be remaining as the Performing Arts HOD.

I would also like to introduce you all to some of our exciting Performing Arts events for 2013. Along with our annual Easter Instrumental Concert (please mark your diaries for Wednesday 27th March) the Music department is introducing a Senior Solos concert to be held at our fantastic RSC Sunday Markets on the 24th March. Instrumental Music also welcomes a new Co-ordinator, Miss Kirsty Rankine, who is very much looking forward to taking on the talented Concert Band. The Concert’s and Jazz Band’s first performance for 2013 will be at the Senior Induction Ceremony on Friday the 22nd February at 10am. Further exciting events for Instrumental Music in 2013 includes Eisteddfod entries in Term 2, lunchtime concerts throughout the year, professional guest artist workshops and the re-introduction of Twilight Tunes in term 4. Also, on the P-6 Campus Miss Rafferty’s fabolous Comedy Choir and amazing Performance Choir are both back for 2013, with auditions for the Performance Choir commencing in the next fortnight. Information about this will be given to students in class during next week’s Music lessons but if you require any further information please contact staff57@eq.edu.au.

Finally, a friendly reminder for all Instrumental students to please return their enrolment/loan agreements forms so that we can finalise numbers for the program. Please contact Ms Lockey at ilock2@eq.edu.au for the 7 – 12 campus or Miss Rafferty for the 3-6 Campus if you require further information about these forms.

On to Dance events for 2013 and Miss Parker’s Dance students will be excited to learn of the re-introduction of the Year 7 Dance concerts, as well as continuing the hugely successful lunchtime concerts in Term 2 and Senior Dance Day in accordance with fellow Senior Dance students from around Cairns. Miss Parker is also aiming to introduce an after school Dance Technique class for senior students who are interested in further lessons in the style of Contemporary Dance. Miss Parker is also happy to take any expressions of interest from Junior Dance students. If you would like further information about this please contact Miss Parker on lpark57@eq.edu.au. Also, Miss Parker is looking for any kind volunteers to be able to sew basic Dance costumes. If this is you Miss Parker would love to hear from you!

Drama events for 2013 sees our annual Year 8 Clowing show for our gorgeous Prep audience as well as our Year 10 Production night, both to be staged at the end of term 1. Mr Knight is also introducing a Drama performance to be held at our RSC Markets in term 3 – with more information to come as we near this date. In term 2 Year 9 Drama students will perform for a Year 3 audience a Twisted Storytelling show and the Year 9’s also get to showcase a production with the engaging “Let’s Get the Party Started” performance in Term 4. Myself and Mrs Pyers, the English Head of Department, are also keen to start-up a “RSC Glee Club” for the 7-12 campus. More information will come for students in the next fortnight so students are asked to keep an ear out for the morning notices. 2013 is already shaping up to be an exciting year for performances from our many talented students! We look forward to seeing you all in the audience!

Mrs Riles, Performing Arts HOD

REDLYNCH STATE COLLEGE P&C ASSOCIATION

BACK TO SCHOOL

What an incredibly busy time we had selling our Back to School Stationery Packs for the first time this year! The response and support from our families was amazing and I thank all those families who entrusted us with their back to school supplies this year. We sold just over nine hundred packs of stationery which is incredible and I can only see this growing in future years. We have had so much positive feedback from parents and children and considering this was our first year, I think we did exceptionally well with no major glitches along the way!

There are still a few bags to be collected and some final sums to be done, but at this stage it looks like we have made a profit of around $25000.00 which is just fantastic! This money will go back to the school to support the students and their learning, and so it is incredible that we can achieve so much from supplying the stationery to our families.

A huge thank you to all those people who helped me make the packs, distribute them and just be there when I needed the help and support. I couldn’t have done this without your help as the job was way bigger than what I had anticipated, so thank you.

We will definitely be running the Back to School Stationery Packs supplies again this year, so look out for the notices during Term Three.

Janet McIntyre
P & C Operations Manager

REDLYNCH STATE COLLEGE P&C ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OUR AGM FOR 2013 WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY 12TH MARCH AT 6.30PM
IN THE LIBRARY ON THE 7-12 CAMPUS.
MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT OUT SOON.

VACANCIES AT REDLYNCH STATE COLLEGE P & C ASSOCIATION

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

We currently have vacancies at OSHC for the following positions :

Co-ordinator
Educational Leader
Casual Staff

These positions have been advertised in the Cairns Post, and position descriptions can be obtained from the P & C Operations Managers office.

Our first P & C meeting for this year will be held on Tuesday 12th February 2013 at 7.30pm in the Library on the 7-12 Campus.
The meeting will start late to accommodate those who want to attend the Parent Information Evenings on the P6 Campus from 5.30pm to 7.30pm.
Come along afterwards and meet some new people and see what the P & C is up to this year.

Janet McIntyre
P & C Operations Manager
Redlynchs’ No. 1 Agent!

David Jeffries
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SHOWROOM & OFFICE
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