

WEDNESDAY MARCH 18TH 2020 QUIRINDI HIGH SCHOOL Newsletter



Term 1 - Weeks 2

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As I write this, I am also reading through the plethora of messages in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the principal and parent of students who attend Quirindi High School, I have every confidence in the protocols we are following at the school. As much as possible, we are trying to follow the social distancing rules and encouraging students to wash their hands on a regular basis. There are areas we do not have control over such as bus transport.

As a school, we have contingency measures in place to allow students to continue their learning if schools are closed. At this stage, there has been no indication to us that schools will close so learning continues in the classrooms as usual.

Any updates we receive from the Department of Education in relation to schooling we will communicate with parents and carers. As mentioned in the note that went home at the beginning of this week, the most immediate distribution of updates will be through the Facebook page, the department will also place updates on our webpage and if necessary, we will send paper notes home.

On a different note, we have been very focused on developing a set of dispositions or learning habits that we are going to focus on within the school to assist students to continue to progress their learning. Each faculty has

chosen one of the 6 dispositions as a focus. Jen Lees is working as our Instructional Leader and engaging with students and staff in the development of these dispositions within the school. It is our goal that students will understand and develop these traits as learners so as to better enable them across different subjects and then beyond into the workplace.

I do many interviews for people wanting work. Yes, they must have certain qualifications but if I have a group of people who all have the same qualification, what is it that sets them apart? In today's world, as an employer, I want to know that they can collaborate with others and work in teams to advance ideas, I want to know that they are able to communicate and express ideas and have good discussions, that they can regulate their themselves at work and meet deadlines and produce the standard of work required, that the person is resilient enough to accept feedback and act on it and that they are confident and curious enough to seek feedback on performance as a way of improving their behaviours as a professional. I want the person to want to know more and to seek out information and ways of doing things that can assist the organisation with its end goal-to provide the best possible learning opportunities for students.

Ian Worley - Principal

The QHS community would like to extend a huge thank you to our amazing managers, teachers and staff – including our office staff pictured from left, Renee Gilchrist, Jen Beresford and Sarah Harvie – for being the frontline of our school. In these unusual times, it's the calm professional attitude of our teachers and staff that sets the tone, atmosphere and direction for our students and school community. We encourage all parents/carers and wider community members to continue the support of our staff and teachers as we navigate the future together for the best possible outcomes for all.



Thank You
STAFF AND TEACHERS



SMASH THE HSC WORKSHOPS



WOLLOTUKA VISIT



QUALITY TEACHING PROGRESS



VET METALS



YEAR 7 SOCIAL SUCCESS

QUIRINDI HIGH SCHOOL

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INDUSTRY STANDARD

QHS Year 12 VET Metals and Engineering students recently completed an outstanding construction of Security Gates at a location on the school grounds - delivering the finished product to industry standard.

"The quality of their work was to a professional level, they should be very proud of their achievements. It was a whole project from conception and design to cost analysis, client liaison, construction and delivery," said teacher Technology and Applied Studies, Mr Wayne Miggins, who continued he was exceptionally

proud of the students.

Students had to commence by establishing a customer – they spoke to Mr Worley as the Principal - and selected Quirindi High School as the client and elected to construct a secured enclosed area at the Metal Work rooms of QHS. They then had to quote and source the materials, review the build site, design the construction, manufactured the sections and install and meet with client for sign off.

"As well as a number of professional business skills, students had to use skills in mathematics

including trigonometry, metalwork, Occupational Health and Safety, Quality Assessment, welding, customer service, team work and more," Students were exceptionally professional, they were able to put theory into practice. As they progressed with the project they used evaluation skills to review the products and correct any issues.

Congratulations to the students and teacher Mr Miggins on this fabulous project and for leaving a lasting legacy at QHS.



MUSIC INTENSIVE



Students have been having a great time learning at the QHS Music Intensive in Quirindi this week.

Under the instruction of talented music teachers Mr Turner and Mr Garrett, students have been able to focus solely on their chosen instrument/s.

The group held a Band Concert on Thursday 12th of March at the Quirindi Pavilion at 6.30pm.

"This was a performance of the whole concert band as well as smaller instrumental ensembles and some solo performances.

TEACHERS LEARNING TOGETHER



QHS Teachers are always learning and improving their professional skills. Recently a group met for development on the 'Quality Teaching Rounds' process.

Quality Teaching is a collaborations and communications tool used by teachers to improve communication across the school.

QHS Teachers value feedback from their colleagues and this model provides them a platform of teaching strategies and considerations of the classroom.

Staff have formed a professional learning community (PLC) and these teachers will be involved in a 4-week program, in which each member is observed once by the PLC.

By working together teachers will observe each other teaching and then discuss and analyse their observations.

This process builds on quality teaching, improves teacher morale and school culture, as many teachers do not have the opportunity to watch their colleagues in action and this offers a vehicle for collaborative learning.

The rounds help develop a strong understanding of quality teaching practices - through discussion based on professional readings, observation and analysis, coding and discussion.

Quality Teaching Rounds are designed to support teachers in negotiating diverse views about what matters in teaching and learning in a collaborative environment.

Teacher, Mrs Batho, who is undertaking the rounds said she is doing so to refine her teaching.

"After returning from maternity leave last year, I thought I could use this opportunity to really

reflect and refine my teaching practice."

Head Teacher, Ms Lees, who is facilitating the Quality Teaching Rounds in the school said it was a tremendous opportunity for all involved.

"In completion of our first rounds yesterday, in which both Mr Worley and Mr Harries were observed and coded by colleagues, I felt extremely grateful to be part of powerful conversations with teachers discussing and clarifying what quality teaching looks like – this discussion is beneficial to individual teaching practice and aims to ensure a consistency of high standards in expectation to improve student outcomes."

Congratulations to all involved as we roll out this professional opportunity further across the coming terms in 2020 at QHS.



EVERY DAY COUNTS....

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed...

Every day counts!





SMASH THE HSC

QHS Year 11 students today undertook a workshop on strategies, advice, tips and hints on how to 'Smash the HSC'.

The series of presentations, prepared and delivered by Head Teacher, Instructional Leader, Ms Lees and Head Teacher, Mr Harries expanded on the valuable information listed in the curated 60 page guide – created specifically for QHS students - given to every participant.

This practical guide brings together a wealth of information from teachers, psychologists, counsellors, academics and online sources and students are encouraged to refer to this resource throughout the remaining years of their studies.

The bespoke booklet and workshop helped

to provide the students with the skills, values, ideas, steps and advice to guide them to achieving their personal best.

"Our own research indicates that students weren't preparing enough in advance for their exams and assessments, they need to do so in order to make every point count in their ATAR and at today's workshop they learnt a great number of tools to assist them," said Ms Lees.

As well as offering information on study skills, time-management and how to seek and act upon feedback, students were given techniques on how to retain information and much more.

Time management was another area of focus at today's presentation. Discussions were held on how students can organise their life and school work commitments and balance their time in regards to planning for assessments including

and school work and balancing in regards to assessment feedback.

"We encourage students to understand the importance of teacher feedback and the value in handing their assessment in for feedback before submitting the final assessment," continued Ms Lees.

The HSC is a long and winding journey, full of ups and downs and at QHS we encourage every student to embrace the challenges and know they are supported every step of the way. There will be a catch up workshop next week for any students who were away or unable to attend today's workshops.

Thank you to our teachers for going above and beyond yet again to provide this opportunity and to Mrs Maybury for designing the reference booklet.



HSC MINIMUM STANDARDS TEST

This year changes have been implemented by NSW Education Standards Authority. These changes include that all students from Year 10 will sit a test in Reading, Numeracy and Writing to be eligible to receive their Higher School Certificate. The HSC minimum standard is part of a plan to ensure students have essential literacy and numeracy skills. The standard is set at a level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF), which means students will have the basic reading, writing and math skills needed for everyday tasks and future learning after

school.

Students are provided with four testing opportunities each year from year 10, up until year 12 to reach the Level 3 mark. In week 11 of Term 1 we will start the process of testing with students.

Some students may not have the intention at this stage to work towards a HSC however, employers are looking for students that can provide testing achievement levels upon request at interviews.

The tests are three, 45 minute tests. Two are multiple choice and one is an extended response. The

reading and numeracy tests use a computer adaptive test (CAT) model, so each test is tailored to the individual student's ability and responses to previous questions. No two students will receive the same questions. This improves a student's experience by more closely matching questions to their ability.

If you have any questions, or would like any more information have a look at educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/ or contact myself at the school.

Tegan McInnes
Learning and Support Teacher

HSC MINIMUM STANDARD OF
LITERACY AND NUMERACY



NSW Education Standards Authority



SOCIAL SUCCESS



The recent 'Welcome to Year 7' event, hosted by the QHS Student Representative Council was a great success, raising over \$700.00 to go towards a QHS SRC branded shade shelter to use at school events. Congratulations to all involved in this event and to all participants who were so well behaved and had a great night. Thank you to our SRC and teachers for organising this event.





WRITE LIKE AN EGYPTIAN

The thrilling TUT ROADSHOW was a hit with QHS students and teachers alike. The all-day immersive experience, saw students from Years 7, 11 and Year 12 Ancient History engage in curriculum based learning . QHS students were able to view and touch real artefacts from Egypt and ancient Rome – some of the artefacts were 4,000+ years old.

Utilising archaeological techniques learnt today, students also investigated pretend human

remains and entered a life size replica of Tut's burial room, as well as immersed in an audio visual display of the story of King Tut.

The learning also included: maths from Ancient Egypt, recreating art from Egyptian Tombs, creating Egyptian clay seals and even writing like an Egyptian.

A big thank you to Mrs Valentine for coordinating this amazing interactive experience and to fellow teachers and staff for supporting the event.



LEAGUE TAG *Gala Day*

QHS students learnt a range of skills and drills from North West Rugby League Development Officer, Jeremy Brauer in Tamworth as part of the Tamworth Girls League Tag Gala Day.

QHS Teacher, Mr Chambers congratulated students on their focus and ability.

"There are 19 students from Years 7 to 10 attending and their skill, peer support and focus was to commendable." he said.

Well done students and thank you teachers.



UNE
University of
New England

UNE OPEN DAY CANCELLED

UNE Open Day postponed to 2021

The University of New England will not be holding an open day for 2020 in order to comply with public health recommendations to manage the risks associated with the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

The next UNE Open Day is scheduled for 7th May 2021.



Last week, the QHS Aboriginal Girls Leadership Group toured the Qantas Link Hangar No.1 and undertook a tour of local villages as well as a cultural experience.

QHS students, teachers and supporters visited the Qantas Link Hangar No. 1, which offered a great insight into the aircraft engineering world today. One Year 7 student expressed that she has a passion to become a pilot and/or an engineer.

"Providing insight into different industries initiates positive conversation for our students and also encourages our youth to strive to get great jobs. We toured the Qantas Link Hangar No. 1 with an aircraft being serviced, engineers in full swing before us and over 5000 documents of safety procedures in filing cabinets that looked like years of work," said ACLO Mrs Outerbridge.

The students were also able to tour inside one aircraft before the engineer started the engine so everyone could see the operation.

"We then visited the Walladabah General Store for lunch to support our surrounding towns before proceeding down to Colly Creek to view a significant scar tree. It was a tour of many places, as we all need educational experiences from other people and places," continued Mrs Outerbridge.

Thank you to all involved in coordinating this opportunity for our students and thank you to Alistair and Carolyn from QantasLink, QHS Deputy Principal, Ms Loughrey for touring with the students and also thanks to Tommy Taylor for driving the bus of participants and for being the excursions cultural tour guide.



ST PATRICK'S DAY

Thank you to the QHS Canteen Leprechauns for sharing the St Patrick's Day green. It's great to share some joy.



WOLLOTUKA VISIT



The QHS Aboriginal Girls Leadership Group and the Quirindi Clontarf Academy attended the Wollotuka Institute University of Newcastle this week.

"Students were warmly welcomed by the staff and immediately made connections based on strong cultural heritage and the strong partnerships our school community and Wollotuka have formed over the past couple of years," said Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Mrs Outerbridge.

Information regarding entries, scholarships, services and opportunities was abundant.

By experiencing the visit with a personal interaction, the conversations were free flowing and everyone gained a greater understanding of university processes and student support services.

"Wollotuka offers a bustling atmosphere with people from all walks of life creating a vibrant campus community. The opportunity of connecting with likeminded people through human engagement is just one of the many ways how our students grow," continued Mrs Outerbridge.

Students visited the original Wollotuka Institute,

the University Library, outside of dorm blocks and curriculum centres. They got to see University students in action and experience the Aboriginal walking tracks within the University.

"The information given to our students was an amazing resource for when they are transitioning into university life. Thank you to Kristie and Ray from Wollotuka for making our day informative and providing our students with a positive insight into Wollotuka," concluded Mrs Outerbridge.

CANCELLED

Information from Mark Scott, Secretary - NSW Department of Education, 'Sports and Initiatives events will be temporarily ceased until further notice'.

The following trials/championships/knockouts will not proceed -
Primary Boys' and Girls' Southern and Northern Football trials
Primary and Secondary Swimming championships - SOPAC

Secondary Boys' and Girls' Hockey Trials
Final Primary Boys' and Girls' football trials
CHS Girls Volleyball Championship - Armidale
Secondary Winter Trials - 15's and 18's Rugby League, Secondary Boys and Girls Football and Netball
Primary Boys and Girls Hockey
Primary Boys Southern and

Northern Cricket Trials
CHS and PSSA Diving - SOPAC
Secondary Golf Trials
North West Executive Meeting
*All Knockouts are temporarily ceased also. We will review this at the start of Term 2
*All Zone/District, North West, NSWPSA and NSWCHSSA activities will be 'temporarily ceased until further notice'.

Term 1 2020

Wk 9 B Mar 23 - Mar 27
Wk 10 A Mar 30 - April 3
Wk 11 B April 6 - April 9

QUIRINDI HIGH SCHOOL 2020 SCHOOL TIMETABLE

MON, TUES, WED & FRIDAY

Roll Call	9.05 - 9.20	15 min
Period 1	9.20 - 10.35	75 min
Recess 1	10.35 - 10.50	15 min
Period 2	10.50 - 12.05	75 min
Recess 2	12.05 - 12.20	15 min
Period 3	12.20 - 1.35	75 min
Lunch	1.35 - 2.05	30 min
Period 4	2.05 - 3.20	75 min

THURSDAY-SPORT

Roll Call	9.00 - 9.10	10 min
Period 1	9.10 - 10.25	75 min
Recess 1	10.25 - 10.40	15 min
Period 2	10.40 - 11.55	75 min
Recess 2	11.55 - 12.10	15 min
Period 3	12.10 - 1.25	75 min
Lunch	1.25 - 1.55	30 min
Sport	1.55 - 3.20	85 min



Wednesday 18 March

Clontarf Foundation - Yr 8/9
Cultural Enlightenment
Year 9/10 Science & Engineering Challenge
North West Rugby Union
Touch Football

Friday 20 March

Year 7 Immunisations
Aboriginal Dance Workshops

Willow Tree Horse Sports
Arinya Zone Winter Trials

Saturday 21 March

New England Music Camp

Sunday 22 March

Stage 6 HSIE Excursion

Thursday 26 March

Yrs 9/10 Touch Carnival

Friday 27 March

North West Winter Trials

Monday 30 March

AECG Gamilaraay Language
Camp - Lake Keepit

Tuesday 31 March

QHS P&C AMG 6pm Quirindi
Bowling Club
White Card Course

Wednesday 1 April

Year 7-10 Maths Exams

Thursday 2 April

Personalised Learning
Pathways - Parent BBQ

Friday 3 April

Yr 10 Meningococcal Vac
Swimming Carnival and SRC
Induction Assembly
Clontarf Foundation - TAFE

Monday 6 April

PLP Goal setting Day
Indigenous students

Tuesday 7 April

HSC Minimum Standards

Wednesday 8 April

Dance Intensive (TBA)
Yr 10 Minimum Standards
7 - 12 Parent Evening

Friday 10 April

Good Friday - Last day of
Term 1

Red indicates CANCELLED
EVENT