



Quirindi High School/ Weekly Newsletter

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Message from the Principal

Week 10 of term has been a quiet one at Quirindi High School with the majority of students attending the Merit Excursions organised to reward their diligent efforts and respectful behaviours throughout the year. Students who stayed behind at school have had alternative work programs provided for them based on improving their educational skills in preparation for 2015.

Tuesday 16th December will see the most prestigious event on our school calendar occur for 2014; the Annual Awards Ceremony will be held at 10am in the MPC. We take this opportunity to recognise and award students for their outstanding academic, civic, sporting and cultural achievements in 2014. Parents, friends and extended family are invited and encouraged to attend this event to help celebrate the achievements of our students. The P&C will be hosting a morning tea at the Trade Training Kitchen after the assembly to which all are welcome. We remind students that they are required to be in full school summer uniform for this occasion.

The final day of 2014 for students is Wednesday 17th December. Students are expected to be working right up until the last day and cannot expect days of movies or unproductive games and cleaning. Staff have been asked to ensure that academically rigorous lessons are still prepared and delivered to ensure that students are challenged and engaged over the final few days of the year.

Yearly reports are in the final stages of editing and printing and should be distributed to students on Monday 15th December.

Finally I would like to say thank you and goodbye to Miss Jacqui Crawford. Miss Crawford joined us, from Scotland, on a teacher exchange program this year. Today is her last day at Quirindi High School and we wish her all the best and safe travels. Miss Crawford has made a wonderful cultural contribution to the lives of our students this year and inspired many to follow their dramatic aspirations in the world of entertainment through Drama. Miss Leanne Cooper will return to us in 2015 to resume her position as Drama teacher. Miss Crawford will be missed by students and staff alike and we hope that she will come back and visit us in the future.

As always, if you have any questions or queries regarding the education of your son or daughter at Quirindi High School please call us and make an appointment to come and see us.

Sally Chad
Deputy Principal

Quirindi High Basketball

It's been another successful year for Quirindi Junior Basketball and Quirindi High School's Basketball Program.

Terms 3 and 4 saw eight Quirindi teams competing in the Wednesday Night Tamworth Schools Competition with seven of those teams making semi-finals.

Our year 7/8 B Grade girls took out their division defeating Oxley High which was a great effort with most of the squad still primary school students. Our year 7/8 A Grade boys have continued to develop all season and did a fantastic job to win their division defeating Calrossy. Whilst our Year 9/10 A Grade Quirindi (2) girls ended runners up again after going down to Peel High in their Grand Final match.

Our year 7/8 B boys did extremely well despite being a development squad made up of all primary school students, the 9/10 B boys also fared well with a relatively new squad. The 9/10 A boys came home strong late in the season as did the 9/10 A Quirindi (1) girls but unfortunately, they were defeated in the preliminary final by our other Quirindi team. Our year 11/12 boys were unfortunately depleted on the night and were also knocked out of the preliminary finals going down to Farrer by 7 points.

A big thanks again this season must go to Howards Bus and Charter as well as Mr Simon Roxborough, our trusty bus driver. Without the support of both Howards and Mr Roxborough our Basketball program would not be able to continue.



7/8 A Grade Boys



7/8 B Grade Girls

Thank you to the Variety Club the Children's Charity

In 2013 Mrs Widdis applied to Variety the Children's Charity, to provide funding to buy resources for the Intellectually Moderate/Severe (I.O/S) Support class at Quirindi High School. The application was successful and the class is now very fortunate to have acquired 4 new laptops, a leather lounge and a colour printer. The new purchases mean that every student in the I.O/S class has access to a laptop. This significantly helps the process of planning and administering individual educational plans. The lounge provides a comfortable addition to the media viewing area of the classroom and the students are finding it a great spot to spend some time quietly reading. The colour printer is a wonderful resource as it enables the staff to readily make visuals for student use and for classroom display.

We are extremely grateful to Variety – the Children's Charity for acknowledging the positive impact these resources make to the educational experiences of the students and supporting our grant to purchase them. Variety is a national not-for-profit organisation committed to helping children who are sick, disadvantaged, or have special needs to live, laugh and learn. They do this by practical equipment, programs and experiences. Variety helps children in need to overcome whatever obstacles they face and live life to the fullest.

Mrs Widdis and the students in the Quirindi High School I.O/S class thank the Variety Club and encourage the community to support this very worthy charity.



Students working on the new laptops



Jake Fechner with the new printer

Surprise someone with a homemade gift
Christmas rocky road bites

Ingredients:

- mini-muffin patty pans
- 200g marshmallows, chopped
- ½ cup desiccated coconut
- ¼ cup peanuts
- 2 x 76g Turkish delight bars, diced
- 600g milk chocolate
- cachous (silver edible balls)

Method:

Step 1. Gather ingredients and line 2 x 24 cup mini-muffin pans with patty pans.

Step 2. In a bowl, mix the marshmallows, coconut, peanuts and Turkish delight together.

Step 3. Melt the chocolate and pour over the marshmallow mixture. Combine well so that everything is coated well in chocolate.

Step 4. Using two teaspoons, fill each patty pan until all the mixture is used. This mixture will make 36 bites. Sprinkle 3-4 cachous over each bite and refrigerate until set.

Notes:

- THIS RECIPE CONTAINS PEANUTS. Please be aware if you have friends or family with nut allergies that this is not suitable to give or consume around them and it is definitely not a good idea to gift at school.
- Pink and white Pascall marshmallows were used for this recipe but you could use mini-marshmallows instead.
- This recipe was created by Jennifer Cheung for Kidspot.

Source: <http://www.kidspot.com.au/best-recipes/Chocolate+34/Christmas-rocky-road-bites-recipe+4450.htm>



Christmas Rocky Road Bites



Season's Greetings

Mrs Sweep and I would like to wish the
Quirindi High School School Community a very
**Happy and Safe Christmas
and New Year.**

We look forward to working with you in 2015.

Happy Reading over the holidays .

Mrs Owen – Teacher Librarian

Mrs Sweep – Library Assistant

CONCESSION CARDS

All concession cards expired on the 31st March 2014. Students wishing to update their concession card or any students requiring a concession card for the Christmas holiday break are asked to complete an application form available from the front office and return it as soon as possible.

Please don't leave it until the last minute.



Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program in 2015

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program will not continue beyond 31st December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed beyond this date.

Students who require a TFN need to arrange for a Birth Certificate or Passport as soon as possible and present a copy to Ms Saunders before Friday 12th December so she can help complete the application form.

Otherwise from the 1st January 2015 the Australian Taxation Office in partnership with Australia Post is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN.

Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Dates to put on your Calendar

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
11 A	15 th December	16 th December Presentation Day Starts at 10am	17 th December Students finish for the year	18 th December Staff Development Day	19 th December Staff Development Day	20/21

Term 1, 2015

Year 7, 11 & 12 return Wednesday 28 January 2015

Year 8, 9 & 10 return Thursday 29 January 2015

to Thursday 2 April 2015



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Grassroots Fundraising Program

Supporting local sport & community groups

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Help raise funds for Quirindi High School P & C

Next time you are booking accommodation,

Go to www.quickbeds.com

Enter our unique grassroots ID: 1258

By doing this you will be helping our school



Every time **any member or supporter** uses **your unique Grassroots Code** to book a hotel anywhere in Australia or New Zealand, **they raise money for our P&C.**

Why Quickbeds?

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- Get the best rates from over 180,000 hotels, motels, apartments in more in 150 countries.

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Plan Ahead This Summer To Live And Study Overseas In 2015



With the end of the year approaching, there has never been a better time to cast your thoughts ahead to 2015. Why not use the holidays to plan your 2015 WEP student exchange program?

Living overseas as an exchange student opens up a **world of opportunities**. For one, you get to experience another part of the world. You'll live and learn in a **culture** that is vastly different from your own. You will also be exposed to a **different style of learning**, which will be useful if you decide to further your studies. Are you learning or want to learn another language? On an exchange program you can morph from **monolingual to bilingual** in a matter of months. There's no better way to learn a language than to surround yourself with it day and night, 24/7! Imagine the moment when you start dreaming in another language!

Okay, so now you're thinking "this all sounds great, but I still need more convincing." Think about the amazing, **lifelong friends** you'll make while overseas. Later in life you may have the opportunity to travel back to your host country and reunite with old friends. When you return from exchange, you'll arrive back in Australia with a **new perspective** on **culture, languages and**

education, better organisational skills, and invaluable **life experiences**. All of these **skills** are extremely attractive to future employers.

And finally, you will most likely find that living as an exchange student in a foreign country will allow you to develop a stronger sense of **independence**. WEP exchange students have the opportunity to **discover themselves** while learning about another culture. A newfound **mature outlook** is one of the most beneficial aspects of participating in a student exchange program.

With over 20 different countries to choose from, deciding where to go is the hardest part! Need more information? Use the holidays to do some research. Visit us online at www.wep.org.au to request a free information pack, email us at info@wep.org.au, or give us a call in the office on **1300 884 733**.

