Amalgamation Update 12
Week ending August 5, 2011

The amalgamation of Moreton Bay College (MBC) and Moreton Bay Boys’ College (MBBC) is a dynamic move for the future of education on the bayside. In an effort to keep our school community informed every step of the way, we discuss a variety of topics relating to the amalgamation in an email to parents every Friday.

LATEST NEWS

Tree Day gets a big green thumbs up from students!

Last Friday afternoon, students from both Colleges came together and got their hands dirty for a good cause - Planet Ark’s National Tree Day.

Showing their commitment to the environment, close to 40 students, parents and teachers planted more than 100 native trees and plants to help beautify and sustain the Moreton Bay Boys’ College grounds.

A variety of species, including bottle brush, grevillea, lilly pilly and lomandra were planted and then a layer of mulch was spread to protect the new plantings.

Pictured: Sophie Middleton a Year 5 student at MBC and her brother Cameron Middleton in Prep at MBBC did their bit for Tree Day with the help of Mum, Cathryn van der Walt.

Acting Head of Moreton Bay Boys’ College, Mrs Diana Patchett, thanked everyone who gave up their time to participate in the annual event and said it was great to see Moreton Bay College girls lending a hand to their peers at the boys’ school.

“National Tree Day is a wonderful opportunity for students to make a real contribution to our natural environment and have lots of fun at the same time,” she said. “Sustainability is one of MBBC’s core values and we’ve won numerous awards for our green initiatives.”

Update on joint matters

The budget process for 2012 has commenced at both schools and the alignment of business policies and practices will be furthered as part of this planning.

While the two Colleges remain financially independent of each other, as per the terms of amalgamation, a more closely aligned reporting format is currently being developed to ensure the standardisation of financial reporting across both schools.

Members of our Finance and Marketing departments and the College Registrars are continuing to work together and meet on a regular basis with the intention of streamlining policies and procedures across both schools.
Matters already being investigated to improve efficiencies at both schools include online school fee payments via the websites and the feasibility of online tuckshop ordering at the Boys’ College.

First executive meeting

The first of the cross-school Executive meetings involving the Principal, Acting Heads of College and the Director of Business and Finance took place this week. The focus of this group which is convened by the Principal, Ms Jennifer Haynes, is cross-school business, financial, staffing, policy and resource efficiencies as well as some organisational matters such as term dates.

Working parties lead by senior teaching staff and specialist staff in the marketing and enrolment departments at both Colleges will report to the Executive Team on strategic matters including curriculum, IT and branding.

Moreton Bay College: P&F Meeting and Homecoming Day

The MBC P&F Committee held their monthly meeting on Friday, July 19 and were pleased to have the President of the MBBC P&F Committee, Suzi Fisher, in attendance. While the two P&F Committees have done some shared activities in the past, both groups see this as an important step in forming a closer relationship, while still preserving each school’s individual identity.

The Moreton Bay College Old Girls’ Association (MBC OGA) also recently came together for its annual Homecoming Day as part of the school’s Founders’ Week celebration. The MBC Old Girls Association again welcomed the amalgamation and offered to assist, the MBBC Old Boys Association in any way they can.

COMING UP

Open Days

Both Moreton Bay College and Moreton Bay Boys’ College will be holding their Open Days next Friday, August 12 from 9am – 12noon.

Both Colleges are undergoing exciting periods of growth and there are many important milestones to meet at each school over the next few years.

Moreton Bay College, in line with the Queensland Government’s initiative, will formalise the Year 7 move into high school from 2015. At this time, Year 7 will become the first year of our new middle school precinct and become the main secondary intake year for all new students.

Moreton Bay Boys’ College continues to have regular inquiries from both local and overseas families. We are thrilled to be growing our student population and will be offering a third Year 8 class in 2012. There has also been strong interest in a second Year 4 as well as a handful of vacancies across our two Year 5 classes.

The Open Days will be a great chance for parents to experience the advantages of single-sex education for both boys and girls. Please tell your family and friends who may be looking for a quality school from Prep to Year 12 for their sons and daughters.

For more information contact:
MBC – (07) 3249 9322 or registrar@mbc.qld.edu.au
MBBC – (07) 3906 9444 or registrar@mbbc.qld.edu.au

Reminder: Free cybersafety seminar next week

Don’t forget we are holding a free cybersafety seminar next week where you will learn more about the measures you can take to ensure your children remain as safe as possible online.
The seminar will be led by Australia’s cyber bullying expert, Susan McLean from Cyber Safety Solutions, who has appeared on a range of national television shows including Four Corners, Sunrise and Today Tonight.

This is one of MBC and MBBC’s first joint presentations and we encourage all parents to attend this informative session.

WHAT: Cybersafety parents information evening
WHEN: Tuesday, August 9 from 6:30pm - 8pm
WHERE: MBC Music Centre Concert Hall
RSVP: Mrs Sandra Boardman on 3907 5705 or email boardmans@mbc.qld.edu.au to ensure a place. Registrations will also be accepted on the night.

HOW TO KEEP UP TO DATE

Contact Us

If you have any additional concerns or questions, please email feedback@mbc.qld.edu.au or feedback@mbbc.qld.edu.au and we will endeavour to respond to you as quickly as possible.

Ms Jennifer Haynes
MBC Principal
MBBC Principal