

# QUIRINDI HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Week 3  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016

## A Team Effort

Again, I can't believe how quickly the term moves by and we are already in week 3. The students sitting the HSC are wearing the exams away and will be finished by the end of next week. I know there will be many students and parents breathing a collective sigh of relief as the exams end. I do imagine the anticipation of results will also cause some anxiety though. It has been great to be able to chat with students as they call into the school after exams. Thirteen years of school certainly moves by quickly.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who have been supporting their students in terms of being in full school uniform. The new uniforms look fantastic and the canteen has a ready supply. If anyone needs assistance with uniform, please call the school.

Our stage band is into their second week with many students joining and picking up instruments. The stage band will be heading out on tour once they have all come together and have a repertoire. They may even pop up around the streets of Quirindi. Mr Langston has kicked off with the Vocal Ensemble this week. There has been a very positive response from students with an excellent group of talented people coming along. You will be seeing them performing at a venue close to you soon.

Students had a fantastic opportunity over the weekend to present at the Scone Beef Bonanza. Thank you to Mr Harries and a very big thank you to the farm manager Mr Peter Hird for all of the work they have put in. Students certainly enjoyed the experience and gain a huge number of transferable animal husbandry skills from the activities.

Mrs Jacqui Simpson has been very busy organising a variety of lunchtime activities for students. I would like to acknowledge the work she has put into this along with the work the individual members of staff put into running the groups for students. It is fantastic to see such dedication from the staff.

Head Teachers have been visiting other schools and bringing back new ideas for Quirindi High School to consider. In particular, we have been looking at the Clontarf Foundation. This is a

program that would run along similar lines to the Mooki Murris program which ran at Quirindi High School.

Mr Langston has been working with Year 11 and getting them ready for the deployment of their I pads. This will be happening next week. This is a learning tool which allows staff and students to focus on futures learning and be at the forefront of technology within schools. Whilst many schools have technology, Quirindi High is in a unique position to be able to offer individual I pads to senior students and incorporate these into all areas of learning.

Ian Worley  
Principal

## Arrival of Senior Student I pads

This week 52 I pads arrived as part of the new one to one deployment of mobile devices to senior students. Each 2017 year 12 student will be assigned an I pad for use in their HSC Studies. This will assist Quirindi High School students in their future focussed learning and give them a cutting edge when they enter employment or university after the HSC.



Left to Right: Phoebe Scott, Zachary Kelly, Josephine Saunders and Bridget Swain happily unpacking the I pads



### Fire Cadets Presentation

On Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> September, 16 students were recognised for their completion of the Rural Fire Service Junior Training. During Term 2 this year, we had numerous RFS members come to the school during sport to share their knowledge and expertise. This 10 week program involved learning about the various fires, how to use fire extinguishers, the equipment on the fire trucks, communication and first aid skills. Students who passed both written and practical exams were acknowledged as having already completed the first stage if they later chose to join the RFS. At this stage 25% of these students have gone on and joined their local RFS unit.

RFS Chief Superintendent Lance Rainey, State Member for Upper Hunter, Mr Michael Johnson MP, Cadet Coordinator Tracey Briggs, Liverpool Plains Shire councillor Ian Lobsey and other Volunteer RFS members joined in showing the recognition for the students' achievement. Our guests and Principal spoke about the importance of volunteering. Congratulations to all students.

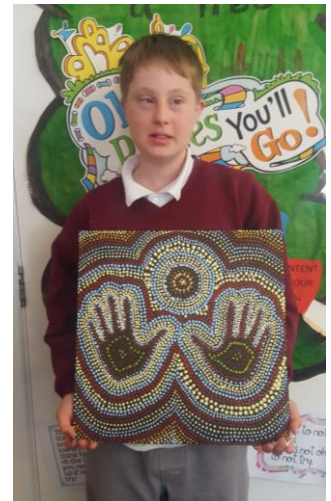


### Dot Painting

Acacia class have been very busy creating some wonderful dot paintings under the guidance of Miss Saunders. We all chose individual designs linked to the theme of Australia's Natural Beauty. We sharpened sticks and used toothpicks to make our dots. Dot dot dipping is a lot of fun and one of the many things we now know is that it cannot be done in a hurry.



It took us a lot of time but our patience has paid off and we are all very proud of what we have achieved. Thank you Miss Saunders for giving up your time to help us complete this activity. We really loved participating in our art lessons and if you haven't seen our framed artwork yet, come and check it out. It will be hung from the back of the pod in our garden for all to see.



### Haiku

Sam Fechner

The sun a bright light  
Especially at the dawn  
Over the dirt road

Shaking the pine trees  
The shadows covering land  
In the forest shrubs

Following the trees  
The old dirt road stretching far  
With the nice green grass



Top: Cody Hewlett

Centre: Max Flett

Above Back Row: Bryce Sutherland, Zane Nean, Shyanne Davis, Cody Hewlett, Lachlan McMahon & Brianna Swan

Front Row: Jake Fechner, Max Flett and Jodie Matheson



## 2016 Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza

On Friday afternoon 6 Quirindi High School students and Mr Hird and Mr Harries travelled to Scone for the 2016 Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza.



Charlie Parsons, Lachlan Bradfield, Chase Clarke, Casey Clarke, Emma Elford and Sam Palmer.

After we set up our camp site for the 2

nights the clouds opened and down came the rain, 21mls overnight and into Saturday morning. Emma led her steer first in heavy



rain then Casey led the other steer. Both steers were in the light weight class (300-400kg).



Charlie led 1 of the steers in his paraders class on Saturday afternoon and he did a wonderful job considering it was his first time leading. Chase, Casey, Emma,



Sam and Lachlan McMahon (who travelled for the day) led in their classes on the Sunday with all doing an outstanding job. There were 290 steers

entered in led classes and over 800 student paraders for the 2 days so they were against the best in the state. A huge thank you to Sam's mother, Liz for driving their truck down for the boys to sleep in out of the rain and a huge thank you to Mr Hird and Mr Harries for giving up their weekend to allow the students to attend.



## Quirindi High School Fiery Science

This term our Year 8 and 9 students spent some of their Science lessons exploring links between Indigenous science and Western science through hands-on inquiries. Through these inquiries, students explored Aboriginal and Torres Strait



Islander use and understanding of science. The Inquiries use Indigenous contexts to drive the teaching and learning of some compulsory core science concepts and provided

the students the ability to develop their science inquiry skills.

The Year 8 students investigated the efficiency of traditional fire starting methods and tinder materials. Both the

hand drill and the fire saw method were investigated. Students then went onto explore how different combinations of wood types and tinder can influence the fire starting. This inquiry

demonstrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples'

long held understanding of energy forms, including kinetic energy and heat energy and relates directly to the Year 8 Australian Curriculum: Physical science sub-strand.

Year 9 students investigated Indigenous Australians' understanding of ecosystems, linked to the Year 9 Australian Curriculum: Biological science sub-strand. Students further explored



matter flow and the managed use of fire by Indigenous Australians to promote growth of particular plants to shape an environment, in particular the germination

requirements for native seeds.

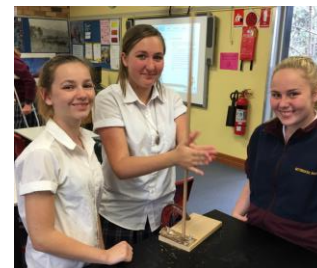
Through participating in the Inquiries both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Students were exposed to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' longstanding history of working scientifically. The lessons also provided an excellent opportunity for the students to develop their intercultural understandings

The Inquiries are part of the Inquiry for Indigenous Science Students (I<sup>2</sup>S<sup>2</sup>) program that is funded by the BHP Billiton Foundation and delivered by CSIRO.

Top: Joseph Trengrouse, Amber Perrett and Crystal Johnson investigating the Fire Saw Method

Middle: Damon Cottee using Drill Stick Method

Bottom: Lily Douglass-Haenell, Jasmin De Rooy and Sienna Parkinson



## P and C News.....

What a great year we have had so far. Our latest fundraiser was the Oktoberfest that we catered for. Thank you to all members and students who helped out with this event. We may never have had cooked German style food before and we may never cook it again but it was fun.



Our next meeting will be our Christmas meeting November 29<sup>th</sup>, so we are bus tripping off to Nundle for this. So if you would like to join us please let either Kim Lawlor or Kathy Redgrove know. Throughout the year we have had several

fundraisers and now we have the funds to purchase some outdoor tables for the students. These are getting ordered this week so hopefully the students will see them in the playground within the next few weeks.



Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way with our fundraising adventure. Our end of year fundraiser will be our Christmas hamper. If you would like to donate toward this please drop item/items off to be added to this to the front office of the school.



Next weekend we head off on our girls weekend. This is the first time in many years the P and C have organised a shopping weekend and hopefully this will turn into an annual event. Keep your eye out in future newsletter for update on how this all went. A big thankyou

goes out to Kathy Redgrove for everything she has done in getting this bus trip up and away. Once again thankyou everyone who has helped out in any way throughout the year.

## A Farmer's Gift Thomas Boorer

The raindrops clashed on the roof top,  
The sky was streaked and grey.  
As the farmer sat at the kitchen table,  
Praising the drenching rain.

Summer had been long and dry,  
A desert cracked and withered.  
Autumn brought cold wind and fog,  
And winter had been freezing cold.

But as the heat returned to the world,  
And spring had spread its wings.  
The farmer sat, sang and smiled,  
At the gracious gift of rain.

<b>Week A</b>	<b>Week 4, 6, 8, 10</b>
<b>Week B</b>	<b>Week 3, 5, 7, 9</b>

<b>October</b>	
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> to Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Work placement
<b>November</b>	
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	HSC finishes
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 12 Formal – 7pm
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Naidoc Enlightenment Day
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> 3.30pm to 9.30pm	RSA & RCG Course for interested Year 11 & Year 12
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> 9am to 3pm	RSA & RCG Course for interested Year 11 & Year 12
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 10 Careers Week
<b>December</b>	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 excursion
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 8 excursion
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> to Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 9 excursion
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 10 excursion
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of school for 2016

## Leave Passes

All applications for leave passes will be directed to the Principal or Deputy Principal unless a parent or guardian calls to collect their child in person.