

Newsletter

QUIRINDI HIGH SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18 2019



Term 4 - Week 10



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Well, the end is nigh. The year has run its race and is all but done. It is a most difficult thing to believe that we are heading into a new decade very soon. The older I get, the faster time seems to move.

I have been a teacher now for over 20 years and have been lucky that I have been able to spend my career in rural and regional schools. Students from these areas have a real grasp on reality and understand what it is to be involved and to be part of a community and the difference that makes. As we become more and more a global society and more of our time is taken up interacting with people - not in our space but possibly on the other side of the planet, how does this impact on our sense of community and being part of a network of people who are physically present? I know that our students are keenly aware of what a community is and how it works to support them. That the people around you can offer support and direction. They are lucky to live in rural and regional Australia where a sense of community is still so important. Knowing that you can speak with a neighbour, go to a function and see a friend there, take part in an event and you are part of a community creates a sense of belonging that I feel is often lacking in much bigger centres. This is a fantastic environment for our young people to grow up in.

So many people have worked so hard throughout the year to make our school what it is. The staff at the school, the members of the community who are always looking for ways to assist, our partner primary schools, our local council and businesses and our fantastic P&C. It is true that it takes a village to raise a child and Quirindi exemplifies this.

We are welcoming a number of new staff into our school community in 2020 and saying goodbye to some people as well.

Mr Ian Packer is heading off up the coast and has taken up a position in Kyogle. He will be missed greatly by students and staff.

Robyn Ingall is retiring after more than 30 years service to the school.

Dave Cowan our canteen manager is finishing up and taking on further studies. I know we will see him around in different capacities.

We will be welcoming Kathy Crouch as our new canteen manager and Renee Chapple will be joining the canteen team also.

Brandy Ritch will be joining the English department and filling the role vacated by Lee Wall.

Caitlin Daniel will be taking over from Mr Packer in the HSIE department.

Kathleen Spicer will be joining the support staff as Emily Ballard goes into further studies.

Jared Maxwell will be joining our staff for 2020. He will be working in TAS and a few other areas as well.

I think that is it at this point in time but watch this space.

Have a happy and safe holiday and all being well in the world we will see you again ready for another great year in 2020.

Ian Worley - Principal



PRESENTATION DAY



CLONTARF AWARDS NIGHT



FREE POOL AND GYM ENTRY



P&C XMAS MARKETS



ORIENTATION DAY

QUIRINDI HIGH SCHOOL

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2019 Awards Day



Recently, QHS hosted a celebration of our students, past, present and future at our annual Awards Ceremony.

Emcee, Mr Owen welcomed special guests, Chairs and 2020 School Captains Mia Constable and Jock Barnett oversaw proceedings - with assistance from Vice Captains Taylah Douglas and Liam Faulkner - which commenced with the National Anthem by the QHS Concert Band and an emotive original composition of Acknowledgement to Country by Indiah Neah accompanied by Jackson Worley on Cello.

Ian Lobsey presented a significant cheque to the school on behalf of Concord Rotary. Principal Worley spoke on the challenges of modern day teaching and student learning and how QHS is surpassing these challenges and facing them head on in all fields, including: academia, sport, social enterprise, industry, careers and more.

Mrs Saunders presented the 2019 Sports Report and Sports Awards were presented by 2019 Boys Sports Captain, Hudson Shaw.

Academic prizes for each year level were read by the relevant Year Advisor and visiting Principals presented the Awards from Year 7 to 11.

The QHS Choir gave an emotive performance of Hallelujah by Leonard Cohen.

Former QHS student, now Prime Reporter, Jack Howard gave a rousing speech encouraging students to 'give it a go'.

"Say yes to opportunities as you are only limited by yourself, work hard and give every opportunity a go. There is so much on offer at QHS."

The QHS Concert band performed Peter Gunn Theme by Henry Mancini before the announcement of the highly regarded Special Awards presented by sponsors.

A presentation was held for staff service recognition before the Small Ensemble Band performed Let it Go by James Bay to conclude the presentations.

An afternoon tea was offered by the QHS P&C as families gathered for photos.

Thank you to all students for supporting your peers today, congratulations to all performers, teachers, presenters and recipients. A big thank you to all sponsors for your ongoing support and to parents and families for cheering on the continued success of our amazing school. Enjoy the photographs.







Top ten in the state *for the second time*

Four excited QHS students and their Coach flew to Sydney recently to represent the New England Region in the finals of the Premier's Debating Challenge for Years 7 and 8.

Team members included: Ella Worley, Jade Wilson, Grace Hutchins, Molly Owen and Coach - QHS Head Teacher English, Mrs Stenner.

Of 410 teams at the commencement of the year, QHS were one of the top ten teams remaining in the competition.

Each of the final teams made the State finals - as regional winners of their competition - after a series of fiercely contested debates.

All teams were fortunate to stay at the University of Sydney, Women's College where the finals took place.

The debating finals commenced on Wednesday morning and saw the QHS team debate three times on Wednesday, even late into the night.

They debated in two debates on Thursday morning before the semi-finals on Thursday night and the State final on Friday morning.

The State final was between James Ruse Agricultural School and Fort Street High School with Fort Street narrowly defeating James Ruse.

"Unfortunately for the Quirindi team, one team member became ill and was unable to

participate in the actual debates, so our team reshuffled their speaking positions and tried their hardest to put together convincing arguments in their preparation time and debates. This meant that we debated with three students instead of the usual four - and despite this we put forward very strong cases in the debates," said Coach Stenner.

In the debating finals, QHS debated James Ruse Agricultural High School, Fort Street High School, Coffs Harbour High School, Narara Valley High School and Coonabarabran High School.

The Head Adjudicator for the State Competition from the Arts Unit, Anthony Davey, made special mention of the efforts from the QHS team in reshuffling their speaking positions and learning new speaking roles to be able to contest debates in such a manner that made decisions very difficult for the adjudicators.

The Organiser of the Debating Competition, Paul Marshall also praised the students on their efforts and each member of the team was presented with a certificate as Regional Champions in the competition.

"QHS students were able to socialise with the students from the other regions in the state

and also look around the historical buildings at the University of Sydney. It was wonderful to have some family members travel to Sydney to attend the debates supporting our team," said Coach Stenner.

The team enjoyed their experiences in Sydney and despite the plane being grounded in Sydney, they finally arrived home late Friday evening.

Well done team for pulling together and pushing new personal and team boundaries and rising to the occasion, Thank you to Coach, Stenner for going above-and-beyond to support our student during illness and each member of the team to realise their personal potential in difficult circumstances. We are very proud of each and every one of you. We look forward to Debating in 2020 at Quirindi High School.

CAPTION: QHS students: Jade Wilson, Ella Worley, Molly Owen, Grace Hutchins and Coach - QHS Head Teacher English, Mrs Stenner - Coach flew to Sydney recently to represent the New England Region in the finals of the Premier's Debating Challenge for Years 7 and 8.





HEADSPACE AT QHS

Did you know, more than 75 per cent of mental health issues develop before a person turns 25?

This is a statistic we at QHS take very seriously and as part of 'Wellbeing Week' Head Teacher Wellbeing, Mrs Saunders coordinated a series of student presentations and workshops by the organisation, Headspace.

While some traditional services aren't equipped to address the unique barriers that young people face to accessing mental health support, Headspace is addressing the shortfall.

The organisation began in 2006 to address this critical gap, by providing tailored and holistic mental health support to 12 - 25 year olds.

With a focus on early intervention to provide support at a crucial time in young people's lives to help get them back on track.

Representatives from Headspace ran a series of presentations and fun workshops for our students

- If you require further information or would like to contact Headspace in Tamworth call (02) 6762 9290.





Well done

2019 Year 12

TERRIFIC RESULTS FOR 2019 YEAR 12

QHS Year 12 students received several Band 6's and multiple Band 5's in their HSC results.

This year's HSC results for QHS have seen significant improvement across the board for student outcomes, especially in the fields of English and Extension English, Maths Standard 1, Society and Culture, Primary Industry and Agriculture.

"As well as a plethora of tailored educational opportunities, QHS is delighted to offer additional bespoke educational assistance, through its one-on-one coaching of Year 12 students, supported Study Centre at QHS Library, HSC Parents Workshops and HSC Students Workshops," said QHS Principal Mr Ian Worley.

Already, current 2020 Year 12 students have been undergoing one-on-one coaching. Current information on QHS students who received early entry into University, acceptance into University, accepted into Apprenticeships or other include - in no particular order:

- Josephine Saunders, University of Newcastle, Bachelor of Laws (Honours) Combined.
- Alex Baker, University of New England, Bachelor of Arts.
- Gemma Hawkins, University of Newcastle, Bachelor of Communications and Media.
- Hudson Shaw, University of Newcastle, Bachelor of Environmental Science.
- Maryjane Abbott- Blundell, University of New England, Bachelor of Primary Education.
- Angus Nicholls, University of Canberra,

Bachelor of Sports Media.

- Grace Pezzuto, Pre-acceptance into 4 Universities, range of courses is taking a GAP year before deciding where to study.
- Thomas Young, University of Newcastle, Bachelor of Psychological Science.
- Jordie Thompson, University of New England, Bachelor of Business- Agriculture.
- Chloe Powdrell, University of New England, Bachelor of Animal Science.
- Lachie Bradfield, University of New England, Bachelor of Business- Agriculture.
- Ethan Tolmie, Automotive Apprenticeship.
- Maddie Hearn, Fitness and Health with the Fast Fitness Academy.
- Eamon Petersons, University of Wollongong, Bachelor of Science.
- Riley Medway, In the Electrical field of the Building and Construction Industry.
- Joshua Redgrove, SBAT, in Retail Community Pharmacy.
- Ryan Potter, Working in Construction Industry.
- Sam Palmer, Working in the Agricultural Industry.
- Zabiane Effier, Working in the Rail Transport Industry.
- Beau Mulholland, Working in the Agricultural Industry.

"Students who had a goal and worked hard to achieve that goal succeeded in a variety of fields; from admittance to university to apprenticeships, traineeships, independent study, the workforce and TAFE, which shows the strong support QHS offers to help our students achieve their personal goals," said Year 12 2019 Advisor Mr Packer.





PLAINS FITNESS AT QHS

Healthy body, healthy mind...

QHS would like to extend a generous thank you to the staff from 'Plains Fitness' for the short courses they ran with students.

As part of the QHS 'Wellbeing Week' program,

members from the local fitness centre attended to offer students some advice, ideas and inspiration on staying active and healthy. What a terrific time we have at QHS making every day at school count!

YEAR 8/9 EXCURSION

QHS Yr 8/9 students and their teachers have had a tremendous time on their Coffs Harbour rewards excursion, having left Coffs Harbour they stopped at Armidale for a break on their way home.

ETA back at QHS was 6.45pm - 7.00pm - parents picked their students up from the bus lines located at front of the school in Hill Street.

"Students and teachers have had an awesome time. We stayed at Coffs Coast Adventure centre and did zorb balling, ladders logs, commando course, capture the flag, giant swing. Today participants visited the Big Banana where they had a load of fun on the water slide and we are all looking forward to being home," said Year 8 Advisor Mrs Ballard - who's also celebrating her birthday today and admits she feels a bit worse for wear after undertaking the commando course with students yesterday!

We welcome back our students and staff and wish Mrs Ballard a Happy BIRTHDAY.



WELLBEING WEEK

Wellbeing week is well underway, with QHS hosting Sarah Green from 'Highway to Well' for a whole school presentation.

'Highway to Well' specialises in developing tailored solutions for individuals and organisations and a range of evidence based accredited programs.

"Sarah spoke to students on the importance of managing your mental health, supporting your peers in times of need and what

help options are available," said Head Teacher Wellbeing, Mrs Saunders who coordinated the entire Wellbeing Week for QHS.

As well as today's whole school presentation, there were a series of student activities, and now students are heading to the Quirindi Pool - buses will collect students from the pool.

Thank you to all our presenters for today and to Mrs Saunders for amazing this outstanding event.



Shared Learning

2019 has been an exciting and rewarding introductory year for the learning of Gamilaraay language at QHS. From week to week our students have stood proud and shared a 'Word of the Week' via a facebook video with their peers, their local community and the wider region.

"The best part for me was watching our students aspire to learn and share, they walked away from the recording room taller than before. It has been a pleasure working alongside all the students, Sal Alden and the wider community to share us and our people. I take this opportunity to thank Sal for learning

alongside our kids and finding patience to record countless times to make us all feel comfortable about what we were sharing on the facebook page. Thank you to Mr Worley and Ms Loughrey for encouraging all to share the knowledge and taking ownership over what's ours and now yours," said QHS Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer MegO.

2020 will show deeper appreciation for our local Gamilaraay language with words embedded more into everyday existence at QHS - as the school names classrooms from year 7 to 10 with Gamilaraay words. "Until 2020! Yaalu... Megz"



A result of a visit to the Quirindi branch of St Vincent de Paul – where they undertook research in ways to minimise the impacts on landfill, through the creation of a new product from an old product - QHS students have created some outstanding designs and usable works from recycled clothing.

"I was incredibly proud of the quality of the works students produced in a short timeframe. They used the design process, problem solving skills and creativity. They persistence really well in the design and undertaking of the project," said Teacher Mrs Cowan.

As well as the recycling element, students enjoyed learning about social responsibility and the positive flow on from volunteer groups including the great work undertaken by St Vincent de Paul.

One of the course students, McKenzie Mizzi from Year 9, created a hanging organiser from recycled denim jeans and fabric from the QHS scrap box for decoration said she enjoyed the project as she got to undertake both design and construct.

"It was really rewarding to think of it all and then see it all come together as a cool product. And visiting St Vincent de Pauls and seeing they great work they do was rewarding as well," said McKenzie.

Also pictured are Indiah Nean with her Table runner and Josie Green with her Backpack that she will be taking on her year away as an Exchange Student next year.

Well done to all students and teacher Mrs Cowan.



Due to the overwhelming success of the QHS MacqLit program, the school has been contacted by several other High Schools across the state wanting to explore how the program can work in their own schools.

"While it's interesting that other schools are seeing us a lighthouse school for the program, the main positives are the exceptional personal gains QHS students have made for themselves," said MacqLit coordinator, Mrs Craswell.

The Macquarie Literacy Program (MacqLit) for small group instruction provides intensive support to older students who require help as they progress through the higher grades.

Today, at an informal luncheon, 20 QHS students received their Graduation Certificates, with 5 receiving Recognition of Progress – as they continue with the program.

Mrs Craswell continued the success established in this - the pilot year of the program - has far exceeded expectations.

"Some students have seen a staggering improvement in their skills, some have even gained up to two years of growth in one term in regards their reading fluency."

It is not only students who are seeing amazing

outcomes as staff are also commenting on student progress, which is having an overall positive peer impact across all subject areas including: Science, History and Geography and PDHPE.

"Some students have gained so much self-esteem and success that even following their graduation today they want to return to the program," continued Mrs. Craswell, who at today's Graduation ceremony spoke to all students, outlining how the skills they have attained are life-long skills, that will enable them to achieve in all areas.

The success of the program has been so outstanding with one of the top students receiving a 50% improvement in their reading fluency skills and an overall average improvement of 35%.

"On the back of this year's success, moving into 2020 the MacqLit will continue to ensure those students who have commenced the program are supported through to Graduation and the school will invite new students into the program in 2020," concluded Mrs Craswell

What an outstanding outcome for our school community. *Well done all!*



SHOP LOCALLY VOUCHERS

Quirindi High School Presentation Day 'Shop Locally Vouchers' are redeemable at the businesses shown on the reverse - see above - they are NOT redeemable for cash and must be used in one transaction only.

Vouchers expire June 6th 2020.

For payment of purchases, businesses where the vouchers are claimed are required to send their account, together with the voucher to: Liverpool Plains Business Chamber Inc, Po Box 292, Quirindi, NSW, 2343.

Thank you to all our Presentation Day 2019 Sponsors, including the Major Sponsor, Willow Tree Gravels - your generous donations have ensured our ongoing rewards in the form of Shop Locally Vouchers.

Thank you also to all participating businesses.

QHS are proud supporters of 'Shop Locally'.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CHEER



Santa arrived in a convertible at QHS P&C Christmas Markets and Lights event – the debonair ‘man-in-red’ cut a fine figure as he entered the school grounds before being mobbed by joyous little people.

The event, which attracted over 100 stallholders drew a massive crowd of 2500 spectators and saw families unite to embrace the festive spirit in welcoming atmosphere.

There was a resounding cheer of goodwill when ‘Hughie Nean’ won the first prize holiday in the massive fundraiser raffle – there were over 40 prizes drawn.

In its third year, the fundraiser event, which featured unique market stalls, tonnes of free children’s activities including a jumping castle, monkey maze and face-painting also highlighted the outstanding musical and vocal skills of QHS students – thank you Music Teacher, Mr Turner and Bandmaster Mr Garrett

for your ongoing support of QHS students.

Tonight, many families and individuals enjoyed a unique evening of entertainment, dinner and Christmas shopping.

As well as the official lighting of the Christmas tree by local Councillor Mr Doug Hawkins, local primary schools joined in with their own market stalls, Quirindi Rotary hosted their ever-popular Chocolate Wheel and - as well as coordinating the event, the hardworking High School P&C will run a BBQ - with the school Student Representative Council selling show bags and a gift wrapping station.

Thank you to the organisers, stallholders, participants and all involved, including the effervescent, Mr Owen for his outstanding verbal skills as event Emcee.

“Tonight, the events third year, attracted over 100 stallholders and 2500 participants all celebrating the joyous and wonderful

atmosphere of Christmas, our amazing school and wider region. It was a jam packed event and well worth the year of planning to see so many families and friends gathered on the cool green lawns for a night of shopping, festivities and Christmas magic. Well done to our hardworking QHS P&C, we are exceptionally grateful for all you do to support our school community,” commented, Principal Worley.

WHAT A FANTASTIC EVENT!





TRANSITION DAY



As they prepare to head into Year 7 in 2020, students from five local primary schools attended their Aboriginal Transition Day at QHS recently. Under the guidance of Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer and members of the Quirindi Clontarf Academy, the 24 enthusiastic students enjoyed their learning. Thank you for attending QHS.



YEAR 10 excursion

The last few days for the entourage have been filled with excitement, adrenaline, singing and also charity.

"Even on holiday visiting theme parks, go carting and seeing movies, our group decided it was important to them to embrace the spirit of giving - with each student purchasing food to give to a homeless food kitchen that operated in the park across from our hotel," said Year 10 Advisor Mr Hamilton.

What a great way for our students and their teachers to end the second last week of the school year.

"I would like to congratulate the students on their behaviour and offer a huge thanks all the staff involved in the trip, and Tony Howard for driving us around, as well as helping teacher in every activity," concluded Mr Hamilton. What a great adventure!



SWIM & GYM

QHS Principal, Mr Worley announced today that the 'Swim & Gym' collaboration between the school and Liverpool Plains Shire Council will continue for 2020.

The initiative, founded by the school as a pilot in 2018 for 400 QHS students was continued in 2019 and has resulted in health, wellbeing, fitness, 'positive body - positive mind', equity for all students.

"The collaboration for access to both the Quirindi and Werris Creek pools also covers all public primary school students in the Liverpool Plains Shire. While the access to the Quirindi Gym is only for High School aged students," said Principal Worley.

As well as keeping students fit and active, feedback from parents and community businesses indicates that - through the initiative - students are kept focused and have positive outlets they can access after school and during the holidays.

"The pools have become so popular the council has had to employ further Life Guards during the summer months, roles the QHS students have themselves been able to fill - thus learning more skills in a professional working environment."

The 2018 initiative, proved so successful, it was continued into 2019 and extended to subsidising our shires Primary School children access to approx. 700 further students (total 1100 students) - the 2020 collaboration - from Jan 1st to December 31st will incorporate some 1150 students.

"QHS has pursued this collaboration to ensure equity for all students in regards to the access to these facilities and beneficial outcomes," said Principal Worley.



Orientation DAY 2019

Future QHS year 7 students had a ball on their Orientation Day at QHS recently. Around 80 students from 11 schools joined the fray for the event which included: a presentation from the QHS Principal, Mr Worley and Deputy, Mrs Loughrey, a welcome and expectation outline by 2020 Year 7 Advisor, Miss McInnes. Students were also introduced to their peer buddies, future Head Teachers and had an opportunity to purchase uniform items and book packs before undertaking a series of

fun educational activities. Teachers will take Orientation Day students back to their own school or if prearranged, students will catch the bus from QHS. Thank you to our SRC reps for meeting and greeting our visitors to the school. Thank you to all participating schools, parents, students and teachers for an exciting day and we are looking forward to a great 2020.



DANCE Troupes at CAPERS



Know the difference between a healthy and unhealthy friendship

- Draw and colour in the friendship O meter in your books
- Write in the feelings a person will have when in these areas of the meter



LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Current Year 10 QHS students have had a great two days undertaking their Peer Buddy training in preparation for their Buddy roles for next years' incoming Year 7 group.

Head Teacher, Wellbeing, Mrs Saunders enjoyed taking students through a series of briefs and workshops including understanding: different ways of thinking, friendship and leadership

skills, communication, conflict awareness, running group meetings, important information their buddies will need to know and the importance of their role as a Peer Buddy.

Congratulations to all students and participants involved in this very important social aspect of our positive school community – assisting the positive transition of students to our terrific school.



CLONTARF RECOGNISES



The hard-work and focus of students at the QHS Clontarf Academy was recognised recently at their annual presentation event at the high school.

Attending in support of the students were partners including representative: Jodie Dixon from Aurizon, Doug Hawkins from Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Michael Riddle, Regional Manager for Clontarf Academy, Ross Fraser, Employment Officer, Clontarf Academy and QHS Deputy Principal, Miss Loughrey who gave a presentation.

"On behalf of the QHS Clontarf Academy, we would like to thank all the parents, teachers and support people for attending the event and the wider community for their ongoing support. Well done to each and every student, thank you to our sponsors and we

look forward to another great year in 2020," said Aaron Sampson on behalf of Marcus Thompson and the QHS Clontarf Academy.

Awards Night Recipients included:

Most Improved – Nathan Evans
Sports Person of the Year – Dylan Smith
Principle's Award – Sam Fechner
Attendance Award – Jackson Worley
Senior Clontarf Spirit Award – Ben Foody
Junior Clontarf Spirit Award – Ben Slattery-Saunders & Corey Clarke
Training Awards – Levi Allan, Jack Curtin & Jesse Patterson
Employment Award – Ben Sharp
Leadership Award – Steve Thompson
Yr 12 Graduates of 2019 – Ethan Tolmie, Taylor Jordan Jarrett-Scott, Thomas Young & Brendan Balderson.

PRACTICUM TEACHERS AT QHS



We are fortunate to have five dedicated 'Practicum Teachers' at QHS: Melinda Selby-Smith – Science, Taylor Pannowitz – HSIE, Hanna Ewans - Drama and English, Tyler Gallienne – Design and Tech and Absent from photo: Bonnie Morris – PDHPE.

As the teaching relationship is based on trust and respect, the main objective of this teaching practicum is to provide student teachers with authentic hands-on experience in teaching, required to develop their teaching skills.

At QHS we believe an important role of the practicum is to provide these student teachers a supported entry to the profession.

Research indicates the strongest impact on teacher retention is the quality of their first teaching experiences - as what student teachers experience in their practicum creates their view of the profession. It is therefore essential that student teachers are offered quality practice placements, and we are delighted to offer that at QHS.



Our own acknowledgement to Country

As the school year draws to a close, we recently shared on our facebook page a recording of two QHS Aboriginal students from the Kamilaroi Nation as our final Gamilaraay 'Word of the Week' presentation for 2019.

Indiah Nean (vocals) and Jackson Worley (cello) created an original bespoke composition of their own 'Acknowledgement to Country' – which tells the story of Aboriginal culture around Quirindi High School – and in doing so embarked on their own personal cultural journey.

Undertaking the creative process, saw many discussions happen, including an important discussion on "Why do we as a nation perform an Acknowledgement?"

Throughout the process, Indiah and Jackson continued their journey of self-discovery and pushed the importance through their piece also asking: "Are we reading words or are we sharing who we really are?" Through language, song and music, both students kept moving forward, resulting in a final, raw and honest version of who they are in relation to their personal culture and what the current Acknowledgment movement in Australia stands for.

"Being an Aboriginal person isn't just saying you are – it's about saying: we live, we grow, we share, we commit, we love, we learn, we empower, we listen, we care, we are

humans, we are Australians. We embrace what the future holds and move together as a Nation so all Australians have the right to know some truths," said QHS Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Mrs Outerbridge who assisted the students on their cultural journey throughout this process.

"Quirindi High School encourages students of all cultures to be proud of and embrace who they are – as the entire school community is connected by strong foundations and values which validates everyday who we are."

Congratulations Indiah and Jackson, this moving example of an introspective, expressed and personal cultural foundation offers the listener an insight into just one of the processes everyone can use to approach Aboriginal Education – the process of learning for life.

We feel fortunate to have the opportunity to share this bespoke co-creation from two of our fabulous students showcasing our Aboriginal culture – which was specifically designed for Quirindi High School – and while we encourage listeners to share the work, keep in mind it is a one off creation designed specifically for Quirindi High School and can-not be used generically.

Thank you Indiah and Jackson for sharing.



POLICE PRESENTATION

As part of our extensive 'Wellbeing Week' Senior Constable, Danielle Witton presented to QHS students today on behalf of the NSW Police Force.

SC Witton (pictured here with QHS students Tyra Nean and Georgie Auld) who spent 10 years as an Officer based in Kings Cross, spoke to students on safe partying, the hazards of drug and alcohol

use, addiction, sexual consent and how to get home safely.

From Tamworth, SC Witton works for the NSW police force Youth Command.

"I have a passion for working with youth and providing support and it's great to be here at QHS today." Thank you Senior Constable, Danielle Witton for your time and expertise.

THANK YOU SPONSORS



QHS would like to extend a BIG thank you to all our sponsors for supporting the 2019 Presentation Day – held on December 5th at 11.00am.

The funds donated went towards – both running the event as well as – to purchasing 'Shop Locally' vouchers for our students.

These vouchers are awarded to students for outstanding academic achievement, and those who have shown a commitment to learning, a desire to improve, have encouraged their peers, been positive role models, shown good attendance and have inspired others.

At QHS we are fortunate to have a proactive community and greatly appreciate this ongoing sponsorship support.

THANK YOU to the following:

Willow Tree Gravels – Major Sponsor

Pursehouse Rural – Silver Sponsor

Agracom – Silver Sponsor

JBS Carroona, Perretts Taxis, Quirindi RSL Sub Branch, Quirindi Dental Clinic, Tamarang Service Centre, Brackenbury Green and Owen, Willow Tree Lions

Club, Tamarang Engineering, Upper Namoi Cotton Growers, Liverpool Plains Business Chamber, Quirindi Pharmacy and Emporium, Roberts and Rudman families, Aztec Constructions, Sally Alden Photography, Quirindi Lions Club Bryce Salt Award, Rotary Club Australia, Quota International Quirindi Branch, Browning Motors, Quantum X, Quirindi Historical Society, Quirindi Christian Bookshop, Quirindi CWA

Term 1 2020

Wk 1 B Jan 29 - Feb 31

Wk 2 A Feb 3 - Feb 7

Wk 3 B Feb 10 - Feb 14

Wk 4 A Feb 17 - Feb 21

Wk 5 B Feb 24 - Feb 28

Wk 6 A Mar 2 - Mar 6

Wk 7 B Mar 9 - Mar 13

Wk 8 A Mar 16 - Mar 20

Wk 9 B Mar 23 - Mar 27

Wk 10 A Mar 30 - June 3

Wk 11 B June 6 - June 9

Please note: Years 7, 11 and 12 return on Wednesday January 29th 2020. The whole school return on Thursday January 30.