This week saw our first major ceremonies of the year with the Student Leader Investitures.

The Senior Leadership Investiture is an important milestone in a student’s school life, and it was great to see so many parents, friends and relatives come along to support the Year 12s as they officially took up their role as school leaders.

For our Junior Leaders, they are the first to hold these positions and are already showing leadership skills and enthusiasm for the task ahead.

Congratulations go to all our School Leaders for 2014, both Junior and Senior, not forgetting the Year 12 student body as a whole, who have made such a great start to their final year here at Remarkable Redcliffe High.

Remarkable Redcliffe High ... the IDEAL CHOICE!

School Captains & Vice Captains

Three of our House Vice Captains

The 2014 House Captains
**Love was in the air! ....**
As our Valentine’s Day Cupids made their special deliveries!

Year 12 Student Leaders have been busy over the last week taking orders from students for Valentine's Day roses and Friday was delivery day!

There was great excitement, surprises and many smiling happy faces, not to mention loads of cash raised for charity.

well done all!

**Steph “Talks the Talk” to win awards!**

Last Saturday night, Steph, of Year 12 competed in the Redcliffe Lions Youth of the Year AND the Public Speaking competition and (no surprise to those who know her) won BOTH!

Supporting Steph on her quest were Claudia and Wil from Year 12, Ms Wendy Carlson from our SOSE/English Department and of course, Steph’s very proud parents!

During the evening Steph had to present a prepared speech of five minutes, plus two impromptu speeches and have an interview which lasted one hour.

It’s a very draining process for all the candidates involved, but Steph rose to the occasion brilliantly despite the tough competition from other Peninsula high schools.

This win means Steph goes to the Zone competition on the 8 March, where, fingers crossed, she will have yet another win.

Well Done Steph!
Ms Sharon Chapman
HOD English

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**Redcliffe State High School**
P&C AGM
Wednesday 12 March 2014
6:00pm
Redcliffe RSL
Parents, Students and local community members are invited to attend our P&C AGM.
For further information contact
pandc@redcliffeshs.eq.edu.au
From the Deputy Principal-Junior Secondary

The Student Leader Investitures were held on Tuesday this week. In these ceremonies we publicly recognised our Student Executive, House Captains, Music and Drama captains, SABER Cell leaders and Interact Club members. We also recognised the leadership role that all our Year 12 students undertake as the senior students in our school.

This year we also held a separate investiture ceremony for our first Junior Secondary School Leaders from Year 9.

The Junior Secondary leaders completed a number of SABER leadership training activities, both in school time and outside to enable them to nominate for these positions. They are now looking forward to ongoing leadership roles within our school.

Congratulations to all our 2014 School Leaders and thank-you to community members for participating in this very important school event.

Ian King - Deputy Principal Junior Secondary

School Photo Day

Tuesday 4 March is school photo day, please ensure your child attends on this day and remember it is a Formal Uniform Day.

Parents please collect a Photo payment envelope from the office if your child has not brought one home or you have not seen one by Friday 28 February.

It is essential you have a Photo Payment envelope if you wish to order/buy photos.

Payment for photos is made on the day and is the responsibility of the photography company not the school office.

Peninsula Education Precinct (PEP)

State School Expo

On the 18 March our school will be participating in an Education Expo of Peninsula State primary and high schools.

The afternoon starts at 2.30 and will be conducted at the Hercules Rd State School Hall. This event is one to mark on your calendar. The afternoon will have information for parents from guest speakers. A flier will be available with our next newsletter.

Ian King - Deputy Principal Junior Secondary
Taking it to the MAX! ..... Maximising reading and literacy @ Redcliffe with “Reading with THIEVES”.

“Be awesome! Be a book nut!” — Dr. Seuss

Reading is such a great and rewarding experience, through the power of books you can transport yourself to magical worlds such as Narnia, fight for freedom with Katniss or learn about our wonderful world! We can read for the sheer enjoyment of it; to deepen our understanding of a topic or idea, or to gain important information in preparation for a future task or test.

It is really important for students to be able to recognise the actual purpose of their reading, to know how to approach it in the most advantageous way. In the instances where students identify a potential “tested” reading experience, a good strategy and one being used across the school is the THIEVES reading strategy. This approach helps students activate prior knowledge; predict what ideas might be contained within the text and “steal” the important information needed to answer the literal, inferential and evaluative questions that may be asked.

THIEVES is an easy to remember acronym that reminds students where and how they can gather information from a text.

T – Title
H – Headings
I – Introduction
E – Every first sentence (the topic sentence)
V – Visuals and any key vocabulary
E – End of text questions
S - Summary

There are posters in each classroom, providing a visual reminder for students of this strategy and teachers are implementing this approach in their reading practices in class.

Together, we hope to arm every student with effective tools for reading success.

Happy reading!
Mrs Rachael Skelton
Redcliffe High Success Team

LITERACY TIP

• Would you like to help your student with their grammar and punctuation but you want to make sure you’re on the right track?
• Don’t worry!
• Our student diary can help you!

The Redcliffe High diary is a very useful tool containing a range of important information, including a brief summary of some key grammar and punctuation rules. Look at pages 35 – 38 for more details.

SABER Leaders Development Program

Many students are capable of discovering and using personal leadership skills to broaden their own opportunities.

Help is available to all students who have leadership ambitions, or just want to test their own abilities. This is the time to join the SABER Leaders Development Program.

Application forms are available from the school office. We will be holding an information session next week (week 5).

If you are in Year 8 or in Year 11, you must complete the program to be considered for 2015 leadership positions in Year 9 and Year 12. Keep an eye on the school notices for more details.

Michelle Fry - SRC Redcliffe High
DATE
Thurs 06/03/14

TIME
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

VENUE
The Bird’s Nest
Western Campus
Redcliffe High

Program
• 5:00 - 5.30 pm
Sausage Sizzle
and meet the staff
at the Faculty
stands. Collect
your child’s
literacy and
numeracy results.
• 5.30 pm
Welcome to our
school
• 5:45 pm
Understanding
your literacy
results and
strategies for
maximising
success.
• 6:30 pm
Meet and talk with
your child’s
teachers.

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE
Collect your child’s literacy & numeracy test results
Learn how to maximise your child’s literacy & numeracy
Get to know your child’s teachers

Parents of Year 8 students
We strongly advise you attend this evening, where you can meet your
child’s teachers and discuss with them and other Year 8 parents
strategies for success.

For any enquiries please phone 3897 1111 and speak to our office staff, who will be more than happy to assist.
Business Students get “real” in the office!

The beginning of 2014 has seen some remarkable changes in the Business and Information Technology Faculty as it powers forward for the year!

The Senior Certificate II Business and Information, Digital Media and Technology students walked into a refurbished and remodelled classroom which is now a Simulated Business Environment! Students enter a waiting area, and then approach a new reception desk. They are working from allocated work stations which are new desks and boardroom chairs with carpeted partitions which give them similar working conditions to many businesses. The room also houses a meeting desk with an electronic whiteboard and printer where further office equipment can be accessed.

This major change has occurred as a mandatory training requirement for Vocational Education and Training to enable students taking our Certificate courses to work in a simulated office environment rather than a classroom. This allows further extension of the teacher becoming a trainer within the classroom as the students undertake their competencies on a more independent basis.

The faculty must thank Mr Nick Littlewood, our competent and efficient Business Services Manager, for his prompt attention to our requirements, ensuring our students are learning in up-to-date and efficient work environments.

We wish our VET students every success in achieving their Certificates at the end of Year 12, knowing they have been provided with the best possible environment for learning.

Mrs Kellie Bartkowski
Acting HOD Business/IT

Tablets in the classroom a good thing!

ACER ICONIA TABLETS

This year, the Business and Information Technology Faculty have introduced the use of tablets in the classroom, thus further enhancing student learning in the Faculty. Currently the tablets are used only within certain classes, however by Semester 2 this year the use will be extended to all.

The tablets have primarily been used by Mr Tristan Houghton’s classes as student research and assessment tools. From a student perspective, they have been thoroughly enjoying the use of yet another technological tool on a daily basis, and the use of this technology in the classroom allows Redcliffe High to further align their learning to National standards.

Mrs Kellie Bartkowski – HOD Business and Information Technology
High OPs .... words of wisdom from Liam, Lilla & Casey!

2013 marked a milestone for Redcliffe State High, as 93% of our OP eligible students received an OP score of between 1 and 15, a remarkable result!

To celebrate their success we have managed to catch up with three of our past students who achieved top OPs in 2013, **Liam, Lilla and Casey**.

**Liam**, who achieved an outstanding **OP 1**, still isn’t completely sure where his life is heading, or what he really wants to do and achieve in the future but for now, he decided to get into a Bachelor of Engineering and Business Management at UQ, which was (not surprisingly), his top preference.

Liam agreed with Lilla, that Pathways classes focussing on QCS test preparation, were helpful in attacking and understanding questions and the QCS process, thus helping him achieve a better result.

For Liam there were many memorable moments at Redcliffe High, and he found it difficult to just pick one.

Before entering high school **Lilla** knew that she wanted a career where she could help improve people’s lives and when, in Year 9, she heard about Speech Pathology she knew that was it!

Receiving an **OP 2**, Lilla has successfully managed to achieve this ambition and will be starting a Bachelor of Speech Pathology at The University of Queensland, which was, of course, her top preference.

Achieving her high OP was not, according to Lilla, only down to getting high grades in her subjects, but also from doing well in the QCS test. Her QCS success, she believes, was in a large part due to her Pathways teachers and the QCS preparation in Pathways which showed her what to expect from QCS, as well as giving effective techniques to tackle the questions and get the highest marks possible.

Lilla’s fondest memory at Redcliffe High was going on the music tours and performing at recitals and events, memories that she will never forget.

**Casey** happily confessed that his most memorable moments were every second spent with English teacher, **Mr Tristan Houghton**. With the support of fantastic teachers like this Casey was able to achieve an OP 3.

Entering high school, Casey had no idea what he would like to do, however, at one of our very own Senior Information Nights when Casey was in year 10, **Mr Carl Coleman** (HOD Science) convinced him that Engineering was the path for him.

Not surprisingly, Casey was offered his first preference and will be studying a Bachelor of Engineering and Business Management at the University of Queensland in St. Lucia.

Without the support of teachers and the preparation received during Pathways classes Casey said he would not have been able to achieve the high results he did.

*Steph & Wil - Senior Reporters*
Sushi in Japan or Pizza in Italy?...

Are you thinking of a Gap Year in 2015?

Making a decision about your future can be a daunting task so why not think about a Gap Year?

Taking some time to travel the world and immerse yourself in a new culture can be an eye opening experience. You'll also be learning a new language and meeting many new people. Living in another country can be an exciting time, but it can also be terrifying; Japan may only be 8 hours away by plane but life is very different there.

I first visited Japan as a high school student on the school tour and from the moment we stepped onto the steamy tarmac at Narita Airport, I was overwhelmed by the experience. Everything smelt different (Tokyo is not a sweet-smelling city), tasted different (What is Pocari Sweat?) but I also felt challenged and hugely excited.

I had to speak another language, I had to navigate the train system, I even had to eat a curry donut since I’d ordered it and didn't want to embarrass myself by sending it back!

Being a part of something new is probably the best way to see what you're made of. You'll laugh, you'll feel lost, you'll certainly shed some tears (happy and sad) but I've never met a traveller who hasn’t wanted to stay for a little bit longer.

AIIU Australia offers a variety of programs for graduates and it’s not too late to apply for 2015. Check out their website at www.aiiu.com.au/ or call 1800 174407 for more information.

Ms Karen Townsend - LOTE Department—Redcliffe High.
Our mantra this year is “attendance, literacy and numeracy”. We have always strongly focused on these areas but this year sees us having more resources than ever to aid in this focus. Our school is happy to receive funding from the government as a part of the Great Results Guarantee initiative. We have worked with our P&C, students and staff to develop ideas around this guarantee.

Soaring: Great Results Guarantee
The Great Results Guarantee is aimed at improving results of students with a focus in the younger years. We have studied a broad range of research focussing on ways to improve student outcomes. Much of the research points out that improving teaching capability, literacy and numeracy are the keys to improving student outcomes. Our approach is therefore based directly around these areas. We have put forward a plan to school staff, student representatives and the Parents & Citizens Association that will address these issues. This has been endorsed at all levels. Of course the P&C executive will still need to sign off on the final document.

The endorsement has occurred around:

• A teacher coach to address the issues of literacy, numeracy and the development of teacher capability
• The use of supervised ‘Professional Learning Communities’ of teachers that meet weekly to plan, monitor and intervene in student learning, using data to determine what interventions are required to lift student performance at all levels.
• The extension of the Year 8 numeracy development program which is run with university support.
• The use of teacher aide time to assist in the development of literacy and numeracy within the classrooms.

We are very excited about building an even stronger learning culture within our school and look forward to implementing these strategies.

Above: Success Team
Our North Coast Region has provided intensive support to our school through the ‘Success Team’ initiative. It is an opportunity for our school to review and amend practices with an eye from external experts as well as our internal staff. Our aim is to review and improve in the areas of literacy, numeracy, behaviour management and pedagogy. We are looking forward to working with our new partners to make our school an even better learning environment.

Beyond: Why NAPLAN is important to students
All Year 9 parents will receive a letter and brochure in the mail very soon about the importance of NAPLAN for our students. Many students and parents believe that NAPLAN is a test to determine how well a school is travelling. NAPLAN is actually a diagnostic test to determine how well individual students are travelling. We use this data in a range of ways, one way is to determine appropriate pathways for students. It is therefore really important for students and parents to understand how we use this data. The pamphlet you receive will outline this information. Please direct any questions to the NAPLAN team or myself.

Year 8 parents will receive similar information on the evening of the Year 8 Parent BBQ.

Expectations: Manners Matter
Relationships, relationships, relationships! That is the key to any organisation, whether it is teacher and student, teacher and parents or parents and parents. We pride ourselves on having really positive relationships with parents, students and staff. Our guiding principles are ‘Manners Matter’. We ask that everyone in our school community treats each other with respect and tolerance. I believe that our students do this exceptionally well. Imagine over 1200 teenagers in one confined space who still manage to cooperate and practice good manners just as our staff and our parents do.

Good manners are the basis of effective and positive communication and we look forward to maintaining these basic expectations for all involved in our school.

Redcliffe: Attendance Target
Every student in our school is aware that they have a 98% attendance target to achieve. We want students in classes every single lesson, every single day. Students cannot learn if they are not in class, it is that simple. Please help your child achieve their attendance target and improve their outcomes through attendance at school every day.

If you have not seen your child’s TASTi (Teacher and Student Target information) targets, please ask them to show you their TASTi sheet, each student has one. A parent should have signed them off as the approver by this time.

Shona McKinlay – Principal
Remarkable Redcliffe High
smcki6@eq.edu.au

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RED ALERTS

21 February - School Swimming Carnival
04 March - School Photos - formal uniform
5 March - Shave for a Cure
6 March - Yr 8 Parent Night & Sausage Sizzle
07 March - Immunisations
11 March - Explore Uni Day @ QUT, Yr 11
11/12 March - Yr8 Rugby League camp
14 March - RLG 9-a-side Gala Day
18 March - PEP State Education Expo @ Hercules Rd SS